PG&E’s labor pacts upheld

Local 1245’s achieved its most important goal in the bankruptcy case of PG&E last month when Judge Dennis Montali signed an order allowing the company to honor its labor pacts.

Local 1245 had urged PG&E to request the order, and Business Manager Jack McNally submitted extensive written testimony in support of PG&E’s motion to the court. Without the order, the wages and benefits of Local 1245 members at PG&E could have been vulnerable to attack as creditors jockey for their slice of PG&E’s limited revenues.

After the order was signed, PG&E began making good on various contractual obligations to employees, including overdue payments owed to power plant workers.

Zimmerman, Stiefer elected to lead union

In a mail-ballot tallied on June 22 Perry Zimmerman was elected as the new business manager and financial secretary of IBEW Local 1245.

Howard Stiefer was re-elected to his eighth term as the union’s president.

Jim McCauley was re-elected as vice-president, Ed Mallory re-elected as recording secretary, and Michael Davis will return as treasurer.

The Advisory Council will include eight new members. Winning uncontested open seats on the Advisory Council were: John Felts, Pacific Gas Transmission; Richard Bentler, De Sabla PG&E; and Mary Wise, San Francisco General Office.

Price gougers face mounting opposition

Like a badly battered prize fighter, California finally pushed itself off the ropes in June and began returning punches in the contest to control the state’s electric resources.

Federal energy regulators, bowing to extraordinary public pressure, strengthened regulatory controls on wholesale electric prices in 11 Western states. An effort by state legislators to resurrect retail electric competition—suspended last February—ran into significant opposition from the California Legislature and state Treasurer Phil Angelides. Legislative hearings showcased power plant workers who testified that their former employer manipulated power supplies to drive up prices. And a federal administrative law judge convened an extraordinary conference in the nation’s capitol to determine how much money power suppliers should refund to California.

Deregulation supporters—President Bush and Vice President Cheney chief among them—continued to insist that “market forces” would eventually take care of the problem. But opinion polls and street protests reflected the public’s growing impatience with California’s “market experiment.”

And when politicians decided it was time to run for cover, they discovered that regulation is the only viable solution to the catastrophe created by deregulation.

Price Caps

Under the new federal price guidelines, price caps that previously applied only to stage-three power emergencies in California were extended to all periods and throughout the entire 11-state Western power market. The FERC order will last for 14 months and does not...
There's no magic wand

By Jack McNally, Business Manager

This is my 252nd Business Manager's column. It is also my last.

For the past 21 years I have used this column to talk to you, the members, about the issues and problems facing our union. In recent years some of those problems have been very serious. Utility deregulation in California and Nevada brought downsizings, divestitures, consolidations and displacements. The threats to job security are far from over.

The union doesn't have a magic wand it can wave to make these threats go away. But it's the job of the Business Manager to see the threats coming, and then take action to defend the members.

Despite the turmoil in the utility industry, we've managed to hold our own. We've held firm against concessionary bargaining. We've gained influence with policy makers. And in many cases we've used that influence to gain real protections for our members.

These are not the accomplishments of an individual alone. A successful Business Manager needs a loyal staff, hard-working stewards and committee members, and a united membership. For those of you who supported my efforts over the years, I offer my thanks.

In writing these 252 columns, I've always tried to tell it like I saw it, even if it meant talking about serious problems we face as a union. It's not always easy being the one who brings the bad news. But I always felt it was important to talk about the things members need to know rather than just trying to guess what you want to hear.

Now it's somebody else's turn to give this job a try.
Price gougers face mounting opposition in California

From Page 1

apply to power contracts already in place.

It's unclear how effective the FERC order will be in eliminating excess profits and "gaming" of the market by power suppliers. But newly-empowered Democrats in the US Senate—notably Dianne Feinstein of California—made it clear they are willing to impose price caps of their own if FERC's order fails to get the job done.

Gov. Gray Davis, speaking before a Senate committee in Washington DC, said that federal regulators should now turn their attention to forcing power suppliers to refund excess charges to California.

While "market solutions" continue to receive lip service, a settlement conference convened by FERC Administrative Law Judge Curtis Wagner on June 25 shows that regulation is the weapon of choice when it comes to actually protecting the public.

Settlement Conference

While "market solutions" continue to receive lip service, a settlement conference convened by FERC Administrative Law Judge Curtis Wagner on June 25 shows that regulation is the weapon of choice when it comes to actually protecting the public.

Six-year campaign crossed the finish line last month when Local 1245 tree trimmers ratified a first agreement with Trees Inc. that includes wage increases and health care benefits fully paid by the employer.

The campaign to organize Trees Inc. began in 1995. The company signed a letter of intent to sign a Union agreement, but subsequently reneged on that promise and performed tree trimming for Pacific Gas and Electric with a non-unionized workforce. Over the next five years the union:

• Picketed the Fresno PG&E Headquarters, forcing Trees Inc. to quit parking there.

• Filed Unfair Labor Practice charges with the National Labor Relations Board, forcing Trees Inc. to cease threatening employees with termination for meeting with union representatives.

• Threatened civil action against Trees Inc. supervisors for slanderous statements.

• Held group meetings with employees in Fresno, Oakhurst, Madera, Mariposa, Angels Camp and Selma.

• Ran a successful organizing drive, with union representatives visiting each employee at home.

• Won a representation election in Stockton Division requiring Trees Inc. to bargain an agreement with Local 1245.

Organizing contacts were made with over 100 employees in nine counties during the six year campaign. Organizing was complicated by the fact that headquarters' locations were constantly changing, with crews spread over a wide area.

But persistence pays, and a labor agreement has been achieved.

Trees Inc. agreement ratified

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Butte-Glenn Picnic

The Butte-Glenn Central Labor Council will host a Labor Day Picnic on Sept. 3 at Durham Park from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Members and family are invited to attend. Food and soft drinks will be provided at no cost.

July 2001 3
PG&E workers praised for ‘faithful work’

Editor’s note: Normally this “Solidarity” page focuses on the struggles of workers around the world in an effort to show solidarity with them. This month, however, we reprint a letter received from a PG&E customer expressing solidarity with our members. We thought it was worth sharing.

RECEIVED JUN 01 2001

Annetta Pearson

May 30, 2001

IBEW Local 1245
P. O. Box 4790
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Re: Chronicle ad of May 23, 2001

Dear PG&E Workers,

I regret that your coddled customers have forgotten the faithful, responsible work you have been doing for us all these decades. I wish to personally apologize for the thoughtless way you must be used as the brunt of people’s anger over the botched deregulation of the energy industry. I only wish I had paid attention when it was first proposed. Our phone service has only suffered for the break-up of Ma Bell, and it will be no better with the energy company.

Meanwhile, please pass on my gratitude to the steadfast workers of Local 1245. I have always held our PG&E workers in the highest regard when I see how they are always there in every emergency. I have always felt secure in the advice of the technicians who come to check out suspicious smells, or simply light my pilot. I have appreciated the thorough energy surveys offered to our residential customers and the rebates offered to encourage conservation.

THANK YOU FOR DOING YOUR JOB!
YOU’VE DONE A GREAT JOB!
YOU HAVE EARNED MORE RESPECT THAN THE ENERGY-GLUTTON COMPLAINERS.

Faithfully yours,

Annetta Pearson
Election Results
IBEW Local 1245

Officers & Executive Board

Business Manager/Financial Secretary
Perry Zimmerman

President
Howard Stiefer

Vice President
Jim McCauley

Recording Secretary
Ed Mallory

Treasurer
Michael J. Davis

Northern Area Executive Board
Kathy F. Tindall

Central Area Executive Board
Anna Bayless-Martinez

Southern Area Executive Board
Christine Habecker

Executive Board
Member-At-Large
John Mendoza

Advisory Council Members

Clerical-At-Large
Linda S. Jurado

Sacramento Regional Transit
William Gilliam

Pacific Gas Transmission
John Felts

Humboldt PG&E
Lee R. Thomas

Shasta PG&E, et al.
Steward E. Neblett

Sierra Pacific Power, et al.
Robert Vieira

De Sabla PG&E
Richard Bentler

Irrigation Districts
Mike Stout

Drum PG&E, et al.
Terry Andreucci

Colgate PG&E, et al.
Jim Edwards

North Bay PG&E, et al.
James E. Findley

Sacramento PG&E, et al.
Dan Parmenter

Sacramento Municipal Utility District
Arthur A. Torres

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Region 2
Elsie Abbey

Gov. Coordinating Council #1
Dennis Seyfer

Citizens Utilities
Dave Morrison

San Francisco General Office Clerical
Mary Wise

East Bay PG&E, et al.
Richard J. Cowart

AC Transit, et al.
Larry Rodriguez

San Francisco & General Office PG&E
Bob Quinn

Stockton PG&E, et al.
Grover Day

San Joaquin
Ronald Moon

Coast Valleys
Mark E. Taylor

Pipeline Operations PG&E
Stephen L. Jameson

Santa Clara/San Jose
William Wallace

General Construction PG&E
Larry L. Darby

Tree Trimmer Companies
Hector Arellano

Delegates to International Convention

Perry Zimmerman*
Howard Stiefer*
Dorothy Fortier
Jim "Mac" McCauley
Kathy F. Tindall

Anna Bayless-Martinez
Ed Mallory
Christine "Chris" Habecker
Linda S. Jurado
Mickey Harrington

Ed "Big Ed" Caruso
Bob Choate
Sam Tamimi
Barbara Saunders

Alternate Delegates

Lula Washington
Cathi "Mazz" Mazzacavallo
Landis Marttila
Kip Yaughn

Al Fortier
Frank Soszenmeier
Lynn A. Moon-Brown
Dan Lockwood

John Mendoza
Bill Brill
Richard "King City Dick" Manley
Steve "Espeban" Lopez

*Business Manager and President automatically serve as Delegates to the International Convention.
Electricity and chainsaws

There was a recent accident involving a timber-thinning and brush-cutting crew. The crew fell a tree into a high voltage line. One crew member died and two others had electrical contacts. The chainsaw burst into flames, which started a fire. Paramedics and the fire department had to respond.

Does this sound like it could never happen to you? Ask yourself this: Have you ever trimmed or removed a tree in your yard or fell a tree in the forest for firewood? "There are not power lines in the forest," you may think. But are you sure? Look around and live.

Walk around and check the perimeter and all points in between for hazards, high and low. Accidents of this sort happen more often that you might think. Remember to always have fire suppression gear on site when using gas powered equipment.

Creating checks & balances at Cal-OSHA Standards Board

A bill to create new checks and balances at the Cal-OSHA Standards Board passed the California Senate on May 21 and now awaits action in the Assembly. SB 123 requires members of the Cal-OSHA Standards Board to be approved by the Senate and specifies that once a member's term of office expires, the member automatically ceases to be on the Board.

Unions believe this legislation is necessary to make Cal-OSHA more even-handed in its dealings with workplace health and safety issues. The Board is supposed to consist of seven members, with two members representing labor, two representing employers, one representing the public, and two technical experts. But in recent years, employers have occupied the seat intended for the public, and the seats intended for labor have been left vacant for long periods or have been filled with persons not supported by organized labor.

The problem has been exacerbated by the fact that some pro-management appointees have served well beyond the expiration of their term. For example, two members of the Standards Board appointed by former Gov. Pete Wilson still maintain their seats despite the fact that their terms expired on June 1, 1999—over two years ago.

Maintaining a balance of interests on the Board is critically important to working men and women in California. Seventeen million California workers rely on the workplace health and safety standards established by the Cal-OSHA Standards Board. The board has the power to adopt, change and abolish the health and safety regulations that govern the workplace in California. It also has broad authority to grant business permanent variances from the standards.

SB 123 does the following:
- Requires Senate confirmation of all Standards Board appointees.
- Specifies that labor representatives must be from organized labor.
- Specifies that once a member's term expires, the member automatically ceases to be on the Board.
- Requires the chair to designate a member to act as chair in his or her absence.

Most positions on state boards dealing with labor issues require Senate confirmation within one year of appointment. Until now, the Cal-OSHA Standards Board has been exempt from this requirement. SB 123 would bring about this long overdue correction.
California's disastrous experiment with electric deregulation has created new threats to the job security of our members. More than ever before, the battle for job security must be fought in the halls of the State Capitol in Sacramento.

Local 1245’s legislative advocates lobby for passage of bills favorable to our members and work to amend or defeat bills that would hurt our members. Here is a report on some of the legislation Local 1245 is attempting to influence in the current legislative session.

California Consumer Power and Conservation Financing Authority
SB 6XX (formerly SB 6X)

**IBEW 1245 Supports**

This bill was passed during the first Extraordinary Session and signed into law by Gov. Davis on May 16. However, it has been reintroduced during the second Extraordinary Session, where it could possibly be amended.

The bill establishes a California State Public Power Authority, a key element in the state’s effort to regain some degree of control over electric power resources. It allows the state to issue bonds to finance the construction of power plants, create incentives for investment in energy-efficient appliances and energy demand reduction, finance the retrofitting of inefficient power plants, and finance renewable energy and conservation programs.

When California forced utilities to sell off generating plants, the state essentially gave up its authority to regulate power supply and pricing in the state. The results have been disastrous: huge price increases and blackouts. Deregulation has also created great disruptions in the lives of utility employees, including utility downsizing and increased hostility expressed toward employees in the field and on the phones.

Creating the California Power Authority is an effort to help California regain control of its power supply. As the state gains leverage over generating capacity it will be harder for unregulated generators and marketers to manipulate the market.

**Passed in Senate, May 3, 2001**

**Voting IN FAVOR of utility consumers & employees:**

Alarcon  Burton  Dunn  Karnette  Murray  Peace  Perata  Scott  Speier  M. Berning
Alpert  Chesbro  Escutia  Kuehl  O’Connell  Perata  Romero  Soto  Vincent
Bowen  Costa  Figueurca  Machado  Ortiz  Richman  Skaggs  Stirling _ty_  Vincent

**Voting AGAINST utility consumers & employees:**

Ackerman  Haynes  Knight  McPherson  O’Connor  Polanco  Vasconcellos
Battin  Johannesssen  Margrett  Monteleth  Poochigian
Brulte  Johnson  McClintock  Morrow

**Passed in Assembly, April 26, 2001**

**Voting IN FAVOR of utility consumers & employees:**

Alquist  Chan  Dutra  Horton  Lowenthal  McLeod  Shelley  Washington  Zettel
Aroner  Chavez  Firebaugh  Jackson  Matthews  Oropeza  Similin  Wayne  Zettel
Caidenon  Cohn  Flores  Keeley  Mignen  Papan  Steinberg  Wesson  Zettel
Canciamilla  Corbett  Frommer  Kehoe  Nakano  Pavley  Strom-Martin  Wiggins  Zettel
Cardenas  Corea  Goldberg  Koretz  Nation  Reyes  Thomson  Wright  Zettel
Cardoza  Diaz  Havice  Longville  Negrete  Salinas  Vargas  Hertzberg  Zettel
Cedillo

**Voting AGAINST utility consumers & employees:**

Aanestad  Cogdill  La Suer  Rod Pacheco  Liu  Maddox  Pescetti
Ashburn  Cox  Leach  Richman  Alpert  Bates  Daucher  Leonardi  Runner  Alpert
Bogh  Dickerson  Leslie  Strickland  Bogh  Briggs  Harman  Maldono  Wyland  Battin
B. Campbell  Hollingsworth  Mountjoy  Wyman  B. Campbell
J. Campbell  Kelley  Rob. Pacheco  Zettel  J. Campbell
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Creating the California Power Authority is an effort to help California regain control of its power supply. As the state gains leverage over generating capacity it will be harder for unregulated generators to manipulate the market.

Passed in Senate, May 17, 2001

Voting IN FAVOR of consumers:

Alpert Richie Kuehl Scott
Bowen Murray Sher
Burton O'Connell Soto
Chesbro Murray Speier
Costa O'Connell Soto
Dunn Ortiz Vincent
Escutia Peace Torlakson
Figueroa Polanco Vasconcellos

Voting AGAINST consumers:

Ackerman Knight Morrow
Brute Margett Oller
Johannessen McClintock Poochigian
Johnson Montelth

Absent, Abstaining, or Not Voting:

Alpert Haynes Perata
Battin Machado Vincent
Bowen McPherson

IBEW 1245 Supports

This bill is designed to protect the rights of utility workers in the event that facilities owned by an investor-owned utility like PG&E are acquired by a municipal utility district (referred to in the bill as an "expanded municipal utility"). The bill passed in the Senate on April 19 and was slated to be heard on June 27 in the Assembly Local Government Committee, where it may be amended.

In the current energy crisis there are very real fears that municipal utilities—cities and special districts—may try to acquire investor-owned utility assets, but may not want the utilities' collective bargaining agreements and employee benefit packages. Employees could face the loss of jobs, pensions, seniority rights, and other benefits and protections. This bill would require municipal utilities to honor the labor contracts of the investor-owned utilities they acquire. It would also require the municipal utility to hire and retain for a period of two years from the date of the acquisition all non-management employees who had worked within the service area acquired by the municipal utility.

Passed in Senate, April 19, 2001

Voting IN FAVOR of employees:

Alarcon Karnette Romero
Burton Kuehl Scott
Chesbro Murray Sher
Costa O'Connell Soto
Dunn Ortiz Speier
Escutia Peace Torlakson
Figueroa Polanco Vasconcellos

Voting AGAINST employees:

Ackerman Knight Morrow
Brute Margett Oller
Johannessen McClintock Poochigian
Johnson Montelth

Absent, Abstaining, or Not Voting:

Liu Maddox Pesceit

IBEW 1245 Supports

This bill imposes an Electric Windfall Profits Tax on sellers of energy in California if the price exceeds $80 per megawatt or another amount determined by the CPUC based on an average cost of selling electricity with "reasonable allowance for profit margins and maintenance and operational expenses." Revenue generated from this tax would be distributed in amounts to personal income taxpayers in the form of a refundable income tax credit—California Electricity Consumers Credit.

There is a direct link between the exorbitant wholesale electric prices now being charged to California market and the obscenely high prices being reported by unregulated electric generators and marketers in California. This bill seeks to restore to California consumers some of the money that has been essentially stolen from them by operators and marketers who have taken advantage of a failed market experiment to rip off California consumers. It is slated to be heard in the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee on July 2.

Passed in Senate, April 26, 2001

Assembly, April 26, 2001

Voting IN FAVOR of consumers:

Ackerman Johannessen Montelth
Battin Knight Morrow
Brute Margett Oller
Haynes McClintock Poochigian

Absent, Abstaining, or Not Voting:

Alarcon Johnson McPherson
Escutia Machado
Employee Rights & Benefits at Aggregated Municipal Utilities

1245 Supports

This bill is designed to protect the rights of utility employees in the event that facilities owned by an investor-owned utility like PG&E are acquired by a municipal utility district (referred to in the bill as an "invested municipal utility"). The bill passed in the Assembly Local Government Committee on June 18 and was slated to be heard on July 2 in the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee. It may be amended. The current energy crisis there are very real concerns that municipal utilities—cities and special districts—may try to acquire investor-owned utility assets to gain greater control over electric supply and pricing without having to go through the expense of outright municipalization of an investor-owned utility's assets. The bill has been amended to include labor language that assures that investor-owned utilities would continue to provide billing and meter reading and other services for non-employee employees who had worked within the area acquired by the municipal utility.

Passed in Senate, April 19, 2001

IN FAVOR of utility employees:

- Karnette
- Kuehl
- Murray
- O'Connell
- Ortiz
- Peace
- Polanco

AGAINST utility employees:

- Knight
- margett
- McClintock
- Monteleth

Voting IN FAVOR of consumers:

- Alpert
- Bowen
- Burton
- Chesbro
- Costa
- Dunn
- Figueiredo
- Karnette

Voting AGAINST consumers:

- Ackerman
- Battin
- Brutsche
- Haynes

Absent, Abstaining, or Not Voting:

- Alarcon
- Escutia

Electric Windfall Profits Tax

SB 1XX (formerly SB 1X)

IBEW 1245 Supports

This bill imposes an Electric Windfall Profits Tax on sellers of energy in California if the sales price exceeds $80 per megawatt or another amount determined by the CPUC based on an industry-wide average cost of selling electricity with a "reasonable allowance for profit margins and maintenance and operational expenses." Revenue generated from this tax would be distributed in equal amounts to personal income taxpayers in the form of a refundable income tax credit—the California Electricity Consumers Credit. There is a direct link between the exorbitant wholesale electric prices now being charged in the California market and the obscenely high profits being reported by unregulated electric generators and marketers in California. This bill seeks to restore to California consumers some of the money that has been essentially stolen from them by generators and marketers who have taken advantage of a failed market experiment to rip off California consumers. It is slated to be heard in the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee on July 2.

Passed in Senate, May 17, 2001

IN FAVOR of consumers:

- Alpert
- Bowen
- Burton
- Chesbro
- Costa
- Dunn
- Figueiredo
- Karnette

AGAINST consumers:

- Ackerman
- Battin
- Brutsche
- Haynes

Voting AGAINST consumers:

- Ackerman
- Johannessen
- Battin
- Brutsche
- Haynes

Absent, Abstaining, or Not Voting:

- Alarcon
- Escutia

Municipalization

AB 57XX (formerly AB 47X)

IBEW 1245 Supports

This bill makes it easier for municipalities to "aggregate" their electric consumers for purposes of buying electric power. This enables municipalities to gain greater control over electric supply and pricing without having to go through the expense of outright municipalization of an investor-owned utility's assets. The bill has been amended to include labor language that assures that investor-owned utilities would continue to provide billing and meter reading and other services for municipalities that aggregate.

Municipal Aggregation

AB 9XX (formerly AB 48X)

IBEW 1245 Opposes Unless Amended

These bill try to make it easier to create locally-owned and operated utility districts. Local 1245 does not support the bills in their present form due to concerns over possible adverse impacts on utility employees. AB57XX was slated to be heard in the Assembly Energy Costs and Availability Committee on June 18. SB 23XX is now before the Senate Energy Committee.

Want to contact your legislator?

The following website offers a quick on-line way to find a roster of state Assembly and state Senate members along with contact information:

www.calvoter.org/legguide/
Congratulations!

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

Diana Rodriguez, 37 years
San Jose, CA

John Slater, 36 years
Concord, CA

Michael Smith, 36 years
Sutter Creek, CA

Leandro Uribe, 26 years
San Jose, CA

John Van Nostrand, 31 years
Modesto, CA

David Visser, 34 years
Sebastopol, CA

Elmer Walmann, 34 years
Los Banos, CA

Lawrence Welsh, 38 years
Santa Rosa, CA

Lawton Wright Jr., 16 years
Chico, CA

David Andrade, 27 years
Livermore, CA

William Atkins Jr., 41 years
Daly City, CA 94015

Lyle Becker, 30 years
Vacaville, CA

Riley Blakeman, 34 years
Shingle Springs, CA

John Carron, 30 years
Redding, CA

Linda Cavanaugh, 15 years
Arroyo Grande, CA

Harvey Craig, 23 years
Morgan Hill, CA

Don Garza, 32 years
San Jose, CA

R Wayne Haley, 33 years
Oak Run, CA

Donald Hatch, 32 years
Boulder Creek, CA

Donald Johnson, 30 years
Alameda, CA

Ronald LeVias, 28 years
Antioch, CA

Merl Maudlin, 31 years
Fresno, CA

Jerry Pulfer, 39 years
Fallon, NV

Kenneth Unso, 30 years
Camino, CA

Paul Moon, 33 years
Rocklin, CA

Ramon Alejo, 27 years
Vallejo, CA

John Allen, 35 years
Oak Run, CA

Kelly Antkin, 19 years
Clinton, MO

Henry Arredondo, 34 years
Salinas, CA

Steve Avina, 31 years
Tustin, CA

Rickey Bigham, 22 years
Oakley, CA

Kenneth Brent, 40 years
Orland, CA

Harry Carpenter, 27 years
Antioch, CA

Robert Chainetti, 26 years
Monterey, CA

David Clardy, 25 years
Antioch, CA

Stanley Clark, 32 years
Fairfield, CA

Paul Cleary, 32 years
Vallejo, CA

Linwood Conners Jr., 31 years
San Bruno, CA

Kevin Crane, 21 years
Antioch, CA

Jimmy Dansby, 34 years
Valleym Springs, CA

Gary Dougherty, 35 years
Antioch, CA

Frank DeMiao, 35 years
Windsor, CA

Thomas Doty, 26 years
Oakley, CA

Donald Dunnaway, 31 years
Pittsburg, CA

Ruby Edlund, 24 years
Antioch, CA

Kenneth Elliott, 20 years
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Ira Evans, 34 years
Covina, CA

Evan Evanson, 32 years
Oakley, CA

Dennis Falkenstein, 35 years
Antioch, CA

Betty Fitihan, 26 years
Oakley, CA

Larry Fletcher, 33 years
Livermore, CA

Enrique Flores Jr., 30 years
Fairfield, CA

Stephen Franks, 30 years
Concord, CA

James Genco, 21 years
Antioch, CA

Samuel Gill, 33 years
Antioch, CA

Harry Glavin Jr., 18 years
Ronner Park, CA

Gerald Good, 39 years
Oakley, CA

Charles Hartley, 34 years
San Ramon, CA

Howard Helton, 35 years
Antioch, CA

David Herrick, 30 years
Sonoma, CA

Harry Hom, 27 years
Richmond, CA

Ricky Huelster, 27 years
Oakley, CA

Joseph Inderkum Jr., 29 years
San Ramon, CA

Leroy Jacques, 39 years
Antioch, CA

Janice Jarrel, 15 years
Burney, CA

Roy King, 23 years
Petaluma, CA

John Krol, 39 years
So. San Francisco, CA

Larry Lane, 31 years
Redwood City, CA

Joseph Lopez, 33 years
Martinez, CA

Richard Lucido, 31 years
Antioch, CA

Linda Martin, 25 years
Kentfield, CA

Alfred Martinez, 36 years
Brentwood, CA

Ralph McAdam, 20 years
Bay Point, CA

Percy McGee, 34 years
Pittsburg, CA

Stanley Melor, 40 years
Benica, CA

Jean Muri, 26 years
Concord, CA

James Nagle, 31 years
Walnut Creek, CA

Ronald Newton, 40 years
Oakhurst, CA

William Nate, 31 years
Pittsburg, CA

James Peters, 30 years
San Jose, CA

Jim Poindexter, 30 years
Antioch, CA

Nicholas Rassushin, 28 years
Concord, CA

Phillip Ray, 22 years
Antioch, CA

Mark Reents, 23 years
Los Osos, CA

Roy Rodgers, 26 years
Grizzly Pits, CA

Rodolfo Rodriguez, 31 years
Fairfield, CA

Barbara Roscoa, 16 years
Antioch, CA

David Rosenthal, 33 years
Pittsburg, CA
Senate debates Patients’ Bill of Rights

By Ory Owen

ike many senior citizens, I had the opportunity recently to listen to the debate in the US Senate on a proposed ‘Patients’ Bill of Rights.’ As you may recall, this proposed legislation has been discussed, debated and stalled in the Senate for the past several years.

What we need is a right to affordable health care delivered by qualified health care professionals. But as I listened to the Senators debate, it wasn’t always clear whether they were discussing a Patients’ Bill of Rights or just an HMO Protection Act.

The debate shed light on the many hardships faced by HMO participants, including life and death matters where HMO participants were denied access to the quality care needed. Many were denied access to medical care professionals and specialists they needed.

Certainly it is time for a genuine Patients’ Bill of Rights. It is also time for a Drug Prescription Plan for all Americans. It would appear fair and reasonable that we Americans should be able to purchase drugs made in this country for the same price that is charged in other countries.

The people who support the HMOs and drug manufacturers are the same crowd who lobbied Congress in 1993 to defeat a proposed national health plan. We all know what happened then. It is time that Congress listened to the people and stopped filling their campaign war chests with money from insurance companies and drug manufacturers.

It is my personal belief that politicians who support and vote with the people do not need to accept money from special interest groups who work against our interests.

Keep the faith!

Ory Owen is a former Assistant Business Manager of Local 1245 and active in the South Bay Chapter of the Retirees Club.

Alliance reaches out to a growing population of retirees

With a record number of American workers nearing or in retirement, the union movement is addressing issues that matter to older Americans and bringing more retirees into the struggle for working families’ issues.

The newly organized Alliance for Retired Americans, formally launched in May, is the vehicle labor intends to use to reach out to this growing population of retirees.

“The union movement just doesn’t have the option to call on older and retired members for help only once every year or two when we need volunteers and votes,” says AFL-CIO Secretary Treasurer Richard Trumka. “We must do a better job of integrating older and retired members, with their lifelong experience and commitment to shaping better lives for working families, into all our activities.”

Older Americans make up nearly 13% of our total population, with 34.3 million people ages 65 and older, according to the US Census Bureau. In the early decades of the 21st century, our population will become older, as 70 million members of the Baby Boom generation retire. By 2005, almost 40% of the workforce will be older than 45.

The Alliance intends to recruit nonunion members and build coalitions with the many community groups that have mutual interests with unions and union retirees, according to Alliance President George Kourpias.

To guarantee constant funding and a stream of new members each year, AFL-CIO affiliated unions have agreed to pay the annual dues for all their retirees—about 2.5 million this year. Nonunion members can join for $10 per year.

Besides a campaign for a prescription drug benefit, Alliance priorities include:

♦ Protect and expand Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid.
♦ Open up job opportunities for people older than 50;
♦ Improve Older Americans Act programs and financing.
♦ Clean up political campaign financing and reform election systems so that every vote counts.
♦ Gain rights for patients in HMOs.
♦ Fight for workers’ rights.

“George W. Bush is committed to privatizing Social Security and turning Medicare into a voucher program,” says Ed Coyle, the Alliance’s new executive director. “If we don’t agitate at the grassroots level to build political strength to save these programs, they will disappear for the next generation.”

“If we don’t agitate at the grassroots level to build political strength to save these programs, they will disappear for the next generation.”

Ed Coyle

July 2001 11
Time to close loopholes in Family Sick Leave

One of organized labor's great victories in the early days of the Gray Davis administration was the passage of a family sick leave law.

This important law, passed in 1999 and signed by Gov. Davis, requires employer who offer sick leave to let employees use one-half of their annual sick leave allowance to attend to the illness of a child, parent or spouse.

Without this family-friendly law, workers would be unable to use sick days to care for family members.

Unfortunately, some employers have found a loophole to get around the intent of the family sick leave law. They have implemented "absence control programs" or "attendance incentive programs" which take disciplinary action against an employee who uses "excessive" sick days.

This disciplinary action may include written reprimands and suspensions. These and other demerit systems are intended to keep workers from using sick days that the law allows and that they have earned.

The language in the original law should have been enough to show well-intentioned employers what is expected of them. The law prohibits an employer from denying the use of sick leave--or from discharging, threatening to discharge, demoting, suspending, or in any manner discriminating in the terms and conditions of employment against an employee for using, or attempting to exercise the right to use, sick leave--to attend to the illness of a child, parent or spouse of the employee.

But some employers apparently need to have the intent of this law spelled out even more clearly, and that's what SB 1197 now tries to do.

SB 1197 clarifies that employees who take family sick leave shall not be penalized under existing company sick leave programs. It clarifies state law regarding the use of sick leave for caring for a family member and states that it is discriminatory to count the use of a sick day for a family member when implementing company absence control and attendance incentive programs.

This bill passed the state Senate on June 4 and is now in the Assembly. Check out how your legislator voted on this important bill.
IBEW LOCAL 1245
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2000

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT
March 20, 2001

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

We have audited the accompanying statement of Financial Position arising from cash transactions as of December 31, 2000 and the related Statements of Cash Receipts and Disbursements of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local No. 1245 for the year ended December 31, 2000. These financial statements are the responsibility of the union’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

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

We have audited the accompanying statement of Financial Position arising from cash transactions as of December 31, 2000 and the related Statements of Cash Receipts and Disbursements of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local No. 1245 for the year ended December 31, 2000. These financial statements are the responsibility of the union’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

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As described in Note 1, these financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive bases of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash transactions of Local No. 1245 for the year and quarter ended December 31, 2000 and its net assets at December 31, 2000 in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1 to the statement.

DALMAS
ACCOUNTANCY CORP.
Certified Public Accountant

EXHIBIT A
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL NO. 1245
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
ARISING FROM CASH TRANSACTIONS
December 31, 2000

Cash Accounts and Stock Fund at cost:
General Fund:
Bank of the West - checking accounts $307,635.05
Bank of the West - money market 232,521.60
Cash funds 5,380.00
Investments: (Note 1) PMV
First Security Bank - Securities - money fund 35,197.59
Collateralized notes 2,020,996.64
Merrill Lynch-CMA Money Fund 1,014,656.64
Corporate Bonds 868,104.00
U.S. Government Securities 3,111,889.00
Mutual funds 95,620.00
Bank of the West - Aim-ShortTerm Treasury Portfolio 2,580,992.43
Franklin Income Fund 1,163,337.72
Total General Fund 11,666,230.67
Checking Account - Political Donation Fund 25,106.38
Total Current Assets 11,691,337.05

200 shares PG&E common stock - at cost 3,388.17
Loans receivable-Francella memorial 7,000.00
Loan receivable-Energy Workers Center Inc. (Note 2) 1,255,081.00
Fixed assets, (Note 1):
Automobiles (44) at cost 427,983.66
Furniture and office equipment - at cost 2,020,996.64
Total Assets $13,794,315.17

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities:
IBEW per capita portion of December receipts to forward $160,287.47
Prepaid dues-PG&E 154,685.00
Vacation payable 118,111.19
Current Liabilities 432,983.66

Net Assets:
Unrestricted 13,336,225.13
Political Donation Fund 25,106.38
Total Liabilities and Net Assets $13,794,315.17

EXHIBIT B
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL NO. 1245
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2000

POLITICAL DONATION FUND

Cash balance, December 31, 1999 $ 2,770.01
Receipts:
Portion of Local Union dues deposited directly to this fund 92,620.00
Total receipts and balance 95,390.01

Disbursements:
Service charge 30.00
Refund of dues 3,63
Robert Campaign Committee 500.00
Anthony Pesceft for Assembly 1,000.00
San Mateo Labor Council 500.00
Senate Majority Fund Donation for Senator John Burton 10,000.00
Wesson for Assembly 2,000.00
IBEW Education Fund 3,000.00
Nevada State AFL-CIO 10,000.00
California for Gray Davis 10,000.00
Campaign for Gray Davis 10,000.00
Donald Richard for Bart Board 500.00
Anthony Pesceft for Assembly 500.00
Rod Wright for Assembly 1,500.00
Friends of Abel Maldonado 500.00
San Francisco Labor Council-Labor/Neighbor Cope 1,250.00
Sacramento Central Labor Council 1,000.00
Monetary Co. Labor to Labor 600.00

Cash balance, December 31, 2000 $2,770.01
The accompanying Notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS-UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash balance, beginning December 31, 1999</td>
<td>$11,908,852.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receipts:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union portion of receipts:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;A&quot; members' dues</td>
<td>$145,318.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;BA&quot; members' dues</td>
<td>7,610,029.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affiliation fees</td>
<td>19,671.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest and investment income</td>
<td>10,001,037.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividends</td>
<td>24,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total balance and receipts</td>
<td>21,894.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total receipts and receipts</td>
<td>12,710,062.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disbursements, per Page 11 of Schedule of Disbursements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash balance, December 31, 2000, Details in Statement of Financial Position</td>
<td>$11,906,200.67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The accompanying Notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Staff expenses:
- Salaries: $3,449,594.16
- Expenses: 410,049.89
- Automobile expenses: 19,992.97
- Administrative expenses: 248.10
- Fitness plan: 506.00
- Automobile purchases: 220,059.56
- Total: 4,131,137.57

Research and Education:
- Subscriptions and publications: 21,921.60
- Public relations: 241.90
- Scholarship fund: 1,500.00
- Total: 23,763.10

Office salaries:
- Santa Cruz County C.L.C, AFL-CIO: 374,591.95
- C.U.E.: 313,259.42
- Total: 687,851.37

Office expenses:
- Rent: 229,237.96
- Telephone: 165,429.99
- Postage mail service and meter expense: 50,657.89
- Print re-creating: 87,099.06
- Supplies: 19,645.72
- Equipment maintenance: 14,612.32
- Data processing: 113,312.33
- Equipment rental: 3,058.53
- Utility reporter: 132,383.43
- Miscellaneous: 124,424.40
- Bank charges: 2,618.56
- Furniture and equipment purchases: 2,793.46
- Utilities and jointorial: 3,300.00
- Storage: 5,607.00
- Christmas cards: 399.10
- Total: 2,121,126.05

The accompanying Notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL NO. 1245 SCHEDULE OF CASH DISBURSEMENTS-UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS For the Year Ended December 31, 2000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries Paid or Reimbursed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Board meetings</td>
<td>$12,178.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advisory Council</td>
<td>14,008.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustee Committee</td>
<td>10,285.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Committee</td>
<td>3,292.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety Committee</td>
<td>2,234.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shop Steward expenses</td>
<td>14,996.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D.B.A.F. fees</td>
<td>302.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>150,701.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>88,512.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest and investment income</td>
<td>9,660,007.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration office salaries</td>
<td>3,165.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>88,512.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Various Other Committees</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sierra Pacific Power</td>
<td>3,292.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Bureau of Reclamation</td>
<td>3,344.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacramento Muni Utility District</td>
<td>64,214.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Transit</td>
<td>181,341.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Gas Transmission</td>
<td>34,457.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modesto in District</td>
<td>3,165.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merced I.D.</td>
<td>772.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Oakland</td>
<td>384.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davey Tree</td>
<td>2,123.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arbor Tree</td>
<td>1,335.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truckee Corner P.U.D.</td>
<td>1,457.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paraidex I.D.</td>
<td>1,457.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Berkeley</td>
<td>884.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jerome</td>
<td>1,111.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of San Francisco</td>
<td>3,304.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Stockton</td>
<td>3,304.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Pittsburg</td>
<td>3,304.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Stockton</td>
<td>3,304.00</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3,304.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Stockton</td>
<td>3,304.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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FINANCE REPORT

Asplund 5,666.65 1,708.71 7,370.36
Fenley Utilities 145.62 150.69 342.32
Charter Comm. 2,174.32 2,461.29 4,635.61
Foster Wheeler 22.00 22.00
Yuca C.O. Water 99.67 92.57
Adolph 2,922.25 727.88 3,650.13
City of Roseville 737.56 737.56
So. San Joaquin 19.16 19.16
Trees 1,112.07 3,494.48 4,606.55
Internal Organizing 292.70 292.70
Tri Dam 860.87 411.44 1,272.31
General Rate Case 66,249.26 185,621.89 253,871.15

Total Disbursements

Loan receivable—Energy Workers 1,290,000.00
Miscellaneous fees 7,327.36
Total Disbursements $12,953,003.94

PG&E Negotiating Committees:

Membership expenses:

Supplies—Local $3,521.21
Supplies—Intl. 7,763.75
Union shopper purchases 9,850.80
Golf tournament (6,000.00)
Unlined Rodeo 600.00
Miscellaneous fees 3,850.00
Total Union Cost $18,826.79

Membership benefits:

Group Life insurance 62,252.85
Unit drawing award 550.00
Individual drawing award 600.00
Service award dinners 47,548.65
Social fund 9,400.00
Flowers and donations 308.24
Memorial bibles 439.79
Fair give-a-ways 1,747.36
Total Benefits $152,826.89

Payroll taxes:

Employee portion:

U.S. Income tax withheld $(641,760.16)
FICA withheld (285,833.06)
California Income tax withheld (176,240.72)
SDI withheld (14,906.58)
U.S. Income tax forward 641,760.16
FICA forward 285,833.06
California Income tax forward 176,240.72
SDI forward 14,906.58

Local Union portion:

FICA 285,833.13
California Unemployment 5,080.26
U.S. Unemployment 4,141.30
Nevada unemployment 46.00
Total Payroll $1,230,966.03

Employee benefits:

Health and Welfare plans 662,005.95
Group Life insurance 67,070.06
Pension plan (Note 4) 62,304.07
Other costs, pension plans 68,810.74
Administration fees, pension plan 4,141.30
Total Benefits $1,458,661.41

Other disbursements:

Legal fees $51,216.00
Hall rentals 62,757.66
Workmen’s compensation insurance 37,911.96
Dues refunds 3,765.12
Audit fees 15,500.00
FDIC fees 4,222.13
Charitable donations 3,476.00
Insurance bond (110.00)
Payroll deduction 6,77
Insurance—auto 37,529.00
Insurance—professional liability 16,220.00
Miscellaneous taxes 429.77

“Personally, I don’t see that management got anything out of those sensitivity training workshops.”

July 2001 15
San Jose, Ca.
March 9, 2001


The Honorees

45 YEARS
Smethurst, Robert J.

35 YEARS
Beck, Richard
Bravo, Ray
Chavez, Thomas
feldhaus, Craig P.
Hanlin, Joseph W. Jr.
Hathcoat, F. E.
Hinman, Tim
Hitchcock, L. P.
Montenegro, W. R.
Najar, J. M.
Oliver, David
Ryall, Thomas E.
Soto, J. D.
Stanke, Kenneth
Stanke, Norbert
Tognetti, Dennis
Wilbanks, R. M.

30 YEARS
Adams, Henry K.
Aguilar, Ruben
Almeida, Patrick
Arellano, Richard
Barker, Thomas V.
Brudvig, Jon R.
Bruno, Ronald L.
Castillo, Carlos
Ceci, Richard F.
Chase, Susan J.
Chaffin, Charles
Coleman, Sherman
Crow, Robert L.
EHall, Robert M.
Graen, Rufus
Griffith, Glenn
High, Malcolm C.
J ones, Fred
Kimes, Rick L.
Martinez, Alfred
Mocen, Stephen
Paz, Frank Jr.
Perron, Ronald A.
Rachley, Ivy
Russell, Dennis
Uribes, Leandro
Valdez, Benjamin
vanHorne, Gary L.
White, George W.

25 YEARS
Borba, Richard A.
Caballero, Paul D. Jr.
Church, John M.
Davis, Charles R.
Fries, Kenneth W.
Galaa, Joseph D.
Lopez, Richard G.
McIntosh, Sharon A.
Munoz, Michael A.
Perez, Thomas S.
Petetherath, Jerome
Segura, Mauro R.
Socca, Valori
Suit, Ameria
Wibeto, Debra L.


Utility Reporter