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IBEW LOCAL UNION 1245
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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

IBEW member Joshua Sladwick works on connecting up a transformer for Silicon Valley Power in Santa Clara, CA. Story on page 26





Arcing and Sparking

Tom Dalzell
BUSINESS MANAGER

Fighting for Our Jobs in Nevada

The competitive challenges facing our industry can seem abstract. You can't see the threat of deregulation or feel how the grid is changing – but failing to confront those challenges puts our jobs at risk. This November was a rare exception - our Nevada members had the opportunity to vote on a policy with real implications for our union. Question 3 asked voters a seemingly simple question: Should the Nevada state legislature create an open and competitive electricity market by the year 2023?

It sounds good – who is opposed to competition? But this measure would deregulate Nevada's electricity market, dismantling the long-functioning utility model that provides reliable service to customers — and our jobs. Deregulation throws the market open without any oversight or controls on pricing, allowing companies to charge (and pay) whatever they'd like. It does away with important consumer protections, such as discounted rates for seniors and people with disabilities. It is a very real assault on our industry, our jobs and our values.

Our California members will remem-

ber how deregulation played out in the early 2000s: after Enron and other companies entered the market, prices spiked by 800% in just eight months. PG&E filed for bankruptcy, there were rolling blackouts, and ultimately it cost rate payers more than \$45 billion to fix. It is a testament to our union that we were able to protect our members through that difficult time.

So how could Nevada fall into the same trap? After all, Question 3 has just two big donors: Sheldon Adelson, the billionaire owner of the Sands Corporation, and Rob Roy, the billionaire owner of SWITCH data centers. Deregulation would mean these large energy users could buy their power from cheaper, out-of-state providers, destroying middle class jobs in Nevada and raising everyone else's rates in the process. And Question 3 would help them avoid millions of dollars in exit fees – fees that are intended to make sure the burden doesn't fall on the rest of us.

These billionaires are definitely shrewd – but at the core of our union is power. Because our members understand the competitive challenges we face, they voted to give us the resources necessary to fight back against this threat and others. By activating our political connections and partnering with other IBEW locals and the Nevada AFL-CIO, we ran ads to inform the public about Question 3, put thousands of activists on the ground, and lined up advocates to speak out against it.

In the final weeks before Election Day, the tables started to turn. We shaved ten points off our opponents' lead, but unfortunately, it wasn't enough to defeat the measure. However

this isn't the end of this fight. Because Question 3 is actually an amendment to the state Constitution, under Nevada law, it has to be approved by the voters twice in two consecutive election cycles. That means we will have another shot to knock it down two years from now.

Speaking broadly, Nevada's flirtation with deregulation is emblematic of the changing nature of our industry. It is one of many threats – including a transforming power grid, the decline of nuclear power, and aggressive, anti-

union employers – that are emerging all over the country.

I have no doubt that these threats will continue to emerge – but we are facing them together. Our strength comes from our unity. Power is at our core. And we will continue to be vigilant, and to fight back to protect our wages, our benefits, our members and their families.

CALENDAR

Nov 19: "Lightin' it up for Linemen"
5k Run, Las Vegas

Nov 19: EWMC International Day
of Service

Jan 28, 2017: Advisory Council,
Vacaville, CA

\$1 Dues Increase for "A" Members

At the IBEW International Convention in Fall of 2016, the delegates approved a \$1.00 dues increase for "A" members, effective January 2017. Employers are being notified of this change as well.

Unit meeting changes

Unit #1111, Fresno Physical, has changed its unit meeting location to Round Table Pizza, 5763 N. First St, Fresno, CA. The meeting dates and time will remain the same.

— Jim Brager,
IBEW 1245 Business Rep

Unit #2509, Stockton Clerical, has changed its meeting date to the second Monday of the month for the duration of the year. The location and time will remain the same (4:45pm at Cabana Mexican Grill, 4340 S 99 Frontage Rd., Stockton).

— Rey Mendoza,
IBEW 1245 Business Rep

Unit #2512, Angels Camp, has cancelled its December unit meeting. Beginning in 2017, the unit will meet only in odd-numbered months. The location and time will remain the same.

— Lloyd Cargo,
IBEW 1245 Business Rep

Unit #3811, Sacramento, has moved its meeting date to the first Thursday of the month for the duration of 2016. The time and location will remain the same.

— Keith Hopp,
IBEW 1245 Business Rep

Unit #3011, Sacramento Regional Transit, has changed their meeting date. Beginning in September, the unit will meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 4:30pm. The meeting location remains unchanged (Espanol Restaurant, 5723 Folsom Blvd, Sacramento, CA).

— Sheila Lawton,
IBEW 1245 Business Rep

Unit #4711 (Trees) has changed its unit meeting location to Mountain Mike's Pizza, 390 El Camino Real, Belmont, CA 94002-2049. The day and time will remain the same.

— Junior Ornelas,
IBEW 1245 Business Rep

Unit #4714 (Trees) has changed its unit meeting location to Spanky's Pizza, 197 Placerville Dr., Placerville, CA 95667-3921. The meeting day and time will remain the same.

— Junior Ornelas,
IBEW 1245 Business Rep

Unit #4730 (Trees) has changed its unit meeting location to Round Table Pizza, 2500 E. 2nd St., Reno, NV 89595. The meeting day and time will remain the same.

— Junior Ornelas,
IBEW 1245 Business Rep

Keith Hopp Joins Local 1245 Staff

34-year member Keith Hopp has joined the IBEW 1245 staff as a Business Representative. He will be working with members in PG&E's Sacramento Division, including Marysville and Marysville Materials, as well as Colusa Power Plant, CGT



Keith Hopp

Meridian, Yuba City CNG, Roseville, Fairfield and Rio Vista.

Brother Hopp has been active in Local 1245's safety program ever since the day he hired on with PG&E. He served as a Safety Steward for nearly his entire career, helped start Local 1245's "Control the Pressure" peer safety pro-

gram for Gas members, and participated in the Local's Health & Safety committee for seven years.

He also served as Marysville Unit Chair, and spent 24 years as a Shop Steward. He was a member of the ballot committee during multiple union election cycles, at one time

serving as its leader. Additionally, he sat on the Gas LOP ad hoc committee, helped to craft the M&C Coordinator job classification, and spent three months in San Francisco working on business transformation for fleet & warehouse.

Welcome aboard Brother Hopp!

Support IBEW Local 1245 Members Who Lost Their Homes in California Wildfires

Several IBEW local 1245 members and retirees have lost their homes and all of their belongings in the recent California wildfires. Many of them narrowly escaped with just the clothes on their backs. The union is looking to raise funds to help these members pay for clothes and lodging during this difficult and tragic time.

Visit gofundme.com/IBEWFire2016 to contribute what you can. Every dollar can make a difference for a union family in need.



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From left: Phillip Hartnett, Kyle Giesser and Jeff Beaubier from City of Roseville took First Place in the Speed Climb. Jordan Chene, Nick Smith and Anthony Humbert from PG&E took First Place in the Hurt Man Rescue and First Place in the Cutout Changeout. Josh Kilkna, Raphael Battig and Dustin Krieger from TID came in Third Place Overall.

IBEW 1245 Teams Win Big at Northwest Lineman's Rodeo

IBEW 1245 sent three teams to Portland, Oregon last month to attend the Northwest Lineman's Rodeo on July 23, and all three teams came home with trophies.

Jordan Chene, Nick Smith and Anthony Humbert from PG&E took First Place in the Hurt Man Rescue event and First Place in the Cutout Changeout event. Phillip Hartnett,

Kyle Giesser and Jeff Beaubier from City of Roseville took First Place in Speed Climb event. Josh Kilkna, Dustin Krieger and Raphael Battig from TID came in Third Place Overall

at the Rodeo.

Congrats to our Local 1245 teams on their wins!

— Mike Saner,
IBEW 1245 Business Rep

Jerry Camacho Joins Local 1245 Staff

31-year member Jerry Camacho has joined the IBEW 1245 staff as a Business Representative. He will be working with members in Los Padres GC & Division, including Templeton, San Luis Obispo, Santa Maria and Buellton, as well as King City & Salinas Division.



Jerry Camacho

Prior to coming on staff, Camacho worked as an electric crew foreman for PG&E in the Los Padres Division out of Templeton. He served as the unit chair in Templeton for 12 years, was on the rules committee from its inception, and was also a field trainer for RG and live line.

Welcome aboard Brother Camacho!

Mike Adayan Joins Local 1245 Staff

Brother Michael Adayan has joined the IBEW 1245 union staff as a Business Representative, and will be working with PG&E members in the East Bay, Diablo, Emeryville, Gateway Power Plant, and Los Mendanos Gas Facility.



Mike Adayan

served as Shop Steward for roughly 20 years, and has also served on the Gas Ops Labor/Management Committee, Gas Service Line of Progression Steering Committee, Gas Service Labor/Management and Meter Maintenance Person Development Committee. Additionally, he represented Local 1245 as a delegate at the North American Inter Union Conference in 2014 and 2015.

He is a lifelong Bay Area Resident and an avid Oakland Raiders fan.

Welcome aboard Brother Adayan!

Brother Adayan has been an IBEW member for 26 years, working primarily on the Gas side. Prior to joining the union staff, Adayan was a Gas System Operator at GDCC in Bishop Ranch. Before that, he was a Gas Service Rep for 20 years in Gas OM&C Reserve. He

Utility Reporter

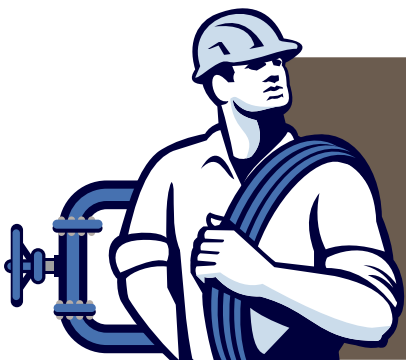
International Labor Communicators Association Awards

IBEW 1245 Recieves Six Awards for Excellence in Print and Electronic Media

The annual International Labor Communications Association (ILCA) award winners have been announced, and IBEW Local 1245 has received six awards for excellence in electronic and print media.

- **1st Place: Writing: Best Electronic Content: State/Local**
IBEW 1245 Website. By Rebecca Band
- **1st Place: Electronic Media: Best Promotional Video: State/Local.**
Linemen Without Borders: IBEW 1245 and the Suriname American Brotherhood Initiative. By IBEW 1245
- **1st Place: Electronic Media: Best Educational and Training Video: State/Local.**
Unity is Power. By Eric Wolfe
- **2nd Place: Political Action/Organizing Campaign: Best Flyer: State/Local.**
The Union Difference/Public Sector Under Attack. By Rebecca Band
- **2nd Place: General Excellence: Print Publication: Local/Regional: 10,001–30,000.**
Utility Reporter. By Rebecca Band
- **3rd Place: Electronic Media: Best Use of Social Media: Local.**
Linemen Without Borders. By Rebecca Band





IBEW 1245 Teams Compete at National Gas Rodeo

The 2016 National Gas Rodeo was held August 27 at the Jefferson County fairgrounds, just outside of Denver, Colorado. The competition was fierce, with 55 teams from all across the country vying for the title. Representing IBEW 1245 and PG&E in the two-person team division were Shaun Mahanay and Jayson Visinoni, who competed as the “GC Regulators,” and Zach Shepherd and Tom Peterson, competing as the “Manteca Elite” team. In the four-person team division, our teams were the “Natural Born Tappers,” made up of Sam Barraza, Emanuel Ene, Miguel Loza and Adam Kotko, and the “Lakeville Cowboys,” which consisted of Dustin Brown, James Dunne, Clay Maisak, Casey Smith and alternate Tim McKenna. These competitors all earned their spots by placing in the top during the IBEW/PG&E Gas Rodeo that took place earlier this year.

Our local Rodeo gave our members the chance to practice and prepare for the National event, and all four teams arrived ready to compete. As the Rodeo kicked off, all of the teams gathered around the center stage. A rousing rendition of the National Anthem was performed, followed by a “stretch and flex” to help loosen some very tense competitors just before the Rodeo events began.

Each team was randomly slotted to

do a rotation of three events: 1) meter set build, 2) six-inch pipe cut and 3) service install. Each event is timed, and the cumulative times (plus any penalties) were tracked and displayed on the scoreboard. If a team was unable to complete the event due to a broken wheel on the cutters or any other sort of equipment failure, the team is given the maximum time of the slowest team, plus 30 seconds. In a competition like this, getting the max time penalty is nearly impossible to overcome.

After the first three events were completed, everyone headed over to the final event, which is the hand dig. Each team had to dig up a buried box, 3 feet by 5 feet, that was filled with a mixture of pea gravel and sand. The two-person

team box was 18 inches deep, and the four-person team box was 36 inches deep. Just like any other sporting event, we all sat in the bleachers and cheered on our teams as they raced to pull up the box. Hearing kids yelling “Go Dad!” is something I will always remember. But perhaps the most memorable moment was when a female team, competing right along with the guys, won their heat, and the crowd went wild.

Once the times were all tallied, we were disappointed to learn that our teams fell just short of making the top ten, and the competition ended for us. We will return next year with a lot more knowledge of how to compete, and hopefully we’ll return with a trophy in hand.

— Lou Mennel, IBEW 1245 Business Rep



The Manteca Elite team in the Service Installation event



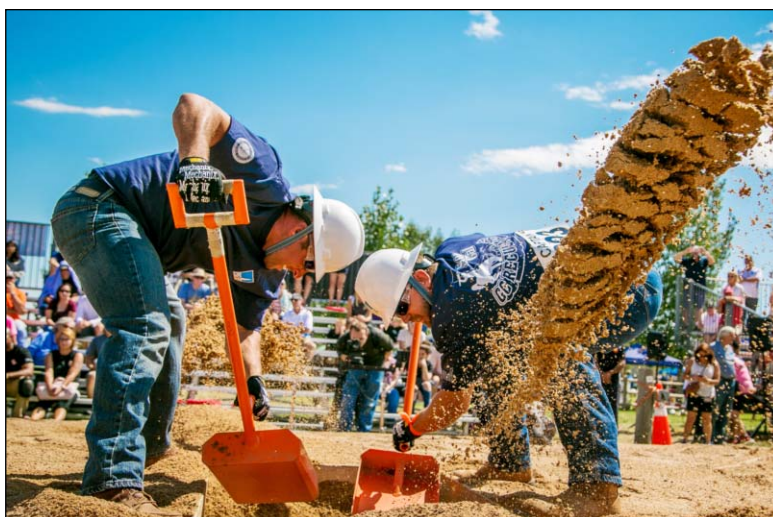
The Natural Born Tappers team in the Meter Set event



The Natural Born Tappers team in the Service Installation event



The NorCal GC Regulators team in the Pipe Cut event



The NorCal GC Regulators team in the Hand Dig event



The Lakeville Cowboys team in the Pipe Cut event



The Manteca Elite team in the Pipe Cut event



The Lakeville Cowboys team at the Hand Dig event

Photos by John Storey



Leveling Up at the West Coast Lineman's Rodeo

The sun was ablaze, the competition was stiff, and the events were tougher than ever at this year's West Coast Lineman's Rodeo, co-sponsored by IBEW 1245 and PG&E.

The addition of two new "mystery events" — an impact connector change-out with sticks, and an insulator change-out using a baker board — left many of the competitors feeling like this was perhaps the most difficult lineman competition in the country.

Despite their vast on-the-job experience, along with the training and practicing they did to prepare for the rodeo, many of the teams, especially those that came from outside PG&E, felt intimidated by these unique new events.

"The hardest part is not knowing all of the tools. Some of this stuff, we've never really used before," said SMUD lineman and Local 1245 member Keno Grigsby, who travelled from Sacramento with his teammates to compete in the rodeo.

"Both of these mystery events are as challenging as I've seen in a long time," remarked SoCal Edison lineman Steve Lekvold, an IBEW 47 member who has been competing in rodeos for 20 years. "[The impact connector event] was our first event, and it was very challenging. I think we did pretty well, but it was certainly different. Something I've never seen before."

Amid the crowds of spectators, the competitors themselves also gathered around the bleachers, carefully watching as other teams went through the new events, noting which techniques seemed to work best, and developing strategies to employ when it was their turn on the pole.

Even the most seasoned teams from within PG&E didn't take their experience for granted. PG&E Fresno GC Lineman Luke Bogart was fresh off a strong showing at the NSUJL Rodeo in June, and his team had also placed 2nd at last year's rodeo, earning him a trip to the International Lineman's Rodeo in Kansas City in 2015. He had every reason to be confident, but in true lineman fashion, he displayed nothing but humility.

"There's a lot of moving parts... [these mystery events] are really a full day's work," said Bogart. "We come out here, and we just try and do our best."

New Attractions

The mystery events weren't the only new additions to this year's rodeo. For the first time, pre-apprentices were able to compete in their own division, with two mystery events of their own, along with a written exam. The family-friendly rodeo also featured some new attractions for the kids, including a monster truck demonstration and a petting zoo.

For many PG&E employees, even Utility Reporter

those who didn't compete, the rodeo is a unique opportunity to get their families together, cheer on their colleague and spend quality time together outside of work.

Jeff Barton, PG&E GC Cable Splicer out of Richmond, decided to bring his wife, Melissa, and their one-year-old son to the rodeo to support the team that was representing his yard in the competition. The whole family was showing their union pride in IBEW 1245 apparel. Even baby Jacob donned a onesie with the union's logo emblazoned on it.

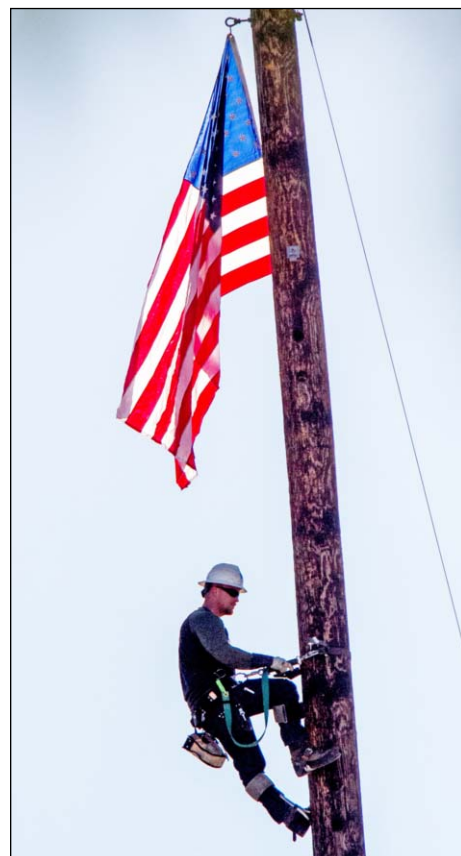
"I like that everybody gets to come out and see what these guys actually do," said Barton, who had never been to a Lineman's Rodeo before. "It's pretty neat."

"They Can Watch What We Do"

Second-year apprentice and first-time rodeo competitor Kenny Turner from Fresno GC had quite the cheering section, comprised of his mom and dad, his grandparents, his girlfriend and her parents. His mom was particularly excited to watch him climb, as she hadn't seen him in action since he graduated from Northwest Lineman College in 2013.

"It was fun, a lot of fun. And it gave me the chance to really push myself," said Turner. "I think the hardest part was getting my nerves out ... it's definitely a little nerve-wracking, with everybody watching you. But having the whole family out here, so they can see what we do, I think that's actually the coolest part."

Indeed, the rodeo gives families and



The opening ceremony



Teams in the Mystery 2 event

Photos by John Storey

friends a chance to see first-hand exactly how much skill and strength it takes to do this kind of work. The competitors never cease to impress the spectators as they endure the heat, the challenges and the performance pressure. At one point, when a hiccup during the insulator change out event caused one competitor to fall into his safety harness, the spectators were able to see exactly why the union always emphasizes safety first, above all else. Of course, the safety marshalls immediately paused the event, brought the lineman down and checked him out. Once the medics determined that he was unhurt, his team started the event over again.

"Having all his safety gear on really prevented anything serious," noted IBEW 1245 Senior Assistant Business Manager Ralph Armstrong, who served as a judge at the Rodeo.

A Ticket to Kansas City

At the end of the day, the winners were announced. PG&E sends its top six apprentices and top five journeyman teams to the International Lineman Rodeo in Kansas City every year, and this year, those tickets went to apprentices Brandon Branch, Shiloh Leader, Anthony Holguin, Brandon Dance, Gary Hoch and Dustin Curry, as well as journeymen Sal Holcomb, Bob Brock, Steve

Hernandez, Jose Morales, Jimmy Hines, Heath Hatch, Marco Acosta, Josh Turner, Ryan Skelton, Nick Smith, Jordan Chene, Tony Humbert, Shannon Spah, Jarod Conway and Mike Medeiros.

The winners are listed below. Congrats to all who competed!

Apprentice Division

- 1st Place: Dustin Curry (PG&E)
- 2nd Place: Gary Hoch (PG&E)
- 3rd Place: Greg Frizzel (SMUD)

Journeyman Division

- 1st Place: The Sly Boys – Shannon Spah, Jarod Conway, Mike Medeiros (PG&E)
- 2nd Place: IBEW 1245 – Phillip Hartnett, Kyle Geisser, Josh Raley (City of Roseville)
- 3rd Place: Rodeo Dogs – Nick Smith, Jordan Chene, Tony Humbert (PG&E)

Senior Division

- 1st Place: Too Legit To Quit – Sal Holcomb, Bob Brock, Steve Hernandez (PG&E)

Pre-Apprentice Division

- 1st Place: Ashton Cooper (PG&E)

— Rebecca Band,

IBEW 1245 Communications Director



Tim Mace



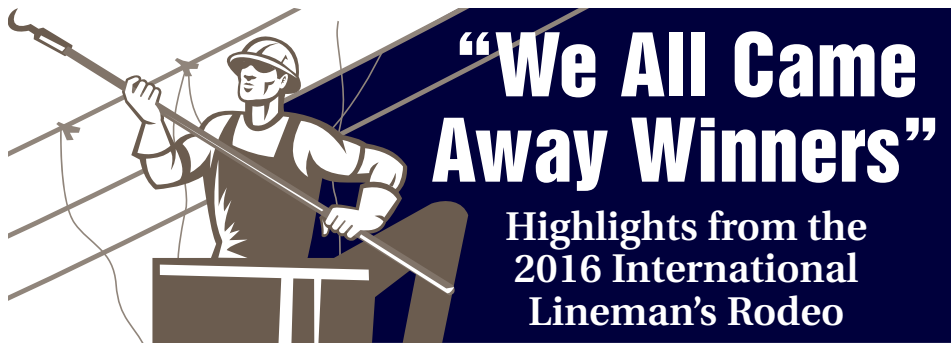
George McNeil, (blue shirt), and Spence Klitzke in the Mystery 2 event



Marco Acosta



Ben McKiernan



Local 1245 Team from TID Wins Muni Division

For the second year straight, the Local 1245 team from Turlock Irrigation District (TID) — comprised of **Dustin Krieger**, **Josh Klikna** and **James Small** — came in first place overall in the Municipal Division at this year's International Lineman's Rodeo in Kansas City. In a competition that is often decided by a matter of seconds, the TID team's total time was nearly five minutes faster than the second place team in their division, proving once again that they are truly the best of the best among municipal utilities.

"We couldn't be more proud of our stellar team from TID," said Local 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell. "These top-notch competitors have built a powerful reputation as the team to beat, and for good reason. It's an honor to have them representing Local 1245."

The TID team wasn't the only journeyman group from 1245 to grace the podium in Kansas City. The PG&E "Rodeo Dogs," made up of **Tony Humbert**, **Nick Smith** and **Jordan Chene**, took 1st place in a new Journeyman mystery event #2, "Vibration Damper Replacement," while the PG&E Fresno Division team, comprised of **Marco Acosta**, **Ryan Skelton** and **Josh Turner**, took 3rd Place in the Journeyman Hurt Man Rescue event. **Phillip Hartnett**, **Kyle Giesser** and **Josh Raley** from the City of Roseville took 2nd place in the Journeyman Pole Climb, and **Matt Wilson**, **Cayleb Bowman** and **Greg Baird** from SMUD took 4th place in that same event. In fact, Local 1245 dominated the Pole Climb, with five of the top 10 teams in that iconic event representing our local.

In the Apprentice division, **Dustin Curry**, PG&E Apprentice Lineman from Stockton Division, was one of the stand-

out competitors. He took home three awards, including 4th Place Overall in the Investor-Owned Utility (IOU) category; 1st Place in the Apprentice Slack Block event; and 3rd Place in the Apprentice Hurt Man Rescue event. Other notable Apprentices include **Gary Hoch** from PG&E Oakdale, who took 1st Place in the Apprentice Pins/Insulator Replacement Mystery Event, and **Brandon Dance** from PG&E Livermore Division, who took 5th Place in the Apprentice Written Test. Additionally, **Matthew Korpi** placed 3rd overall in the Apprentice Contractor category.

"You could feel the very roots and soul of our union's founding present in each event, and you could see it in the eyes of the contestants," said Local 1245 Executive Board member Mike Cottrell, who attended the International Rodeo for the first time this year and also served as a judge. "Our teams and our staff and judges performed like the professionals they are, and added to the grand success [of the Rodeo]. I feel like we all came away winners."

A heartfelt congrats to all the competitors!

— *Rebecca Band,*

IBEW 1245 Communications Director

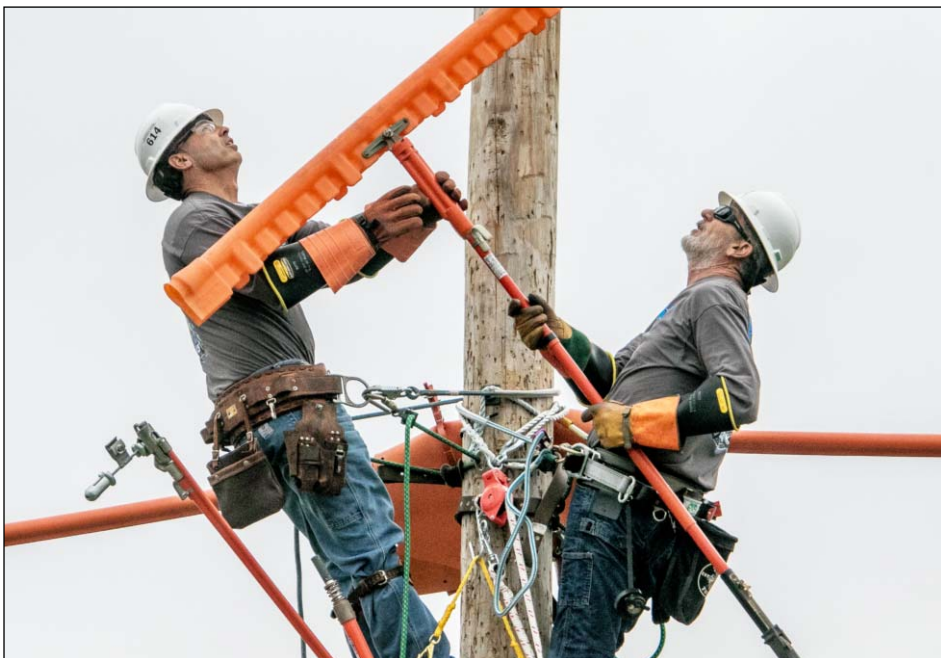


Dustin Curry, 4th Place Overall in the IOU category; 1st Place in Apprentice Slack Block, 3rd Place in Apprentice Hurt Man Rescue



Dustin Krieger, Josh Klikna and James Small from TID, 1st Place Overall, Journeyman Municipal Division

Photos by John Storey



IBEW LOCAL UNION 1245

New Term Life and AD&D Benefits OPEN ENROLLMENT

Be sure to enroll and designate your beneficiaries

All active IBEW Local 1245 members are now eligible to enroll in the union's new Accidental Death & Dismemberment (AD&D) benefits and enhanced Term Life Insurance program at no additional cost.

Starting in January, 2017, the new \$25,000 AD&D policy will offer 24-hour coverage for all active members. The death benefit will increase from \$1,000 to \$2,500, and the \$500 benefit for spouses will remain the same.

There will be no increase in union dues for these added benefits.

To ensure that your benefits are disbursed appropriately, please be sure to log on to the new benefits website – which can be accessed directly at bit.ly/newbenefits – in order to enroll and designate beneficiaries during the initial enrollment period between October 24, 2016 and December 9, 2016. You will need your IBEW 1245 member identification number (printed on your union membership card) in order to access the enrollment website.

Background

In the second half of 2015, a number of units made motions to propose an increased death benefit. The IBEW Local Union 1245 Executive Board requested that Business Manager Tom Dalzell investigate options, and Dalzell worked with Local 1245 to do so.

After reviewing several insurance options, the union ultimately settled on the purchase of a fully insured product. Keeping in mind the unit proposals were likely prompted by the accidental death of a member that occurred in 2015, the union negotiated a new \$25,000 AD&D policy, which will offer 24-hour coverage for all active members. Local 1245 also negotiated a significantly improved death benefit plan, which will increase the benefit from \$1,000 to \$2,500, and still keep a \$500 benefit for spouses, for about the same cost as the old death benefit policy.

Additionally, IBEW 1245 is also able to offer members three other optional insurance policies which will add value for many members.

All three are “guaranteed issue” which means they require no medical questions if you enroll during this initial open enrollment period.

In July, the IBEW Local Union 1245 Executive Board unanimously approved these options to be voted on by members at unit meetings in August and September. The amendments were overwhelmingly approved by every unit, and the vast majority of units voted unanimously in favor of these changes. After adding up the votes from all of the unit meetings, the bylaws amendment ultimately passed by a vote of 1,096 YES to 10 NO.

For more information, visit
www.ibew1245.com/newbenefits.

Learn more, enroll and designate
your beneficiaries today at www.ibew1245.com/newbenefits.

If you have any questions or need assistance with the enrollment process, please contact the benefit administrator at 877.733.1663.

Optional Insurance Policies

Short Term Disability

This benefit provides immediate paycheck protection for members by paying 25% of gross income if a member were to become injured or sick off the job. Benefits are paid on the 8th day of disability and pay up to 12 months. This plan pays in addition to any other sources of income such as employer-provided sick pay, state disability and/or long term disability.

24 Hour Accident Plan

This benefit provides payments directly to members for accidents on or off the job and pays in addition to member's major medical plan. Very generous benefits are paid for fractures, dislocations, hospital stays, medical imaging, lacerations, and emergency room visits, and includes additional AD&D benefits. Family coverage options are available.

Critical Illness Plan

This benefit provides lump sum payments directly to members for such illnesses as cancer, heart attack, stroke and renal failure. Members can purchase policies up to \$20,000 for themselves, and up to \$10,000 for their spouses. This benefit pays in addition to member's major medical plan.



The First Place Team:
Mark Herbert,
Mike Collins,
Bill Hutto,
Todd Wiessner

Photos by
John Storey

Par for the Course: 29th Annual Perry Zimmerman Golf Tournament



For golf aficionados, nothing compares to a morning out on the links, which is why IBEW 1245's annual Perry Zimmerman Golf Tournament continues to be one of the union's most popular events year after year.

The weather couldn't have been more idyllic as 102 union members and guests teed off at the 29th annual tournament, which took place at the Cypress Lakes Golf Course on Saturday, October 8.

"Usually when I'm out here it's really windy, but today there's no wind at all. It's really perfect," said IBEW Local 180 member John McMahon, who works as an inside wireman for Napa Electric. McMahon was invited by his neighbor, Local 1245 member Eddie Williams, to join the golf tournament this year.

"I'm having a great time," he said as he watched his neighbor tee off.

The easy-play, 18-hole event is designed for experienced and novice golfers alike, and the "best ball" format fosters a true sense of camaraderie among the teams. While some arrived energized and ready to compete, others had a more laid-back approach, but everyone thoroughly enjoyed spending quality time with their friends, family

and fellow union members.

While many of the players have been coming to the tournament for years, there were some who attended for the first time this year, including Local 1245 member Brandon Cardoza, who works for PG&E GC Gas Traffic Control out of Elk Grove.

"I like golf a lot, and I thought it would be fun to be a part of the union's golf tournament," said Cardoza. "It brings everyone together, and it's great to get a chance to meet new people."

After a fun-filled morning on the course, the golfers headed to Weakley Hall for lunch, along with the all-important awards ceremony and exciting prizes.

"I would like to thank all of the volunteers and generous sponsors who helped and made this a successful event," said Business Rep John Mendoza, who chairs the tournament. "A very special thanks to union staffers Liz McInnis, Gail Varner, Tanya Alston, Mike Saner and his crew, JV Macor and Lou Menzel."

A hearty congratulations to this year's winners.

— Rebecca Band,

IBEW 1245 Communications Director

- 1st Place** — Mark Herbert, Mike Collins, Bill Hutto, Todd Wiessner
- 2nd Place** — Larry Youngblood, Aaron Blakey, Tyler Paulsen, Brandon King
- 3rd Place** — Chris Spellman-Hess, Ian Robinson, Doug King, Richard Wight
- Longest Drive, Men** — Brandon King
- Longest Drive, Women** — April Carlson
- Closest to the Hole** — Sam Mendoza

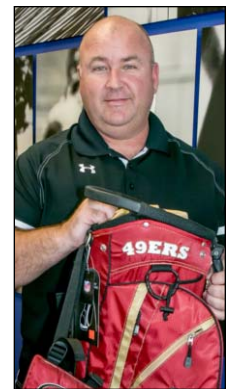
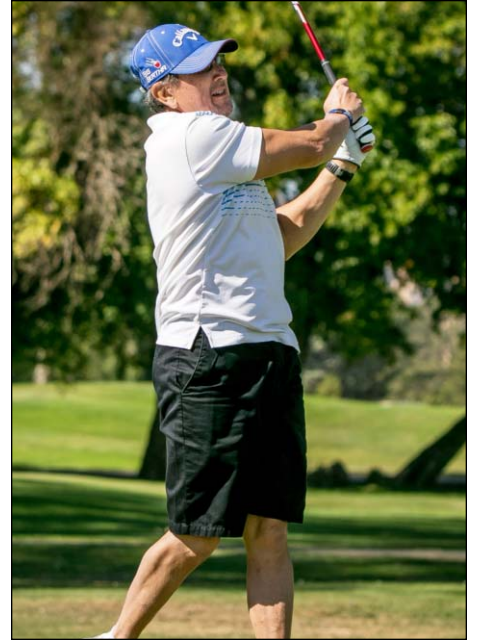




The Second Place Team



The Third Place Team





IBEW International Representative Charlie Randall swore in the newly elected members of the Local 1245 Advisory Council in Reno on July 23, 2016.



Advisory Council Meeting, July 2016 - Reno

Newly Elected Advisory Council Sworn In

Wolfe, Marston Bid Farewell to 1245

The July Advisory Council meeting in Reno marked the end of an era for two longtime Local 1245 staffers.

Senior Assistant Business Manager Jenny Marston bid the union farewell after eight years on staff, and announced her decision to move to Portland to be closer to her family.

“As I look back on these past eight years, I am struck by how many fond memories I have and will treasure for years to come,” Marston told the union leaders and staff. “Local 1245 will never be far from my thoughts. See you in Portland!”

Staff Attorney Alex Pacheco will be stepping in to fill Marston’s role as the chief in-house legal advisor, and Bryan Carroll will be taking over Marston’s duties as the senior staffer in charge of all things clerical for PG&E.



Jenny Marston at the July Advisory Council meeting in Reno

After 26 years on staff, Communications Director Eric Wolfe also said his goodbyes at the Reno meeting and began his foray into retirement. As one of his last official duties as Communications Director and de facto historian, he shared his unique and compelling Local 1245 union history presentation, where he emphasized the ups, the downs, and the various styles of hats that mark 1245’s storied past.

“It’s been a pleasure to work here, and to work for Tom Dalzell. He’s probably the best negotiator there is, and he’s a great boss to work for ... But there is one issue I have with Tom; he never wears a hat. I’ll have to continue to work with him to develop that skillset,” Wolfe joked to the Advisory Council.

Upon his retirement in September, communications staffer Rebecca Band stepped in to Wolfe’s position as Communications Director.



Eric Wolfe at the July Advisory Council in Reno



The newly elected IBEW 1245 Executive Board was sworn in by IBEW International Rep Charlie Randall at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, NV on July 22nd, 2016.

New Executive Board Sworn In



The new Executive Board: Back row from left — Mike Cottrell, James Hayes, Gary Maschio, Stan Zamora, Tom Cornell, Steve Segale. Front row from left — Anna Bayless Martinez, Art Freitas, Rachel Ramirez Hill, Tom Dalzell, Cecelia De La Torre.



Local 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell commends the team from Turlock Irrigation District for their big victory at the 2016 Lineman's Rodeo.

Advisory Council Meeting, October 2016 - Vacaville

Advisory Council Celebrates Lineman's Rodeo Winners

There's a new trophy in the Weakley Hall showcase, thanks to a stellar performance by the team from Turlock Irrigation District at this year's International Lineman's Rodeo.

At the October Advisory Council meeting, Local 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell commended the TID team — comprised of Dustin Krieger, Josh Klikna and James Small — for their outstanding display of skill and competitive spirit.

"This is the second straight year that the TID team has gotten first place in the Municipal Division," Dalzell told the Advisory Council. "They really make us proud, and now we have another trophy to add to our collection."

More highlights and photos from the rodeo can be found at: ibew1245.com/2016/10/18/we-all-came-away-winners-highlights-from-the-2016-international-linemens-rodeo/

Dalzell Announces New AD&D and Term Life Benefits

At the July Advisory Council meeting in Reno, IBEW 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell announced that the Executive Board had approved the increased Term Life benefit and new Accidental Death & Dismemberment plan. At the subsequent Advisory Council meeting in October, Dalzell reported that the units had voted overwhelmingly to approve the necessary bylaws change to enact these benefits, and encouraged the Advisory Council members to spread the word about

enrollment so members can designate their beneficiaries in a timely fashion.

"Once this AD&D policy goes into effect on January 1, Local 1245 will be paying five times more than any other local on the West Coast and Rocky Mountain states," Dalzell told the Advisory Council during the October meeting.

"But there's not much sense in having a \$25,000 policy if members don't designate their beneficiaries."

See page 7 for more information and details on enrollment.

benefits



IBEW 1245 President Art Freitas swears in new Advisory Council members (from left) Ivan Pereda and Joe Stockel at the October Advisory Council meeting at Weakley Hall in Vacaville.

"Competitive Challenges" Take Center Stage in Nevada

The October Advisory Council meeting took place just weeks prior to the November election, and Business Manager Tom Dalzell took the opportunity to point out the intersection between politics and the competitive challenges that the utility industry is facing.

"Right now, we've got a big fight on our hands in Nevada," Dalzell explained to the Advisory Council. "There's an energy deregulation measure that was placed on the ballot by Sheldon Adelson, the owner of the Sands Resort and

Casino, along with some of his billionaire friends. It's very ambiguously worded, but if it passes, it could mean major job losses and skyrocketing utility rates in Nevada."

The measure, known as Question 3, would amend the Nevada Constitution, and needs to be passed by voters in two consecutive elections in order to go into effect. The measure passed its first hurdle this year, but the union plans to double-down its efforts to prevent it from passing again in 2018. See page 30 for more.

Soberanes Fire Puts PG&E Crews to Work

Eleven days after the Soberanes Fire broke out in Palo Colorado, the area was finally deemed safe enough for PG&E crews to begin restoration work.

IBEW 1245 member Arnold Gonzalez, an electric crew foreman out of Salinas, and his crew were among the first to arrive on the scene. The Palo Colorado area, north of Big Sur, is fairly remote and rugged to begin with, and the fire made access to the area even more challenging.

“We had to do a lot of hiking,” said Gonzalez. “We have a Polaris Ranger [ATV] because that’s all we could get through here. We used a backyard machine to set the poles, but other than that, we just used a lot of ropes and hoists ... we got it done without any helicopters.”

News reports indicate that the fire left more than 350 people without power, and damaged or destroyed approximately 90 utility poles.

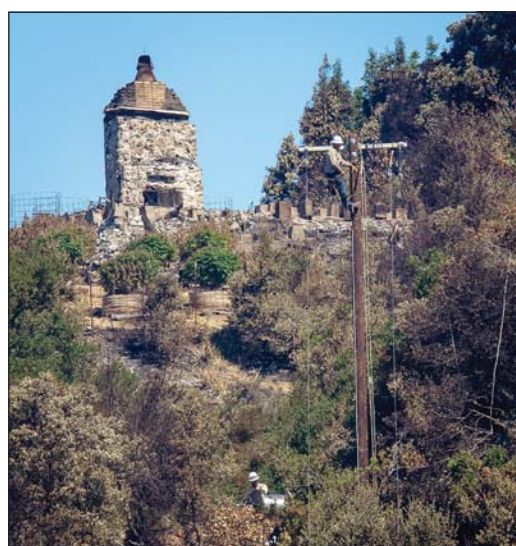
“We set new poles down the tap line that were burnt ... and all the wire was burnt up and charred, so we had to re-conductor it,” Gonzalez explained. “And we ran a new service to a house that’s no longer here. Had to hand-rig a transformer up the pole, but now [when they rebuild] they’re ready to go with new service.”

It took nearly three months to reach 100% containment, and by the time it was finally contained, the fire had burned over 132,000 acres in Monterey County and the Los Padres Nation Forest. The Soberanes fire currently holds the title as the most expensive fire in US history, with an estimated \$236 million being spent on containment, restoration and related work.



[ABOVE] Christopher Marcil (left) and Robert Clark [BELOW] Crew Foreman Armand Rains

Photos by John Storey



Working from the bucket trucks, apprentice Joshua Bullard (right) and lineman Logan Wechter (left)

[LEFT] The chimney in the background is all that remains of this home after being destroyed by the Soberanes fire. The crew worked to set up service for the home so it will be ready for the owners when they rebuild.



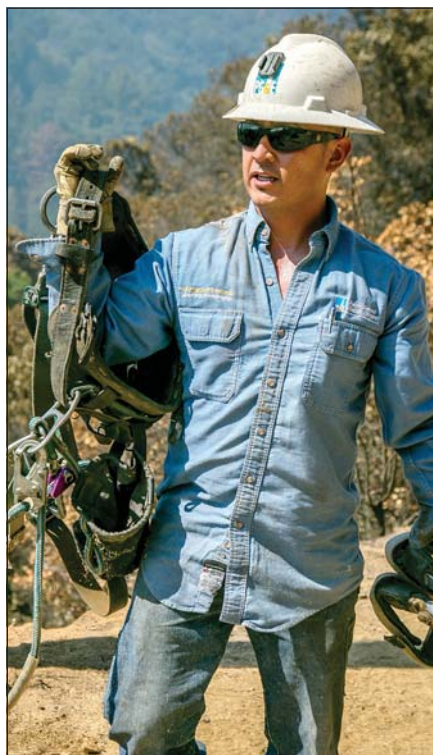
Vincent Vedernack



Christopher Marcil (left front) Ty Wyatt (back left) and Arnold Gonzalez (back right) and Robert Clark (right front) carry a new transformer



[Left] Christopher Marcil (left) and Robert Clark (right) install a new transformer



Crew Foreman Arnold Gonzalez



Pintane used his cell phone to capture this photo of the bobcat in a tree

Soberanes Fire: GC Transmission Foreman Helps Save Injured Bobcat

Twelve-year IBEW member Brandon Pintane, a GC Transmission foreman working out of PG&E's Lakeville substation, was tasked with replacing poles and re-conducting the kv line following the highly destructive Soberanes Fire when he had an unusual run-in with a wild animal.

Pintane was working with PG&E Senior Wildlife Biologist Andrea Henke to evaluate an area that was impacted by fire. As they were driving, they saw a bobcat limping down the road, apparently injured and in bad shape.

Henke was worried. "He shouldn't be here," she told Pintane.

After completing the task at hand, Henke told Pintane that she wanted to stop off and leave some pet food out for the bobcat.

"We saw the cat again so we stopped, and as she was in the process of getting out to leave some food for the cat, and he took off down the hill," Pintane recounted. "[Henke] said, 'We need to try and catch him.' And I was thinking, 'Are you f**king kidding me? It's a wild animal!' But she was already putting on her gloves, and I wasn't going to let her go by herself, so I grabbed my gloves and went down the hill with her."

The pair looked up and down the hill, but were unable to find the injured bobcat. As they walked back up towards Pintane's work vehicle, they spotted the cat in up in a tree right by the truck.

"He was hiding out because was scared of us, but we could tell that he had a hurt leg," said Pintane. "We walked up to the tree and tried to find a way to get the cat down. At that point, the cat fell out of the tree, and then ran over to another burnt-out tree that was hollow inside, and he hid there where I guess he felt like it was safe."

Pintane grabbed a duffel bag and a coat from his truck, and he and his colleague slowly surrounded the hollow tree.

"We threw the jacket over cat, and he wasn't happy about it, obviously," said Pintane. "His paws were all burned up from the fire, it looked like it hadn't eaten, and there was definitely something wrong with his leg."

They wrapped the cat up in Pintane's jacket and put him in the duffel bag, and then carried him into Pintane's truck. The weather was exceedingly hot, so Pintane turned up the air conditioning, and opened the duffel bag a bit to give the cat a chance to cool off. Then they drove down to the staging area, where Henke took the cat over to the animal shelter to get the medical treatment that he needed.

Dalzell Welcomes New PowerPathway CSR Class to Local 1245

Two years ago, IBEW 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell invited PG&E CEO Tony Earley to meet with the IBEW 1245 military veterans' group.

Earley, himself a military veteran, leapt at the chance to meet with 1245 members. He listened to the group's experiences and shared his own. He also discussed PG&E's PowerPathway training program for veterans, which, at that time, was largely geared towards the physical side.

It was at that point that PG&E Customer Service Representative (CSR) Vickie Bunag suggested the idea of recruiting veterans into the Customer Service line of progression as well. Dalzell added, "Why not take the work ethic and discipline that military men and women already have, and get them into the contact centers?"



1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell & Vets' Group Member Walter Carmier with the new PowerPathway Class at PG&E's Sacramento Contact Center

Earley was intrigued. With help from Dalzell and Senior Assistant Business Manager (and Navy vet) Bob Dean, the seeds were planted to recruit, train and place veterans into a training course for customer service work and hire them directly into PG&E's contact centers in Fresno and Sacramento.

The direct hire component of the program is a key to the program's success. Last year, 17 veterans participated in the PowerPathway CSR training, where they were trained and placed into good-paying, union CSR jobs with PG&E. This year, 20 veterans took advantage of the opportunity.

On Thursday, September 29, IBEW 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell, along with Staff Organizer Eileen Purcell and Organizing Steward Walter Carmier (a US Army veteran), welcomed PG&E's newest PowerPathway CSR class into the union.

"Just as you experienced comraderie in the military, we try to instill that spirit [at IBEW 1245]," Dalzell told the new Customer Service Reps at the Sacramento Call Center. "We've got to watch out for each other, and we need your involvement in the union."

Walter Carmier invited the group to participate in this year's 1245 Vets Con-

tingent in the Sacramento Veterans Day Parade, on Friday, November 11.

Founded in 2013, the IBEW 1245 vets group is member-driven and dedicated to supporting veterans as they transition to civilian life. The group's members work to find unique ways to support other vets, through activities like winter clothing and boot drives, fundraising for local veteran organizations, encouraging union employers to be more proactive in recruiting veterans, or simply listening and offering support to returning veterans, one person at a time.

— Eileen Purcell, IBEW 1245 Staff Organizer



IBEW/PG&E Retirement Seminar at the Hilton Hotel in Concord, CA on Sept. 14

Seminar Series Helps Local 1245 Members Set Up for a Successful Retirement

Photos by John Storey

Most of us look forward to retiring... someday. But as that "someday" gets closer, the fiscal reality of no longer earning a paycheck starts to set in.

When should I start collecting Social Security?

What's the difference between a 401K and an IRA?

Will we need supplemental medical insurance?

What's the best way to put money aside for my kid's college fund?

How much should we have in our accounts in order to maintain our current standard of living?

These are just a few of the questions that come up when workers start to seriously consider retirement. IBEW 1245

has long recognized that planning for a financially sound retirement can be challenging and complex, which is why the union has partnered with Merrill Lynch to offer a series of free retirement planning seminars for our members at PG&E for more than three decades. All members age 45 and over are invited to enjoy a free dinner and listen as experts explain precisely how to plan for retirement, along with critical strategies to ensure fiscal stability when the time comes to stop working.

For the past 32 years, financial guru Bob Gallo has been providing guidance, advice and support for PG&E families to help them understand their retirement needs and succeed in meeting those needs. He knows the ins and outs of every facet, from savings accounts to medical expenses to government bene-

fits and everything in between. In recent years, his son Matt and several other colleagues have joined him, and now every autumn, they hit the road, offering more than a dozen complimentary seminars all across PG&E territory.

"In today's world, it's important to understand the risks in the marketplace," Matt Gallo explained before kicking off the September 14 seminar in Concord. "We're at a unique stage where all asset classes are at all-time highs, and a lot of things look like they did before the last crash in 2007-2008. And when those sort of economic crashes happen, they tend to affect retirees a lot more than they affect anybody else."

Matt's father Bob also underscored the importance of taking advantage of the current markets, while also recognizing how they might change in the future. At the beginning of his presentation, he noted that right now is the absolute best time to secure a fixed-rate mortgage.

"This is the lowest that mortgage rates have ever been in the history of the United States," he told the attendees. "Is there a chance they'll get even lower? Not really. Is there a chance that they'll go back up? More likely, yes."

He proceeded to run through his carefully crafted "10 Steps to Prepare for a Successful Retirement," detailing each component and answering dozens of questions from members as he went along. He also explained, step by step, the best way to utilize the various benefits and sources of income in retirement, including, but not limited to, the PG&E retirement plan.

Most people pay hundreds, perhaps even thousands of dollars to get this kind of in-depth financial planning and advice. But Local 1245 views a se-

cure retirement as a core component of union membership, which is why we offer these seminars for free each year. Additionally, at the end of the seminar, members have the option to sign up for a free one-on-one planning session with the Gallos or one of their associates, where they assess each individual's situation and run the numbers accordingly so members know exactly how much they'll need to retire.

Nearly all members who attend these seminars leave the room armed with more information than they had when they first arrived.

"I learned quite a bit actually," Patricia Abney, who works in Dispatch out of San Ramon, said after the Concord seminar. "I really liked the part where they explained when is the best time to take Social Security. I have a husband who's already retired but was an employee for PG&E, so it helped for me to understand how the retiree medical [plan] affects us. I also liked seeing the way they do the calculations. Now I know that I'm on track, so I feel good about that."

For more information, contact Kindy Mann at 800-234-3858.

— Rebecca Band, IBEW 1245 Communications Director





PG&E's Robert Joga hands Local 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell a copy of the Company's proposal.

Photo by John Storey

New Tentative Agreement Reached With PG&E

On November 1, 2016, IBEW 1245 reached tentative agreement with PG&E on the terms of a new four-year agreement, effective 1/1/2016 through 12/31/2019. If ratified, it would include a 3% increase on earnings, retroactive to 1/1/2016, for active employees and 2016 retirees, and a total general wage increase of 12.5% (3% in 2016, 3% in 2017, 3.25% in 2018, 3.25% in 2019). The compounded value of the wage increase is 13.1%.

The Company justified reducing the general wage increase from the original 13% because that proposal was made in conjunction with a major redesign of sick leave and short term disability. Our members strongly objected to the redesign of time off, and so that proposal was withdrawn. Without the cost savings that the time off redesign would have brought, the Company was only

willing to offer a 12.5% wage increase. The reduction in wages is less than the lost opportunity for savings to the Company, and a 12.5% increase is still extremely competitive.

The new tentative agreement includes

- A modest improvement in short term disability, benefitting up to 2,400 members a year
- A significant improvement in paid family leave, benefitting several thousand members a year
- New return-to-work language for employees on long term disability, and a prospective change in long term disability that will have a negative impact on approximately 40 members a year

The Company also made a new proposal for gas and electric service crews

to the ad hoc committees handling those issues. The new proposal continues to require the Company to honor Section 212 of the contract in all call-outs, and now includes overtime enhancements for employees in departments with service crews in two situations: 1) weather-related pre-arranged overtime and 2) pre-arranged overtime associated with major events requiring the opening of the Company EOC.

The new proposals protect 212 call-outs and contain significant improvements in overtime payment for employees in the departments in which service crews will be created. Under these circumstances, Local 1245 has agreed to sign the service crew letter agreements upon ratification of the general agreements and the benefits agreement.

Local 1245 and the bargaining committee believe that the package tenta-

tively agreed to deserves a yes vote, and is recommending ratification.

"Through tenacity, perseverance and solidarity, the negotiating committee was able to obtain a simple contract that meets the conditions for a contract that our members have articulated," said IBEW Local 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell. "In particular, the Company's willingness to withdraw the sick leave / short-term-disability redesign proposal, and its willingness to work on the service crews through ad hoc committees instead of general negotiations, represent a positive outcome of these negotiations."

More information on the package can be found at ibew1245.com/pge-ta-2016, and is also being mailed to members at their homes. Ratification ballots are being mailed to members in November, and will be counted on Dec. 13.

SolarCity Expresses Desire to Take Over PG&E Distribution Functions

In one of the most blatant examples of the potential challenges that California utilities are facing, SolarCity has publicly announced that it is seeking to take over some of PG&E's energy distribution functions.

SolarCity is widely known as the largest provider of residential solar in the state of California. But over the past few years, the company has begun to expand their purview to include other energy-related products and services. Now, it seems that the company is looking to add utility-scale distributed energy resources and third-party distribution level solutions, shifting these functions away from the utilities where they have traditionally resided.

As part of IBEW 1245's ongoing effort to track and combat competitive threats to the energy industry, the union is

speaking out against SolarCity's efforts to cut into utility operations and Local 1245 jobs.

"SolarCity's overt desire to take over utility functions presents a major threat, not only to our members who work for utilities, but also to the millions of people and businesses that count on reliable power and the experienced workers who provide it," said IBEW 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell. "By endeavoring to convince the CPUC to farm out utility functions, the solar company is attempting to set a dangerous precedent that could lead to devastating consequences for our entire grid."

In comments submitted to the California Public Utilities Commission on August 26, 2016, SolarCity wrote:

"SolarCity believes extensive reliance on utility-owned assets is inconsistent

with the goals of the Distribution Resources Plans (DRP) and Integrated Distributed Energy Resources (IDER) proceedings which are focused on reforming the utility planning process to ensure that: the utilities' distribution systems can accommodate increased deployment of DERs; that the utilities are fully leveraging DERs to provide utility-facing services; and ... the utilities pursue sourcing mechanisms to animate the market for the actual provision of those services."

SolarCity's comments revealed that the company sees itself as well-suited to take over some aspects of grid services as well, and thinks the CPUC should favor non-utility companies over the existing utilities when determining where to allocate resources and responsibilities.

"Allowing utility ownership to play a central role in this effort represents a missed learning opportunity as it sacrifices or limits the opportunity to test the ability of the utilities and developers to come to acceptable contractual terms to provide grid services, as well as the ability of the utilities to integrate customer and/or third party owned systems into their operations. Although SolarCity is not opposed to utility ownership per se, we believe there should be a rebuttable presumption in favor of non-utility owned solutions and that absent a compelling and evidence-based rationale for pursuing a utility-owned approach, third party solutions should prevail."

For other articles, please see the Competitive Challenges section on our website.

PG&E 24/7 Nurse Report Line Faces Growth Challenges



When PG&E introduced the 24/7 Nurse Report Line four years ago, the goal was to do what many other companies across the United States have been working to do: improve access to timely, quality care and reduce the cost of injury care. The concept of the 24/7 Nurse Report Line is to address an injury early, in the hopes that with proper care a minor injury will not become something more serious down the road.

When a work-related injury or discomfort happens, the employee is supposed to report the injury to the Nurse Report Line within 24 hours. The employee may receive advice from the nurse for self-care, or be referred to a health care professional for further action. Additionally, the employee's supervisor and safety professional are notified of the call-in report, so that they can monitor the progress of the care and support the health of the employee.

PG&E's data reveals that the 24/7 Nurse Report Line has experienced varying degrees of growth across identified lines of business. In 2015, PG&E employees reported discomfort or injury anywhere from 75% of the time in Nuclear Generation to a low of 46% in Information Technologies. The Electric and Gas lines of business reported at 64% and 63% respectively, with Corporate Services at 57%. The total reporting average ended the year at 61% of employees reporting within 24 hours. Employees in some lines of business tended to wait longer than a day to use the report line. For example, the Electric line of business had 656 reported injuries during the year, however, 30% — almost 200 injuries — were reported more than one day after the injury occurred. According to the statistics, lines of business that tended to report later were more likely to have higher rates of extended or long-term injuries.

By comparison, other companies of comparable size and industry find employees reporting discomfort or injury to a nurse line within 24 hours on average 76% of the time, with top performers receiving reports within one day more than 86% of the time.

It is not uncommon for a new program to have an initial slow start until education and employee utilization bring it fully on line, but when they compare the PG&E statistics to other companies with similar programs, report line program managers are questioning why progress with PG&E's program seems to have stalled.

Employees Surveyed on Program Performance

To determine why greater numbers of employees chose not to report injuries early, Nurse Report Line managers surveyed a group of 155 randomly selected employees who used the report line in the past. The majority of those responding indicated that they simply believed their injury was minor and would go away in time, and care was not needed. It was only when the injury did not go away or returned that they felt

the need to report it.

Some also expressed concerns that reporting an injury may cause them to be viewed as complainers or disruptive to their operation by supervision. Most employees acknowledged that they knew they were supposed to report, but perceived that supervision would not approve.

One aspect of the call-in process that made employees shy to report was the distribution of their medical reports to supervision. Employees shared that they were told who would be notified of their report, but often times did not know who the person was or why they were receiving what was considered by some to be a private report. Based on this feedback, Nurse Line managers have reportedly changed the notification process so only the direct supervisor and a safety professional receive these notifications.

Once the call had been made, some employees described the process as awkward, with medical questions asked repeatedly in a formulaic, uniform manner. However, other employees reported the person helping them was doing a good job at identifying needs and suggesting care.

The survey also revealed that continued work needs to be done to get the word out on the report line, so that employees fully understand what the report line is intended to do, and the benefits of reporting early. According to the survey results, 91% of employees had heard of the program but wanted more education and information on a regular basis.

Results showed that in some areas, supervision was very supportive and informative, even suggesting to employees to report, while in other areas, employees heard of the program only by word-of-mouth from a co-worker, but saw no supportive action from supervision. In all, many employees expressed a desire for an increased level of participation in the information stream by supervision and for supervisors to be well-informed.

Changes Planned

Nurse Report Line program managers have been open in describing the various hurdles they have encountered to the major line of business safety councils, and have asked for advice on how to smooth bumps in the report line

road. Educating employees on the availability and use of the report line is an ongoing effort that has received increased focus and resources. Managers have seen an upward trend of reporting by employees since embarking on the education effort.

Nurse-to-employee interaction is also being reviewed to make sure that program specifics are clearly identified and care is consistent with employee needs and wishes. Effective first-time experience has influenced the way employees view the program going forward. Anecdotal accounts from those who have used the report line can potentially influence the perception of those who may use it in the future.

What may be most challenging is demonstrating the benefits behind reporting early and the perception of risk when a person does report. Muscular skeletal disorders (MSDs) and soft tissue injuries account for the majority of workplace injuries reported at other companies nationally, and PG&E is no exception. An annual review

continued on page 17

Valley Fever Risk Looms in Central Valley

IBEW Local 1245 Business Representatives were recently informed of a case of Valley Fever from a PG&E lineman who went undiagnosed for several months. The member, Aaron Tulchinsky, was not aware of the health risk associated with Valley Fever in the Central Valley, and spoke up to the union because he wants other members to know about his experience, and hopes that those who move to or work in the Valley understand the risks.

Tulchinsky initially took a troubleman bid from the East Bay to Lemoore, in Kings County, in mid-2015. Within months after beginning his new assignment, Tulchinsky started to exhibit some of the symptoms of Valley Fever, including fatigue and aching joints, but he did not attribute the symptoms to the spore-related infectious disease. He did, however, see doctors to try and run down his ailment, and it was then that his medical odyssey began.

After a battery of tests that included multiple CT scans, liver tests, colonoscopy, endoscopy and numerous blood tests, doctors discovered a large build-up of fluid in Tulchinsky's abdomen and presented a possible diagnosis of cancer. Doctors had elected to do surgery to determine how far the suspected cancer had spread. But once the lineman was opened up and the fluid was drained, the doctors discovered that Tulchinsky did not have cancer, but that it was in

fact Valley Fever, and had already spread to almost every internal organ in his body. He was quickly closed up and sent to an infectious disease specialist for treatment. The specialist was frank in his assessment, and told Tulchinsky that due to the advanced stage of the infection, he would need to immediately begin a medication regimen to hold the fever in check, and would need to continue to take the medication for his entire life — with no exceptions — in order to keep the potentially fatal disease at bay.

Because he was not informed of the connection between his symptoms and the fever, Tulchinsky did not notify the company nurse line until he was diagnosed. Since then, awareness of Valley Fever among Tulchinsky's work group has increased, leading to another Valley Fever diagnosis and another lineman with symptoms.

According to the August 5 edition of the Cal-OSHA Reporter article, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has declared August to be Valley Fever Awareness Month.

Valley Fever is carried by a spore that resides on the surface of the ground and is ingestible when the spores become airborne and are breathed into the lungs. Symptoms of the disease include flu-like symptoms such as fever, night sweats, fatigue, coughing, chest pain, headaches, rashes and joint aches. At-risk tasks include digging, truck driving, construction work, oper-



Aaron Tulchinsky



ating heavy machinery and any task that disturbs the ground. Mitigation strategies include keeping workers upwind of soil disturbance, wetting soil before it is disturbed and other means of keeping dust down. Workers can also wear respirators.

If left untreated, Valley Fever can be a serious debilitating disease. Every year, 1,000 people receive hospital treatment for Valley Fever, and about eight out of every 100 people who are hospitalized die from the infection annually.

According to the CDPH, high-risk areas include Fresno, Kings, Kern, Madera, Merced, Tulare, and San Luis Obispo counties. It is found to a lesser extent in Tehama, Butte, Glenn, Yolo, San Joaquin, Alameda, Stanislaus, San Benito, Monterey, Los Angeles, Ventura, Riverside, Imperial and San Bernardino counties.

The largest case of Valley Fever reported was in 2012 in San Luis Obispo County, in which 28 workers were infected with the disease while working on a solar power project.

Learn more about Valley Fever, <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Documents/VFGeneral.pdf>

Rich Lane, IBEW 1245
Business Representative

Outside Construction

The work outlook is very strong with dispatches at a high (1,780 as of October 1) and we have been experiencing several unfilled calls over the last couple of months. We also



Ralph Armstrong

don't anticipate any real slowdown in projected man-hours through the end of the year and have been told in some areas to expect to see an increase in 2017 in all types of work, including distribution, transmission, substation and underground.

Transmission Portability

We are seeing an increase in transmission work as we head into the cooler months. We are also seeing an increase in the use of the National Transmission Portability agreement, which is quite different than the standard portability language in the Outside Line Agreement. Given the current status of unfilled calls, this has actually helped us man some of the work. The big differences are:

- The Transmission Portability agreement applies to each job, whereas the standard language addresses each contractor working in the jurisdiction of the contract.
- On jobs that are 100kV and above where the manpower will exceed 15 employees, the contractor can bring

in the first 10 employees, then it's one from the hall to one more portability. Reverse lay-off works the same way.

- For jobs with less than 15 employees, the company can either use the standard portability language or a 1-to-1 portability formula. For every port they bring in, they have to take one from the hall.

Crew visits and presence in the field will continue to be a priority. Business Rep Richard Ingle and Ralph Kenyon are splitting the Construction jurisdiction, which is approximately 257,000 square miles. They average around 5,000 miles a month covering this jurisdiction. Safety Orientations are still a requirement before anyone takes a call, and the OSL reps are busy doing these as well, as there is no slowdown in the number of people seeking work.

Mobile Home Park Conversion

The mobile home park pilot program has been in full swing, with a much larger portion of it scheduled to begin in 2017. One of the biggest issues we are seeing with this project is the ability to obtain skilled and IBEW-utility-qualified civil contractors to keep up with the amount of work needed in 2017. We see this as a short duration surge, which should slow after 2017 if the pilot program becomes a statewide initiative. All of the civil work is being performed under the joint trench agreement, which also adds to the manning up of this work (since a good part of our membership would prefer not to work under it because it removes the daily subsistence and puts OT wages at the same as the state requirement). Since this work is gas-driven and joint trench, it can be issued to either IBEW or trades contractors. Without utilizing the joint trench agreement, we would price ourselves out of the work on manpower alone.

We are in discussions with several other civil contractors who are looking to try to sign and subcontract some of this civil work, which should help alleviate some of these concerns. Any member taking one of these calls will be notified at the time of the call that this work is being done under the Joint Trench Agreement. They will be given all the details for this work, and if they take the job, they are expected to perform as would be expected on any other job under the IBEW Code of Excellence. It is important to note that the biggest threat to these jobs, as well as all our work, is ourselves.

Nurse Report, from page 16

of PG&E OSHA 300 injury logs by the IBEW Local 1245 Health and Safety committee indicated that MSDs account for over half of total lost-time injuries and the majority of lost-time work days.

For employees, lost-time injuries affect earning potential, but when discomfort and injuries are acted upon and treated early, most potential long-term injuries can be prevented, providing a good reason to be pro-active. As for the risk of being discriminated against or targeted by supervision for reporting an injury, California Labor Code 11(c) prohibits such activity and any violation would be counter to the effectiveness of the report line program.

Clearly the 24/7 Nurse Report Line program needs some adjustment to address employee reluctance and lack of awareness of services available, and program managers appear to be poised to make those adjustments. Care programs such as the nurse line become settled and institutional over time when employees experience the benefits and grow to view it as a positive tool that helps them to remain healthy and productive.

— Rich Lane, IBEW 1245 Business Representative

Google Fiber

Google Fiber has paused plans to roll out fiber optic cables across a number of U.S. cities, as the company reevaluates its strategy to use mainly wireless to provide high-speed Internet service. One of the cities that was on their exploratory list for fiber was San Jose. Fiber installation throughout the city would provide years of work for our members, in order to upgrade the existing utility poles throughout the city. A lot of engineering and design work has gone into this already, however with their decision to pause and reevaluate the fiber optic plan, all this work could be in jeopardy. More information on this can be found at <http://www.computerworld.com/article/3135108/internet/google-fiber-puts-expansion-plans-on-hold-to-review-strategy.html>.

Ineligible Workers

We continue to encounter members who have been deemed ineligible to work on PG&E property, contractors included. These are members who have worked for PG&E in the past (either directly or through the hiring hall) and were either terminated or quit under less-than-desirable circumstances. The process to have PG&E HR review the case and issue a determination takes about two months, the results have been mixed, and emotions run high for the member. It is difficult for all involved, as we have members living in the PG&E service territory who now find it difficult to obtain work close to home, and in many cases, are forced to move. If a member finds themselves in this situation, please contact our dispatch office or one of the OSL reps. for information on how to file.

Policy 22 (Journeyman Lineman testing)

We have seen an increase in the number of linemen working at the utilities seeking "A" membership and Journeyman Lineman status. Most of our utility members carry BA membership, but there are a lot of benefit to becoming an A member. The increase in cost of about \$19 a month not only provides A members with another small retirement and death benefit, but they also get the ability to sign the out-of-work books all across the country if they leave the utility.

Any current 1245 Lineman possessing a "BA" membership and working for a utility who wishes to obtain an "A"

membership and Journeyman Status is encouraged to contact Caitlin at the hall at 707-452-2727

Clayton Fire

1245 has three members who lost their homes to the Clayton fire recently. One of those members is an OSL apprentice named Kevin Guy. We are looking into ways to assist these members as we did last year when we had several more members who lost homes to devastating fires. Individuals looking to contribute to our fire fund may do so at <https://www.gofundme.com/ibewfire2016>.

Grievances

With the increase in workload we are seeing an increase in contractual issues. The reps are very busy handling these issues and are doing a great job in getting them resolved early, as indicated by the outstanding grievance log.

- Open Grievance with CA Dalton for performing covered work without using the referral process. This contractor signed in 2007 in an attempt to obtain work. This is a small company that we haven't heard from or seen from since signing, but recently turned up on a project in SF on a fiber optic project. We are scheduled to meet with them.
- Final payment received and grievance closed out with a contractor who did not use 1245 sub-contractor to perform covered work. An \$11,000 donation was made to the OSL Injured Workers fund to resolve the issue.
- We are working through a couple of issues with some of our inspection contractors requiring conditions of employment that we disagree with.

JATC

We are still conducting interviews approximately 160 apprentice interviews each month. The goal is to hopefully get through the 1,300 applications that were received during the 10-day open application period that took place in March of 2016.

Organizing

We currently have signed Environmental Restoration Technology, Inc. to the California Outside Line agreement.

We are contacted almost daily from new contractors hoping to work either directly for PG&E or as a sub-contractor with one of larger contractors.

Dispatch Call Counts

2016 Call Counts								Monthly Totals
	APPR	CABLE SPLICER	LINE EQ MAN	FAB TECH	GRDMN	JRY LMN	SUB TECH	
JULY	10	0	27	16	113	52	49	267
AUGUST	16	1	25	22	88	137	27	316
SEPTEMBER	22	4	31	24	146	132	17	376
OCTOBER	17	2	33	19	95	143	22	331

Please call the Hotline after hours for daily counts related to actual numbers on the Books.

All 1245 OSL members are encouraged to sign up and register your own personal account through the Local 1245 website. Once registered, you will be able to check your status, make changes to personal information, pay union dues and even check on available jobs without having to call the dispatch office for this information. This is a very useful tool for our OSL members.



Meet Me in St. Louis

IBEW International Convention Returns to the City Where It All Began

More than 2,000 representatives from hundreds of IBEW locals across the US and Canada came together in September for the IBEW's 39th International Convention in St. Louis, the very city where the IBEW was founded 125 years ago.

The swarms of IBEW delegates, alternates, guests and family members made a big impression on St. Louis before the convention even began. On the Thursday before the beginning of the convention, hundreds of members participated in a Day of Service, volunteering at a wide variety of community service sites, including homeless shelters and food banks. The Henry Miller Museum opened that same day in the former boardinghouse where the union's founders first met.

"One of the highlights from the Convention for me was the ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Henry Miller Museum," said Local 1245 delegate and PG&E Lineman Cloudell Douglas. "In place of ribbon, they used copper wire, and instead of scissors they used a pair of Klein side-cutting [lineman's] pliers."

The convention officially kicked off on Sept 19, and as the first order of business, the delegates were tasked with electing the top three International officers. Of the more than 700 IBEW local union business managers, Local 1245's own Tom Dalzell was chosen to nomi-



nate International President Lonnie Stephenson for another term as head of the Union.

In his nomination speech, Dalzell called IP Stephenson as "a fighter, a diplomat, and a preacher of the gospel of organized labor and trade unionism" and noted that "I know of no one who is better-suited for the job than Lonnie Stephenson." Stephenson was elected unanimously, as were International Secretary-Treasurer Sam Chilia and International Executive Council Chair Christopher Erikson.

The week-long convention was jam-packed with exciting speakers, including several elected officials, current and former IBEW figureheads, and a handful of labor leaders who travelled from as far away as Ireland and Italy to join the delegates in St. Louis.

"One of the underlying themes that many of the speakers touched on was the critical need to build IBEW union power through organization and political action," said Local 1245 Business Rep Hunter Stern, who attended the convention as a delegate. "Almost everything that we need and want as a trade labor movement depends on higher membership and electing worker-friendly lawmakers."

Indeed, the focus on organizing and politics also came through in several of the resolutions that were put forth during the convention. The resolutions sparked quite a bit of debate and gave the delegates a unique opportunity to shape the future of the union.



IP Stephenson with 1245 E-Board member Stan Zamora



Local 1245 delegates with 9th District IVP John O'Rourke at the Henry Miller Museum

Bob Choate Attends IBEW International Convention in Spirit

Shortly after 40-year member Bob Choate retired from his position with the union in 2011, he told Local 1245 member Ralph Meier that all he wanted was to attend one more IBEW International Convention (he had represented Local 1245 as a delegate at three previous IO conventions).

Sadly, Brother Choate passed away in March of this year and never got the chance to fulfill that aspiration.

However, Choate had given Meier his old union jacket, and Meier asked Local 1245 Treasurer Cecelia De La Torre to bring it to this year's IO convention in St. Louis, as a way for Choate to attend in spirit. De La Torre and IBEW Local 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell shared the story of Choate's jacket with IBEW International President Lonnie Stephenson, who took photos with the jacket inside the convention hall to commemorate Brother Choate's legacy.



From left: Local 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell, IBEW International President Lonnie Stephenson, and Local 1245 Treasurer Cecelia De La Torre commemorate Brother Choate's legacy by posing for a photo with his jacket.

"The opportunity to witness delegates enact the policies and procedures that will govern our Union for the next five years was a very memorable experience," said delegate and former 1245 staffer Dorothy Fortier. "I was particularly excited to see a Diversity and Inclusion Resolution with teeth adopted by the Convention delegates, and I was also happy to see the IBEW reaffirm its position against all forms of discrimination."

"There were a lot of great resolutions proposed," said IBEW 1245 Executive Board member Mike Cottrell, who attended his first IO Convention this year. "I enjoyed having the opportunity to work together with all the other delegates to get good things done for the Brotherhood."

For more convention highlights and



details on the resolutions that were passed, visit <http://ibew.org/convention/Convention-Action>.

Gill Ranch Storage Workers Vote Unanimously to Join IBEW 1245

On July 25, the workers of Gill Ranch Storage unanimously voted Yes to join IBEW 1245. Their victory comes after two months of informational meetings, one-on-one conversations, and an NLRB-administered election held at the worksite. Despite a persistent message from the company's management discouraging the effort, all six eligible workers participated in the election and voted Yes, sending a clear message that they are united and ready to begin bargaining.



Three Gill Ranch employees just after the final vote count. From left to right: Austin Nakagawa, Danny Bray, and James Casey

Located 25 miles outside of Fresno, Gill Ranch Storage is a natural gas storage facility with 20 billion cubic feet of underground storage capacity. The facility is connected to natural gas customers throughout California by PG&E's Line 401 and includes a 45,000 bhp compressor station. It is owned by both PG&E and NW Natural, a utility based in Oregon; the facility has been operational since 2010.

For the workers at Gill Ranch Storage there were many reasons to go IBEW, but the most problematic issue was the lack of clarity around their roles and responsibilities. A recent trend in the gas distribution industry has been to move toward a non-specialized, jack-of-all-trades workforce, but employees often feel that this lack of defined assignments leads to inefficient daily operations.

Operator Danny Bray knows first hand that unionized workers can find balance in matters like this through collective bargaining – he was a union member at NW Natural for many years. It was his positive experience there that inspired him to contact Local 1245 about organizing.

Bray and his coworkers are excited to bargain over wages, vacation time, seniority, retirement, lines of progression and more, but most of all they seek to foster a cooperative relationship between labor and management.

"I hope to accomplish a work environment of stability and direction," Bray told IBEW International lead organizer Rick Thompson, who worked with the Gill Ranch employees throughout their organizing campaign.

"This team takes tremendous pride in what they do. Above all they want their employer to be successful, but they want to use their experience on the job to help guide that success," Thompson explained.

In addition, the workers at Gill Ranch look forward to becoming part of a union that understands the inherent dangers of their jobs. IBEW 1245's peer-to-peer safety initiatives and reputation of vigilant representation were a significant factor in the decision to organize.

Utility Reporter

"I finally feel like we will all have a voice at our workplace to make it a more productive and safer work environment," said Operator Carlos Villegas. "It gives me and my family more peace of mind."

Employee James Casey summed up the campaign succinctly.

"What I'm looking forward to with IBEW 1245 is a better quality of life for my family and myself!" he said.

Local 1245 Organizing Stewards Help Propel Electrolux Workers to Victory

Notwithstanding management intimidation, harassment, and a concerted effort to pressure workers to vote against unionization, the permanent employees at the Electrolux manufacturing plant in Nashville, Tennessee have voted overwhelmingly to join the IBEW.

93% of the 712 eligible workers cast ballots, and a whopping 75% voted to join IBEW Local 474, giving the union a decisive victory in the deep south. The tenacious spirit of the Electrolux workers, the commitment of IBEW Local 474 and the International office, and strong solidarity from IBEW Local 1245's organizing team all contributed to this important win.

"We Stand Together"

When workers at the Electrolux appliance manufacturing plant in Memphis decided to unionize with IBEW Local 474, they knew it would be an uphill battle. The employer was working aggressively to prevent the workers at its new plant from unionizing, and the first attempt to organize at Electrolux in 2015 fell short by about 50 votes. But the workers refused to give up. Instead, they doubled down their efforts, and reached out for help from IBEW Local 1245.

Local 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell quickly answered the call, dispatching four Organizing Stewards to support the organizing campaign at Electrolux. Miguel Pagan, Mary Corrente, Nilda Garcia and Angelica Al-



Communications Specialists Jaime Price, Melanie Price, Jennifer Green and Rene Picazo. (Not pictured: Jesse Garcia)

PG&E Communications Specialists Vote to Join IBEW 1245

Joining a union is a new experience for most workers. In today's workforce, few people know the benefits of union membership, and even fewer have been union members. For the Communications Specialists who work at PG&E's Bishop Ranch campus, however, the decision to join IBEW 1245 was informed by past experience in unionized workplaces and, more importantly, by positive experiences as union members.

On September 7, PG&E's Communications Specialists unanimously voted Yes to join IBEW 1245 in an NLRB election.

"It felt weird *not* to be in the union," said Jennifer Green, who has worked union since her first job. Two of her colleagues, Senior Communications Specialists Rene Picazo and Jesse Garcia, had been members of IBEW 1245 in pre-

vious positions they held at PG&E, and they all felt that joining 1245 was the natural choice.

Their classification is fairly new, so having a voice in shaping their roles within the company is a priority for the group. They chose union representation with Local 1245 in order to help provide clarity for their job duties and lines of progression, as well as job security and workplace protection.

The Communications Specialists handle many types of gas emergencies including dig-ins, fires and vehicle impacts. They serve as point persons between internal and external parties, including dispatch, gas service personnel and management until the emergency is controlled.

— Rick Thompson, IBEW International Organizer



Hand-billing near the entrance of the plant

tamirano travelled to Memphis during the month of August, where they worked tirelessly alongside the workers and the team from Local 474 to gather support for the union.

"The most memorable [part of the experience] was seeing the employees' facial expressions when we whole-heartedly told them why we were there, and reassuring them that we stand together with them," said Organizing Steward Mary Corrente. "They couldn't believe we took time away from our everyday lives to come speak to them and see first-hand what they were dealing with at work."

And indeed, the Organizing Stewards got a taste of what it's like for the workers at the plant, as they faced extreme hostility from the Electrolux bosses themselves.

"While we were hand-billing the first-shift employees, Electrolux management came out to intimidate us ... trying to say we were on their property illegally," Organizing Steward Miguel Pagan recounted. "That negativity fueled my motivation to continue to help these workers."

Decisive Victory

All that hard work paid off in the end. On Sept. 27, the Electrolux workers voted by more than 2-to-1 to join the IBEW, with 462 voting "Yes" and 193 voting "no."

Shortly after the union election results

were announced, IBEW International President Lonnie Stephenson called Local 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell directly to thank him for the assistance and support that 1245 Organizing Stewards provided during the tough campaign.

For Corrente, a PG&E employee who had never worked on an organizing drive before, the Electrolux campaign was a truly eye-opening experience.

"I learned that not everyone is as fortunate as we are to have a union to represent them and fight for what's right," she said. "I will definitely continue to be involved in fighting for employees who don't have a voice yet, but still want to be heard!"

— Rebecca Band, IBEW 1245 Communications Director





IBEW 1245 members, from left to right: Mark Maty, Randy Olsen, Joe Pedersen, Will Markword and Brad Solso, work for Bella Vista Water District

Photos by John Storey



IBEW 1245 members, from left to right, Kristin Bryant, Virginia Farr, Patty Breedlove and Ashley Lindell (sitting), at the BVWD offices

Testing the Waters at Bella Vista Water District





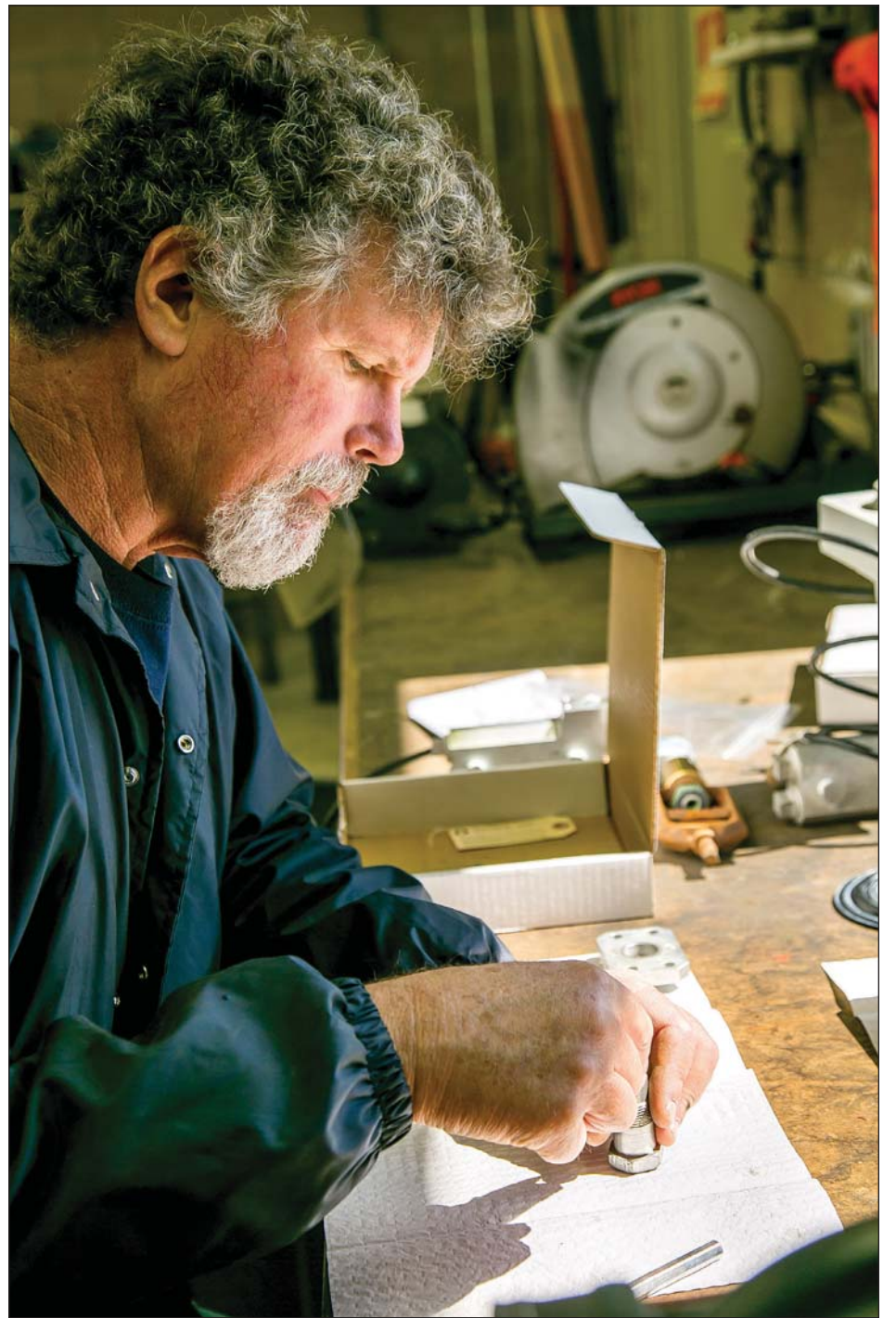
Water. It's the one thing we simply cannot live without, but we often fail to recognize that it takes a lot of work to make sure we have access to the water that we need, especially given the fact that 2016 was the warmest California summer on record, and about 60% of the state remains in severe-to-exceptional drought.

The years of exceptionally dry conditions have certainly had an impact at Bella Vista Water District, where a small but dedicated group of IBEW 1245 members works day in and day out to ensure that clean, safe water flows freely through all of the faucets and taps in the greater Redding area.

"We make sure the water is palatable, good to drink," Water Treatment Operator Joe Pedersen explained as he worked to rebuild a switchover unit for a 110 chlorine cylinder.

The members who work for BVWD are tasked with managing the day-to-day operations in the field as well as in the office. That includes pumping, treating and filtering water, checking and maintaining equipment, keeping the reservoirs filled and operating the pump stations that transport water out to various points across the district. And of course,

IBEW member Erick Ruste, bottom, and Curt Bloom check a back flow valve



IBEW 1245 member Joe Pedersen rebuilds a pump

they regularly test and monitor the water supply to make sure it adheres to both state and federal clean-water regulations.

After three years of near-perpetual drought, conditions seem to be slightly improved in Shasta county, and BVWD's efforts to encourage customers to conserve water have paid off.

"Through July 2016, the District's cumulative conservation was 50.2 percent as compared to 2013! The District is on track to achieve its 33% overall, cumulative conservation target by continuing reasonable conservation and with voluntary rather than mandatory conservation measures," according to the District's August, 2016 report.



HAIRCUT: NV ENERGY CREW IN MINDEN

The NV Energy crew of Scott Lawlor, Erik Hall and Frank Ortega were preparing to set three new poles and replace the power lines in an alley off of Eighth Street when the *Utility Reporter* passed through Minden, Nevada over the summer.

“These poles are old,” said Lawlor, a 13-year IBEW member working as a foreman on temporary upgrade. “The pole we took out the other day was so rotten you could stick a screwdriver through the butt.”

While waiting for additional materials to arrive, Apprentice Frank Ortega, a seven-year member, gave a haircut to some trees that were trying to invade their work area. “When you’re setting a pole you don’t want any of this in your way,” Lawlor noted.

There was a time in the not-so-distant past when pole replacement wasn’t a very big priority for management, but NV Energy has been stepping up its game since being acquired by Berkshire Hathaway Energy in 2013.

“The company is doing a lot more maintenance now,” said Lawlor.

Photos by John Storey



Scott Lawlor, left, and Frank Ortega



Apprentice Frank Ortega clears the way for the new conductor



Lineman Erik Hall, whose home local is IBEW 111 in Denver, clears away the branches cut by Frank Ortega



Working on pole replacement in Minden, Nevada is the NV Energy crew of (from left) Erik Hall, Lineman; Frank Ortega, Apprentice; and Scott Lawlor, Lineman



Pictured from left to right: NV Energy Senior VP Tony Sanchez, IBEW 1245 Business Rep Pat Waite, IBEW 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell, NV Energy CEO & President Paul Caudill, IBEW 396 Assistant Business Manager Jeremy Newman, Nevada AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Danny Thompson, NV Energy Labor Relations Director Ryan Bellows

Nevada AFL-CIO Presents "Employer of the Year" Award to NV Energy

At its constitutional convention in Reno, the Nevada AFL-CIO announced that NV Energy has been awarded "2016 Employer of the Year." Representatives from IBEW 1245 and IBEW 396 joined NV Energy executives as they accepted the award before the convention body on August 23, 2016.



SERVICE AWARDS

Monterey Salinas April 22, 2016



45 Years
From left: Stephen Moreno, President Art Freitas and William Bravo

Photos by John Storey



40 Years From left: (Freitas) and Joe Grassi



35 Years From left: Frederick Menezes, (Freitas) and Phyllis Cabrera



20 Years From left: Aaron Blakey and Andres Garcia



10 Years From left: (Freitas) and Adam Gutierrez

HONOREES

45 Years

Bravo, William
Moreno, Stephen

40 Years

Davis, Charles
Minoggi, Michael

35 Years

Cabrera, Phyllis
Kaiser, Jeff
Menezes II, Frederick
Mora, Roberta
Oryall, Diane
Robinson, Alex

30 Years

Acosta, Ray
Barron, Martin
Burke, Richard
Eberhardt, Eric
Ernest, William
Garcia, Ken
Harris, Steven
Morris, James
Tucker, Frank

25 Years

Gonzales, Mario
Gutierrez, Gary
Lawrence, Mary
Marozick, Michael

Rodriguez, Ludwid
Walker, Anthony

20 Years

Amick, Daniel
Garcia Jr., Andres
Marquez, Ramon
Salinas, Ricardo
Serrano, Jonas
Serrano, Rodolfo

15 Years

Alcaraz, Carlos
Campos Sr., Ines
Franco, Ricardo
Hays, Justin

King, Emmett
McNutt, Caleb
Montagna, Scott
Neely, Larry
Perez, Rudolfo
Rianda, John

10 Years

Adorni, Justin
Bailey, William
Castro, Jose
Cavillo, Ismael
Chau, Tim
Chavez, John
Contreras, Marcelo
Dainowski, Robert
Disch, Nancy
Fernandez, Cesar
Friesen, Ron
Gomez, Rafael
Grimsley, Mark

Guerrero Jr, Jose
Hernandez, Mauricio
Hernandez, Raul
Herrera, Jose
Hicks, Paul
Hitchcock, David
Lindsey, Travis
Ludwig, Scott
Padilla, Dagoberto
Person, Jeffrey
Riddle, Keith
Silva, Jeffery
Skenes III, David
Smith, Brandon
Vasquez, Victor
Villa, Agustin
Ybarra, Francisco
Young, Michael P.

5 Years

Barbosa, Marcus

Caradine, Porter
Carter, Durand
Charette Jr, Mark
Diaz, Michael
Dolan, Edward
Gerhart, Jonathan
Hernandez-Cano, Salvador
Kobayashi, Tonny
Miranda, Oscar
Murillo, Heliseo
Ortiz, Alfonso
Pellin, Darin
Razo, Gilbert
Rocha, Armando
Rocha, Daniel
Rocha, David
Schaffer, Logan
Warren, Cole
Webster, Ed



5 Years From left: (Freitas) and Anthony Hill

*Congratulations
on your service!*

Line Clearance Tree Trimmers

Dead Trees Keep Tree Trimmers Busy

The enormous volume of dead trees continues to be the focus for line clearance tree trimmers. The bark beetle infestation, which is due to the years-long drought, is the primary factor. If California does not get “normal” freezes this winter, the problem will continue and worsen. While the issue has been a good money-maker for the tree companies, it is now becoming more than they can deal with.

CEMA money is available, and PG&E is bringing in tree trimmers from across the country to deal with the problem. Not too many years ago, it was all routine and it got done on time, but now, routine circuit trimming schedules are falling further and further behind because the money is better doing the CEMA work, system reliability, facility protection etc.

Progression issues persist. It seems that whenever we get an agreement to get them moving, another roadblock appears, despite the companies telling us that they want our members to progress and improve their lives. We have been successful in getting a good number of tree trimmers progressed, some of whom have been held at entry-level classifications for several years. It's a fight that will undoubtedly go on and on. If there are any long-time tree trimmers out there who not been progressed, we want to know about it so we can do our best to help.

Almost all tree trimming trucks are now equipped with GPS along with most of the world. Anyone who does not take this to heart should think about it.

Pole Test & Treat wage increase for 2017 will become effective on January 1, and has been determined by the CPI index for the month of July 2016. That wage increase will be 2.7% across the board for all classifications. This is outlined in the current agreement based on the below language.

***Effective January 1, 2017, the wage rates that were in effect on July 31, 2016 will be increased based upon the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), as published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, for the twelve-month period ending June of 2016 for the San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose local area*

(Table 4). However, the wage increase to be effective January 1, 2017 shall be no less than one percent (1%), nor more than three percent (3%) of the wage rates that were effective on July 31, 2016.

Arbor Works

The Company has about 70 employees working in the Yosemite Division for Utility Tree. Working five ten-hour days, and voluntary Saturdays. They are still looking for more employees to hire, as there is lots of work in the area.

Asplundh Tree Expert (NV Energy)

The majority of crews have been dispersed all over Eastern Nevada with only a handful of crews working in Reno, Carson City, and North Lake Tahoe. We had to delay our meeting for October, and a makeup meeting is scheduled.

Davey Tree Surgery & Pole Test and Treatment

We continue to gather names of individuals that have not been progressed to the top climber classification. All employees being held up should contact their Business Rep to address the matter.

We have several Santa Cruz crews helping out in Mission Division. The Company is having an issue with people not answering their phones on the weekends, when calls are being made to report for emergency work. The problem could be due to the fact that not all employees have Company phones. Only a handful of employees are issued Company phones in Diablo Division. We will report more details as we move forward.

Central Coast crews are working five ten-hour days and voluntary Saturdays. There are six crews working in the Fremont area from Central Coast, and have been there for three weeks. We are having some issues with subsistence pay for employees not being paid. The supervisor has told us that these workers would be in the next pay period.

The next GRC is set for November 3 in Pinole, CA. All open grievances and pay issues will be discussed with the Committee.

Mountain Enterprise – Liberty Energy & PG&E

Crews are busy working throughout the entire system. Only a hand full of crews are currently working on Liberty Energy in Truckee and South Lake Tahoe.

Mowbray – SMUD/PG&E

The Company had an issue in their payroll department and had failed miserably to correct several pay issues system-wide. The Company recently hired a new HR Manager to handle all office matters. We expect all pay issues to be handled appropriately. The Company had not been enforcing the membership requirement per the Union Agreement, but this matter is being dealt with. We started to get complaints regarding Lineco medical coverage. We're currently tracking that information to see where this takes us. All these matters are serious and are currently being addressed.

Synergy Tree Service

Crews are continuing to work 10-hour days in the Grass Valley area. The company has 24 employees working in the San Jose Division, working for Utility Tree. They are working 5 eight-hour days and voluntary Saturdays. We have some issues with progression not being met, and are currently working to fix these issues.

Trees Inc.

Most grievances have been settled with the Company. Trees Inc is continuing to hire in all areas at this time. In Jackson, crews are working 5 eight-hour



Alberto Castellanos from Davey Tree cleans up after tree trimming in Santa Clara.

days. In Stockton, crews are working 4 ten-hour days. In Fresno, the crews are working 5 ten-hour days, and voluntary Saturdays.

Utility Tree Service

We had the GRC October 12th meeting in Vacaville. We had a few open issues in Southern Utility Territory. Most matters have been resolved. We only have a few minor issues to resolve. All crews are working ten-hour days five days a week, and voluntary Saturdays. Supervision has told us that they were 19 percent behind schedule, which is making vacations hard to get, and employees are not happy.

Windy Tree

Crews are working in Oakdale area, and have Loggers Unlimited helping them with CEMA work. They are all working nonstop.

Wright Tree SMUD/PG&E Transmission

The next GRC is set for November 4 in Sacramento.



Diego Padilla of Utility Tree puts trees into the shredder in Palo Alto.



Victor Osorno of Utility Tree trims trees in Palo Alto.

Alberto Castellanos, left, and Hector Del Rio from Davey Tree trim trees in Santa Clara.



Los árboles secos mantienen ocupados a los podadores de árboles

El gran volumen de árboles secos sigue siendo el foco de los podadores de árboles para el despeje de líneas. La infestación de escarabajos de la corteza, la cual se debe a la larga sequía que ya tiene varios años, es el factor principal. Si este invierno no hay heladas “normales” en California, el problema continuará y empeorará. Si bien esta situación ha sido buena para generar dinero para las compañías de poda de árboles, ahora se está convirtiendo en algo mayor de lo que pueden manejar.

CEMA tiene fondos disponibles, y PG&E está trayendo podadores de árboles de todo el país para hacerle frente al problema. Hace pocos años, todo el trabajo era rutinario y se podía terminar a tiempo, pero ahora, los programas de poda rutinarios del circuito se están atrasando cada vez más porque se gana más dinero ejecutando trabajos de CEMA, trabajos de confiabilidad del sistema, trabajos de protección de las instalaciones, etc.

Continúan los problemas de las promociones. Pareciera que cada vez que llegamos a un acuerdo para que se muevan, aparece otro obstáculo, a pesar de que las compañías nos dicen que quieren que nuestros miembros progresen y mejoren sus vidas. Hemos tenido éxito en lograr que un buen número de podadores de árboles reciban sus promociones, algunos de los cuales habían permanecido en clasificaciones de nivel de principiante por varios años. Es una lucha que sin duda continuará. Si hay algún podador de árboles que no haya recibido una promoción, por favor déjenos saber para poder hacer todo lo posible para ayudar.

Casi todos los camiones de poda de árboles están ahora equipados con GPS, igual que en la mayor parte del mundo. Cualquier persona que no se tome esto en serio debe reflexionar.



Alfredo Barragan of Utility Tree trims trees in Palo Alto.

Utility Reporter

El aumento salarial para la división Pole Test & Treat en 2017 entrará en vigor el 1º de enero, y se ha determinado en base al Índice de Precios al Consumidor (CPI por sus siglas en inglés) para el mes de julio de 2016. Ese incremento salarial será del 2.7% para todas las clasificaciones. Esto se describe en el acuerdo vigente, en el siguiente texto.

***A partir del 1º de enero de 2017, las tasas de salarios vigentes el 31 de julio de 2016 se incrementarán en base al porcentaje de aumento en el Índice de Precios al Consumidor para Consumidores Urbanos (CPI-U por sus siglas en inglés), según lo publicado por la Oficina de Estadísticas Laborales de los EE.UU., para el periodo de doce meses que finaliza en junio de 2016, para el zona local de San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose (Tabla 4). Sin embargo, el aumento salarial efectivo a partir del 1º de enero de 2017, no será inferior al uno por ciento (1%), ni mayor de tres por ciento (3%) de las tasas de salarios vigentes al 31 de julio de 2016.*

Arbor Works

La compañía tiene alrededor de 70 empleados que trabajan en la División de Yosemite para Utility Tree. Ellos trabajan cinco días de diez horas, y los sábados de manera voluntaria. La compañía continúa a la búsqueda de más empleados para contratar, ya que hay mucho trabajo en la zona.

Asplundh Tree Expert (NV Energy)

La mayoría de las cuadrillas están dispersas por todo Nevada del Este y solamente una pocas cuadrillas están trabajando en Reno, Carson City y el norte de Lake Tahoe. Tuvimos que retrasar nuestra reunión de octubre y se ha programado una reunión en lugar de la reunión suspendida.

Davey Tree Surgery & Pole Test and Treatment

Seguimos recolectando nombres de individuos que no han recibido promociones a la clasificación de escalador superior. Todos los empleados que no hayan recibido promociones deben comunicarse con su Representante de Negocios para abordar este asunto.



Alberto Edmondo of Utility Tree pulls branches from trimmed trees in Palo Alto.

Tenemos varias cuadrillas en Santa Cruz ayudando en la División Misión. La compañía está teniendo problemas con las personas que no contestan sus teléfonos los fines de semana, cuando se hacen llamadas para informar sobre trabajos de emergencia. El problema podría deberse al hecho de que no todos los empleados han recibido teléfonos de la compañía. Sólo un pequeño grupo de empleados han recibido teléfonos de la compañía en la División Diablo. Les haremos llegar más detalles a medida que avanzamos.

Las cuadrillas de Central Coast están trabajando cinco días de diez horas y los sábados de manera voluntaria. Hay seis cuadrillas de Central Coast trabajando en la zona de Fremont y han estado allí por tres semanas. Estamos teniendo algunos problemas con la falta de pago correspondiente al pago de subsistencia para los empleados. El supervisor nos ha dicho que estos trabajadores recibirán el pago en el próximo período de pago.

La próxima reunión del Comité de Revisión de Quejas se ha fijado para el 3 de noviembre en Pinole, CA. Todas las quejas pendientes y los problemas salariales serán discutidos con el Comité.

Mountain Enterprise – Liberty Energy & PG&E

Las cuadrillas están ocupadas trabajando en todo el sistema. Solo un pequeño grupo de cuadrillas están trabajando actualmente en Liberty Energy en Truckee y en South Lake Tahoe.

Mowbray – SMUD/PG&E

La Compañía tuvo un problema en su departamento de nómina y fracasó estrepitosamente al tratar de corregir varios problemas de pago salarial en todo el sistema. La compañía recientemente contrató a un nuevo Gerente de Recursos Humanos para manejar todos los asuntos de la oficina. Esperamos que todos los problemas de pago se manejen adecuadamente. La Compañía no había hecho cumplir el requisito de afiliación según el Acuerdo del Sindicato, pero este asunto ya está siendo corregido. Comenzamos a recibir quejas sobre la cobertura médica de Lineco. Actualmente estamos haciéndole seguimiento a esa información para ver



Francisco Lopez of Utility Tree trims a tree in Palo Alto.



Hector Del Rio from Davey Tree trims trees in Santa Clara, Calif.

a dónde nos lleva. Todos estos son asuntos graves y se están abordando actualmente.

Synergy Tree Service

Las cuadrillas continúan trabajando días de 10 horas en la zona de Grass Valley. La compañía tiene 24 empleados trabajando en la División de San José para Utility Tree. Están trabajando 5 días de ocho horas y los sábados de manera voluntaria. Tenemos algunos problemas con el cumplimiento de las promociones y actualmente estamos trabajando para solucionar estos problemas.

Trees Inc.

La mayoría de las quejas se han resuelto con la Compañía. Trees Inc continúa contratando actualmente en todas las zonas. En Jackson, las cuadrillas están trabajando 5 días de ocho horas. En Stockton, las cuadrillas están trabajando 4 días de diez horas. En Fresno, las cuadrillas están trabajando 5 días de diez horas, y los sábados de manera voluntaria.

Utility Tree Service

El 12 de octubre se llevó a cabo una reunión del Comité de Revisión de Quejas en Vacaville. Teníamos algunos asuntos pendientes en Southern Utility Territory. La mayoría de los asuntos se han resuelto. Solo quedan algunos pequeños problemas por resolver. Todas las cuadrillas están trabajando días de diez horas, cinco días a la semana y los sábados de manera voluntaria. Los supervisores nos ha dicho que tenían un 19 por ciento de retraso, por lo cual es difícil lograr dar vacaciones, y los empleados no están contentos.

Windy Tree

Las cuadrillas están trabajando en la zona de Oakdale, y Loggers Unlimited los está ayudando con el trabajo CEMA. Todos ellos están trabajando sin parar.

Wright Tree SMUD/PG&E Transmission

La próxima reunión del Comité de Revisión de Quejas es el 4 de noviembre en Sacramento.

Energizing the Nation's Tech Capital

In the technology capital of the world, some might say that reliable electricity is more valuable than gold.

Located in the heart of Silicon Valley, the city of Santa Clara is home to dozens of massive hardware and software companies, including Intel, McAfee, Avaya and WhatsApp. But these tech businesses would be unable to function if it wasn't for the IBEW 1245 members at Silicon Valley Power, Santa Clara's municipal utility.

These dedicated members work to ensure that every aspect of the city's electrical system, from the power plant to the transformers and the overhead lines, are fully functional and able to meet the needs of the tech companies, as well as the city's residents and other businesses.

Two Things At Once

Efficiency is a highly revered skill in Silicon Valley. Line crew foreman Brandon Quijada and crew members Chris Foster, Mark Guerrero and Brian Goshia proved that they've perfected that skill as they multi-tasked at a job site on El Camino Real, where a developer is putting up a large-scale apartment complex.

"We're doing two things at once," said Quijada. "We're heating up two padmount transformers from an overhead feed, and at the same time we're cleaning up some of the older existing [equipment], because we no longer need the aerial transformers now that we have the padmount transformers. We're also making sure that the secondary is labeled correctly while we're attaching it to the transformer."

Across town, another line crew, comprised of Dawie Coetzee, Matt Elliott, Matt Contreras and Jesse Murrill, was tasked with changing out wire, as well as re-framing and re-insulating all the poles, on several spans of the Serra-Brokaw 60kv line



IBEW members Matt Contreras, (left), and Jesse Murrill work on a 60KV reconductor project

"This section of line needs to get upgraded from 954 aluminum to this new 3M wire ... which is a composite core wire that has double the capacity of the 954," explained crew foreman Dawie Coetzee. "All the 12kv that's underneath here had to be de-energized to make it safe, and the way we did that is we re-routed all the secondary from different sources, which enabled us to de-energize the entire section on 12kv running underneath the 60kv line."

Cap Bank Repair

As anyone who works with power



IBEW member Chris Guerrero checks capacitors at a Silicon Valley Power substation



IBEW member Leon Alcantar checks capacitors at a Silicon Valley Power substation

knows, things sometimes go awry. When a glitch occurred in a capacitor bank at Lafayette substation, Utility Electricians Leon Alcantar and Chris Guerrero were on hand to identify and fix the problem.

"The cap bank tripped off line due to imbalance. So we've taken the cap

bank out of service, tested it dead and grounded it, and we're in the process of trying to isolate the possible blown capacitor," Alcantar explained. "There's also fuses involved, so we've checked all the fuses to be in working order, now we're trying to isolate the possible bad



IBEW member Minh Phung works in the control room at the power plant



IBEW members, left to right, Chris Foster, Mark Guerrero, Brian Goshia and Brandon Quijada



IBEW member Anthony Harnish checks the pH of the water at the gas powered generation plant for Silicon Valley Power

Photos by John Storey

capacitor.”

At the Plant

Over at SVP's gas-powered generation plant, Local 1245 members man the control room, survey the equipment and conduct any maintenance that may be needed to keep the plant fully operational.

Electric Utility Generation Technician

Anthony Harnish detailed his role in the plant's operations and maintenance department.

“I'm an outside operator, so I tour the plant and take readings on specific equipment, and respond to any plant alarms that the control room operator receives by checking it out in the field,” said Harnish. “I also do water chemistry samples, and take deliveries of chemi-

cals and other materials for the plant as necessary.”

“Powering the Center of What's Possible”

SVP's slogan, “Powering the Center of What's Possible,” demonstrates its unique role in facilitating some of the greatest achievements in technological

history, and it's unrivaled commitment to quality is what attracts many tech companies to Santa Clara. According to the utility's website, “SVP consistently ranks in the top quartile for several key measures of reliability;” which is truly a testament to the hard work and dedication of the IBEW 1245 members.

— *Rebecca Band,*

IBEW 1245 Communications Director



Left to right: Diane Ravnik, Department of Industrial Relations Division of Apprenticeship Standards; Tom Dalzell, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1245; Raymond Cervantes, Intern; Jeff Harris, City of Sacramento Councilmember and RT Board member; Kristopher Arvizo, Intern; Henry Li, RT General Manager/CEO; Jess Guerra, LA Trade Tech; and Mark Lonergan, RT Chief Operating Officer. Photo courtesy of Sac RT

IBEW 1245/SRT Bus Mechanic Apprenticeship Program Receives State Certification

IBEW Local 1245 and Sacramento Regional Transit (SRT) are pleased to announce that our joint apprenticeship program for Bus Mechanics has received state certification from the California Department of Industrial Relations, and is now the first state-certified

journey-level Bus Mechanic apprenticeship program in northern California.

“Becoming certified by the state brings valuable training resources and funding,” said Local 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell. “It also provides important prestige and recognition for those who

complete the program.”

The three-year Bus Mechanic apprenticeship program includes both community college classes and highly specialized on-the-job training, and meets California's vigorous apprenticeship standards.

Representatives from Local 1245 and SRT, as well as local and state officials, came together for an official signing ceremony at SRT's Bus Maintenance facility on October 19, 2016, where they were joined by some future Journey-level Bus Mechanics.

New Agreement Ratified at Frontier Communications Colusa/Shingletown

On Thursday, August 25, IBEW 1245 members at Frontier Communications Colusa/Shingletown overwhelmingly ratified a four-year agreement by a vote of 10-1. The new agreement will be in effect from August 20, 2016 to August 19, 2020 and includes:

- Improvement to boot allowance
- Improvement to Certification Differential
- Improvement each year of agreement to the maximum hourly wage rate
- Improvement to the percentage of the merit increase that is attainable
- Addition of Spanish language fluency differential
- No change to Employee Benefits Programs

The bargaining committee was comprised of members John Woytek and Chris Harmon.

— *Sheila Lawton, IBEW 1245 Business Rep*



Units lend a helping hand

All of the following unit donations to various charitable organizations from July through September 2016 were approved by the IBEW 1245 Executive Board.

Unit #3315, Mt. Wheeler, donated \$500 to the 2016 Relay for Life event in Ely, NV.

Unit #2301, East Bay Clerical, donated \$250 to Betty Reid Soskin and the Rosie the Riveter Film Project, and donated \$250 to Eura Dell's Court in Oakland, CA.

Unit #1110, Fresno Clerical, donated \$250 to Terry's House.

Unit #1126, Turlock Irrigation District, donated \$400 to sponsor the Pittman High School Football team in Turlock and \$100 to Camp Taylor.

Unit #1213, King City, donated \$500 to the King City Girls Youth Softball League.

Unit #1513, Santa Cruz, donated \$500 to the Live Oak Little League.

Unit #3309, Truckee Donner, donated \$500 to the Humane Society.

Unit #4718, Stockton/Trees, donated \$500 for the Youth Soccer group.



From left: 1245 retirees Jim Lappin, Ron Borst, Cyril Escallier, Kathy Preston and Frank Istrice with Evelyn Mount (front center). Photo by Chip Chadwick

Reno/Sparks Retirees Donate to Evelyn Mount's Food Bank

IBEW Local 1245's Reno/Sparks Retirees Club donated \$444 — comprised of club funds as well as collections from a hat pass — to Evelyn Mount's Community Outreach Food Bank.

Unit #4424, Sacramento/Wright Tree, donated \$500 to the Azteca FC-U9 Soccer City in Elk Grove.

Unit #4719, Santa Rosa Trees, donated \$500 to the Atletico Santa Rosa Chivitas Youth Soccer Team.

Unit #4721, Newark/Davey Tree, donated \$500 to Team Scott Equestrian Outreach in El Sobrante.

Unit #5231, South Lake Tahoe, donated \$500 to the Loyal Order of the Moose Lodge #1632, Chapter 408 to support its Kid's Fishing Derby on September 18, 2016.

Unit #1220, Diablo Canyon, donated \$250 to the American Cancer Society Relay for Life.

Unit #3510, Loomis GC, donated \$500 to the Huntington's Disease Society of America.

Unit #4711, Belmont/LITS, donated \$500 to the EWMC Solano County Chapter's International Day of Service which will be held on November 19, 2016.

Unit #5232, North Lake Tahoe/Cal Peco, donated \$250 to the Feather River Little League.

North Bay Retirees Club donated \$250 to the Lower Lake High School Girls Soccer Club to assist in the replacement of gear lost in the Clayton Fire.

Unit #1111, Fresno, donated \$500 to the Honor Flight in Fresno.

Unit #3213, Burney, donated \$500 to the Burney Library.

East Bay Retirees Club donated \$500 to the Special Olympics event in Pleasant Hill, CA.

Yerington Retirees Club donated \$250 to Yerington Animal Protection Society and \$250 to Yerington Senior Citizens Center Meal Program.

Unit #1125, Oakhurst, donated \$500 to the Mountain Area Youth Soccer League.

Unit #4712, Fresno/Trees Inc., donated \$500 to the Fresno Chaos Soccer League.

Unit #4713, San Jose/Utility Tree, donated \$500 to the San Jose Earthquakes Youth Club.

Unit #3512, City of Roseville, donated \$250 to Oakmont Girls Volleyball and \$250 to Roseville Youth Soccer Club.

Brice Fabing Bikes 4 Kids Bike & Helmet Drive Fundraiser



"Bikes 4 Kids" Fundraiser Honors Son of IBEW 1245 Member

In 2005, IBEW Local 1245 shop steward Dorine Fabing and her husband Mark lost their teenaged son Brice in a tragic accident. To honor his memory, the Fabing family began hosting an annual "Bikes 4 Kids" fundraiser, where they collect donations in order to provide free bicycles and helmets to children of families in need. Last year, the Fabings donated 105 bikes, and this year they hope to exceed that.

The Fabings are asking their IBEW 1245 brothers and sisters to support them in this year's drive. Bikes, helmets and money are all welcome, and donations are tax deductible (Nonprofit Tax ID # 80-0823119). Checks should be made out to Brice Fabing Memorial Fund, and can be sent or delivered to 1341 Marigold Way, Lompoc, CA 93436. The deadline for donations is December 16.

For more information, contact Dorine at (805) 588-2848 or (805) 875-8287, or email her at dorine.fabing@verizon.net.



Back row, from left: Steve Larrance, Joel Kuntz, Justin Pinochi, Nick Rains, Chris Garcia, Business Rep Pat Waite, Marty Radekin, Breanna Kelly. Front row, from left: Unit Chair Smily Stahl, Jacalyn Kastl, Steve Kauffman

South Lake Tahoe Unit Sponsors Kids Fishing Derby

Unit #5231, South Lake Tahoe, donated \$500 from its Community Fund to support the 15th Annual Kid's Fishing Derby, hosted by Moose Lodge #1632. This free event for children under age 16 took place on Sept. 18, 2016 at Lake Baron. The unit's donation helped to pay for food, prizes and the fish that were stocked in the lake for the children to catch.

THE TOKEN BEARERS

By Mike Cottrell

The next installment in the lineman's novel by Local 1245 Executive Board member Mike Cottrell.

Chapter 22

STOLEY'S DANCE HALL, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI. 1891. HENRY AND THE DANCER.

Henry was at the bar that first night at Stoley's, the chosen place for the first convention sitting in disgust at the poor turnout expected after many supposed delegates and supporters dropped out from fear of losing their jobs in the aftermath of the publicity surrounding the upcoming proceedings. "Temporary setback," he mumbled to the shot of whiskey he fondled in his hand and the dancer heard him and asked him what was wrong as she patted his back and smiled through the aroma of rouge and sweet red lipstick that covered her every blemish.

"Won't be as many fellas showin' up for this affair as I first thought," he whimpered. She pressed on thinking of his money and attacking his weak state of mind.

"Did you get some tokens when you came in? Nickel apiece."

"Yeah but I used 'em all up last night dancin' with ya'll and sure had fun spendin' 'em. I didn't see you here though. Was you?"

"Uh-uh, I was off with a fella' liked me the other night on a ferry boat out on the river in a big room enjoyin' the moon light and champagne."

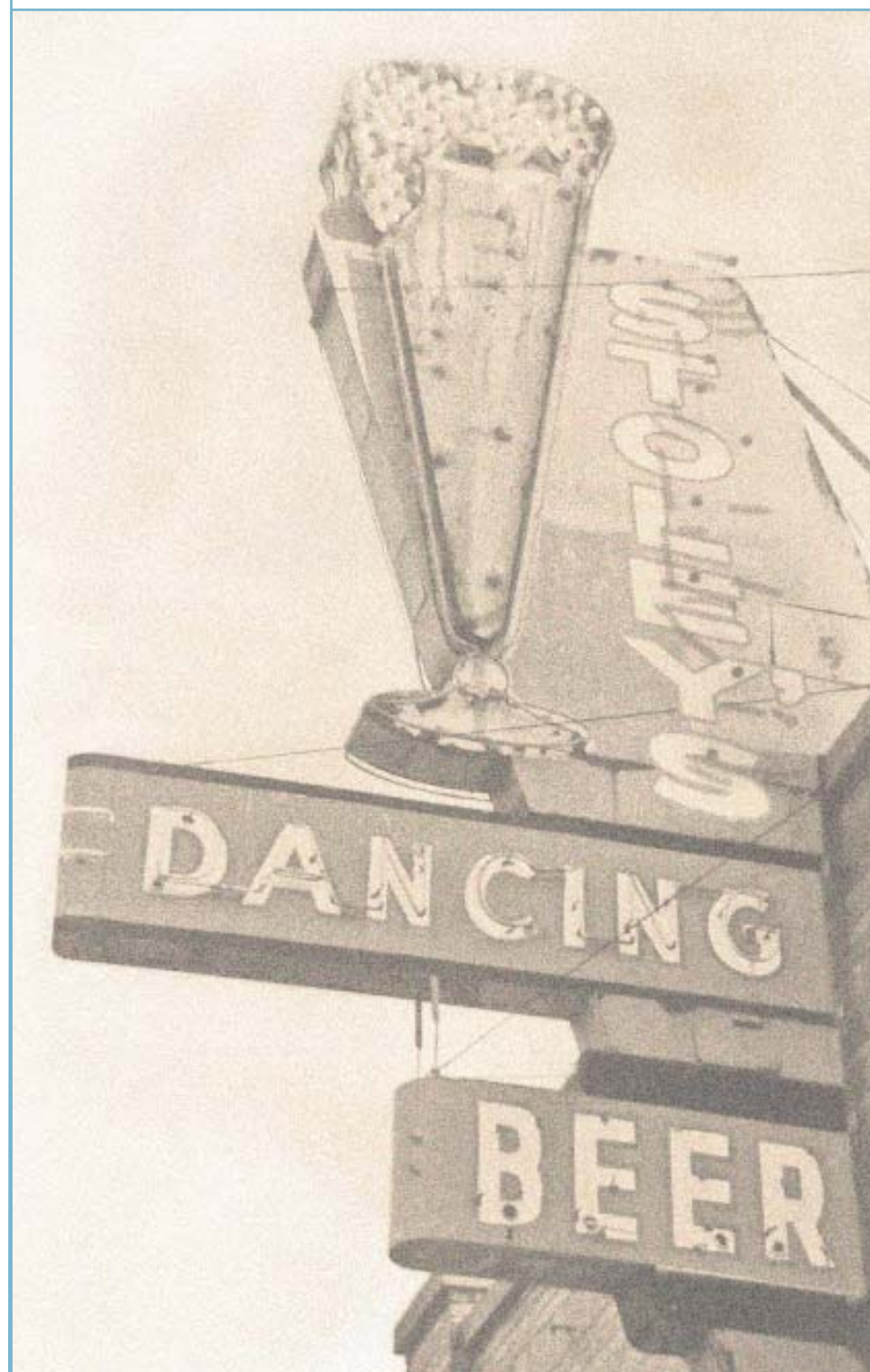
"Sounds fun, wish I could afford that, but all my money is promised for a better day for us linemen." She sat down next to him to hear more of a man who would promise his money to something other than himself.

He explained it was a labor union for men like himself where they could have a voice in what they made and start to build a good voice for management to hear that would make them move toward helping their workers to have a better life and their families too. She took the look from his eyes and patted his shoulder again still after his money but now wanting to hear more about this new labor union he was behind. "You can come back to see me and here is a token for a dance when you get your labor union on its feet. I don't just usually give a free token to just any man. But you are a good man ain't you and wouldn't hurt me or be crazy with me nor do stupid stuff." She was dressed in her corset and a red hat with black band. The hat turned up on one side and she pulled at a curl that fell behind her ear as he sat quietly thinking, not really hearing what she was saying and agreed with what he thought she had said. She joined him at the bar and sat her bare feet on the brass rail and set the token on his left thigh and told him to put it in his pocket. He took the new brass token and looked at it. It said Stoley's Dance Hall in a circle around the edges of the coin and in the middle was a couple dancing a waltz in grand fashion. He turned it over and looked at the other side and it said five cent dance. He said thanks and leaned away from her and slid the token in his left front pocket where he promised to keep it for a good cause and she said that would be fine too. She knew he was to be famous someday for the events taking place at Stoley's and he could not agree with her theory but appreciated her and respected her opinion.

Later in the day the other delegates were starting to arrive and a few reporters were snooping around having heard about a new union being formed and the kid sat on the steps and waited to run back and forth up the stairs to let

Henry know what was going on and would wait by the door until he was given information to relay to the press about the birth of a new brotherhood and Skyler Rochett stayed busy that week running back and forth with the liaisons from the men in the room to better the craving of labor's needs. The token was in Henry's pocket and the girl slept through the night knowing she had given a good man a free dance and the convention went on.

continued in next issue



PEOPLE POWER

IBEW 1245 Members Help Get Out the Vote



With so much big money flooding our political process, it's easy to feel disillusioned and overwhelmed by the seemingly endless barrage of election-related TV commercials, glossy mailers and invasive web ads. But if there's one thing we know, it's the fact that even in this highly saturated and expensive media environment, you can't put a price on the kind of personal human interaction that is at the very core of the union movement. That's why IBEW 1245 doubled down on its commitment to grassroots political organizing during the 2016 election cycle.

In the fall of 2016, more than 100 Local 1245 activists, retirees and staff

joined the effort to combat the big spending with a whole lot of "people power." Our members were out in force all across the union's territory, knocking on doors, making phone calls, joining rallies, hosting meetings at worksites and recruiting volunteers to support the union-endorsed candidates and ballot measures that will have the biggest impact on our members. Altogether, our members contacted tens of thousands of voters across our jurisdiction, and that hard work truly paid off, as the majority of our union-endorsed candidates and ballot measures came out ahead on Election Night.

NEVADA



Local 1245 retiree Rita Weisshaar (right) checks in volunteers at a precinct walk in Reno.

When casino mogul Sheldon Adelson and a few other big-business billionaires placed **Question 3** on the Nevada ballot, Local 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell was quick to sound the alarm. This deceptively worded statewide ballot measure sought to deregulate electric utility system in Nevada, opening the door to sky-rocketing power bills for

residents, as well as major job losses for Local 1245 members.

Defeating Question 3 was a top priority for Local 1245, and together with our union allies, we helped spearhead one of the most robust Get Out the Vote operations in the nation. Retiree Rita Weisshaar took the helm, coordinating a massive volunteer-driven ground cam-

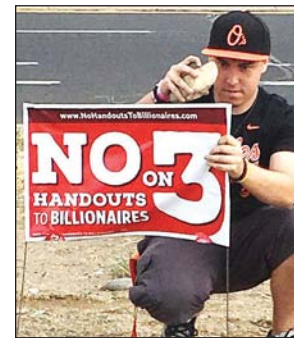


Local 1245 members and retirees with California Labor Federation leader Art Pulaski

campaign to support both No on 3 as well as **Catherine Cortez Masto** for United States Senate.

"We had lots of union members come from California to walk precincts with us on the weekends. Our walk on October 22 had over 300 volunteers," said Weisshaar. "It was so exciting to see our 1245 members from California, and everyone else who came to help us!"

The volunteer effort to send Cortez Masto to Washington was victorious, and she will soon become the first Latina to serve in the US Senate. Our work also helped secure democratic majorities in the State Assembly and Senate. And although our campaign to defeat Question 3 was not successful, that fight is far from over. The law in the state of Nevada requires that the constitutional changes proposed in Question 3 be passed by voters in two consecutive elections, so we will have another chance to take this measure down when it comes up again in 2018.



Organizing Steward Michelle Benuzzi recruited her son to help put up "No on Question 3" lawn signs

TEAM NEVADA

- Mike Grimm
- Rita Weisshaar
- Chip Chadwick
- Jerry Hock
- Ben Weisshaar
- Vickie Borst
- Kathy Preston
- Michelle Benuzzi
- Veronica Rivera
- Dorine Shaner
- Debbie Van Camp
- Ron Borst
- Tom Cornell
- David Theime
- Mike Pedracci
- John Wilson
- Pat Waite
- Randy Osborn
- Junior Ornelas
- Todd Whooten
- Kyle Whitmen
- Casey Kelly
- Casey Salkauskas
- Dave Sankey

CALIFORNIA

United States Senate: When California Attorney General **Kamala Harris** announced that she planned to run for the U.S. Senate seat being vacated by Barbara Boxer, IBEW Local 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell was among the first to reach out to her and offer an endorsement for her candidacy. With help from our members who volunteered to turn out the vote for her, Harris handily defeated her opponent by nearly two million votes!

Statewide Ballot Measures: Of the 17 different ballot measures that appeared on the General Election ballot, unions were most heavily focused on just a few:

- **Yes on Prop 51** (which would fund construction projects to repair and

upgrade California's schools and community colleges): Prop 51 won by eight points.

- **Yes on Prop 55** (which would extend the school and health care funding that voters originally passed with Prop 30 in 2012): Prop 55 was approved by nearly 25 points.
- **No on Prop 53** (which would harm the ability of state and local governments to build infrastructure projects and respond to emergency situations such as the drought, an earthquake or other natural disasters): At press time, Prop 53 remains too close to call, but it is trailing and appear voters will narrowly defeat it.

Local 1245 Organizing Stewards with US Senator-Elect Kamala Harris





SACRAMENTO

This year's election in the Sacramento area perfectly exemplified the impact that local politics can have on 1245 members. Between Measure B (a critical local transit funding measure of particular importance to our members who work at Sacramento Regional Transit), Roseville City Council election (where Local 1245 represents members), and the race for SMUD Board (where Local 1245 also represents workers), our Sacramento team had their work cut out for them on campaigns that could dramatically affect the working lives of 1245 members.

Under the tutelage of seasoned Organizing Steward Nilda Garcia, Local 1245 touted some big successes in the Sacramento area. Garcia and her fellow Organizing Stewards recruited a team of



Ivan Pereda going door-to-door to get out the vote

volunteers from PG&E, SRT, SMUD and other 1245 properties, many of whom had never been involved in politics prior to this year.

"I really enjoyed working with so many new people who had never done campaign work before," said Garcia. "It was a great experience, developing future Organizing Stewards who weren't afraid to say, 'Count me in for the next campaign!'"



TEAM SACRAMENTO

- Nilda Garcia
- Anthony Seemster
- Sandi Busse
- Nancy Martinez
- Alvin Dayoan
- Ricardo Hernandez
- Ladrena Gunnswangin
- Charlotte Stevens
- Walter Carmier
- Ivan Pereda
- Audrey Ruf
- Donchele Soper
- Felicia Norton
- Sam Glero
- Sheila Lawton
- Keith Hopp
- Arlene Edwards

Nilda Garcia leads a quick training before the team heads into the field

Their hard work clearly paid off. **Brandon Rose**, the union-endorsed candidate for SMUD board in Ward 1, defeated his opponent by a margin of more than 2-to-1. **Scott Alvord**, 1245's choice for Roseville City Council, also prevailed in his race. At press time, the ballots for **Measure B** were still being counted. It appears that the measure will fall just short of the two-thirds majority it needed to pass, but the measure out-performed expectations thanks to the support it received from the 1245 team.

FRESNO

The name "Dolores Huerta" is practically synonymous with the notion of "union power." Famous for her role in the birth of the Farmworkers Movement, Huerta has

been an unwavering voice for workers' rights for the better part of a century. When her son, **Emilio Huerta**, announced that he was running for Congress in District 21, IBEW 1245 was quick to endorse his candidacy and recruit volunteers to support his campaign. Team Fresno also lent their support to a number of other local ballot measures and candidates, including Fresno Mayoral

candidate **Henry Perea**, and 1245 members were even featured in a video that Perea's campaign put out.

1245 assembled a powerhouse team of door-knockers and phone-bankers, led by Organizing Stewards Laquania "Q" Davis and Ashley Nelson, who worked day in and day out to reach as many voters as possible in this rural district, even knocking doors with Dolores Huerta herself.

"We had historic voter turnout in our area," according to Organizing Steward Ashley Nelson. "In some precincts, it was 60% higher than it's been in previous years."

Despite the increased turnout, both Huerta and Perea were defeated, but our team is still proud of the work they did to support these pro-union candidates in a notoriously anti-union area.

TEAM FRESNO

- Laquania Davis
- Ashley Nelson
- Yanet Mejia
- Fabiola Saragosa
- Rodrigo Flores
- Lourdes Gonzalez
- Katie Esquivel
- Ellen Richardson
- Cristina De La Fuente
- Lilia Diaz
- PJ Saenz
- Gracie Clark
- Abel Sanchez
- Eddie Moreno
- Rey Mendoza
- Jim Brager
- Rich Ingle



Katie, Q, Daron, Ashley and Lourdes preparing packets for a precinct walk



Team Fresno with Congressional candidate Emilio Huerta (center)

LOMPOC



TEAM LOMPOC

- Justin Aguilar
- Travis Border
- John Daniel
- Nicholas Davenport
- Virlin Donelson
- Bobby Garcia
- Theresa Hernandez
- Travis Kalin
- Leo Ramirez
- Isaac Rodriguez
- Gary Silbaugh
- Ko Sumaryady
- Shawn Wynne
- Jaime Tinoco

1245 members rallied on Election Day in Lompoc



Gary Silbaugh with the "Lingl-mobile"

During the 2014 election cycle, Local 1245 members who work at the City of Lompoc campaigned aggressively to elect **Bob Lingl** as the city's Mayor. As Mayor, Lingl has proven time and again that he's a staunch advocate for the City workers. When Lingl announced he would seek re-election, Local 1245 Business Rep Jaime Tinoco once again rallied the troops to keep Lingl in office. They volunteered their time on nights and weekends, held two campaign ral-

lies, went door-to-door, and even paraded around town in the "Lingl-mobile." Thanks in part to their work, Lingl sailed to re-election, defeating his opponent by more than 15 points.

The union also backed two City Council candidates, **Janelle Osborne** and **DeWayne Holmdahl**, based on their support for Lompoc's working families. Osborne won, but Holmdahl was narrowly defeated.

continued on next page



SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco County Supervisor **Jane Kim** is well-known as the author of San Francisco's ground-breaking \$15-per-hour minimum wage ballot measure,



Arnaldo Lizarraga making calls for State Senate candidate Jane Kim

which passed in 2014. When she announced her plans to run for State Senate, Local 1245 joined with a broad coalition of other unions to support her campaign. Organizing Steward Arnaldo



Local 1245 staffers Landis Marttila and Hunter Stern with Hillary Ronen

Lizarraga trekked up and down the hilly San Francisco terrain, knocking on doors and single-handedly delivering hundreds of yard signs. Despite this hard work and dedication to the campaign, Kim fell just a few points short of defeating her opponent.

Local 1245 also provided support for **Hillary Ronen**, who sought to replace David Campos as the County Supervisor in District 9. Ronen is another life-long advocate for workers in San Francisco, where she worked for many years to combat wage theft and exploitation. Ronen cruised easily to victory, capturing 57% of the vote in a three-way race.

TEAM SAN FRANCISCO

- Arnaldo Lizarraga
- Ruben Hernandez
- Damien Padilla
- Hunter Stern
- Roberto Balistreri
- Cruz Serna
- Landis Marttila
- Eileen Purcell
- Fred Ross



Ruben Hernandez puts up a Jane Kim yard sign

ALAMEDA/CONTRA COSTA

Across the Bay, **Cheryl Cook-Kallio** ran a tough campaign to oust incumbent Catherine Baker in Assembly District 16. Organizing Steward Kristen Rasmussen helped to spearhead the effort in support of Cook-Kallio, working



Cheryl Cook-Kallio (in blue) with Local 1245 members (from left) Aileen Zuehlke, Cindy Stafford, Kristen Rasmussen

closely with her campaign to turn out voters.

"The most exciting part of the campaign was when Cheryl got the endorsement of President Obama," Rasmussen said. "He only endorsed a few candidates in California, and the fact that she was one of them was a really big deal."

Despite the hard work and the presidential endorsement, Cook-Kallio was unable to defeat the incumbent, but she expressed much gratitude to the team from Local 1245 for supporting her through the election.

Additionally, Local 1245 Advisory Council member Michael Patterson committed his time and effort to promote some local ballot measures in Alameda County. He worked with the local Labor Council to support **Measure C1** (which benefits our members at AC Transit) and **Measure KK** (an infrastructure bond that would benefit our members and residents in the City of Oakland). Both measures passed with overwhelming support.

"The highlight of this campaign for me was when the Alameda Central Labor Council asked me to go talk to the



The East Bay team flexing some political muscle

TEAM EAST BAY

- Kristen Rasmussen
- Alicia Cordero
- Michael Patterson
- Jasmine Williams
- Mark Goodwin
- Latrina Jones
- Aileen Zuehlke
- Cindy Stafford
- Al Fortier
- Lou Mennel
- Mike Adayan
- Anthony Brown

students at the Cypress Mandela Training Center," said Patterson. "I got to tell them all about the benefits of being in a union, and I also talked to them about the importance of getting involved in politics. The following Wednesday, 22 of those kids showed up to phone bank at the Labor Council!"

Those phone bankers undoubtedly made a difference in the City of Alameda,

where Local 1245 represents utility workers. Local 1245's endorsed candidates for Alameda City Council — union member **Malia Vella** and incumbent **Marilyn 'Ezzy' Ashcraft** — were both elected, putting us on track to re-establish a union-friendly majority on the Council.

NAPA/SOLANO

When IBEW-endorsed candidates **Vernon Williams III** (who ran for Vallejo City Council) and **Landis Graden** (who ran for Vallejo Mayor) came by to visit with the Local 1245 members who work for the City of Vallejo, the members were overcome with excitement. "This was the first time that any of the IBEW members at the City of Vallejo could recall a candidate for office taking the time to meet with them," according to Local 1245 Organizing Steward Steven Marcotte, who is leading the charge in Vallejo. "Now that is empowering!"

Seeing the candidates in person prompted several members to sign up and volunteer to work on the campaign. The team made an impressive 27,000 phone calls out of the local labor council. Unfortunately, Williams and Graden

were unable to garner enough votes in these competitive races, but Local 1245's other endorsed candidate for City Council, **Rozzanna Verder-Aliga**, did succeed in her election bid. Additionally,

union-endorsed State Senate candidate **Bill Dodd** succeeded in besting his opponent in District 3, thanks to support from Local 1245 and other unions, and **Cecilia Aguiar-Curry** won the race

in Assembly District 4. As Mayor of Winters, Aguiar-Curry worked very closely with PG&E to plan and construct the Gas Training Center, and we're confident that she will continue to be an ally in Sacramento.



Vallejo Mayoral candidate Landis Graden (center) with Local 1245 members and staffers

Lupe Johnson brought her family out with her to walk precincts



TEAM NAPA/SOLANO

- Steve Marcotte
- Charlotte Stevens
- Jasmine Williams
- Ivan Pereda
- Alicia Cordero
- Lupe Johnson
- Gerald Williams
- Alvin Dayoan
- Jen Gray
- Eleanor Brown
- Liz McInnis
- Mike Saner
- Ralph Kenyon



NORTH VALLEY

Organizing Stewards Rachel Ramirez Hill and Julie Gonzalez teamed up to spearhead Local 1245's Get Out the Vote effort in the North Valley. Despite technical challenges, inclement weather and a slew of loose dogs, the North Valley team worked every day to drive support for labor-endorsed candidates, including **Heath Flora**, a labor-friendly Republican running for office in Assembly District 12. They also volunteered for **Michael Eggman**, who ran for Congress in District 10. Both races were extremely close, and the candidates were exceptionally grateful for the effort that the Local 1245 team put in, stopping by on more than one occasion to express their gratitude.

Flora succeeded in edging out his opponent, but Eggman was unable to garner the votes needed to oust the incumbent in his district. Additionally, union-backed candidate **Robert Rickman** won his bid for Mayor of Tracy, thanks to a wealth of support from Local 1245 early in the race.



The team made thousands of calls to voters in the North Valley

TEAM NORTH VALLEY

Rachel Ramirez-Hill
Julie Gonzalez
Ricardo Hernandez
Ivan Pereda
Nicole Gross
Angelica Altamiriano
Treva Harrison
Lloyd Cargo
John Mendoza
Hunter Stern

"We as organizers were able to increase participation amongst fellow union members and regular citizens that had political interest," said Orga-

nizing Steward Julie Gonzalez. "Unions create one loud effective voice — and because of our strength in numbers, we were heard!"



Rachel Ramirez Hill, Nicole Gross and Julie Gonzalez with Congressional candidate Michael Eggman

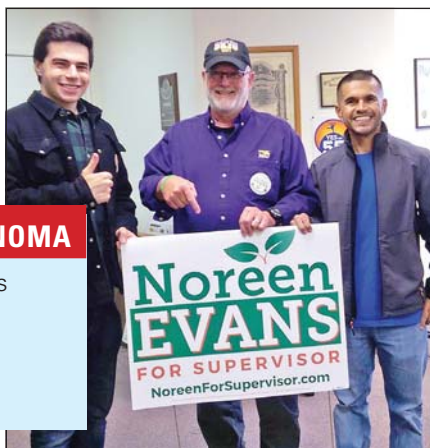


Team North Valley with Assembly candidate Heath Flora (center)

SONOMA

As a member of the State Legislature, **Noreen Evans** was a committed advocate for working families, and that track record earned her 1245's endorsement for Sonoma County Board of Supervisors. The union also backed two candidates in the City of Healdsburg (where we represent workers) — **Tim Meinken** and **Shaun McCaffery**.

Organizing Steward Rodrigo Flores travelled up to Sonoma, where he worked long, tiring hours without



TEAM SONOMA

Rodrigo Flores
JV Macor
Carl Lamers
Mark McCrae
Mark Wilson

complaint, even returning to the Labor Council to make phone calls after a full day of canvassing the Sonoma hills. Turning out voters is no easy feat in this district, and Evans was narrowly defeated by her opponent. In Healdsburg, first-time candidate Meinken fell just a few votes short of victory, but McCaffery, who was an incumbent, was successfully re-elected.

"I feel really proud about the work we did here in California. Yes, some of our candidates did not win, but ... I still feel motivated to do this again and for many years to come," said Flores. "I like educating people and asking them to support candidates that will make a genuine effort to protect our jobs and way of life and thinking in California."

Mark Malouf from the North Bay Labor Council, Chip Atkin from SEIU and Local 1245 Organizing Steward Rodrigo Flores

ELSEWHERE...

Rene Cruz-Martinez, Shannon Akhbari, Brittney Sandana and Candice Brace travelled to Arizona to support the successful effort to oust Sheriff Joe Arpaio, who became infamous for his promotion of racial profiling in the state. Martinez was quoted in an NPR news story about the campaign, and he was also featured on the AFL-CIO website.

Kevin Krummes, Mike Grimm, Samson Wilson and Anthony Seemster hit the ground running in Ohio, where they partnered with other unions to work on the presidential election. Grimm, Krummes and Wilson enjoyed a quick 15 seconds of fame when they appeared on the local news with AFL-CIO President Rich Trumka.

Miguel Pagan, Mark Goodwin, Tracey Amaro and Mary Corrente went out to the battleground state of Pennsylvania, where they connected with more than a thousand voters on the issues and candidates that matter most to working families.



Rene Cruz-Martinez, Shannon Akhbari and Brittney Sandana making calls in Arizona



Kevin Krummes, Mike Grimm and Samson Wilson with AFL-CIO President Trumka



Mary Corrente checks her walk list in Pennsylvania

Retirees' Corner



Reno/Sparks Retirees Donate Fans to Needy Seniors

IBEW Local 1245 retiree Ron Borst once again challenged the members of the Reno/Sparks Retirees club to collect as many fans as they could in order to donate them to low-income seniors in the area.

"Temperatures in the Reno/Sparks area can exceed 100 degrees, and many seniors cannot afford to pay for air conditioning," said Borst.

The club succeeded in collecting a total of 45 fans from retirees. Each fan was adorned with an IBEW 1245 sticker before being given away to a needy local senior.



The retirees affixed a Local 1245 sticker to each fan.

Nevada Retirees Hold Bake Sale to Draw Support for Social Security

On Wednesday Oct. 12, members of the Nevada Alliance for Retired Americans (NARA) held a bake sale and press conference at the Social Security Administration office in Reno, demanding that Rep. Joe Heck sign the pledge to protect Social Security. The event was covered by the local NBC affiliate.

For the third time in recent weeks, NARA members urged Rep. Heck to fight on behalf of seniors. They stressed that without promises from politicians, future retirees may need to resort to bake sales to make ends meet.

"We have fought to assure a dignified retirement for hard-working Americans," said NARA President and IBEW 1245 Retiree Thomas "T" Bird. "We are here to ask Rep. Heck: will you stand

with us and pledge to protect our earned benefits, or will you stand against us?"



From left to right: Retirees Jim Lapin, Ron Borst, Chip Chadwick and Frank Isterice prepared the fans to be donated.



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, Cotati, Merced, Reno/Sparks, Yerington, Carson City and Winnemucca. If you don't have a chapter nearby, call the union at 707-452-2718 and find out how you can help start one!

Joe Adragna 38 years Oceano, CA	James Brock 5 years San Luis Obispo, CA	Michael Diamond 32 years El Dorado Hills, CA	Andy Gonzales 42 years Valley Springs, CA	Daniel Katsares 8 years Palo Cedro, CA	Tracey McGovern 6 years Springfield, OR	Stacy Parsons 31 years North Ogden, UT	Clifford Spaletta 47 years Redwood Valley, CA	Aaron Wallis 30 years Madera, CA
Loren Adrian 4 years San Francisco, CA	Todd Burner 7 years Rancho Cucamonga, CA	Domenick Dicce 23 years Stockton, CA	Todd Gracy 36 years Redwood City, CA	Randall Kern 39 years Santa Maria, CA	Robert Miller 43 years Fair Oaks, CA	Elder Pereira 38 years Oakley, CA	Leslie Stiles 38 years Orangevale, CA	Michael Watroba 32 years Paradise, CA
Larry Alonzo 28 years Chico, CA	Agapito Carames 28 years Arroyo Grande, CA	William Dolengewicz 35 years Nipomo, CA	Rosina Grech 31 years Roseville, CA	Shannon Kessler 9 years Santa Maria, CA	Diogenes Minoc 11 years Vallejo, CA	Alfred Perio 37 years Tracy, CA	Gregory Strang 24 years Oroville, CA	J Webster 42 years Oakland, CA
James Anderson 34 years Chico, CA	Clarence Chan 43 years Daly City, CA	Jeff Eagleton 10 years Martinsdale, MT	Ramon Griego 43 years Barstow, CA	William Kwok 30 years Piedmont, CA	Allen Mitchell 36 years Napa, CA	Don Peyrucain 35 years Clyde, CA	Anthony Street 31 years S. San Francisco, CA	Eric Wein 20 years Auberry, CA
Ricardo Aquino 23 years Oakley, CA	Jules Chatman Jr. 45 years Lathrop, CA	Rachel Ebojo 15 years West Sacramento, CA	David Haya 26 years San Ramon, CA	Jan Langone 41 years San Jose, CA	Lois Moore 31 years Roseville, CA	Paul Piercy 42 years Silverton, OR	David Tan 10 years Rowland Hghts, CA	Josefino Wico 15 years El Sobrante, CA
Scott Armstrong 7 years Paradise, CA	Manuel Chavez 42 years Modesto, CA	Stephen Elmore 11 years Templeton, CA	William Henderson 30 years Medford, OR	Rex Lanier 8 years Grover Beach, CA	Daniel Morin 43 years Bakersfield, CA	Stacy Plumlee 24 years Fayetteville, AR	Richard Thurman Jr. 40 years San Francisco, CA	Edward Wiens 40 years Corralitos, CA
Stephen Armstrong 38 years Santa Maria, CA	Surinder Chhabra 36 years Concord, CA	Johnny Emerson 36 years Davis Creek, CA	Mary Hostetter 36 years Fresno, CA	Le Roy Latigue Jr. 15 years Oakland, CA	Geri Mosley 6 years Hawthorne, CA	Edwin Quier 39 years Eureka, CA	Rebecca Tolbert 36 years Yuba City, CA	Katherine Williams 11 years Stephenville, TX
Michael Babineau 11 years Soddy Daisy, TN	Kevin Christensen 11 years Hermiston, OR	Dean Ericson 8 years Smithville, TN	Sharon Hostler 30 years Auburn, CA	Joseph Lawson 7 years Atascadero, CA	James Mouat III 39 years Dublin, CA	Clifford Robie 30 years Lake Almanor, CA	Denyu Tom 41 years Walnut Creek, CA	Kenneth Winkler 30 years Surprise, AZ
David Barnett 27 years Kalispell, MT	Sharon Clifford 31 years San Jose, CA	Patricia Estrella 19 years Grass Valley, CA	Russell House 30 years Destin, FL	Greig Lebirk 30 years Box Elder, SD	James Munoz Jr. 39 years Cottonwood, CA	Eugene Robinson 36 years Healdsburg, CA	Frank Torres 43 years Hanford, CA	Sueman Wong 37 years San Francisco, CA
James Baum 37 years Benicia, CA	Deirdre Cobarrubias 16 years Acampo, CA	Paul Favetti 32 years Burlingame, CA	Victor Hyde 5 years Arroyo Grande, CA	Raymond Lee 36 years San Francisco, CA	Bret Nash 31 years San Jose, CA	Jeannine Rollins 36 years Bakersfield, CA	David Turner 33 years Fairfield, CA	Randy Yancey 35 years Sparks, Nevada
Dana Bennett 28 years Foster City, CA	Charles Coit 42 years Napa, CA	Garrick Fong 35 years Novato, CA	Martin Ivy 20 years Stockton, CA	Carolyn Lerma 34 years Fresno, CA	Lee Nelson 31 years San Bruno, CA	Silvio Santo 43 years San Martin, CA	Wayne Turner 37 years Merced, CA	Christina Yee 9 years San Francisco, CA
Thomas Boroos 32 years Vacaville, CA	Elaine Consiglio 41 years El Cerrito, CA	Joseph Gates III 28 years Soddy Daisy, TN	L Jackson 31 years Sacramento, CA	Jewell Levine 42 years San Leandro, CA	Yuriko Nichelson 33 years Modesto, CA	Roy Schellenger 13 years Morro Bay, CA	Vincent Valadez 13 years Amador City, CA	Catherine Zugar 36 years San Francisco, CA
Ricardo Breadmont 42 years Fresno, CA	Larry Cortinas 30 years Merced, CA	Milonde Gibson 25 years Lodi, CA	Gerald Jones 38 years Rohnert Park, CA	Armando Lizarraga 37 years Placerville, CA	Donna Oliver 15 years Sacramento, CA	Patricia Seitz-Edises 4 years Rancho Cordova, CA	Jaime Vera 36 years Fremont, CA	
Anthony Breci 32 years Cloverdale, CA	Gary Cox 24 years Mcarthur, CA	Richard Gomez 44 years San Jose, CA	Ellen Juhl 37 years Orland, CA	Theresa Llacuna 35 years Concord, CA	Deborah Oliver 24 years Santa Margarita, CA	Stephen Silva 31 years Arroyo Grande, CA		
				Gerald Marshall 21 years Cheyenne, WY	Ron Osborn 29 years Orland, CA	Richard Sonneborn 36 years Brentwood, CA		
				Dan Massey 36 years Anderson, CA	Cheuk Pang 35 years San Ramon, CA	Greta Souza 33 years Chico, CA		

Congratulations Retirees!
We want you to
STAY CONNECTED

to IBEW 1245.

It is with a heavy heart that Local 1245 mourns the passing of former Business Rep Frank Saxsenmeier. Brother Saxsenmeier passed away on Nov. 7, just one month before his 79th birthday.

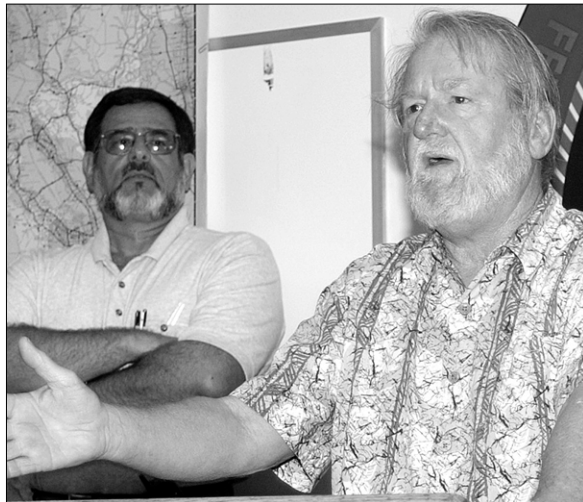
“Around the union hall, Frank was known as ‘Dad,’ a nickname he earned because of his calm demeanor and wise presence,” said Local 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell. “He was the kind of person you could count on; well-respected and valued by members and fellow reps alike. He will be sorely missed, but his memory and legacy will live on for years to come.”

Saxsenmeier was initiated into Local 1245 in November of 1959, when he first began working for PG&E. In fall of 1978, he joined the union staff as a Business Rep, and over the years he represented members all across the Bay Area and held a number of different assignments, including PG&E Diablo Division, East Bay Steam, Materials and local GC, as well as Foster Wheeler, AC Transit, City of Alameda, City of Berkeley, City of Oakland and Davey Tree.

“I worked with Frank on the Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee for about five years, and he had great historical knowledge of the apprenticeship program. He was a real asset,” said Local 1245 Business Rep Landis Marttila, who knew “Dad” ever

We Called Him “Dad” Remembering Frank Saxsenmeier 1937-2016

since he was a shop steward in San Francisco, when Saxsenmeier was Marttila’s business rep. “He was also really good when it came to handling grievances. He was straightforward with people, always clear and succinct. And he knew all the precedent-



setting grievances, which made him really effective when it came to arguing our side of the case in an LIC.”

Saxsenmeier retired in April of 2005, but continued to be an active presence within the union even after his retirement. He played a key role in the birth of the Organizing Steward program, and also worked to develop Local 1245’s Peer Safety Program.

“Frank was a mentor and an advocate for the rights of workers; civil rights, women’s rights and human rights in general. And he was not threatened by women in leadership positions,” recalled former Senior Assistant Business Manager Dorothy Fortier. “He was a person you could count on to keep their word in good or bad times, and he was devoted to his family and his Union!”

“On the lighter side, one of the few times I angered him was by postponing lunch when we were working in North Bay,” Fortier continued. “Some of Frank’s stories about the restaurants in SF (from his days as a Serviceman) changed my view of eating out for life.”

At the time of this writing, no funeral or memorial information is available. The union will post service information to the website once it has been announced.



SERVICE AWARDS



35 Years

From left:
Robert Seward
with Business
Manager Tom
Dalzell

Photos by
John Storey



30 Years

From left:
Mitch
Burchard and
Brian Vosburg

Eureka
April 1, 2016

*Congratulations
on your service!*



25 Years

From left: William
Goodman with
(Dalzell)



5 Years Front row, from left: John Brandenburg, Megan Cruz and Anna Shoemaker.
Back row, from left: Luis Ayala, Mark Kane and Christopher Boswell



20 Years

From left: Ken
Shealor, Roy
Kortus and Brian
Speelman

35 Years

Jones, Steven
Seward, Robert
Vasquez, Ernesto

30 Years

Burchard, Mitch
Peaslee, William

25 Years

Cloninger, Amy
Tsosie, Faron

20 Years

Bouler, Herman
Kortus, Roy
Moore, Samuel
Shealor, Kenneth
Speelman, Brian

15 Years

Falk-Carlson, Steve
Millsap Jr., Jack
Mohr, Jason
Turner, Jane

10 Years

Bartosz, John
Hunt, Christopher
Lair, Bud
Will, Richard

5 Years

Aguilar, Ace
Andrade, Gabriel
Brandenburg, John

Burchard, Tyrell
Cruz, Megan
Deskins, Derek
Doeding, Darin
Herrera, Dustin
Jeffers, Cameron
McKinley, Larry
Moore, Shane
Redner, Alan
Shoemaker, Anna
Wik, Alexander

HONOREES



San Francisco

April 29, 2016



50 Years and 45 Years
From left: Roberto Torres (45 years), Business Manager Tom Dalzell and Rennie Moniz, (50 years)



40 Years From left: Richard Thurman, Ronald Dere, Diane Guerrero and David Fong



35 Years
Front row, from left: Raymond Mah, Sally Wong, Lana Lee. Back row, from left: Michael Ouellette, Laura Perez, Charles Lo, Victoria Gonzalez, Cornell Lee and Wilma Wong



30 Years
Front row, from left: Robert Pinotti and Brad Schuback. Back row, from left: Dennis LaChapelle, Richard Ferrari and Daniel Chu



25 Years
Front row, from left: Darryl Ong, Marcario Galang and LeShaun Smith. Back row, from left: Hai Ying Mai and Mark Terron

Photos by John Storey

Congratulations on your service!



20 Years From left: Peter Martinez, Vivian Mai and Jose Prieto



15 Years Front row, from left: Dwight Nunes and (Dalzell). Back row, from left: Paul Wofford, Ricardo Franco and Sean Schaeffer



10 Years Front row, from left: Logan Jonas, Damian Shiel and Damien Padilla. Back row, from left: Owen Norman Daniel Ahern and James Fisher

HONOREES

60 Years
Atkins, William

50 Years
Moniz, Renwicks

45 Years
Torres, Roberto
Wolff, Douglas

40 Years
Dere, Ronald
Fong, David
Guerrero, Diane
Hirata, Sakae
Mentzer, Michael

Moore, Thelma
Natata, Harold
Panis, Pacifico
Quock, Wing
Serrano, Margarita
Surina, Richard
Thurman, Richard

35 Years
Chan, Michael
Cordova, Larry
Fong, Christina
Galea, F
Genis, Steven
Aragon, Mike
Lee, Cornell
Lee, Lana
Lo, Charles

Louie, George
Macaulay, Timothy
Mah, Raymond
Nunemann, Pati
Orlando, James
Ouellette, Michael
Seo, Gil-Soon
Shanahan, James
Wong, Perry
Wong, Sally
Wong, Wilma

30 Years
Aguilar, Cathy
Aragon, Mike
Balistreri, Frank
Bright, Angie
Cacapit, William

Chu, Daniel
Coffland, Julie
Donahue, John
Fazackerley, Craig
Ferrari, Richard
Ferretti, Mercedes
Gramling, Matt
Greco Jr., John
Heafey, Brian
La Chapelle, Dennis
Lee, John
Lockhart, Randy
Olson, Mark
Pinotti, Robert
Pledger, Mike
Poulo, Steven
Saisi, John
San Juan, Jorge
Schuback, Brad
Smyth-Garner,
Diane
Velez, Frank

Wassmer III, Ricardo

25 Years
Beltran, Jose
Cuevas, Joseph
Daza, Harry
Flores, Jose
Galang, Macario
Hein, Steven
Mai, Hai Ying
Moctezuma, Jorge
O'Driscoll, Stephen
Ong, Darryl
Smith, Le Shaun
Terron, Mark
Tom, Wayland

20 Years
Avalo, Jorge
Barlesi, Robert

Dela Cruz, Eleanor
Hom, Gary
Loughlin, Jacquelin
Mai, Vivian
Martinez, Peter
Okry, Donnie
Pascual, Josef
Prieto, Jose
Schlocker, Jeffrey
Yap, Peter
Yim, Florence

15 Years
Bendele, Robert
Changphan,
Duangduen
Duong, Vinh
Gazarian, Judy
Guerrero, Jesus
House, Dean
Kuhls, Steve

Leblanc, Dedric
Litvak, Aleksandr
Mahoney, Gerald
Nunes, Dwight
Rohrer, Joe
Rondon, Jose L.
Schaeffer, Sean
Wassmer, Martin
Wofford, Paul S.

10 Years
Acosta, Santiago
Adams, Michael
Ahern, Daniel
Boles, Dyanel
Cheney, Edward
Collins, Jeremy L.
Cordini, Rico
Cuevas, Ricardo
Earle, Scott J.
Ede, Jason A.

Faga, Matthew
Fisher, James
Gomez, Marcelino
Greer, Jerrold
Jonas, Logan
K-Aloha, Charity
Lindquist, Craig
Lopez, Edmark
Manchester, Paul
Martin, Benjamin
Melgoza, Enrique
Miller, Hans
Norman, Owen
Padilla, Damien
Peralta, Oscar D.
Perez, Juan
Peterson, Sean
Popiel, Steve
Pruett, Larold G.
Rodriguez, Joffre
Shiel, Damian

Sipion, Hevert
Williams, Kevin
Zamboukos,
Michael
Zollinger, Adam

5 Years
Baker, Keith
Chavez, Ronald
Dean, Sheik
Escobar, Alvaro
Hermosillo, Isaiiah
King, Jonathan
Leasure, Brian
Leonard, Zackary
Magana, Marin
Parks, Mike
Shuman, Zachary
Torres, Joes
Westmoreland, Julie

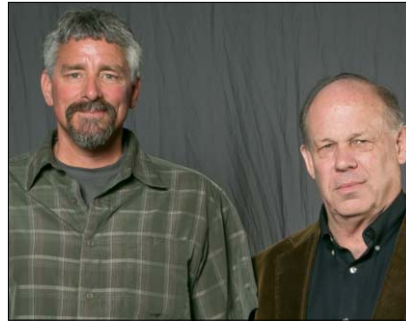


San Luis Obispo

March 18, 2016



35 Years From left: Lawrence Wise, (Dalzell) and Darrel Andrews



25 years From left: Randy Fulmer with (Dalzell)

Congratulations on your service!



20 years
Front row, from left: David Schmidt, Todd Goetsch. Back row, from left: Jose Perez and Todd Kamphaus



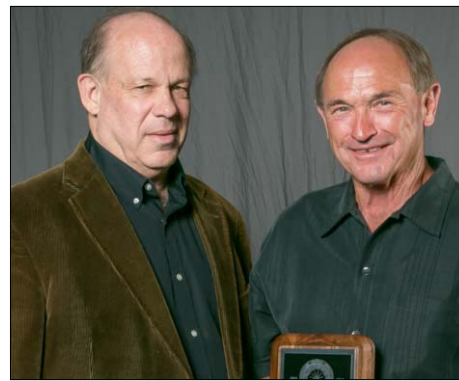
10 years
From left: Luke Bittner, Eliverio Jaimes and Victor Velasquez



5 years
Front row, from left: Aaron Stein and Richard Morton. Back row, from left: Shane Wisner and Jose Mejia



5 years
Front row, from left: Justin Brock and Mike Estrada. Back row, from left: Alex Farrington, Jack Huggins and Jason Motterat



45 Years From left: Business Manager Tom Dalzell and James Blake



40 Years From left: David Selstad with (Dalzell)



30 Years
Front row, from left: Sandra Eatherly, James Cox and Albert Castro. Back row, from left: Robert Johnston, Manuel Romero and Michael Constantine



15 years
Front row, from left: Genaro Olivera and Andrea Guerrero. Back row, from left: Randall Westmoreland and Leobardo Gomez-Olivera

Photos by John Storey

HONOREES

45 Years

Blake, James

40 Years

Enos, Carol
Selstad, David
Weaver, Stan

35 Years

Andrews, Darrel
Carreras, Max
Felix, Janelle
Geisler, Frank
Johnson, Jimmy
McCracken, Michael
Miller, Robert
Murray, William
Plemons, Laura
Pugh, Michele
Rodriguez, Rolando
Smith, Gregory
Stone, John
Ward, Daniel
Wire, Anthony
Wise, Lawrence

30 Years

Bilicska, Michael
Boatman, Brian
Castro Jr., Albert
Constantine, Michael
Cox, James
Criswell, Rick
Eatherly, Sandra
Johnston, Robert
Kingsley, Natalie
Ladley, Thomas
Mount, James

Needham, Anthony
Nielsen, Robert
Romero, Manuel
Ryan, Bruce
Stephens, Scott
Wilson, Angela

25 Years

Albrecht, Ken
Allard, Mark
Briggs, Charles
Brindley, Larry
Fulmer, Randy
Furtado, Kathy
Greenlee, Ronald
Pelypec, Michael
Regan, Cameron
Symens, Michael
Wheat, Jerome
Wilson, Kurt
Wilson, Vance

20 Years

Dechaves, Shelley
Goetsch, Todd
Hansen, Erik
Jones, Beverly
Kamphaus, Todd
Mello, Vicky
Nicholson, Donald
Padilla, Sara
Page, William
Perez, Jose
Rigby, Cameron
Schmidt, David

15 Years

Gomez-Olivera,
Leobardo

Guerrero, Andrea
Lee, Michael
Lowe, Frank
MacMahon, Carl
Morgan, William
Ohm, Gary
Olivera, Genaro
Padilla, Froylan
Powell, Timothy
Tuuri, John
Westmoreland,
Randall

10 Years

Arthur, Peter
Bell, Cody
Biermann, Lane
Bigelow, Bryce
Bittner, Luke
Calvin, Christian
Fernandez, Francisco
Hall, Todd
Jaimes, Eliverio
Judd, Jeffery
Lewis Jr, Michael
Madiro, Micah
Maldonado,
Guadalupe
Miller, Matthew
Moustrats, Frank
Napoli, Daniel
Raymond, Gregory
Sanchez, Emilio
Smith, Clayton
Thomas II, Timothy
Tirado, Jose
Velasquez, Victor
Weir, Casey
Woolsey, James

Yates, Brian

5 Years

Amaya, Lira
Bautista, Pedro
Bell, Jacob
Brock, Justin
Burton, Mario
Cabreana, Maurice
Cain, Michael
Chersicla, Edward
Croom, David
Esquivel, Arnoldo
Estrada, Mike
Farrington, Alexander
Fujii, Samuel
Goswami, Aaron
Harms, Derek
Highland, Blain
Huggins, Jack
Huseby, Zachary
Lambert, Brian
Matthews, James
McAvoy, Michael
McMillin, Dean
Mejia, Jose
Morton, Richard
Motter, Jason
Ono, Grant
Oscarson, Adam
Owens, Mark
Plank, Bryan
Potter, Jason
Rodriguez, David
Rojo-Rodriguez, Elias
Sherwin, Kevin
Smith, Kristin
Stein, Aaron
Strasbaugh, Karl
Strickland, Robert
Sweeney, Zachary
Terek, Paul
Wales, Keith
Wisener, Shane



Reno

April 16, 2016



50 Years
From left: Terry Nieman, Business Manager Tom Dalzell and Henry Waelty

Photos by John Storey



45 Years From left: (Dalzell) with William McMillen



35 Years From left: (Dalzell) with Randy Yancey



30 Years Front row, from left: Karlan Wilfon and Michele Lopez. Back row, from left: Robert Callahan and Carl Shoemaker



20 Years From left: Alvin Steele with (Dalzell)



25 Years
From left: Paul Wiles, (Dalzell) and Rosemary Padgett

Congratulations on your service!



15 Years From left: Daniel Mondragon and Tony Lopez



10 Years
Front row, from left: Karl Heidelberger and Paul Johnson. Back row, from left: Richard McHuen, Jared Harkema and John Lis



5 Years
Front row, from left: Jacalyn Kastl, Mike Gregersen. Back row, from left: Steven Larrance, Troy Callahan and John Graham

HONOREES

50 Years

Nieman, Terry
Waelty, Henry

45 Years

McMillen, William

40 Years

Orr, Gregory

35 Years

Abraham, Arletta
Abraham, Darryl
Barrenechea, Martin
Belles, Robert
Burgess, James
Dohnansky, Milan

Draper, Alan
Kerr, Kevin
Littlewood, John
Lively, Chuck
Mcbeth, William
Mena, Michael
Vaillancourt, Brian
Yancey, Randy

30 Years

Blodgett, Gary
Bringle, Lorri
Callahan, Robert
Cray, Stephen
Djukanovich, Kelly
Martin
Lopez, Michele
Mickey, Randy
Nelson, Julie

Robertson, Harold
Rojeski Jr., George
Shaffer, Joan
Shoemaker, Carl
Snyder, Stanley
Steelman, Kevin
Taylor, Steven
Tomburello, Dino
Ulch, Joseph
Uptain, Craig
Wilfon, Karlan
Zenz, Daniel

25 Years

Bailey, Gary
Bunt, John
Eyler, Kenneth
Gabrielson II, Noble
Gilliland, Michael

20 Years

Bourque, David
Brunelli, Randy
Ellifritz, Jeff
Gerred, Dwayne
Harpster, Tommy
Hummel, Kenneth
Rouse, Jonathan
Steele, Alvin
Walker, Kevin

15 Years

Alexander, Judy
Arnold, Kurtis

Ayala, Byron
Azevedo, Randall
Baumbach, Dan
Benuzzi, Michelle
Brown, Lynn
Cherry, William
Compbel, Kevin
Compston, Todd
Coscarart, David
Culp, Eric
Demangate, Kristen
Eubanks, Eddie
Gibbs, William
Hemp, Steve
Houghton III, Tim
Hulery, Brae
Hull, Adam
Johnson, Jack
Jones, Daniel
Kelly, Roger
Lopez, Tony
Luzier, Aaron
McCollum, Tamara
Mondragon, Daniel

Pickworth, Richard
Plant, Robert
Pritchard, Michelle
Reger, Arthur
Roden, Steven
Sala, Charles
Shell, Bradley
Short Jr., Larry
Skutt, Erica
Thomas, Denver
Tooley, Kevin
Warden, Theresa
Weil, Kjell
Wright, Pete

10 Years

Anderson, Jason
Bennett Jr, Steve
Blevins, Kathleen
Brown, Thomas
Early, Brad
Gahr, William

Gallarzo, Sonia
Gilmore, Matt
Grigg, Adam
Grupczynski, Robert
Gunter, Mark
Haney, Donna
Harkema, Jared
Heidelberg II, Karl
Herring, Benjamin
Hoyt, Shannon
Hunt, Pamela
Jackson, Kelly
Johnson, Paul
Kindle, Raymond
Kitchen, Gregory
Kuntz, Joel
Ledbetter, Jeremy
Lis, John
Marquez, Sherrie
Marshall, Martin
Mazzer, Becky

Mazzini, Dennis
Mchuen, Richard
Mcvicars, Mitchell
Morris, Brad
Ordal, Robert
Pena Jr, Roberto
Rochester, James
Ryals, Melisa
Sanchez, Cesar
Schumann, Kevin
Scott, Michael
Smart, Bill
Smith, Robert
Stanton, Zeke
Synek, Barbara
Walker, Troy
Wines IV, James

5 Years

Bell, Lana
Callahan, Troy
Carmichael, Scott
Dunham, Dale

Eisenbeiss, Richard
Ferrer, Oscar
Graham Jr, John
Gregersen, Mike
Grijalva, Russell
Hay, Lisa
Hovda, Earl
Jacobus, Dean
Johnson, Kari
Kastl, Jacalyn
Kreling, Caroline
Larrance, Steven
McElvain, Timothy
Morris, Heidi
Nichols, Monica
Pistole III, Jesse
Pope, Ben
Skillern, Timothy
Stock, Matt
Tinnin, Max
Whitworth, Kenneth



San Jose

March 25, 2016



40 Years
From left:
President Art
Freitas, Diana
Dominguez
and Jenny
Marston



30 Years From left: Michael Soldano
and Business Manager Tom Dalzell



25 Years From left: Kevin Herd and
(Dalzell)



20 Years
From left:
(Freitas), Nina
Lueck and
William
Erickson III

Photos by
John Storey

Congratulations on your service!



15 Years
Front row,
from left: Lynn
Flavin, Rogelio
Serrano and
Kay Joy-
Hardiman.
Back row, from
left: Jennifer
Craddock,
Linda
Applebaum
and Maria
Nava



15 Years Front row, from left: Andrea Ellis, Jennifer Craddock and Valerie Herrera.
Back row, from left: Philip Doherty, Lorenzo Arciniega, Becky Aparicio, Theresa Buchanan
and Guadalupe Belmontez



10 Years
Front row,
from left:
Francesca
Keeney,
Britney Hale,
Trang Lieu.
Back row,
from left:
Jonathan Ly,
Robert
Villagomez,
Olivia Ly and
Phillip
Montoya



5 Years
From left:
(Freitas) and
Mario Moreno

HONOREES

45 Years

Jones, Fred

40 Years

Borba, Richard
Dominguez, Diana
Grassi, Joseph

35 Years

Amaral, Jeffery
Becerra, John
Boyle, Richard
Contreras,
Heriberto
Rose, Claude
Silva, Edward

30 Years

Bowman, Diana
Conner, Judith

Gonzales, Jose
Hayne, Cindy
Hernandez, Philip
Kittles, Ramona
Lebirk, Greig
Moore, Shea
Morales, Robert
Pitcher, Mark
Quiroz, Richard
Renneke, Mark
Salinas, Ascencion
Santos, Anthony
Soldano, Michael
Waldron Jr., John

25 Years

Fernandez, Rich
Hembree, Bret
Herd, Kevin
Holcomb, Clint
Mckinley, Kevin
Palmer, Ted

Tanquary, Peter
Tiscareno, David
Vasquez, Richard

20 Years

Alles, Veronica
Barron, Gildardo
Davis, Daniel
Erickson Iii, William
Hernandez, Miguel
Jaramillo, Dianne
Jarrett, John
Lepore, Leah
Lueck, Nina
Mertz, Karen
Ortega, Tirso
Saenz, Tom
Salinas, Fernando
Serio, Debbie
Stein, Scott
Swendel, Kevin
Torres, Paul

Vitarelli, Michele
Williams, Mary
Molina, David

15 Years

Alberts, Rita
Allen, Nancy
Aparicio, Becky
Applebaum, Linda
Arciniega, Jesus
Arenas, Laura
Belmontez,
Guadalupe
Buchanan, Theresa
Buttitta Jr., Leonard
Conley, James
Craddock, Jennifer
De La Cruz, John
Dille, Joshua
Doherty Jr., Philip
Dominguez, Frank
Duncan, Andrew
Ellis, Andrea
Flavin, Lynn
Flores, Gloria
Goshia, James

Granadosin,
Teresita
Heimgartner,
Barbara
Herrera, Valerie
Hong, Brian
Jimenez, Cirillo
Joy-Hardiman, Kay
Kennedy, Joan
Lopez, Daniel
Lopez, Leopoldo
Lopez, Santos
Loza, Jose
Luspo, Jesus
Padilla, Diego
Partridge, Sandra
Perales, Avery
Ramirez, Mario
Reed, Marshall
Rodriguez, Jose
Schmidt, Anthony
Serrano, Rogelio
Short, Rachel
Smith, Aaron
Soulages, Brian
Sterling, Trudy

10 Years

Aguayo, Luis
Alvarado, Joseph
Au, David
Bernardoni Sr, Jere
Berumen, Gustavo
Blue, Andre
Cao, Vinh
Cascio, Phil
Claudio, Samuel
Cowan, James
Del Rio Canseco,
Hector
Deleon, Lisa Marie
Dwyer, Patrick
Flores, Francisco
Fomichev, Vadim
Gallo, Daniel
Galvan, Ruby
Garcia, Alfredo
Gomez Jr, Salvador
Gonzalez, Norma
Gutierrez, Adam
Hale, Britney

Hanson-Samble,
Ryan
Henderson, Justin
Jackson, Thomas
Jacobs, Michael
Jalalian, Shawn
Johnson, Jonathan
Keeney, Francesca
Kitt, Michael
Kraft, Sabrina
Krishna, Madhu
Lieu, Trang
Lopez, Julia
Luna, Beatriz
Ly, Jonathan
Ly, Olivia
Ma, Loi Q
Martinez, Melissa
Mason, Michael
McCormick, Paul
Medina, Steven
Meggerson, Dana
Miranda, Roberto
Mistor, Scott
Montoya, Phillip
Moore, Benjamin

Nguyen, Jesse
Owen, Jacob
Pardini, Eileen
Patellaro, Adam
Peters, Kendal
Pribor, Andrew
Refuerzo, Sonya
Riley, Patrick
Rodriguez, Vanessa
Roland, Paul
Salvador, Jodi Marie
Stevens, Robert
Vargas-Nila, David
Villagomez, Robert
Wells, Aaron

5 Years

Adams, Joseph
Armstrong, Kiley
Corcino, Kim
Gomez, Ramon
Guardino, David
Guitron, Vicente
Hayley, Eric
Hernandez, Katrina
Hill, Anthony

Jabbar, Mazin
Jeter, Walter
Johnsen,
Christopher
Lizaso, Arunulfo
Lopez, Augustine
Lopez, Fabian
Loto, Anthony
Moreno, Mario
Morgan, Sherraine
Novins, Steve
Phillips, Mitch
Powell, Lynne
Renshaw, Herman
Roberts, Tyler
Robles, Ezekiel
Rubio, David
Santos, Marisa
Simpson, Elisha
Soto, Daniel
Sunsdahl, Terry
Takimoto, Tiffany
Teo, Naomi
Torres, Isaac
Velazquez, Armando
Woodyard, Chase

COMPETITION



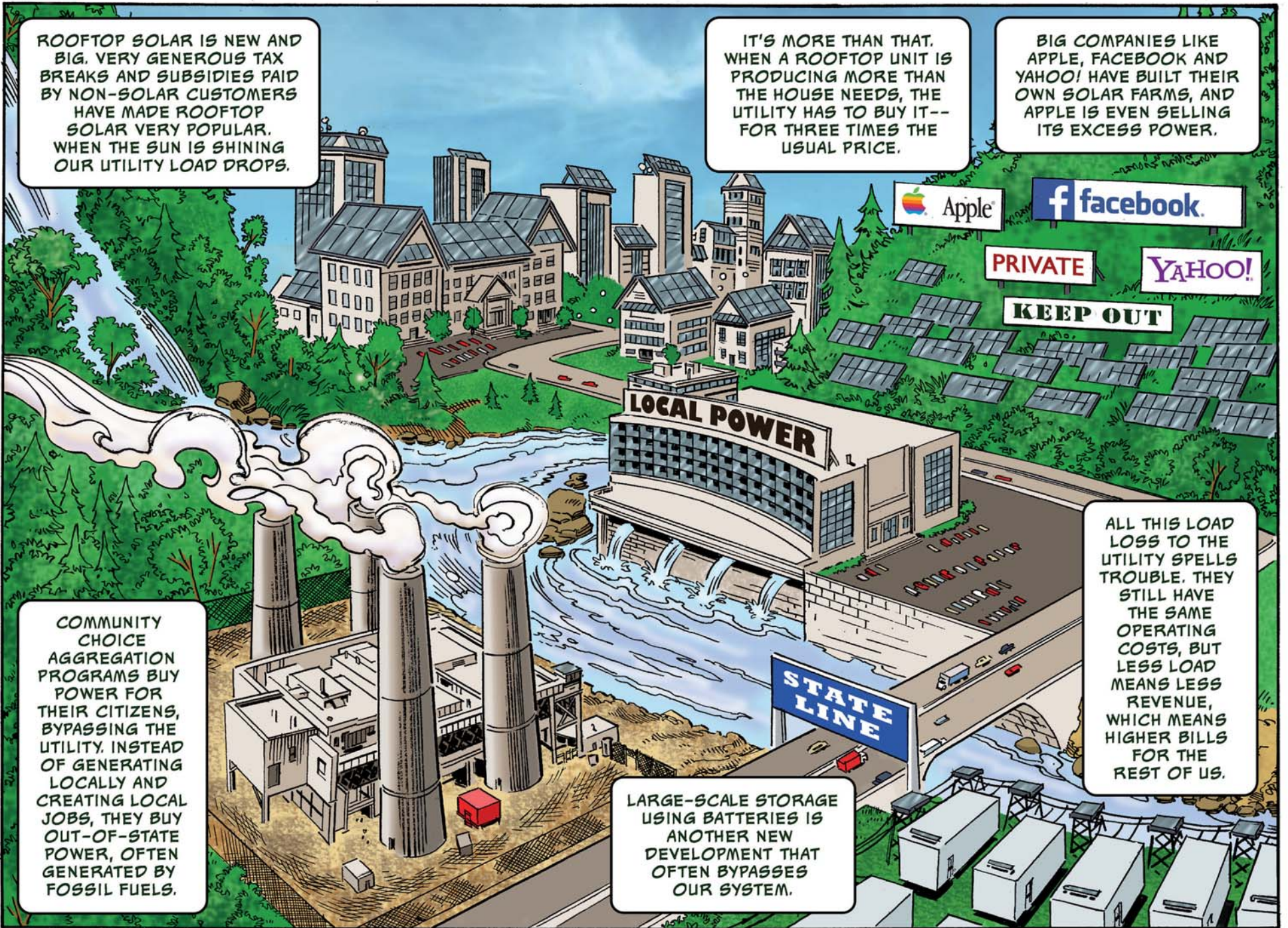
IN MY DAY, THERE WERE TWO TYPES OF UTILITIES; INVESTOR-OWNED AND PUBLIC-OWNED. THEY WERE REGULATED MONOPOLIES. SERVICE CAME FIRST AND PROFIT CAME SECOND. BUT, BROTHERS AND SISTERS, TIMES ARE CHANGING.



ROOFTOP SOLAR IS NEW AND BIG. VERY GENEROUS TAX BREAKS AND SUBSIDIES PAID BY NON-SOLAR CUSTOMERS HAVE MADE ROOFTOP SOLAR VERY POPULAR. WHEN THE SUN IS SHINING OUR UTILITY LOAD DROPS.

IT'S MORE THAN THAT. WHEN A ROOFTOP UNIT IS PRODUCING MORE THAN THE HOUSE NEEDS, THE UTILITY HAS TO BUY IT-- FOR THREE TIMES THE USUAL PRICE.

BIG COMPANIES LIKE APPLE, FACEBOOK AND YAHOO! HAVE BUILT THEIR OWN SOLAR FARMS, AND APPLE IS EVEN SELLING ITS EXCESS POWER.



COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION PROGRAMS BUY POWER FOR THEIR CITIZENS, BYPASSING THE UTILITY. INSTEAD OF GENERATING LOCALLY AND CREATING LOCAL JOBS, THEY BUY OUT-OF-STATE POWER, OFTEN GENERATED BY FOSSIL FUELS.

LARGE-SCALE STORAGE USING BATTERIES IS ANOTHER NEW DEVELOPMENT THAT OFTEN BYPASSES OUR SYSTEM.

ALL THIS LOAD LOSS TO THE UTILITY SPELLS TROUBLE. THEY STILL HAVE THE SAME OPERATING COSTS, BUT LESS LOAD MEANS LESS REVENUE, WHICH MEANS HIGHER BILLS FOR THE REST OF US.



ARE WE JUST TALKING ABOUT GENERATION?

DIDN'T WE LOSE A LOT OF GENERATION ALREADY?

YES, BUT IT'S NOT JUST GENERATION. WELL-FINANCED HIGH-TECH COMPANIES ARE PUSHING FOR MICROGRIDS, WHICH COULD COST US ALL OUR JOBS. I'VE SEEN THIS BEFORE. I SAW IT HAPPEN TO THE AUTO WORKERS IN THE 1970S, TRUCKERS IN THE 1980S, TELEPHONE WORKERS IN THE 1990S. IF WE AREN'T ON TOP OF THIS, WE'LL BE IN THE HISTORY BOOKS WITH THEM. WE'VE GOT TO LEARN WHAT WE CAN FROM EVERYWHERE. WE'VE GOT TO GET SMARTER TECHNICALLY. WE HAVE TO BE MORE SAVVY WITH POLITICIANS AND REGULATORS. FROM WHAT I'VE SEEN, OUR MEMBERS ARE UP FOR THE COMPETITION.