



UTILITY REPORTER

OFFICIAL VOICE OF IBEW LOCAL UNION 1245 AFL-CIO



Results of Local's Slowpitch Softball Tournament...

'Little Slugger' See pages, 8 & 9

Lynch Communications members ratify new 3-year contract

by Orv Owen, Assistant Business Manager

On May 27, 1982 Lynch Communications members, by a vote of 170 to 23, ratified the settlement reached at the bargaining table. The new three-year agreement became effective June 1, 1982. The newly negotiated agreement provides a 7 percent wage increase on June 1, 1982; 7 percent wage increase on June 1, 1983; and an 8 percent wage increase on June 1, 1984 for all bargaining unit employees.

Other highlights of the newly negotiated settlement provide for improvements in the following areas:

1. Restructuring of the contract so that it can be easier to read and understand.
2. Contract broken into the following topics: Recognition, Term,

Management of Company, Union Activity, Union-Management Relations, Grievance Procedure, Discipline, Seniority, Job Placement, Temporary Transfers, Layoff and Demotion due to Lack of Work, Sick Leave, Industrial Injuries, Leave of Absence With Pay, Leave of Absence Without Pay, Safety, Wages, Job Classifications, Benefit Plans, Complete Agreement, Exhibit A: Wage Schedule, Exhibit B: Seniority groups, Exhibit C: Job Descriptions, Exhibit D: Inspector Overtime, Exhibit E: Job Bid Form, Exhibit F: Attendance Policy.

3. "At all disciplinary meetings or meeting that could result in disciplinary action, the supervisor will ask the employee if he wishes a Union steward to be present at the meeting. Failure to comply with this

provision shall make any such disciplinary action null and void."

4. Provision that employee evaluations cannot be used against the employee.

5. Job bidding was to be handled on the basis of "pre-bidding". Employees wishing to be considered for a job will submit advance notice of the job, section, and shift. The pre-bids can be revised every 30 days if necessary, with copies to the employee and Union. The sequence for filling jobs will be:

- a) displaced employee,
- b) senior employee in the seniority group,
- c) senior employee in another seniority group,
- d) probationary employee in same group,
- e) probationary employee in another group,
- f) employees on recall list,
- g) company discretion.

This procedure removes many of the inequities in the present award system.

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CARNEY PINE POLES

Union disagrees with DOSH

By Ron Fitzsimmons, Health, Safety & Training

As reported in the May issue of the Utility Reporter, the climbing restriction on Carney Pine Poles has been lifted. The Union disagrees with the Division of Occupational Safety and Health and Pacific Gas and Electric Company that the testing procedure developed by the Company is sufficient to predict a potentially bad pole.

Local 1245 still has many concerns regarding pine poles. We will continue to compile information received from other local unions in regards to exces-

sive or unusual breakage of the poles in other areas. All members should report immediately any problems encountered while working with the poles. A potential hazard or hazard report with pictures if possible should be given to the Shop Steward or Business Representative.

When enough information is received by the Union, we will ask the Department of Occupational Safety and Health to permanently prohibit climbing the poles.

EPA HEARING, WASHINGTON, DC

Three members present testimony on PCB hazards

By Juliann Sum, Industrial Hygienist

Our Local Union's testimony to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency officials in Washington, D.C., marked the most recent of our prolonged efforts to have PCB exposure controlled.

Local 1245 authorized Linemen Dan Neale and Allen Simontacchi, and me to testify at the 4-day hearing held on June 7-10, 1982, and to provide damning evidence against industry data. EPA held the hearings to discuss their proposal to phase out capacitors over 10 years and allow all other PCB-containing equipment to be used indefinitely.

In my testimony, I cited numer-

ous health and chemical studies which indicate the poisonous nature of PCBs, including the presence of extremely toxic polychlorinated dibenzofurans in U.S. PCB fluids, and the elevation of PCB levels in blood samples of Local 1245 members. There is no safe level of PCB exposure for the potential effects of cancer and reduced fertility.

Neale and Simontacchi provided many examples of poor training and unsafe practices in the field.

I also provided photos and cited laboratory analysis conducted by Local 1245 which demonstrate these unsafe practices by employers.

Since the proposed rules are based only on costs to industry, I asked the EPA officials to note that they were proposing economic benefits to industry at the expense of a significant health detriment to the public and particularly to workers. We urged that EPA require a 3-year phase-out of all PCB-containing equipment.

We three Local 1245 representatives were outnumbered by industry representatives more than 20-to-1. No other local or international union was present to testify. The only other environmentally concerned party was Jacqueline Warren of the National Resources Defense Council.

Warren was the original petitioner against certain of EPA's original PCB regulations.

Because of this petition, the U.S. Court of Appeals ruled in 1980 that the EPA must rewrite their regula-

See BACK PAGE

**FOR DELEGATE
ELECTION
RESULTS
SEE PAGE 3**

E-Board members head Local 1245 retirement study

Executive Board member Bill Peitz, recently retired from 30-plus years' service with the United States Bureau of Reclamation, is now heading up a Local 1245 committee on retirement along with Executive Board member Barbara Symons.

The committee was formed to see how to best promote and support programs to meet social and economic needs of retirees, as well as

See BACK PAGE



Bill Peitz.



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WUPA



Credit

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UNDER ATTACK

EMPLOYEE DISCOUNT

On June 30th, Local 1245 will be submitting its prepared testimony on the employee discount issue to the California Public Utilities Commission. For the information of our members, we are reprinting below some of the most commonly asked questions about the discount and answers based on evidence before the PUC.

How is our discount being attacked?

In December of 1981 the California Public Utilities Commission initiated an investigation into employee discounts at all of California's major utilities. Hearings are presently scheduled on the discount for August 1982.

Is this the first time that the discount has been attacked?

No. The Public Utilities Commission has tried to take the discount away from PG&E and Sierra Pacific employees on several occasions in the past, but Local 1245 successfully defended it in legal actions. This is the first time that the discount has been the only issue in a PUC case and the first time that all the utilities have been grouped together.

Which companies are involved?

The fourteen largest utilities in the state are involved, including four under contract with Local 1245 — PG&E, Sierra Pacific, CP National, and Citizens Utilities.

Is Local 1245 fighting the PUC action?

Yes! Last summer Local 1245 helped organize a coalition of all the different Unions representing utility workers in California. Together with this coalition Local 1245 has been fighting and will continue to fight the PUC action at every step of the way.

Does the PUC even have the right to take our discount away?

We don't think so. It is our position that the discount is a matter for bargaining between the Company and the Union, and that under the National Labor Relations Act the PUC has no business interfering in the collective bargaining process. The discount is one of several fringe benefits we negotiate, and in fact is a common fringe benefit throughout our economy.

How much does the employee discount cost the customer?

PG&E is a good example. There, the Company's labor costs are only 7% of its total costs, with the discount costing an average customer (including PG&E employees) \$1.64 per year, or about 13 cents a month. The discount costs Sierra Pacific customers in California \$.58 per year, and CP National customers in Lassen \$2.06 per year. It's clearly a fraction of the customer's bill.

If the PUC eliminates the discount, would it be replaced with another benefit?

It certainly would. Because the discount is not taxable, it would probably cost at least \$2.00 for every \$1.00 now spent to replace the employee discount with a taxable benefit.

Are employees with the discount energy hogs?

Definitely not! The most complete statistics come from PG&E, and they show that PG&E employees with the discount use slightly more electricity and slightly less gas than their neighbors. If this is converted into BTU's, you find that PG&E employees with the discount actually used 2.0% less energy than their neighbors without the discount.

APPOINTMENTS

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

Senior Service Representatives,
Training and Testing Program

Enid Bidou Jack Hill

LOCAL UNION ELECTION COMMITTEE

Robert A. Burchfield	Jan McCracken
Mike Del Rio	Gary Mai
Ben Valenzuela	Lynn Wallace
Ocean	Bob Mager
Jack G. Osburn	Johnnie Goodson
Frances Weston	Sandra A. Rankins
Dan Melanephy	Kenneth F. Sager
Larry Benze	

COALITION OF LABOR UNION WOMEN CONVENTION

April 29, 30 — May 1, 2, 1982

Carol Bedsole	Doris Pierce
Dorothy Fortier	Ocean
Nannette Dominguez	

NEVADA STATE AFL-CIO COPE CONVENTION

April 30 - May 1, 1982

John Ruiz	Darrel Mitchell
Kathy Tindall	

SIERRA PACIFIC POWER COMPANY

BALLOT COMMITTEE

James "Bud" Gray	Ethel Larsen
Allan Pryor	Kenneth R. Hawkins
Patricia H. Martin	

TRUCKEE-DONNER PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

PENSION COMMITTEE

Bruce Grow	Debra Waller
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PACIFIC GAS TRANSMISSION

JOINT GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

James P. Taylor

CENTRAL LABOR COUNCILS

STANISLAUS-TUOLUMNE

Litha Saunders

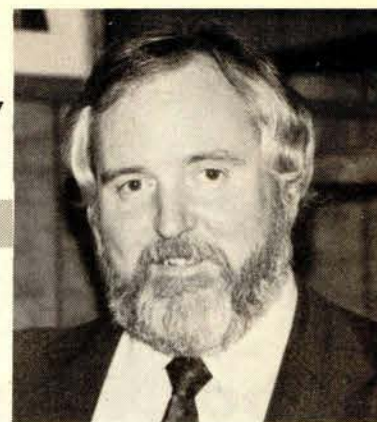
SAN JOAQUIN-CALAVERAS

Paul Gomez

POINT OF VIEW

By Jack McNally

IBEW 1245 Business Manager



Invest in America

Pension funds can provide labor investment capital

In the last two years, organized labor has had an increasing interest in their pension funds, particularly relating to where their funds were being invested.

Trustees of pension funds are charged by law to make prudent investments of funds, maximizing the interest earned. In the past, not much thought was given to who benefited from the investments other than the participant who eventually received retirement benefits.

With the decline in the economy, Unions, particularly in the building trades, are beginning to take a look at how their pension funds can best be used to benefit their members and retirees. The theory — as an example — the Carpenter's Pension Fund would invest a portion of their fund in new housing loans. This would stimulate building, which would provide jobs for carpenters, who, when working, would have additional contributions made to the pension trust on their behalf. This would stimulate the economy and provide jobs.

There are approximately \$850 billion of assets in pension funds across the United States that are invested in stocks, bonds, insurance companies, and to a very small degree, real estate. According to a recent article in *Business Week*, pension funds currently invest heavily in stocks and bonds. However, the article went on to say that pension funds are expected to become more active in real estate and other venture capital, which could become a major source of investment capital.

Labor unions, however, are now beginning to question investments in light of the high unemployment and general sad state of the economy. Is it really in the best interest of the workers to have their negotiated contributions to their pension plan invested in companies who are moving their operations to foreign countries where labor is cheaper than in the U.S., or invested in companies who are notoriously anti-worker?

Building trade unions in both Southern California and Northern California have formed development foundations to pool portions of their pension funds to invest in union construction projects. The unions have found that by pooling their money they can fund projects that any one union by itself cannot do. These union construction projects have provided jobs and returns to the pension funds ranging from 12.5 to 16+ percent.

At the California state level the legislature in 1981 created the Governor's Pension Investment Unit to help direct public pension funds into prudent, high-yielding investments in the areas of affordable housing and small business development within the state. Governor Brown has appointed a Labor Advisory Committee on Pensions which will make recommendations on ways by which pension funds can best be used to benefit state employees and retirees.

The thrust of all this activity is to actively consider investments that will improve the economy and provide union jobs. The business of providing funds to corporations that spend their money for resources outside the United States is a drain on the economy and lessens the opportunity for jobs. Pension funds represent the deferred wages of millions of workers in this country and can be a major source of investment capital which should be invested in America.

In Unity—

Jack McNally

**Next Advisory Council Meeting August 7 and 8 at
the Concord Sheraton Inn beginning at 9 a.m.**

Delegate election results listed

The following members were elected to serve as delegates to the 32nd Convention of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, AFL-CIO, to be held in Los Angeles in September:

Janice Davis	Margie McCauley
Nannette R. Dominguez	Manny Mederos
Ronald G. Fitzsimmons	Barbara Symons
Dorothy F. Fortier	Leland Thomas
Mickey Harrington	Kathy F. Tindall
C. P. "Red" Henneberry	Cindy Vallejo
Jim "Mack" McCauley	

In the event an elected delegate is unable to serve, an alternate, having received the most votes will automatically become a delegate. Alternates are:

Frank A. Quadros	Pauline Davis
Doris L. Harrington	Perry Zimmerman
Christine Lay	Ronda Drew
James "Bud" Gray	Corbett L. Wheeler
Jay H. Burton	W. H. "Bill" Peitz
Henry B. Lucas	Lois Barker
Anne Spencer	

Business Manager Jack McNally and President Howard Stiefer will also represent IBEW Local 1245 at the Convention.

'Hurry back, Jay!'

Wife Joann Burton reports that husband Jay, IBEW Local 1245 Executive Board member, is doing well following two recent bypass operations.

After having been released from Peninsula Hospital Jay was home recovering when doctors readmitted him to the hospital for follow-up observation.

At press time he was hospitalized, but in good condition, and hoping to return home soon.

Local 1245 is eager to have Jay back in the midst of union activities.

Ron Fitzsimmons/Juliann Sum

SUM REPRESENTS LOCAL

Labor, industry testify at Cal/OSHA public hearings on hazardous substances

California workers should soon be legally entitled to special training and information on more than 700 hazardous substances in the workplace.

The list of substances that the training requirements would cover was considered in a recent public hearing held in Los Angeles by the California Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board. Hundreds of labor and industry representatives attended.

IBEW Local 1245's Industrial Hygienist Juliann Sum protested the possible exclusion of argon,

carbon dioxide, helium, neon and nitrogen, since these substances can cause asphyxiation by displacement of breathable oxygen, and the possible exclusion of butane, ethane, ethylene, liquified petroleum gas, and propane, since these substances can be explosive as well as cause asphyxiation.

Butane, liquified petroleum gas, and propane can also cause frostbite, when released from pressurized containers, and central nervous system injury.

Sum also responded to industry protests regarding the inclusion of

fiberglass by urging that this substance be retained on the list because of its ability to injure skin and eyes and because of certain scientific evidence indicating the possibility of lung scarring and cancer effects.

After the list is finally adopted by the State of California, workers will be able to benefit from the training and information regulations entitled "Material Safety Data Sheets." These regulations are found in Section 5194 of the Cal/OSHA General Industry Safety Orders.

Chemical threat pulled

Certain glycol ethers found in common industrial materials have recently been discovered to cause birth defects and reproductive organ damage in animals.

These chemicals, ethylene glycol monoethyl ether, or 2-ethoxyethanol, and ethylene glycol monomethyl ether, or 2-methoxyethanol, are found in solvents, paints, varnishes, inks, wood stains, and epoxies.

The State of California Hazard Evaluation System and Information Service is issuing a special alert on the newly discovered health hazards of these chemicals. Hopefully, the Cal/OSHA exposure limits will be drastically reduced.

Local 1245 has persuaded local management in PG&E's Sacramento Division to discontinue using a certain paint applied to meters, because the paint contained glycol ethers, according to the product label.

If you believe you are being exposed to a glycol ether, first talk with your co-workers and supervisor. See your Shop Steward if the potential hazard continues to exist.

Brand names for ethoxyethanol include Cellosolve, Dowanol EE, Polysolve EE, and Oxitol. Brand names for methoxyethanol include Methyl Cellosolve, Dowanol EM, Jeffersol EM, Polysolve EM, Ektasolve, and Methyl Oxitol.

Marjorie Winter: Intern at Work



Winter

Marjorie Winter, a graduate student in Health Education at San Jose State University is a new Volunteer intern working with IBEW Local 1245.

Under the guidance of Juliann Sum, Industrial Hygienist and Ron Fitzsimmons, Health, Safety and Training officer, Winter will complete a 400-hour internship with Local 1245.

Currently she is helping to complete a new Health and Safety manual for members, and plan a pilot training program on manual use for Shop Stewards.

Additionally she will work on a PCB fact sheet.

Besides her expertise in health education, Winter brings her skills as a technical artist to Local 1245. Previously a technical and creative artist for animated films, she is preparing artwork for the Health and Safety manual.

At the conclusion of her studies at San Jose State University, Winter will earn a Master's Degree in Public Health. Married, and the mother of a two-year-old son, she and her family reside in San Francisco.

Steward pursues '3-D' hazard

A dangerous contaminant in a leak detection compound has been called to PG&E's attention by Local 1245.

Shop Steward Mike Burgess in East Bay Division conducted the preliminary investigation. Burgess reported to Business Representative Sam Tamimi in March that members in the Gas Service Department were experiencing severe respiratory irritation upon contact with sprayed mist of the specific brand, "3-D." At least one member was referred to a physician by the company.

Local 1245's Industrial Hygienist Juliann Sum was able to determine that this product contains formaldehyde. Formaldehyde is a potent eye and respiratory irritant and is regarded as a potential human carcinogen.

The label on this product states, "Leak Detection Compound, Code 49-5178, 3-D Scientific Chemical Company Co., Oakland, CA 94612."

In May, PG&E agreed to address this health hazard and possibly discontinue use of the product by the company.

New airborne exposures listed

Cal/OSHA exposure limits on more than 500 airborne contaminants are being revised to reflect the latest knowledge about the health effects.

An advisory committee to the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health convened in March, April and May to discuss these revisions. The committee was drawn from management, labor, universities, and state and local governmental agencies. Industrial Hygienist Juliann Sum served as IBEW Local 1245's representative. As usual, because of the financial disparity, industry participants far outnumbered labor participants.

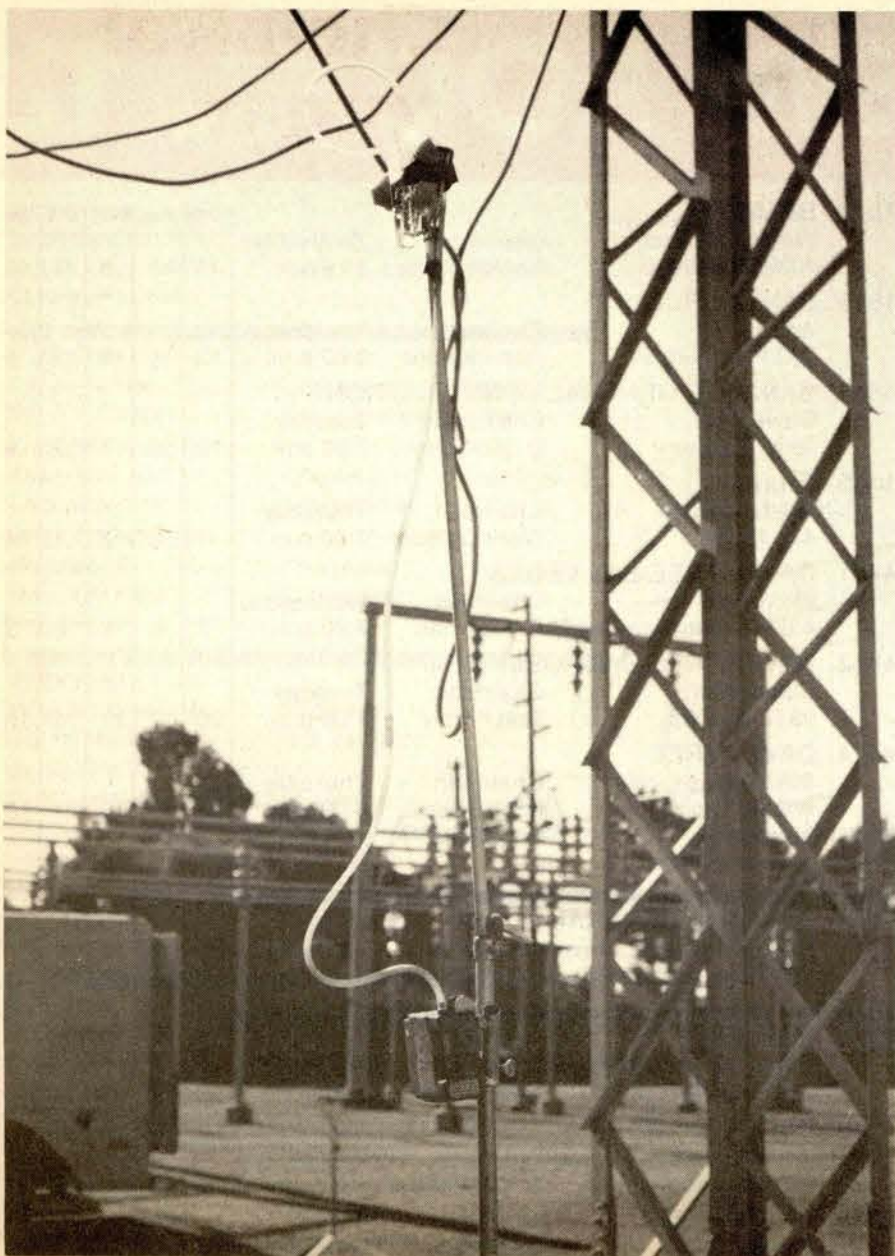
Most of the revisions were a lowering of previous exposure limits. On certain specific substances, the

committee recommended that the Division establish separate advisory committees for more in-depth discussion. These substances were as follows:

- 1) **Methyl bromide**, a fumigant which can cause injury to the nervous system and lungs, and **sulfur dioxide**, a gas which is used as a fumigant and can cause lung problems. Many industry representatives attended the meeting to protect any reductions from the previous exposure limits.
- 2) **Glycol ethers**, solvents which include two substances now known to cause birth defects and reproductive organ damage in animals.

- 3) **Formaldehyde**, a common industrial substance now known to cause cancer in animals.
- 4) **Isocyanates**, substances used to make polyurethane materials and which can cause asthma attacks in some people.
- 5) **Ethylene oxide**, a fumigant and a sterilant which can possibly cause cancer, birth defects, and reduced fertility in humans.

The revised exposure limits on the remaining substances which were not singled out for further discussion will be considered for adoption by the State of California. These exposure limits are contained in Section 5155 of the Cal/OSHA General Industry Safety Orders.



Sampling equipment used for collection of formaldehyde in the air.

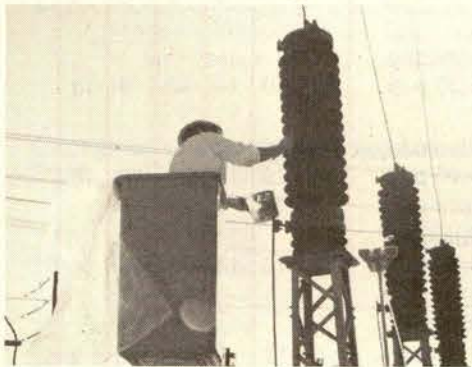
Local 1245 monitors formaldehyde testing

IBEW Local 1245's Industrial Hygienist Juliann Sum, and Ron Fitzsimmons, Business Representative in charge of Health and Training, recently monitored a day-long test conducted by PG&E which was designed to monitor formaldehyde levels in the air.

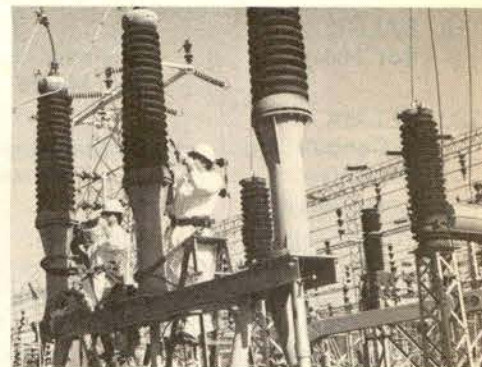
One of the silicone compounds, which is used by workers who coat insulators, has been recognized to contain formaldehyde which is a potent eye and skin irritant.

During the test, members removed old silicone compound from de-energized insulators while air was pulled via portable pumps through a collecting solution which was later analyzed in a laboratory for formaldehyde levels. Results are pending.

Members pictured include Pete Maskey, Jim Ng and Mark Wong.

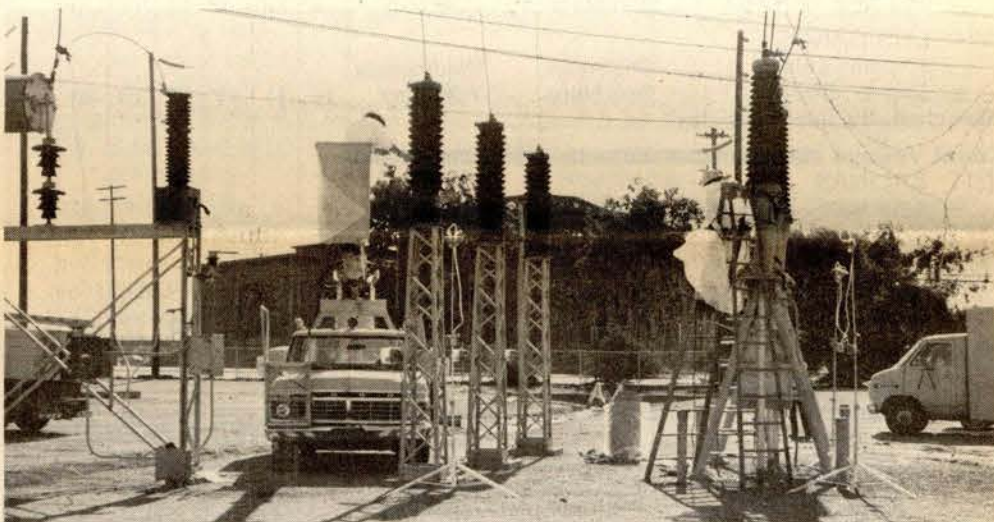


Compound which is removed is placed in buckets.



Members scrape compound from insulators with spatulas.

Photos: Juliann Sum



Martin Substation, San Francisco, where recent test was conducted.

If you experience any eye or respiratory irritation while using silicone grease, please ask your supervisor for medical treatment and contact your Shop Steward with identifying information on the batch of grease you used as soon as possible. Some silicone batches contain formaldehyde, a potent eye and respiratory irritant now known to be a potential cancer agent in humans. Shop Stewards should pass this information on to their Business Representative on a Report of Potential Hazard form.

SORT OUT MYTHS OF HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

Calm, or tense? Both types are candidates

What do you know about high blood pressure? In the last 9 years, Americans have become more aware that high blood pressure is a dangerous disease. In 1973, only 13 percent of Americans knew that high blood pressure is a major cause of heart disease. Today, almost twice that many, a quarter of our population, relate high blood pressure to heart trouble. A growing number of people also now know that high blood pressure leads to strokes and kidney failure.

The dangers of high blood pressure are better known. But some people still have the wrong ideas about this common illness. Some people confuse high blood pressure "control" with a cure. There is no cure for high blood pressure. To keep it under control, doctors usually use medication to bring down the pressure. People with high blood pressure can bring their pressure into the normal range if they

follow their doctor's advice and take medicine every day. If they stop taking their pills, however, their blood pressure will go up again.

Another wrong idea about high blood pressure is that it only affects nervous and tense people. The medical term for high blood pressure is "hypertension." So people wrongly assume that only anxious or tense people have high pressure, while calm and relaxed people have low or normal pressure. This isn't true. High blood pressure can affect anyone. It is a physical condition in which the heart and blood vessels are strained by blood pumping with too much force through the body. Lawyers, housewives, farmers, executives, students, nurses — anyone can have high blood pressure.

Some people think a headache, dizziness, or feeling bad are telltale signs that blood pressure is up. These, too, are wrong. High blood pressure has no symptoms. In fact,

you can feel fine even though your blood pressure is high. Or, you can have a headache (for some other reason) when your pressure is normal. That's why you should take medicine each day at prescribed times. The medicine must be taken just as the doctor says for it to lower your pressure. Ask your doctor what to do if you miss a dose. Make sure your prescription doesn't run out. You should treat your high blood pressure every day, regardless of how you "feel."

In addition to medicine, doctors sometimes tell their blood pressure patients to watch their weight, cut down on salt, exercise more, and stop smoking. Some people think they can choose either to take the medicine or to follow the other advice. This isn't usually true. The advice is meant to be followed in addition to taking medication. The two types of therapies go together. If you watch your weight, cut down on

salt, exercise more, and do other things your doctor asks, it will help the medication to work better. As a possible result, you may need to take less medicine.

One out of every seven Americans has high blood pressure. Yet three-fourths of our people still do not know all the facts about this dangerous disease. Roughly one-third of all workers have high blood pressure and face increased risk of heart attack, stroke and kidney failure. For example in the 45 to 74 year old age range, the risk of stroke is seven times greater among people with readings of 160 over 94, and above, than for those with lower pressure.

It is important to follow medical advice, and to take prescribed medications regularly. It is believed that if more Americans do these things, there is a greater chance of putting high blood pressure "under control."

July to December 1982

IBEW LOCAL 124

San Joaquin

			July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1111	FRESNO							
	Cedar Lane Bowl	Chairman: Tuesday						
	Cedar & Shields	Tom Garcia 5:30 p.m.	6	3	7	5	2	7
1112	BAKERSFIELD							
	Central Labor Council	Chairman: Thursday						
	200 W. Jeffrey	Ed Mallory 7:30 p.m.	8	12	9	14	*18	9
1113	MADERA							
	DiCicco's	Chairman: Thursday						
	516 So. I St.	John Souza 7:30 p.m.	1	5	2	7	4	2
1117	WASCO							
	Veteran's Cafe	Chairman: Monday						
	Poso & 4th St.	T. Caterlin 5:00 p.m.	12	9	13	11	15	13
1118	CRANE VALLEY							
	Wagon Wheel	Chairman: Wednesday						
	Oakhurst	Harold Stein 7:30 p.m.	7	4	8	6	3	8
1119	BALCH							
	Rec. Hall	Chairman: Tuesday						
		Tom Moore 5:30 p.m.	13	10	14	12	9	14
1120	SELMA							
	El Conquistador	Chairman: Thursday						
	Restaurant	Tom Thomas 5:00 p.m.	15	19	16	21	18	16
1121	COALINGA							
	Power Club	Chairman: Tuesday						
	Jayne & Merced	S. Gillespie 7:30 p.m.	13	10	14	12	16	14
1122	MERCED IRRIGATION DISTRICT							
	Pine Cone Coffee Shop	Chairman: Thursday						
	2000 E. Childs	John Goodson 7:30 p.m.	8	12	9	14	*18	9
1123	MERCED							
	Teamsters Hall	Chairman: Thursday						
	740 West 19th St.	Don Manning 7:30 p.m.	8	12	9	14	11	9
1124	LOS BANOS							
	Fireman's Hall	Chairman: Wednesday						
	520 "J" Street	Tom Hunt 7:30 p.m.	14	11	15	13	10	15

*Re-scheduled due to holiday

Coast Valleys

1211	SALINAS							
	American Legion Hall	Chairman: Tuesday						
	14 W. Laurel Dr.	J. Collenback 7:00 p.m.	6	3	7	5	9	7
1212	MONTEREY							
	Two Guys From Italy	Chairman: Wednesday						
	2030 Fremont St.	G. Carlsen **5:15 p.m.	28	18	22	20	17	22
1213	KING CITY							
	Pozzi's Stampede	Chairman: Thursday						
	207 Broadway	Dick Manley 5:00 p.m.	29	19	23	21	18	23
**Note time change								
1214	MOSS LANDING							
	Odd Fellow Hall	Chairman: Thursday						
	17-A East Beach	Harold Walker 5:00 p.m.	8	5	9	7	11	9
	Watsonville							
1215	SAN LUIS OBISPO							
	Motel Inn	Chairman: Wednesday						
	2223 Monterey St.	R. Hernandez 7:00 p.m.	14	11	15	13	17	15
1216	SANTA MARIA							
	Vanderberg Inn	Chairman: Thursday						
	1316 So. Broadway	Donald Woods 8:00 p.m.	15	12	16	14	18	16
1217	PASO ROBLES							
	Paso Robles Inn	Chairman: Tuesday						
	11 & Spring St.	T. Tweedie 7:00 p.m.	13	10	14	12	16	14
1219	HOLLISTER							
	Paine's Restaurant	Chairman: Wednesday						
	421 East	J. Johnson 5:00 p.m.	7	4	8	6	10	8
1220	DIABLO CANYON							
	San Luis Bay Inn	Chairman: Monday						
	Avila Beach	D. Cannon 5:00 p.m.	12	9	13	11	15	13

Pipe Line

1311	BARSTOW							
	V.F.W. Club Room	Chairman: Wednesday						
	25214 W. Main St.	Vern Cooke 5:00 p.m.	7	4	1	6	3	1

Santa Clara

1411	CITY OF SANTA CLARA							
	Fiorillo's Pizza	Chairman: Thursday						
	2230 El Camino	R. Blankenship 5:30 p.m.	8	12	9	14	*4	9

*Re-scheduled due to holiday.

San Jose

*1501	SAN JOSE							
	Holiday Inn	Chairman: Wednesday						
	1355 N. 4th St.	B. Symons 6:30 p.m.	7	4	1	6	3	1

*Re-established Unit.

1511	SAN JOSE							
	Clover Hall	Chairman: Tuesday						
	99 N. Bascom	R. Fitzpatrick 8:00 p.m.	6	3	7	5	2	7

1512	BELMONT							
	Windy City Pizza	Chairman: Wednesday						
	1030 El Camino	Robert Barre 5:15 p.m.	14	11	8	13	10	8
1513	SANTA CRUZ							
	Arion Hall	Chairman: Tuesday						
	230 Plymouth St.	Don Skinner 8:00 p.m.	13	10	14	12	9	14
1514	SAN JOSE GENERAL CONSTRUCTION							
	Clover Hall	Chairman: Tuesday						
	99 N. Bascom	D. McKinley 7:00 p.m.	13	10	7	12	9	14
1515	GILROY							
	**Crispinos Deli	Chairman: Thursday						
	433 1st St.	Clark Dotson *7:00 p.m.	1	5	2	7	4	2
4411	DAVEY TREE-LAS VEGAS							
	IBEW Hall	Chairman: Wednesday						
	4321 E. Bonanza Road	R. Freeman 7:00 p.m.	7	4	1	6	3	1
4412	DAVEY TREE-SAN JOSE							
	Clover Hall	Chairman: Tuesday						
	99 N. Bascom	Don Firth 7:00 p.m.	20	17	21	19	16	21
***4414	DAVEY TREE							
	3063 Citrus Circle	Chairman: Thursday						
	Walnut Creek	H. Newcomb 5:00 p.m.	15	19	16	21	18	16

*Note time change.

**Meeting place changed.

***New Unit.

City of Oakland

2211	OAKLAND GENERAL							
	Edgewater-Hyatt House	Chairman: Thursday						
	455 Hegenberger Rd.	Ralph Murphy 5:00 p.m.	8	12	9	14	11	9

East Bay

2311	OAKLAND							
	Edgewater-Hyatt House	Chairman: Tuesday						
	455 Hegenberger Rd.	Bob Rochel 7:00 p.m.	6	3	7	5	2	7
2312	EAST BAY GENERAL CONSTRUCTION							
	Edgewater-Hyatt House	Chairman: Wednesday						
	455 Hegenberger Rd.	A. Washington 6:00 p.m.	7	4	1	6	3	1
2315	LIVERMORE							
	Eagles Hall	Chairman: Thursday						
	527 N. Livermore Ave.	Gary Asbe 7:00 p.m.	1	5	2	7	4	2
2316	CONCORD							
	3063 Citrus Circle	Chairman: Thursday						
	Walnut Creek	Dick Hoyer 7:30 p.m.	8	12	9	14	*10	9
*Re-scheduled due to holiday.								
2317	ANTIOCH							
	Fiberboard Club	Chairman: Tuesday						
	2nd & L Street	Tony Hessler 7:00 p.m.	13	10	14	12	9	14
2301	EAST BAY CLERICAL							
	Holiday Inn	Chairman: Wednesday						
	1800 Powell St.	C. Saunders 6:00 p.m.	14	11	8	13	10	8
	Emeryville							

San Francisco

2401	SAN FRANCISCO CLERICAL							
	Sheraton Palace Hotel	Chairman: Wednesday						
	Market & New	E. Vallejo 5:30 p.m.	14	11	8	13	10	8
	Montgomery							
2412	SAN FRANCISCO							
	War Memorial Center	Chairman: Wednesday						
	6655 Mission St.	S. Lee 7:30 p.m.	7	4	1	6	3	1
	Daly City							

Stockton

2511	STOCKTON							
	Jesters Club	Chairman: Thursday						
	6011 N. West Ln.	Paul Gomez 7:30 p.m.	8	12	9	14	**9	9
2512	ANGELS CAMP							
	Veterans Hall	Chairman: Thursday						
	Main Street	Harold Foley 5:00 p.m.	1	*6	2	7	4	2
2513	JACKSON							
	Native Sons Hall	Chairman: Wednesday						
	Court Street	D. Armstrong 7:30 p.m.	*9	4	1	6	3	1
2514	TRACY							
	Norms Pizza Parlor	Chairman: Wednesday						
	2227 Tracy Blvd.	William Miller 5:00 p.m.	14	11	8	13	10	8
2515	MODESTO							
	Sundial Lodge	Chairman: Wednesday						
	808 McHenry, Rm. #138	Litha Saunders 7:30 p.m.	14	11	8	13	10	8
2518	MODESTO IRRIGATION DISTRICT							
	Sundial Lodge	Chairman: Tuesday						
	808 McHenry, Rm. #138	David Pittman 7:30 p.m.	13	10	14	12	9	14

*Regular date changed by Unit request.

**Re-scheduled due to holiday.

Pacific Gas Transmission

3023	WALLA WALLA							
	Touchet Fire Station	Chairman: Wednesday						
		Larry Thomas 7:00 p.m.	14	11	8	13	*	8

*Unit will re-schedule.

July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.

July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.

UNIT MEETINGS

PLAN TO ATTEND

3024 REDMOND
Grizzly Bear Pizza
413 W. Glacier St.
Chairman: Odie Walters
Thursday 7:00 p.m.
*Unit will re-schedule.

Humboldt

3111 EUREKA
Labor Temple
9th & E Streets
Chairman: Barry Jensen
Tuesday 7:30 p.m.

3112 GARBERVILLE
Fireman's Hall
Locust Street
Chairman: Allen Weber
Thursday 5:00 p.m.

3113 WILLOW CREEK
Willow Inn
Hwy. 299 East
Chairman: C. Fleming
Thursday 5:00 p.m.
*Re-scheduled due to holiday.

Shasta

3212 REDDING
Hospitality House
532 N. Market
Chairman: Rex Vaughn
Tuesday 7:30 p.m.

3213 BURNEY
Veterans Memorial Hall
Chairman: Will Rodriguez
Thursday 7:30 p.m.

3216 TRINITY
New York Hotel
Weaverville
Chairman: A. W. Wells
Tuesday 7:30 p.m.
*Re-scheduled due to holiday.

Nevada

3311 RENO
IBEW Hall
2713 E. 4th St.
Chairman: Don Moler
Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

3312 CARSON CITY
Carson Fire Station
Chairman: Darrel Plank
Monday 6:00 p.m.

3313 YERINGTON
Catholic Center
Chairman: Edward Alfth
Tuesday 6:30 p.m.

3314 SOUTH LAKE TAHOE
Moose Lodge
Chairman: Ralph Kostka
Thursday 6:30 p.m.

3315 ELY
Mt. Wheeler
Fire Dept. Mtg. Hall
Chairman: Don Strausburg
Tuesday 4:15 p.m.

3316 RENO MANUFACTURING
Carpenter's Hall
1150 Terminal Way
Chairman: Janice Davis
Thursday 4:45 p.m.

3317 WINNEMUCCA
Nixon Hall
Chairman: Mike Roper
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.

3318 ELKO
Stockmen's Hotel
Elko
Chairman: P. Wastun
Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

DeSabra

3411 CHICO
Retail Clerks Hall
1st & Sheridan
Chairman: Tom Conwell
Tuesday 7:30 p.m.

3412 QUINCY
Moons Restaurant
Lawrence St.
Chairman: Al Harte
Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

3417 PARADISE
Forbes Garage
5570 Vista Way
Chairman: A. Gonsalves
Thursday 7:30 p.m.

Drum

3511 AUBURN
Moose Lodge
Sacramento & High
Chairman: Ted Smith
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.

3512 ROSEVILLE
Zorros Pizza Parlor
Roseville
Chairman: George Fritz
Monday 5:00 p.m.

3513 GRASS VALLEY
Nevada County
Sportsman
Banner Mtn. Trail
Chairman: Willis Webber
Tuesday 7:30 p.m.

*Note time change.

Colgate

3611 MARYSVILLE
Petrocelli's
1235 Bridge St.
Chairman: Jack Osburn
Tuesday 6:00 p.m.

3613 OROVILLE
Eagles Hall
2010 Montgomery St.
Chairman: Al Knudsen
Thursday 5:30 p.m.

North Bay

3711 MARIN COUNTY
Sams, 209 Third Street
San Rafael
Chairman: R. Madden
Thursday 5:30 p.m.

3712 SANTA ROSA
**El Rancho
Tropicano
Chairman: Howard Stiefer
Tuesday 8:00 p.m.
**Meeting Place Changed.

3714 UKIAH
Ukiah Grange
South State
Chairman: R. Wattenburger
Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

3715 LAKEPORT
Bank of Lake
County Main St.
Lakeport
Chairman: John Gibbs
Tuesday 8:00 p.m.

3717 FORT BRAGG — PT. ARENA
Masonic Temple
N. McPherson St.
Ft. Bragg
Chairman: D.C. McDonell
Thursday 5:00 p.m.

Sacramento

3811 SACRAMENTO
Local Union Office
1414 21st St.
Chairman: D. Norris
Tuesday 6:00 p.m.

3812 VACAVILLE
Brigadoon Lodge
1571 E. Monte Vista
Chairman: J. Runswick
Thursday 7:00 p.m.

3813 PLACERVILLE
**Hangtown Lanes
399 Placerville Dr.
Chairman: G. Park
Wednesday 5:00 p.m.

3814 WOODLAND
American Legion
Hall, Post 77
523 Bush Street
Chairman: J. Rutledge
Thursday 5:30 p.m.

3011 SACRAMENTO REGIONAL TRANSIT
IBEW Office
1414 21st St.
Chairman: Wes Duval
Wednesday 4:30 p.m.

3911 SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT
Dante Club
2330 Fair Oaks Bl.
Sacramento
Chairman: Dan Powell
Wednesday 4:30 p.m.

**Meeting place changed.

***Time change.

3912 FRESH POND (SMUD)
Moose Lodge
Hwy. 50-Frontage
Road, Camino
Chairman: Russ Landino
Tuesday 4:15 p.m.

3913 RANCHO SECO
Community Center
Herald Store
Herald, Ca.
Chairman: Mack Wilson
Tuesday 4:15 p.m.

*Re-scheduled due to Election Day.

3912 FRESH POND (SMUD)
Moose Lodge
Hwy. 50-Frontage
Road, Camino
Chairman: Russ Landino
Tuesday 4:15 p.m.

3913 RANCHO SECO
Community Center
Herald Store
Herald, Ca.
Chairman: Mack Wilson
Tuesday 4:15 p.m.

*Re-scheduled due to Election Day.

Citizens Utilities Company

4012 SUSANVILLE
Grand Cafe
Main Street
Chairman: Richard Carr
Tuesday 7:30 p.m.

4013 ALTURAS
Rancho Steak House
Hwy 299E
Chairman: Joe Belle
Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

4014 ELK GROVE
Pizza Barn
8610 Elk Grove
Blvd.
Chairman: Dave Morrison
Wednesday 5:30 p.m.

4015 BURNEY - C.U.C.C.
Sams Pizza
Hwy 299E
Chairman: David Monath
Thursday 5:30 p.m.

*Re-scheduled due to holiday.

Outside Construction

4911 OUTSIDE CONSTRUCTION
1414 21st Street
Suite B
Sacramento
Chairman: Ray Sparks
Saturday 10:00 a.m.

4911 OUTSIDE CONSTRUCTION
1414 21st Street
Suite B
Sacramento
Chairman: Ray Sparks
Saturday 10:00 a.m.

July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.

July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.

July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.

July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.

July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.

July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.

July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.

July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.

July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.

July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.

July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.

July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.

General Construction

1514 under San Jose
2312 under East Bay
3815 under Sacramento

Public Agencies

1411 City of Santa Clara
2211 City of Oakland
3911 S.M.U.D.
3912 Fresh Pond (S.M.U.D.)

Trees

4411 under San Jose

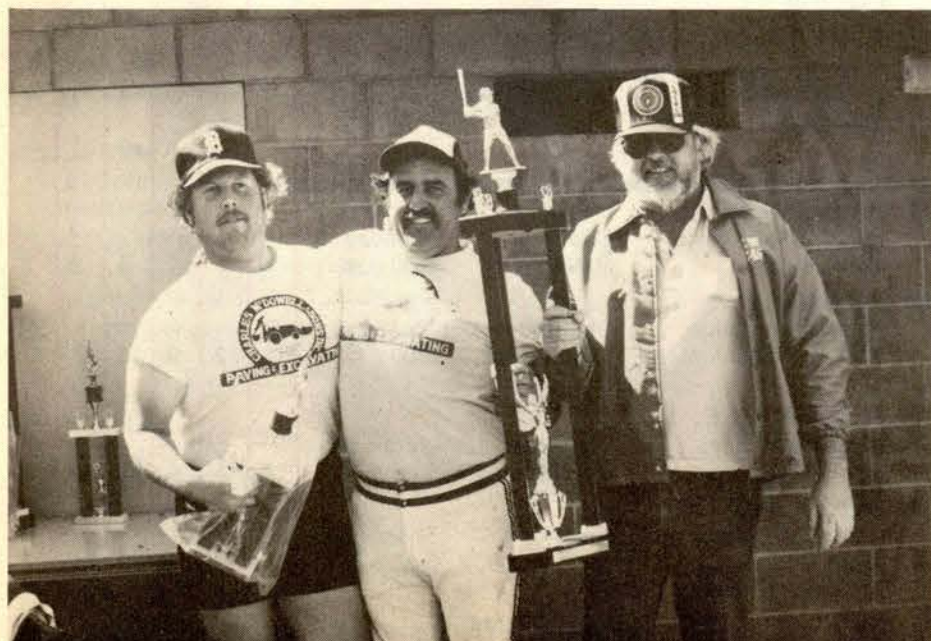
'Take me . . . out to the ballgame'

Good time was had by all

There was a large turnout of members, their families and friends, at the 5th Annual Local 1245 Slow Pitch Softball Tournament. Proud winning teams will go on to play in the State Industrial League Tournament later this year. Good luck!



'A' Division winners: McDowell & Sons



McDowell & Sons Manager Rodney Krick, center, receives trophy from IBEW Local 1245 Business Manager Jack McNally, right.



Photos by Carol Bedsole, Ron Fitzsimmons, VeeDis Stamps.



'A' Division second place team, Gas House Gang.



Gas House Gang Manager Artie Theobald receives trophy.



'A' Division third place Manager of Jose Mateo team receives trophy.



United States Slow Pitch Softball Association Commissioner, Danny Brown, left, and above tournament coordinators, Business Representatives Ron Fitzsimmons, Joe Valentino, l-r.



Manager Steve Boyle of second place 'B' Division winners receives trophy.



Team shot of 'B' Division winners, the Sacramento Misfits.



'B' Division, second place, Manteca Trailer. Manager Andy Mello was unavailable to receive team trophy due to an injury received earlier during game play.



'B' Division third place winners, the Pot Heads.



Crowd shot



Volunteers



Foul Ball



Batter Up

Winning Team Rosters

'A' DIVISION, FIRST PLACE

McDowell and Sons: Manager, Rodney Krick.

Members:

Jim Dame	Steve Nichols
Roger Fine	Dan Rand
Rodney Krick	Butch Schmidt
Mike Lopez	Brad Stevens

Dan Tucker
Joe Vasarhely
Mike Vasarhely

'B' DIVISION, FIRST PLACE

Sacramento Misfits: Manager, Steve Boyle.

Members:

Tony Acosta
Mark Anderson
Mike Barnett
Steve Boyle

Don Craig
David Duane
John Freeman
Randy Galles

Gary Mize
Tom Ryan
Mike Williams
Steve Wong

'A' DIVISION, SECOND PLACE

Gas House Gang: Manager, Artie Theobald.

Members:

Robert Babbsamo	John Duncan
Dean Batchelor	Mike Fox
Dean Baure	Dan Freeman
Charles W. Booth	John French
Michael Day	

Arian Presley
Gary Presley
Steve Richmond
Artie Theobald
Mike West

'B' DIVISION, SECOND PLACE

Manteca Trailer: Manager, Andy Mello.

Members:

Carl Balke
Dave Canchola
Bob Clarey
Grover Day
John Edwards

Mike Gerhardt
George Green
Mel Halfmoon
Kent Harris
Gilbert Martinez

Andy Mello
Chet Pacheco
Rich Peny
Pat Smith
Lawy VonDevine

OUTSIDE LINE

**By Jerry Robinson,
Business Representative**

We have asked International President Charles Pillard to preside over a meeting with Locals 47 and 1245, Western Line Constructors, Cal-Nevada JATC, and the 9th District Vice President to see if the intolerable problems of jurisdiction, reciprocity, apprenticeship training, and contract negotiations that have been seriously growing for the last 18 years can be resolved once and for all. Hopefully, we will have some results soon, good-bad-or indifferent, which will enable us to negotiate without being inhibited due to the current uncertainties of our situation.



I have been in contact with contractors who have work coming up in the future. Abbott Electric had been set to start the steel erection at The Geysers in early June. The wire stringing is still up in the air as to who is going to do it.

Wisner & Becker is going to start around August 1. They have the SMUD Unit at The Geysers. Harker & Harker should be calling for more men toward the end of June for work in Sacramento and Wendover. The substations at Truckee and Herlong will be starting towards the end of July. There are five jobs going to be bid for Mt. Wheeler REA. We will be discussing methods of keeping non-Union from getting these jobs.

Many Outside Construction persons may not be aware of the fact that their LINECO insurance may expire when they are out of work. The criteria of 120 hours worked in any given month covers a person for the second month after that. For example: 120 hours worked in May will give coverage for July. To make a self-payment for August, the envelope in which the payment is mailed MUST be post-marked by July 15. The amount of the self-payment is \$72. We would suggest that you contact the Dispatch Office when you are laid off from a job to find out when your LINECO insurance expires.



Thirty-five-year members receive congratulations from Business Manager Jack McNally.



35 YEARS

Lealand D. Burch
Paul D. Cope
G. E. Jacob
Clarence Vargas

30 YEARS

Joseph Assante
K. J. Bernhardt
R. E. Bondiott
D. W. Boone
E. R. Brozowski
Frank A. Brown
K. S. Busse (Kenneth)
H. L. Byars
H. F. Choate
Ed W. Clark
R. F. Clark
M. H. Cosmez
Chris Eiferle, Jr.
J. A. Ekstrom
M. Elder
F. F. Fahy
Morey E. Ferguson
F. A. Flores
E. E. Foster
Steward L. Fountain
W. P. Freitas
E. G. Friar
L. T. Gillis
A. Grajera
E. A. Granahan
Leonard L. Gregory
Walter T. Grenfell
B. G. Gunter
J. F. Hampton
D. C. Hansen
G. D. Harper
C. P. Red Henneberry
D. W. Hitchen
Bob T. Houchins
R. K. Hudson
A. L. Hunter
K. L. Johnson
T. D. Johnson
Vernon D. Johnson
C. M. Kissick
M. O. Landrum
Delbert Lloyd
E. E. Lynch
F. S. Macmillan
D. H. McGill
L. C. Middlekauff
L. Morrison

Colman O. O'Malley
Max L. O'starr
William Oswill, Jr.
R. B. Overholtzer
C. S. Proto
Manual J. Ramos
Robert E. Reed
J. W. Renshaw, Jr.
Thomas D. Reynolds
R. R. Riddle
Donald R. Roberts
Harvey Rogers
D. E. See
G. Severy
Alfred Silcox
L. R. Souza
I. L. Steele
L. A. Stenberg
B. Tanksley
H. J. Thoni
Glens Tillstrom
Oscar B. Tomlin
N. E. Trawick
C. W. Trotter
D. J. Vedovelli
Raul C. Vega
R. L. Vigars
H. W. Voss
Russell Worth, Jr.

25 YEARS

Harold B. Adams
C. C. Anderson
Cesare P. Angella
B. R. Arey
B. N. Baltezare
K. Best
C. A. Brasier
Tim Daniel
C. M. Delaune
Arthur L. Delgado
L. Felts, Jr.
Troy T. Frazier
D. B. Fredericks
C. H. Goddard
P. T. Gonsalves
L. R. Holley
M. L. Hunter
William Lial, Jr.
D. A. Marshall
D. E. Morgan
James Naron
Richard E. Neumann
D. W. Parker
H. G. Pope

Local 1245 honors East Bay Senior members

Robert R. Preciado
William Reagan
Everett O. Reid
Anne A. Rohleder
J. Savelle
M. W. Schoonover
B. C. Smith
Robert W. Smith
David M. Spreckelsen
E. M. Tavares

20 YEARS

H. A. Ball
Ferral A. Barton
G. I. Bealer
A. Ray Bowles
R. A. Carson
J. R. Chambers
A. A. Chavez
W. F. Collier
C. W. Conley
L. E. Davis
L. J. Dolin
J. D. Downs
J. R. Estes
Jerry Fullmer
R. G. Gabriel
Kenneth Q. Gann
Donald J. George
M. L. Hambrick
G. L. Hatch
M. R. Hemphill
Milton Higginson
W. S. Homer
Charles Hurst
Glynn Kiger
L. D. MacDonald
Dale McColl
C. L. McPherson
Manuel Mederos
Homer D. Mitchum
Dave Nunemann
Edward Ochoa
D. A. Petterle
Arlen Rasmussen
R. G. Rebello
K. V. Romano
Charles Rose
E. C. Schultz
Donald J. Sheets
J. L. Skaggs
Veodis Stamps
R. L. Stoner
G. R. Swanson
R. N. Wallace
Tom D. S. Young

The recent East Bay Recognition Dinner honoring senior members with 20, 25, 30 and 35 years' affiliation with IBEW Local 1245 proved to be a fun packed evening with Business Manager Jack McNally presenting pins and buckles to the assembled honorees. McNally thanked the members for their continued support over the years.

Business Representatives Sam Tamimi and Joe Valentino attended the dinner along with Master of Ceremonies, Veodis Stamps, who also was awarded a 20-year pin that evening.

Photos by Carol Bedsole



Lynch Communications ratification

From PAGE ONE

6. Temporary transfers: Company may temporarily transfer regardless of seniority. However, the employee has the right to refuse any transfer after being transferred in excess of 320 hours in any one calendar year.

7. Temporary transfer section is also to be used for "light-duty".

8. Layoff procedure simplified for easier administration.

9. Overtime: night shift to be brought in after eight hours off for Saturday and Sunday work if possible.

10. Attendance: New policy where employees' records will be reviewed on an individual basis. Company may take corrective action, subject to the grievance procedure, when an employee's attendance record is excessive with unexcused absences, or a pattern develops (Monday-Friday), or excessive tardiness. Warnings are removed after one calendar year.

11. Employees missing one hour or less in a quarter will be given an award of \$25.00.

12. Vacation may be deferred or

taken in one day increments subject to agreement by employee and Company.

13. Employees, at their option, may take up to four days off as personal holidays without pay.

14. Sick Leave may be accumulated up to 90 days.

15. Employees injured on the job will automatically be placed on a medical leave of absence.

16. Pay protection for employees off work due to an industrial injury.

17. The Company may fill a job left open by an employee on an unpaid leave of absence in excess of three months. If the Company elects to do so, the employee shall be placed in a job with same wage rate if possible upon their return. In any event, the employee retains displacement rights to their former job and section.

18. Safety committee comprised of two Company members and two Union members.

19. The pension formula improved to \$7 per month per year of service. (Note: 119 employees immediately benefit by this provision.)

The bargaining for the new agreement started in February and concluded on May 21. During this time frame Union's committee met with the Company on 13 occasions, and had 15 separate committee meetings.

Considering the bargaining environment faced by Union's committee of a sharp decline in cost of living figures, "take-aways" and "give-backs" established as common practice in other industry negotiations, high unemployment continually on the rise, poor economic climate in Nevada as well as throughout the nation and Lynch Communications having suffered a disastrous economic year in 1980, Union's negotiating committee should be commended for their efforts and skill at the bargaining table.

Local 1245's negotiating committee, consisting of Dusty Cecchi, Jan Davis, Arlene Roberts, Darlene Roeder, Anne Spencer and Business Representative Darrel Mitchell should be congratulated on a job well done.

Medical results on PCBs

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health has provided the medical results on a group of PG&E employees exposed to PCBs.

The test results of blood samples provided last December by 15 volunteers indicate how much of the toxic chemical has accumulated in their bodies.

The volunteers were employed in East Bay Division in the Materials (DeCoto Pipe Yard), Electric Transmission and Distribution, and Substation Departments. They participated in the medical examinations on their own time.

According to NIOSH investigator Molly Coye, M.D., the normal concentration of PCBs in the blood of people who are not occupationally exposed to PCBs is less than 30 parts per billion. PCBs are already present in humans due to worldwide environmental contamination caused by industrial releases. PCBs persist for a long time as contaminants in the environment, build up in the food chain, and excrete from your body only very slowly.

Out of the 15 participants, one employee was not occupationally exposed. Twelve of the remaining 14 volunteers had PCBs in their blood at concentrations of 30 ppb and greater. It is assumed by NIOSH, that the excess PCBs were caused by exposures at work.

What do these results mean medically? Although PCBs are known to cause injury to the skin, liver, and other parts of the body in humans, and can cause cancer and reduced fertility in animals, and are considered to be a potential human carcinogen by medical scientists, it can't be said for sure just what these particular test results mean for the individuals involved.

Because of many requests from the membership, Local 1245 plans soon to issue medical guidelines to aid your physician in diagnosing PCB exposures and health effects.

PCB testimony

From PAGE ONE

tions based on the harmful effects of PCBs to humans and the environment.

However, by the current proposal, EPA is now defying the original intent of Congress in 1976 when the Toxic Substances Control Act was passed to ban the manufacture, processing, commercial distribution, and use of PCBs.

The Reagan Administration has much to do with EPA's industry-oriented posture. This past May, EPA sponsored an unpublicized conference on the health effects of PCBs and invited mostly industry representatives to participate. Yet the EPA officials denied Local 1245's request for a public hearing in Northern California, supposedly because of cost.

Members recount activities in Washington, D.C.

By Dan Neale

When I first found out that I was going to represent Local 1245 at the EPA hearing concerning PCBs, I was a little nervous.

But after sitting through the first two days of the hearing I knew what I was going to say.

Utility companies and industry cried and complained that complying with EPA Rules on PCBs would be too costly. Utility companies and industry did not mention very much about worker safety. They all said that it would cost millions to replace PCB capacitors and transformers. What was really hard for me to understand was that food processing plants did not want to get rid of PCB equipment. They seemed to think that being a few feet away from food processing machines was good enough.

Some of the utilities were trying to make an effort to control

the PCB problem by replacing PCB equipment. But too many utilities were not very concerned at all. Very little was said about worker safety.

On the third day of the hearing we got our chance to testify. Simontacchi and I told the panel about our personal experiences involving PCB clean ups. We also told the panel about the danger and employee fear of PCB capacitors. Juliann Sum covered all the technical aspects with much backup material.

Local 1245 was the only participant at the hearing that talked about actual work on PCBs. I think it was the first time EPA officials had heard firsthand about workers' involvement. They were very interested and asked many questions.

I think Local 1245's testimony was very important, and I was thankful that I was asked to attend.

By Allen Simontacchi

Having attended the recent EPA hearing in Washington, DC, I came away realizing that industry feels there is no problem with PCBs. I'm glad we went to the hearing because we were able to present the Lineman's side of being exposed to this extremely hazardous toxic chemical.

Industry looks at the hazards from a "cost-effective" point of view and doesn't seem to give a damn about the environment or people. I believe government should stop trying to establish regulations that only industry can live with, and look to establishing regulations that the people can live with, not only today but in future generations. It's a matter of protecting the total environment.

During the course of the hearing I stressed that the protective clothing which is furnished does not in fact protect us. I also discussed secondary exposures... when I'm contaminated I bring it home to my family and others I'm in contact with.

I voiced my concern over my exposure to PCBs in my working lifetime since I won't know specific effects until something possibly hits me in the later years of my life. It's a fear I live with.

We were the only Local to be represented at the hearing, and I was really proud to be a spokesperson on a national level where a worker's concern for health and safety could go on the records calling for stricter regulations which will help protect our lives.

retirement...

From PAGE ONE

promote interest in local, state and national political issues.

"I plan to remain an active member of the Local," Peitz stated. "In fact, I'm so busy now I hardly know how I had time for work," he added.

Peitz and Symons will be contacting members who indicate an interest in involvement in retirement activities. If you're a retired member interested in retirement participation, fill in the accompanying coupon and mail it to Local Union headquarters in Walnut Creek.

Contact me, I'm interested in learning more about retirement activities at IBEW Local 1245.

Name _____

Address _____

Zip Code _____

Area Code/ Phone Number _____

Birthdate _____

Spouse's First Name _____

Clip and mail to Retirement Committee, IBEW Local 1245, P.O. Box 4790, Walnut Creek 94596.