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News briefs

After mil-lions protested in the streets against France's new youth employment law, French President Jacques Chirac said the new law would be scrapped. The new law would have allowed employers to fire new employees, with no explanation, any time during their first two-years on the job.

The CEO of pharmaceutical giant Pfizer, Henry McKinnell, is a major backer of efforts to privatize Social Security. With a \$6.5 million annual retirement deal, he apparently figures he can do without a guaranteed Social Security benefit and that you should, too.

New York Republican Rep. James Walsh became the 213th cosponsor of a bill that would level the playing field when workers try to form a union. The Employee Free Choice Act is now only five short of a majority. Some 57 million workers say they would join a union if they had the chance.

Two more coal miners were killed on the job in West Virginia April 7, bringing the year's coal mine death toll to 23 nationwide, compared with 19 in all of 2005. Republican leaders in both the House and Senate have refused to schedule a vote on new mine safety legislation that was introduced in Feb. 1 following the Sago Mine disaster.

The Rich are getting still richer, a new report shows. Taxpayers with incomes of more than \$10 million got an average \$500,000 investment tax break in 2003 from President Bush's investment tax cut. Add their compensation tax breaks to the investment tax cut and their average tax savings climbs above \$1 million.

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UTILITY IS STRENGTH

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Titus calls on utility to be "good corporate citizen"

Candidate for Governor backs union in standoff with Sierra Pacific

Gubernatorial candidate Dina Titus explains her motto to Local 1245 members at the Reno Unit meeting: "Tell it straight and get it done."



Sierra Pacific Power has a responsibility to negotiate in good faith and provide good wages and benefits to its employees, a leading candidate for governor of Nevada told a union hall packed with IBEW Local 1245 members on April 5.

Dina Titus, currently the Democratic leader in Nevada's state senate, told Local 1245's Reno unit that Sierra Pacific Power had the privilege of being a monopoly. "What comes with that," she said, "is the responsibility to be a good corporate citizen—negotiating in good faith and providing good jobs with good benefits."

Her expressions of support drew enthusiastic applause from union members who filled every chair in the room and all available standing room as well.

Union members employed at Sierra Pacific Power have good reason to be disgruntled with the utility's approach to recent negotiations. The company has, at various times during the negotiations, pressed for massive takeaways in benefits and the virtual elimination of current work rules. (Negotiations remained at a standstill at Utility Reporter

press time.)

The appearance of a leading candidate for governor at the union meeting was a strong indication that influential parts of Nevada's political establishment are

growing concerned about the utility's failure to reach a fair settlement with its employees.

Titus didn't mince words when dealing with issues near and dear to working people.

"Organized labor is under attack. They are rolling back wages, rolling back benefits, rolling back jobs," she said. She has privately expressed interest in sponsoring an anti-outsourcing bill in the next session of the Nevada legislature.

Titus, a professor of political science at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, said her concept of government is based on a few basic principles: "Educate our kids, lock up the bad guys, provide needed services, and then get out of the way."

Noting that she was a gun owner, Titus emphasized that she was a strong believer in individual rights. But she made it clear that individual rights, in her view, include the right to an honest government.

"We've got a chain of corruption

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PG&E Transformation agreements signed

Editor's note: The following joint statement was released by IBEW Local 1245 Business Manager Perry Zimmerman and PG&E Senior Vice President Russ Jackson on April 26.

Earlier this month, we reached agreement on critical Business Transformation issues including Dispatch functions and the new Resource Management Centers. We're pleased to announce that today these agreements have been signed, allowing PG&E to continue moving forward to transform the way it does business.

The details of these agreements will help PG&E better serve its customers while being responsive to employees as we work to make change for the better. By leveraging the present skills and knowledge of IBEW members, PG&E will be able to best utilize the technology of the future. Technological advancements and streamlining efforts are expected to greatly improve our operating efficiencies.

One item that will require ratification by the Clerical Bargaining Unit is an ex-

continued on page 6

PG&E AGREES TO MEET WITH RETIREES

Massive turnout in Merced



Retirees filled the meeting room to capacity at the launch of the Merced Chapter of the Retirees Club last month. Ken Rawles (standing right), Recording Secretary of the North Bay Chapter, reported on recent organizing activities among retirees.

The Merced Chapter of the Local 1245 Retirees Club got off to a spectacular beginning when 37 people crammed into the conference room of a local restaurant on April 5 to express their frustration over rising health care costs and stagnating pension benefits.

Gordon Borges, a 78-year old PG&E retiree who labored for weeks to launch the chapter, gavelled the meeting to order and got straight to the point.

"I remember when our relationship with PG&E was one of mutual respect. The name we gave it was family—remember that?" Borges asked. Today, he continued, "PG&E has become a corporate entity that is indifferent to

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Perry Zimmerman
BUSINESS MANAGER

Transformation bargaining produces agreements

In April, I tried to explain the thinking behind our decision to have bargaining unit employees join the employee engagement teams working on Transformation Business Initiatives at PG&E. We have now reached agreement on three of the four initial sets of Transformation negotiations, and those closest to the Transformation process are reporting a slight change in the company's approach to Transformation Business Initiatives.

The three negotiations that have produced agreement involve the Materials Department, the new Dispatch centers, and the Resource Management Centers (RMC's).

The negotiations involving the Materials Department were the most straightforward for the simple fact that the company was not requesting any substantial changes in the collective bargaining agreement. Senior Business Representative Larry Pierce took advantage of these negotiations to consolidate and update a number of existing letter agreements involving Materials, but the actual Transformation negotiations were not of great consequence.

The same cannot be said of the negotiations over the Dispatch centers and the RMC's. As a result of these initiatives, fewer employees will ultimately be needed to do the work and that work will be centralized into far fewer locations than exist today. To make matters more difficult, in each

instance the company would have been able to make most of the operational changes that they want to make without any change in the collective bargaining agreement.

It was thus the task of the Dispatch committee (led by Sam Tamimi, Sam Glero, and Darrel Norris) and the RMC committee (led by Dorothy Fortier) to convince the company that the bargaining unit's cooperation and buy-in was worth concessions on the company's part.

I am proud to say that both committees succeeded and that the company made concessions both in its plan and in contract language to obtain a measure of cooperation in staffing the new centers. Our members who end up working in the RMC's and the dispatch centers, as well as the clerical members from both bargaining units who remain in the field, will enjoy better working conditions as a result of the work of our two committees.

Of all three agreements, only part of one would pass our test of requiring ratification, and that is our agreement in the RMC negotiations to extend the clerical bargaining unit's contract for two additional years. Now that an agreement has been reached on the final language of the RMC letter agreement, the two-year extension will be put out for ratification by the entire clerical unit.

The company's willingness to cooperate rather than proceed unilaterally on these issues is in keeping with our longstanding relationship, and it also is consistent with what I am hearing about a heightened scrutiny by the company of Transformation Business Initiatives coming from Accenture. We have seen wholesale change at PG&E in the past, but we have never seen the type of wholesale change that we are seeing today, in which the company is moving ahead without full-scale workforce and technology planning.

Such are the pressures of the new world order for utilities, I suppose. The mandate for change is so strong that planning is rushed and incomplete. I applaud the new caution that we are

seeing at PG&E as they review proposed initiatives.

The only Transformation committee to have started but not come to agreement is the committee dealing with emergency response. That committee has yet to find the balance between the two important interests-employee rights and the need to improve emergency response. The bargaining unit members of that committee are among our best members, and I am confident that they will find their way in time.

You can see the full text of the Dispatch and RMC agreements on-line at www.ibew1245.com.

Even as we work our way through Transformation changes at PG&E, we know that this is not the only show in town. Our members at the City of Ukiah and the City of Santa Clara have come out smiling after long and difficult negotiations, while our members at Sierra Pacific and the City of Alameda are still engaged in difficult bargaining

that has not led to agreement. Several major employers will begin bargaining in the next month or two, including outside line, WAPA, and SMUD.

Unit changes

Unit 4014, Elk Grove, has a new meeting location effective May 25, 2006. The unit will meet at Round Table Pizza, 5110 Laguna Blvd., in Elk Grove. The Elk Grove Unit meets the 4th Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm.

Ray Thomas, Business Rep.

Unit 1221, Buellton, has a new meeting location effective in April: Firestone Walker Brewery Co. in Buellton. Meeting dates and time remain the same.

Mike Haentjens, Business Rep.

APPOINTMENTS

LINDMORE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Bargaining Committee
Robert Rodriguez

TRUCKEE DONNER PUD

Bargaining Committee
Steve Murphy

OUTSIDE LINE CONSTRUCTION

Bargaining Committee
Scott Hudelson

SMUD

Bargaining Committee
Dan White
Ike Williams
David Butler
Don Kreuter
Mark Flanders

IBEW CONVENTION ELECTION COMMITTEE

Lem Stubblefield
Ray Shepherd
Katharine Reeves
Virgil O'Neal
Sheila Lawton
Ruth Bailey
Art Torres
Jim Findley

CONFERENCES & CONVENTIONS

Congress of California Seniors
29th Annual Convention
Waite Anthney
Jack Hill

Coalition of Black Trade Unionists
35th Annual Convention
Dorothy Fortier
Bernard Smallwood

IBEW Utility Conference
Mike Davis
Chris Habecker
David Scott
Cecelia De La Torre
Tom Dalzell
Ken Ball
Art Torres
Anna Bayless-Martinez
Lou Mennel
John Mendoza
Marlayne Morgan
Tom Cornell

CALENDAR

May 6-7: Advisory Council, Vacaville, CA

May 10: Retirees Club, Vacaville, CA

May 11: Retirees Club, Dublin, CA

May 12: Service Awards, Merced, CA

May 13: Service Awards, Monterey, CA

May 13: Service Awards, Fresno, CA

May 13: Stewards Conference, Fresno, CA

May 20: Service Awards, Emeryville, CA

June 2: Retirees Club, San Jose, CA

June 7: Retirees Club, Santa Rosa, CA

June 7: Retirees Club, Merced, CA

June 8: Retirees Club, Vacaville, CA

June 9: Retirees Club, Dublin, CA

June 9: Service Awards, Eureka, CA



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Our Web Site can be viewed at www.IBEW1245.com.

Our phone number is (707) 452-2700.

See Agreements On-Line

Local 1245 members can go on-line to view these Transformation related documents:

LA 06-19 (RMCs)

LA R1-06-20 (Dispatch)

Q&A on RMCs

LA 05-66 (Transition Benefits)

On PG&E's Intranet, go to <http://pgeatwork/>, select "My Stuff", then select "IBEW". On the Internet, go to www.ibew1245.com.

Governor Candidate,

continued from page 1

coming all the way from K Street,” she said, referring to the neighborhood in the nation’s capitol where many powerful corporate lobbyists are headquartered.

“We are taking it to ‘em!” pledged Titus, who said her campaign motto was “Tell it straight and get it done.”

Two words tell the story on why people form unions, said 40-year member Ron Borst: *Unfair Management.*



Aaron Coulson voices an opinion.



Unit Chair Dana Moler, left, and Recording Secretary Rita Weisshaar.



Darryl Abraham, left, and Tammy Cray.



Liz Magallon



Vikki Lockhart



Kevin Vial



Bargaining Committee member Gino Aramini.



Keith Light drives home a point.



Below: Business Rep. Randy Osborn discusses a union wage proposal that was rejected by the company.



You'd think they'd do right by me

In regard to “Retirees slip into financial desperation” (Letter to the Editor, Utility Reporter, April 2006). I’ve been with PG&E for 40 years—26 years working and 14 years out on LTD from an injury on the job.

I’ve had one—yes one—2% rise in all those years, although my taxes, union dues, medical and every thing else has gone up.

During negotiations once again, if you’re on LTD and not on SSD you’re left out. I’ve already fallen into financial desperation. My medical health care costs me more and pays less, and no raise in sight.

I didn’t get sick working for PG&E. I was injured on the job. You’d think

they’d do right by me.

Larry Say, Hot Springs, AZ

Sierra’s proposal “insulting, disloyal, dishonest”

To say I was alarmed by Sierra Pacific Power Company’s proposals would be mild. Outraged may get closer to the emotion! My decision to retire last year was based entirely on the retirement terms presented, and which I thought were guaranteed.

Now, less than a year after my retirement date, there is a company proposal to increase my medical costs by almost 40%, which results in decreasing my monthly income by \$80. Based on a net monthly pension of \$2238, an \$80 decrease is huge. This represents most of my monthly electric payment. And, I’m just one year into retirement—what is my pension going to look like in 5 years?

Retirees do not get cost of living raises. Did the company give any consideration that knowledge of such a proposal would have greatly altered my

decision to retire at 55? This is criminal!

I am now 56 years old. I gave the company 33 years of loyal service. As a lineman/foreman, I also gave the company my two knees (which will be replaced this April) and two shoulders (which are part of a workman’s compensation claim—yet to be acted on). When some of us say we “gave our all” for the company, we mean it literally.

Sierra Pacific Power Company was a company that you were proud to serve—and one that used to be proud to serve you. None of us gets healthier with age; we’re all going to break down over time. Everyone is aware that medical plan contributions paid when we’re between 20 and 50 go mostly to others over 50. So when we finally reach that ripe old age, we feel we’ve paid our dues and have earned the right to utilize what we put in. It’s not charity!

It’s shameful to see where the company has gone since its merger with Nevada Power. Sierra Pacific Power Company was an extremely solvent company with loyal, hardworking employees and management that cared—about their employees and about the health of the company.

Without loyal employees you have no company. You reduce the benefits, you devalue the employee and reduce the loyalty. Who wins?

The company’s proposal is insulting, disloyal, dishonest and absolutely not workable for those of us who have planned our retirement years around the current medical plan and pension allotment. As for those who have yet to retire—how terribly daunting for them.

It’s one thing to devise a new plan applicable to new employees (or those with less than 5 years of service), it’s quite another issue when dealing with long-term employees and retirees.

I hope the company develops a conscience and stops the direction of their thinking immediately. The fact that they had to hire outside consultants to act as henchmen (and probably henchmen who are in their 30s and see retirement as something in another lifetime) is not a good sign that they want conscience to play any part in their decision. This only indicates that they want to dehumanize those they are affecting to justify their disloyal proposals.

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Letters, continued from page 3

I supported the union for over 33 years—I still support the union. During this time the union worked hard at developing benefits which were essential to its members and their families. And, as I see it, also worked to benefit the company in having healthy and happy employees. Let's not allow the company to now unravel all that's been done premerger. I pray that you are taking my retirement future seriously, as there is no "starting over" when your body has reached an age older than its years. If there is some other direction I should be going in expressing my concern and disapproval of the current proposals, please let me know.

Gregory Clark, Laclede, ID

Embezzled funds repaid in full

Local 1245 received a check on April 17 from Joy Wagoner's attorney, repaying in full the money that Wagoner embezzled from the union.

Wagoner was terminated from the union's office staff on Nov. 8, 2005 shortly after the union found irregular financial practices in the preparation of expense checks for committee members. A fraud auditor subsequently hired by the union identified over \$50,000 in missing funds. Local 1245 is pleased to report the repayment of those funds.

No member of the union or its staff, other than Wagoner, was charged with any wrong-doing.



I would like to welcome aboard Ron Cochran as our new Outside Line Business Representative. Ron started out in 1981-1984 working on a logging crew in Northern California. In 1984-1987 Ron became an apprentice lineman through the Cal-Nev JATC and a member of Local 1245. Through his career Ron has work as a Journeyman Lineman with the City of Redding, traveled to Alaska working construction out of Local 1547, and worked for PP&L, as a Journeyman Lineman and also went through an Apprenticeship Meter & Relay. The past six years Ron has been working for WAPA- Department of Energy as a Journeyman Communications and Instrumentation Craftsman.

In the Construction market we are starting to see work picking up for some of our utilities work, but at the same time some of our bigger jobs are starting to wind down.

We have been running about 4 Journeyman Lineman open calls a day that are left open.

THE NUMBERS

Since last month's report, we've had 93 calls for Journeyman Lineman; 2 calls for Equipment Specialist; 19 calls for Groundman; zero calls for Cable Splicers; zero calls for UG Techs; and 3 calls for Apprentices, for a total of 99 calls.

The books, as of April 12:
Journey Lineman, Book 1: 10
Journey Lineman, Book 2: 1
Lineman, Book 3: 2
Lineman, Book 4: 41
Equipment Specialist, Book 1: 6
Equipment Specialist, Book 2: 6
Equipment Specialist, Book 3: 2
Groundman, Book 1: 5
Groundman, Book 2: 9
Groundman, Book 3: 33
Groundman, Book 4: 116
Cable Splicer, Book 1: 0
Cable Splicer, Book 2: 0
Cable Splicer, Book 3: 0

Total crews working on:
Outside Agreement: 70
U.G. Agreement: 10 crews
Pole and Test Agreement: 10 crews
Teledata Agreement: 10 crews
Total crews working: 100

Currently we have 318 apprentices: 1 is traveling working in our jurisdiction, 50 are working out of Local 1245; 236 are working out of Local 47; 21 are working out of Local 396 and 10 are laid off due to various reasons. We graduated a total of 8 apprentices to Journeyman Lineman so far in 2006. We have indentured 44 apprentices into the program so far this year.

Sierra Pacific is putting out small projects. PAR has been working on the Tracy to Silver Lake 120 KV, Phase 1

Transmission Line Project, which is almost completed except for the pulling of the Underground. Sturgeon has picked up 20 miles of 120 KV line from Winnemucca, Nev. toward Battle Mountain, which has started and is going good.

PG&E is putting out small packages. The 230 KV Underground Project in San Francisco had to push back its soak test due to all the rain.

SMUD is putting out small projects.

San Francisco Light Rail: Railway Electric is starting a 2-year project on the light rail.

NEGOTIATIONS

We are negotiating with San Francisco NECA on the Light Rail Agreement.

We are in negotiations with Canus Corp. and have a table settlement for a one-year agreement with an increase of 8.5%.

We are in negotiations with NECA and Henkels and McCoy on the Teledata Agreement.

We have sent opening letter to Western Line Contractors NECA on the Outside Line Agreement and are scheduled to meet April 24 and 25. Also sent opening letter to Henkels & McCoy on the Outside Line Construction Agreement and are scheduled to meet on April 26 and 27.

We have re-opened the Republic Electric Agreement for Street Light and Signal Light Maintenance Agreement.

OTHER NEWS

The next Joint Safety meeting is May 25.

First Aid & CPR is the third Saturday of every month in Sacramento.

On March 29 there was an underground circuit interruption in Westminster, CA with an underground crew.

David Crawford, Senior Outside Line Business Representative

Cochrane hired for Outside Construction

Ron Cochrane has been hired by Local 1245 as a Business Representative for Outside Construction.

Cochrane will be joining Senior Business Rep. David Crawford in representing Outside Construction members.

Although Cochrane began his union career in Outside Construction, he has worked directly for a number of utilities, including the former Pacific Power and Light in Oregon, an investor-owned utility; the City of Redding, a municipal utility; and Western Area Power Administration, a federal power agency. His union experience includes negotiations and serving as a steward.

Welcome aboard, Ron!



Ron Cochrane

Remembering Kathy Tindall

If you don't know Kathy Tindall's name, you haven't been paying attention.

Tindall, who died April 18 after years of declining health, began serving as the Northern Area member of the Local 1245 Executive Board in 1976 and held that post continuously except for the years 1977-1983 when she served as the union's Recording Secretary-also an Executive Board position.

"Kathy was the longest-serving Executive Board member in Local 1245's history," said Business Manager Perry Zimmerman. "She believed in Local 1245 and devoted a good part of her life to serving the union and its members."



Tindall rose to a position of leadership at a time when the labor movement was dominated by men, and she knew she was blazing a trail for the women who would come after her. Tindall was a regular fixture at conferences on Women in the Workforce. In 1978 she helped plan a Women in the Economy conference.

"She was a good example of how to break through" barriers against women, said union founder Ron Weakley, who encouraged Tindall's activism early in her career. "She wasn't a slugger or a fighter, she was just a steady person with basic principles. She had good basic principles," Weakley said.

Tindall served on the national Executive Board of the Coalition for Labor Union Women from 1983 to 1999 and represented labor on the Reno Commission for the Status of Women from 1980-1988.

But Tindall's enduring legacy will be her service on the Local 1245 Executive Board, where she made sure that her constituents in northern California and Nevada had a voice. Her position of leadership was acutely appreciated by members at Sierra Pacific Power, who recognized her as one of their own, as someone who could make sure their concerns were represented in the union's governing body.

Tindall's career at Sierra Pacific Power began in April of 1972, when she was hired as a Junior Clerk in General Accounting. She served subsequently as a Clerk in Customer Services, a Warehouseman in Material Services, a Utility Materials Specialist in Materials Services, and a Specialist-Purchasing.

It took only four years from the time Tindall hired on at Sierra Pacific to gain a seat on the Local 1245 Executive Board. The qualities that allowed her to succeed in union politics were pretty obvious, in the view of former union staffer Ann Kools, who knew Tindall first as a colleague and later as a friend and traveling companion.

"As a politician she was very astute. She knew politics. She knew elections. She was very savvy," said Kools. "She knew a ton of people."

Tindall "had the personality" for politics, according to Sierra Pacific Lineman Ken McNeal, Tindall's brother-in-law. "She got along with people. They just liked her. It was amazing."

But she wasn't the sort of politician who tells people whatever they want to hear. Tindall wasn't shy about expressing her convictions.

"She could be real ornery," said McNeal. When it came to politics, "she could be real argumentative. You wouldn't want to get her started."

It was Tindall's passion for the union cause that made her more than just a savvy politician. Her heart was in it, all the way. "She cared about the union," said Kools. "The labor movement-that was her baby."

IBEW Local 1245 Endorsements

Governor:

Phil Angelides

Lieutenant Governor (Dual):

John Garamendi

Secretary of State:

Debra Bowen

Attorney General (Dual):

Jerry Brown
Rocky Delgadillo

Controller (Triple):

John Chiang
Joe Dunn
Dario Frommer

Treasurer:

Bill Lockyer

Insurance Commissioner:

Cruz Bustamante

Superintendent of Public Instruction:

No Endorsement

Board of Equalization

District 1: Betty Yee
District 2: No Endorsement
District 3: No Endorsement
District 4 (Dual):
Judy Chu
Jerome Horton

Note: All of the above endorsements for constitutional offices are for the Democratic Primary. No candidates won endorsements in the Republican Primary.

U.S. Senate

Dianne Feinstein

U.S. Congress

Dist. Candidate
1 Mike Thompson
2 No Endorsement
3 Bill Durston
4 Charlie Brown
5 No Endorsement
6 Lynn Woolsey
7 George Miller
8 Nancy Pelosi
9 Barbara Lee
10 Ellen Tauscher
11 Pete McCloskey (R)
Jerry McNerney (D)
12 Tom Lantos
13 Fortney "Pete" Stark
14 Anna Eshoo
15 Mike Honda
16 Zoe Lofgren
17 Sam Farr
18 Dennis Cardoza
19 T.J. Cox
20 Jim Costa
21 No Endorsement
22 No Endorsement
23 Lois Capps

Note: All of the above endorsements for U.S. Representative are for the Democratic Primary, except District 11, where endorsements were made in both the Democratic and Republican Primary.

California State Senate

Dist. Candidate
2 Pat Wiggins
4 Paul Singh
6 Darrell Steinberg
8 Dual:
Mike Nevin
Leland Yee
10 Triple:
Ellen Corbett
John Dutra
Johan Klehs

12 No Endorsement
14 No Endorsement
16 Dean Florez

Note: All of the above endorsements for California State Senate are for the Democratic Primary. No candidates won endorsements in the Republican Primary.

California Assembly

Dist. Candidate
1 Patty Berg
2 No Endorsement
3 Mickey Harrington
4 Rob Haswell
5 No Endorsement
6 Pamela Torliatt
7 Noreen Evans
8 Lois Wolk
9 Dave Jones
10 Jim Cook
11 Mark DeSaulnier
12 Open
13 Mark Leno
14 Loni Hancock
15 Terry Coleman
16 Sandre Swanson
17 Cathleen Galgiani
18 Mary Hayashi
19 Gene Mullin
20 Alberto Torrico
21 Ira Ruskin
22 Sally Lieber
23 Joe Coto
24 James Beall, Jr.

Former Local 1245 Business Rep. Mickey Harrington is the endorsed candidate in the Democratic Primary in the Third Assembly District.



25 No Endorsement
26 Kenneth Goeken
27 John Laird
28 Ana Ventura-Phares
29 No Endorsement
30 Nicole Parra
31 Juan Arambula
32 No Endorsement
33 No Endorsement
34 No Endorsement

Note: All of the above endorsements for California State Assembly are for the Democratic Primary. No candidates won endorsements in the Republican Primary.

Ballot Measures

Proposition 81: YES
California Reading And Literacy Improvement And Public Library Construction And Renovation Bond Act Of 2006.

Proposition 82: YES
Preschool Education. Tax On Incomes Over \$400,000 For Individuals; \$800,000 For Couples. Initiative Constitutional Amendment And Statute.



Remember, you must be registered in order to vote in California's June 6 Primary Election. If you have moved or changed your name since the 2004 election, you must re-register by May 22. It's easy to get a registration application. Go to www.ss.ca.gov/elections/votereg1.html or call (800) 345-8683.

Medicare vulnerable to scam artists

Keep a close watch on your Social Security, credit and Medicare cards. Scam artists are being attracted to the new Medicare prescription drug program like flies to cow patties. With the enrollment deadline fast approaching, swindlers have concocted simple, cheap and fraudulent ways to handle seniors' medicinal needs.

"We found that any time Medicare offers a new benefit, the scam artists come in," Anne Gray, community outreach coordinator for the California

UtilityReporter

Health Advocates' Senior Medicare Patrol project, told the Contra Costa Times. "Anything that makes it sound easy is going to get people to go that way." The prescription drug plan that began Jan. 1 allows Medicare clients to select drug-coverage plans offered by private companies. The multiplicity of programs has led to widespread confusion among seniors. The "\$299 scam" offers seniors a year's worth of prescription drug coverage for a flat fee and is touted as a cheaper alternative to Medicare Part D prescription drug plans, Gray said. Scammers have already ripped off some seniors in the Midwest by obtaining their credit card or bank account

information over the phone and withdrawing \$299. Medicare experts and senior advocates offer tips to prevent Medicare fraud:

- Never give personal financial information over the phone to unsolicited callers promoting prescription drug programs. Legitimate prescription drug plan representatives will not ask for Social Security numbers, Medicare numbers or credit card or bank account information, said Brian Poger, president of Senior Educators.
- Medicare clients do not have to pay to join a plan, Burns said, and clients do not have to pay post-May 15 penalties in advance.

- Medicare planning and counseling is available free of charge. Clients do not have to pay for assistance.
- People who have questions about plans or want to enroll should contact Medicare, Area Agencies on Aging or the local Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program. Legitimate businesses offering the private commercial drug plans for Medicare Part D may make unsolicited phone calls, making it necessary for seniors to differentiate between the scam artists and the legitimate businesses. One way to sort the wheat from the chaff is to request an insurance agents' license number if he or she requests financial information.

Members ratify Davey Tree pact

Local 1245 members working for Davey Tree Surgery (contracted to perform Line Clearance Tree Trimming for Silicon Valley Power at the City of Santa Clara) have ratified a one-year extension of their labor agreement.

Members voted 9 to 0 on April 6 to accept the one year agreement, which increases wages effective April 1, 2006 by 4.8% for Foremen, 4.5% for Foremen trainees, and 2.5% for Climbers.

Senior Business Representative Ray Thomas and Business Representative Junior Ornelas were assisted in negotiations by employee Representative Marcos Hernandez.

On the job for Davey Tree

Photos by Junior Ornelas



Local 1245 members employed by Davey Tree were photographed by Business Rep. Junior Ornelas recently while working on Luther Gibson Highway in Solano County. On right is Francisco Cirigo, ACA, a one-year member of the union. On left is Ricardo Ibarra, Foreman, a four-year member of the union.



Working in San Leandro for Davey Tree are Jose Gonzalez (left) and Lionel Cordova (right), both new members of IBEW Local 1245.



In case of an emergency

By Art Torres

The American Society of Safety Engineers has joined with rescue personnel in asking people to program emergency phones numbers into their cell phone address book.

"In Case of Emergency," or ICE, contacts in your cell phone address book would allow rescuers to more easily reach family members or emergency contacts in case an illness or accident renders you unconscious.

With over 190 million people in the US with cell phones and even more worldwide, ICE can help emergency personnel

to more quickly identify an injured individual and their next of kin in minutes instead of hours. Making ICE a common practice will in turn encourage police, fire and other emergency personnel to check cell phones in emergencies.

Even if you carry personal identification, such as a driver's license, it is still recommended to use ICE, because an ID does not contain the names and phone numbers of next of kin, medical history or any other information that emergency personnel may need in rendering assistance.

Individuals can program a new contact in their cell phone address book with the letter's ICE followed by the name and phone numbers of their emergency contacts. If adding more than one ICE contact, mark the primary contact as ICE 1, such as ICE 1- John Doe, ICE 2 - Jane Doe, and so on.

It would be very helpful if the ICE contact had basic information about you, such as your nearest family member, primary physician, work contact, basic medical history, a list of allergies, current medication.

Individuals under the age of 18 should list the guardian, mother or father as their primary ICE contacts.

Bargaining with Provco



Working on union proposals for negotiations with Provco late last year were, left, David Pendergast, VC Specialist and 5-year union member, and Angel Mondrago, a Foreman and 7-year union member.



Meeting in Vacaville for Provco negotiations over the winter were, from left, Business Rep. Junior Ornelas, Senior Business Rep. Ray Thomas, Local 1245 Negotiating Committee member Angel Mondragon, Provco President George Barlow, and Provco Vice-President Scott Huffmaster.



The union committee on Emergency Response, chaired by Assistant Business Manager Howard Stiefer (right), in a recent meeting at union headquarters in Vacaville.

Transformation, continued from page 1

tension of the Clerical Agreement by two years, to December 31, 2010. The general wage increase for Clerical Bargaining Unit employees will be the same as that negotiated for the Physical Bargaining Unit in 2009 and 2010. While the vote will take place over the next few weeks, both IBEW and PG&E have agreed to move ahead in staffing a maximum of seven to ten clerical positions, utilizing Title 18 - Bidding, in the Concord Resource Management Center.

Other items covered in the Letter Agreements:

- Work will be effectively and efficiently dispatched across the organization and the service territory;
- Dispatch of work will be consolidated, including dispatch of design,

gas/electric service and gas/electric construction functions, into the Resource Management Centers in Concord and Fresno.

- New position classifications will be established (Work and Resource Dispatcher, Work and Resource Dispatcher in Training, Work and Resource Dispatcher Relief) and future duties will be clarified.
- Training opportunities will be increased and enhanced for IBEW employees.
- Clerical jobs at the Resource Management Centers will be in the Operating Line of Progression and will support design, gas/electric service, and gas/electric construction.

Detailed Questions and Answers and Letters Agreement 06-19 and R1-06-20 are available on the PG&E and IBEW Local 1245 websites. There will be joint company/union meetings in the near future to further discuss the details of the agreements.

We will continue to work together on other Business Transformation-related issues. We realize that change is essential to moving PG&E forward but that it can have a significant impact on our employees. We are committed to support you through these efforts.

Russ Jackson
PG&E Senior Vice President
Human Resources

Perry Zimmerman
Business Manager
IBEW Local 1245

Local 1245 Safety Committee

Current members of the Local 1245 Safety Committee are Keith Hopp, Pacific Gas & Electric; Al White, Pacific Gas & Electric; David Vipond, Citizens Communications; Kurt Celli, Modesto Irrigation District; Art Torres, Sacramento Municipal Utility District; Bob Burkle, City of Santa Clara; James Gorman, Davey Tree; and Assistant Business Manager Howard Stiefer.



Retirees' Corner

Merced, *continued from page 1*
to its retirees.”

When the floor was thrown open for discussion, retiree after retiree spoke about the hardships they are experiencing with the dramatic rise in medical costs.

“When I first retired, PG&E was doing its part. Now I have \$600 coming out of my paycheck every month,” said Dave Bower, a former truck driver who retired from PG&E in 1995.

John Cordoza, the only active employee in attendance, offered strong words of support to the retirees. Cordoza, a Gas ADE with 14 months to go until his own retirement, noted that current employees may not need as much medical attention as the retirees. But “the people who built this company are really getting hammered on the medical and they deserve better than that,” he said.

Business Rep. Mike Grill reminded the group that retiree health care and pension improvements are not mandatory subjects of bargaining, but that PG&E can bargain on the subject if it feels moved to do so. “That’s why this meeting is so important,” said Grill.

Mike Silva, president of the East Bay Chapter, and Ken Rawles, Recording Secretary of the North Bay Chapter, brought fraternal greetings from their respective groups and congratulated the Merced retirees on the great turnout for their first meeting.

PG&E Agrees to Meet

Meanwhile, on the same day, Local 1245 retirees in Vacaville debated

whether to proceed with plans for a protest rally at PG&E’s annual shareholders meeting to register their discontent. The retirees decided to refrain from a public demonstration after Business Manager Perry Zimmerman informed them that PG&E had agreed to meet with representatives from all of Local 1245’s Retiree Club chapters to listen to their concerns.

The North Bay Chapter, meeting in Santa Rosa on April 4, experienced its largest turnout to date, with many new people in attendance, reported Business Rep. Joe Osterlund.

“We need as many new Retiree clubs as possible forming to strengthen our numbers,” Recording Secretary Rawles noted in an e-mail following the Santa Rosa meeting. “We as retirees have to come together in order to seek our much-needed increases in our pension checks, and paid medical insurance.”

The East Bay chapter, after hearing that the company agreed to meet with retirees, chose three representatives to attend the meeting. President Silva reported that the chapter reaffirmed that its top two priorities were financial help with the medical plan and an annual cost-of-living increase for pensioners.

At the San Jose meeting, retirees celebrated the news that PG&E was willing to sit down and discuss retiree issues. “We thought that would be great. Everybody was enthusiastic,” said Jack Hill, who represented retirees in the last general bargaining with PG&E and is a member of the San Jose Chapter.

“A lot of people are close to the end of the RPOA (Retirement Premium Off-

“We have worked long and hard so we can build momentum to get the job done. Today we have proven we are not a bunch of senile couch potatoes.”

—Gordon Borges

set Account). That’s why it’s imperative we get with the company—we’ve got to do something,” Hill said.

With the successful launch of a new chapter in Merced there can be little question that the retirees are, in fact, “doing something.” With their backs against the wall, Local 1245 retirees are organizing.

Borges, a life-long body builder, let it be known that retirees are not going to be shy about flexing their muscle.

“We have worked long and hard so

we can build momentum to get the job done,” said Borges, a one-time Meter Reader and B-Clerk, as he looked out at the filled-to-capacity room in Merced. “Today we have proven we are not a bunch of senile couch potatoes.”

Future meetings of the Merced Chapter will be held on the first Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. at the Merced Senior Community Center, 755 W. 15th St. in Merced. See a complete schedule of Retiree Club meetings elsewhere on this page.

Retiree Club Meeting Schedule

East Bay Chapter: 2nd Thursday each month, 10 a.m., IBEW Local 595, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin, CA

San Jose Chapter: 1st Thursday each month, 10 a.m., at IBEW Local 332, 2125 Canoas Garden, San Jose, CA.

Vacaville/Sacramento Chapter: 2nd Wednesday each month, 10 a.m., at IBEW Local 1245, 30 Orange Tree Cir-

cle, Vacaville, CA.

Santa Rosa Chapter: 1st Tuesday each month, 10 a.m., at IBEW Local 551, 2525 Cleveland Ave., Suite B, Santa Rosa.

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

Congratulations newly-retired members

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

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Michael Alves, 17 years Windsor, CA | Gary Donaldson 37 years Reedley, CA | Patrick Holland 35 years Sbastopol, CA | Richard Signor 34 years Grass Valley, CA |
| James Anderson 37 years Morgan Hill, CA | John Edmund 32 years Berkeley, CA | Ida Lee 30 years Benicia, CA | Alvie Spain 26 years Bakersfield, CA |
| Lester Bailey 30 years Sacramento, CA | John Eramdjan 27 years Modesto, CA | Steven Lee 31 years San Francisco, CA | Barry St John 31 years Colville, WA |
| Frances Baker 21 years Lincoln, CA | Dennis Esarte 9 years Tracy, CA | William Manthey 29 years Paradise, CA | James Strange 33 years Pacifica, CA |
| Dan Beer 25 years Paho, HI | Henry Everett 35 years Ukiah, CA | Michael Marsland 33 years Salinas, CA | Frank Teague 34 years Paso Robles, CA |
| Jesse Bruch 3 years Sacramento, CA | Michael Farfan 32 years Fremont, CA | Alfred McPhetridge 34 years North Fork, CA | Don Titus 22 years Wellton, AZ |
| Edward Cardoza 20 years San Leandro, CA | Diane Fife 32 years Brisbane, CA | James Miller 35 years Atascadero, CA | Ronald Vance 34 years Paradise, CA |
| Glenda Carter 30 years Sanger, CA | David Fritz 36 years Petaluma, CA | Thomas Modena 34 years Half Moon Bay, CA | Charles Warren 31 years Sacramento, CA |
| Joseph Charbonneau 32 years San Francisco, CA | Dennis Gabellini 34 years Martinez, CA | Carol Moreland 28 years Chico, CA | John Welch 33 years Gilroy, CA |
| Sherman Coleman 34 years San Jose, CA | Anthony Galan 31 years Merced, CA | Anthony Morgado 26 years Bonanza, OR | Robert Whhitley 29 years North Fork, CA |
| Levon Collins 32 years Clovis, CA | Michael Ginn 25 years Clovis, CA | Marvin Pennington 35 years Fresno, CA | Thomas Wilson 33 years Marysville, CA |
| Mollie Conley 25 years Mariposa, CA | Dempsey Goins 35 years Atascadero, CA | Billy Poe 35 years Fairfield, CA | John Wimmer 35 years Martinez, CA |
| Thomas Cooper 36 years Alta, CA | Gary Hamill 35 years Alameda, CA | Larry Reis 36 years Stratford, CA | Calvin Yee 31 years Daly City, CA |
| Rudolph Cota 31 years Lemoore, CA | Edward Hedrick 40 years Visalia, CA | Frank Roza 13 years Los Osos, CA | Gary Zimmerman 41 years Fairfield, CA |
| Wayne Devoll 36 years Chico, CA | James Hester 38 years Santa Rosa, CA | Danny L Sherman 34 years Yuba City, CA | |



Gordon Borges, a long-time professional body builder, organized the Merced Chapter and chaired the first meeting.

Winners

JOURNEYMAN—OVERALL

First: Sacramento Municipal Utility District—Cayleb Bowman, Sean McClafin, Todd Prangley
Second: Turlock Irrigation District—Dennis Mattos, Mark Pickens, Gerald Mankins

JOURNEYMAN—600 AMP. SWITCH OUT

First: Turlock—Aaron Baker, Roderick Brenes, Mike Nixon, Bill Stavrianoudakis
Third: SMUD—Cayleb Bowman, Sean McClafin, Todd Prangley

JOURNEYMAN—CROSS ARM CHANGE OUT

First: Turlock—Dennis Mattos, Mark Pickens, Gerald Mankins
Second: Turlock—Aaron Baker, Roderick Brenes, Mike Nixon, Bill Stavrianoudakis
Third: SMUD—Cayleb Bowman, Sean McClafin, Todd Prangley

JOURNEYMAN—HURTMAN RESCUE

First: SMUD—John Bazil, Brad Merl, Jeff Palm

JOURNEYMAN—FOUR BELL CHANGE OUT

Second: Turlock—Dennis Mattos, Mark Pickens, Gerald Mankins
Third: Turlock—Aaron Baker, Roderick Brenes, Mike Nixon, Bill Stavrianoudakis

JOURNEYMAN—CUT OUT CHANGE OUT

Second: SMUD—Cayleb Bowman, Sean McClafin, Todd Prangley
Third: Turlock—Dennis Mattos, Mark Pickens, Gerald Mankins

APPRENTICE—OVERALL

First: Michael Danckert, SMUD
Second: Matt Jones, Roseville Electric
Third: Marc Dilorenzo, Roseville Electric
Fourth: Chris Fukui, SMUD
Fifth: Bryan Lovio, Turlock Irrigation District

APPRENTICE—HURTMAN RESCUE

Second: Matt Jones, Roseville

APPRENTICE—OBSTACLE COURSE

First: Ed Navarrete, SMUD
Second: Michael Danckert, SMUD
Third: Carl Keehn, SMUD

APPRENTICE—DEADEND CHANGE

First: Ed Navarrete, SMUD
Second: Michael Danckert, SMUD

APPRENTICE—CONDUCTOR TIE

First: Michael Danckert, SMUD
Second: Ed Navarrete, SMUD
Third: Aaron Johnson, Roseville

APPRENTICE—WRITTEN TEST

Third: Matt Jones, Roseville

Mark Pickens, left, and Dennis Mattos, right, represented the Turlock Irrigation District. Filling in for a TID member who couldn't attend is SMUD's Gerald Mankin, center.



Taking a break from the competition are SMUD Apprentices Chris Fukui, left, and Alfonzo Davila.

Rodeo!

Photos by Eric Wolfe

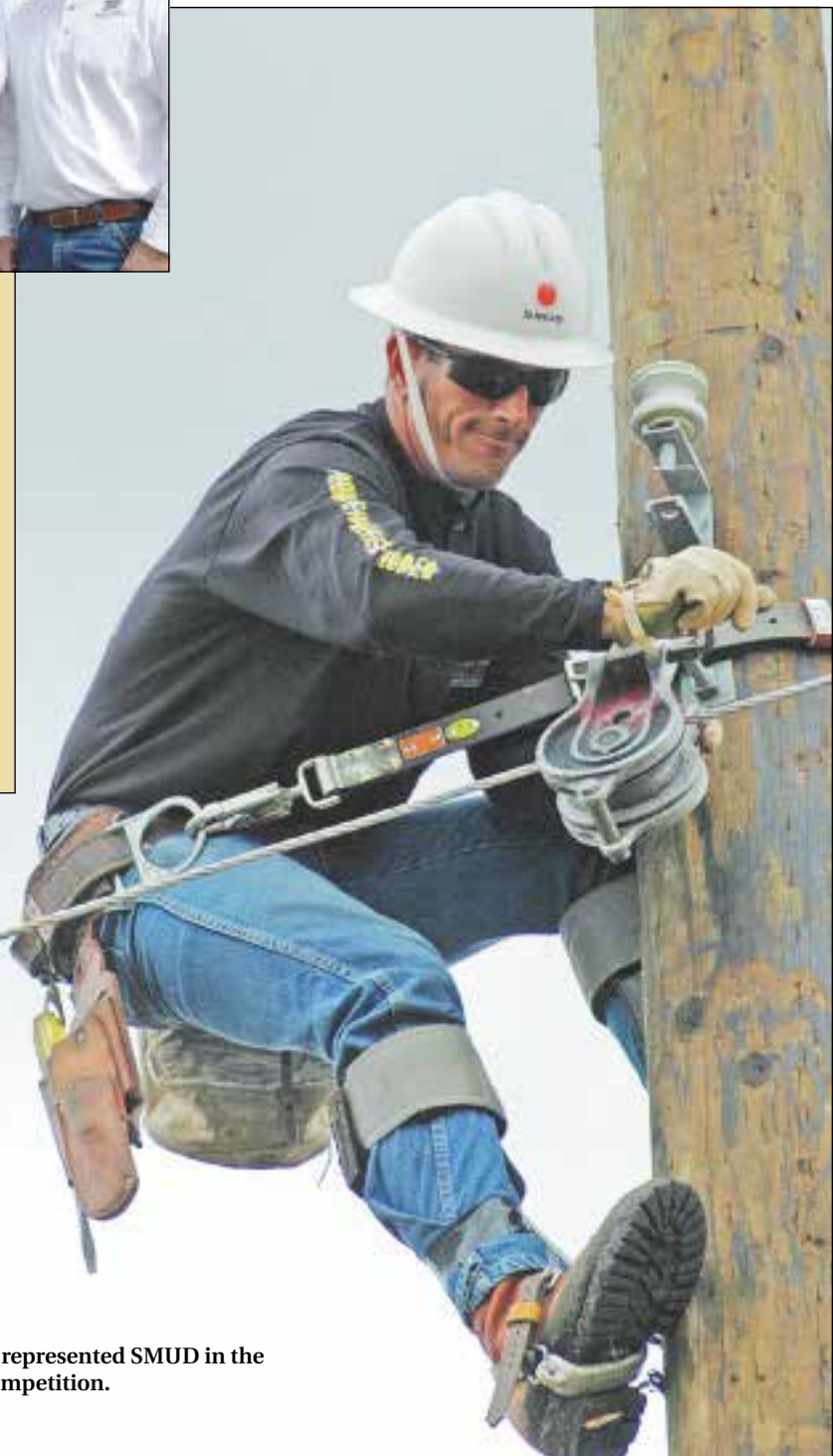
Enjoying a rare break in this spring's virtually non-stop rains, 56 line crews and 69 apprentices came to Sacramento on April 8 to demonstrate what public sector lineworkers can do.

The Sixth Annual Public Power Lineworkers' Rodeo, sponsored by the American Public Power Association, featured competition in the 600 Amp Switch Out, Cross Arm Change, Cut Out Change, Four Bell Change, and Hurtman Rescue. Apprentices competed in the Conductor Tie, Dead End Change, Hurtman Rescue, Obstacle Course and Written Test. Awards are based upon safety, work practices, neatness, ability, equipment handling, and timely even completion.

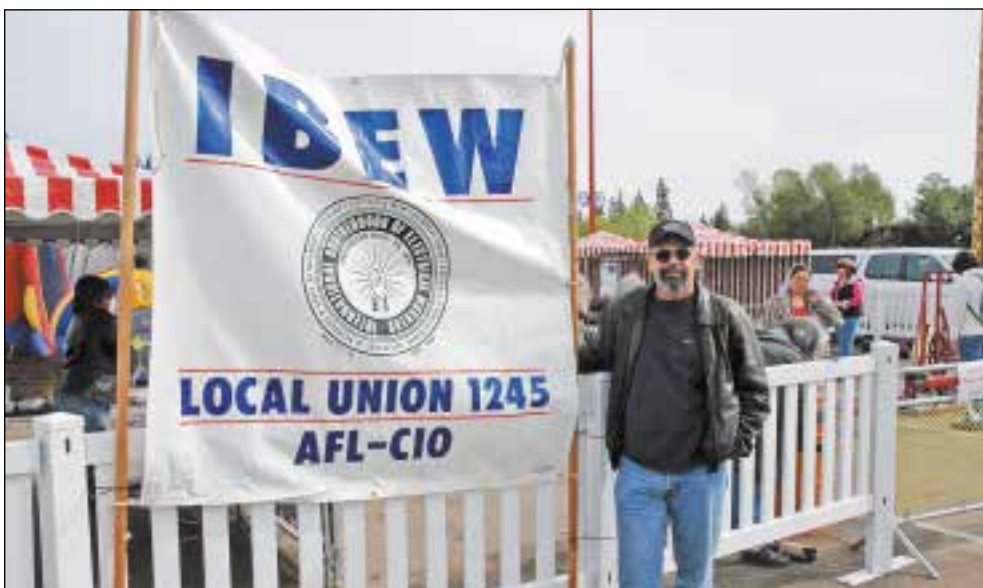
IBEW Local 1245 represents lineworkers at five of the competing public utilities: Sacramento Municipal Utility District,



Representing SMUD are, from left, Brad Merl, Jeff Palm and John Bazil.



Chuck Helms represented SMUD in the Apprentice competition.



Business Rep. Sam Glero represented Local 1245 staff at the Lineworkers Rodeo.

Safety, efficiency on display at Public Power Lineworkers' Rodeo

John Bazil works on the ground.

Modesto Irrigation District, Turlock Irrigation District, Silicon Valley Power, and Roseville Electric.

To inaugurate the day's activities, about a dozen SMUD apprentices participated in a dramatic flag-raising ceremony that also featured three of SMUD's most senior IBEW members: Light Line Construction Foremen Don Kreuter and John Moe, and Heavy Foreman Richard Harper. The field of poles where the linemen competed was built in three rain-soaked days by SMUD apprentices under the direction of Jim Clamp.

No question about it, the home teams did well. Winning first place overall in the Journeyman competition was the SMUD team of Cayleb Bowman, Sean McClafflin, and Todd Prangley. Placing second overall

Continued on next page



Practicing his climbing skills in the kiddy area (sponsored by Local 1245) is Evan Lambert, son of Mace Lambert, an apprentice with City of Glendale Water and Power.



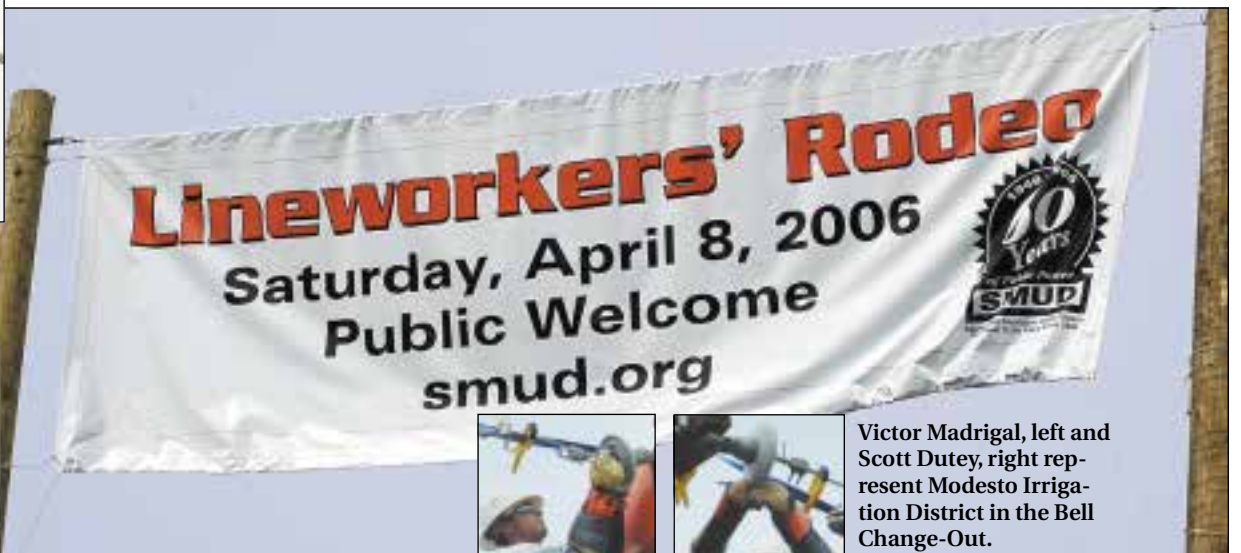
Representing Roseville Electric are (top photo, from left) Travis Watkins and Rob Myles. The groundman, above, is unidentified.



Working on the ground for one of SMUD's four teams is Jody Henderson.



Competing for SMUD are William Campbell, left, and Greg "Snake" Smelser.



Serving on one of two teams from Silicon Valley Power (City of Santa Clara) are Craig Lindquist, left, and Scott Johnson. Also on the crew is, at right, Steve Lane.



Victor Madrigal, left and Scott Dutey, right represent Modesto Irrigation District in the Bell Change-Out.



Modesto Irrigation District team members Billy Byrd (alternate), Victor Madrigal, Scott Dutey and Jered Huntington are briefed on their next event by a rodeo official.



Representing Silicon Valley Power (City of Santa Clara) are, from left, Tony Ochoa, Bob Burkle, and Brad Varvell.



Bob Burkle, Silicon Valley Power, competes on the ground.



Brad Varvell, left, and Tony Ochoa, Silicon Valley Power





Frontier employees receiving Service Awards in Susanville, Ca. from Senior Business Rep. Ray Thomas (left) on Feb. 17 are: (Thomas), Phillip Oliver, 35 years; Herbert Williams, 30 years; Charlie Pellitteri, 30 years; Charles Catron, 30 years; and Dennis Darlington, 25 years.

Rodeo *continued from previous page*

was the Turlock Irrigation District team of Dennis Mattos, Mark Pickens and Gerald Mankins (on loan from SMUD to fill in for a missing TID member.)

Local 1245 members swept the awards for Best Overall Apprentice, with first



place going to SMUD's Michael Danckert and second place to Roseville Electric's Matt Jones.

A complete list of Local 1245 winners is published on page 8.

Local 1245 linemen also played a central role in the awards ceremony Saturday evening, where Don Kreuter was joined by DSO Scott Hylton in singing a composition they composed along with SMUD retiree Jack DuBoise, "Here's to the Lineman." The crowd started to come alive when they heard these lyrics extolling the work all of them do:

"Here's to the Lineman/He's tough and he's proud. A little bit ornery/A little bit loud..."

By the end of the song everyone in the room was on their feet. Of course, everyone knows that linemen are ornery, but whoever guessed they could sing, too?

Congratulations to the winners, and to all who participated in this exhibition of the lineworker's craft. When safe work practices are demonstrated, everyone's a winner.

Union Plus Disaster Relief Fund aids IBEW members

Solidarity in their wallets

After Hurricanes Katrina and Rita devastated the Gulf Coast last fall, the IBEW Union Plus Credit Card that many members carry became much more than a piece of plastic in their wallet.

That's because in the aftermath of the hurricanes 69 IBEW members received \$34,500 in assistance from the Union Plus Credit Card Disaster Relief Fund. The need for solidarity was never stronger than during this disaster, and so those impacted were sent \$500 checks from the Fund within days of requesting help.

"This money has changed the way I think about my Union Plus Credit Card. I never thought my credit card company would help me when they didn't have to," says Lindsey Wynn, a secretary for IBEW Local 861.

A mandatory evacuation led Wynn, her mother, brother and dog to flee to Mississippi, where they stayed for two weeks before being allowed to return home to Lake Charles, LA. "Things were so bad following Rita—there was no water, electricity, food or gas. It was hard to get help from FEMA without get tied up in red tape," Wynn says. "On the other hand, when I called the Union Plus Credit Card, I received a check within a matter of days."

Rodrick Tart of New Orleans and Local 130 called his \$500 check from the Union Plus Credit Card Disaster Relief Fund "a true blessing, one of the best our family has received."

For Tart and his family, Hurricane Katrina made an already tough situation even more harrowing. He was laid off

from his job as an electrician just a few weeks before the hurricane hit the Gulf Coast. Then the disaster ripped away his New Orleans home, his car and his family's prized possessions, some of which had been handed down from previous generations. "At the time we received the grant, we were out of funds," he says.

The Tarts relocated to Atlanta, where



The Rodrick Tart family considered the check from Union Plus "a true blessing."

they remain optimistic about the future.

The Union Plus Credit Card Disaster Relief Fund provided a total of \$400,000 to some 800 union members to help ease hardships. The qualifications required only that a cardholder live in a FEMA-declared Katrina disaster area and experience an income loss of 25%. Hurricane grants are no longer available. Other assistance for union cardholders included payment waivers, lower rates, fee waivers, credit line increases and free credit counseling.

For more information about all the Union Plus benefits available to IBEW families visit www.UnionPlus.org.

Flying the Lines *continued from page 16*

pilot sets one skid onto the top of a tower and the workers can step off on to the steel. When the work is done the worker can step back on the skid. Once on the skid the helicopter can quickly move the worker to another workstation or back to the designated landing zone.

Beyond transferring from location to location, the work procedures have been expanded to include working from the helicopter on grounded and de-energized conductor. A bosun chair application has been developed to allow one or two workers to sit comfortably and work. A long line of up to 200 ft. is allowed for the workers to hang below the helicopter to keep a safe distance from the conductor. This work procedure can be used to repair damaged conductors

and to replace or install spacers, dampers and marker balls.

This work when completed from the tower is time consuming and very labor intensive. With the use of these long line and skid work procedures, the line worker can accomplish the same work in less time, meaning less exposure to injuries. Structures in remote areas that can take long hours to access can now be worked in a matter of hours.

Most people who look at these work procedures think that we linemen are crazy. The idea of hanging 60 to 200 feet from below a helicopter doesn't make sense to the average person. As a lineman, I know that not just anyone can do this work. Maybe that makes the work more exciting and appealing. The line-

men that I have assisted in training, who have actually performed the work using these methods, believe that it is an awesome and exhilarating experience.

The Barehand Helicopter Committee will also be looking at developing barehand procedures that utilize a helicopter. IBEW members including Ed Wiens, Joe Ferreira, Ken McClure, Assistant Business Manager Howard Stiefer and I will join PG&E employees John Parks, Chuck Stinnett, Joe Hemstock, Eric Barron, and Lyndon Jesmine of Safety Health and Claims. Our goal in 2006 will be to look at existing barehand helicopter procedures throughout the industry. With the knowledge and data that is collected, we will try to develop a safe and effective working procedure to implement into

the PG&E Transmission Department.

Safety will be our first and ongoing priority in this project. PJ Helicopters will be working closely with the committee to also ensure that this work procedure is done with the highest regard to safety. We, on the committee, feel that getting the work done efficiently is important; however, getting the workers home to their families is the most important factor in this work.

As a lineman, I can see that linework, as we have known it, is changing fast, and this is an exciting time for IBEW line workers. I am very privileged to be a member of this committee and with time, feel we will come up with a great program that will safe, productive and exciting.

Election of Delegates to the International Convention

Local union elections for International Convention Delegates will be conducted by mail ballot during the month of June for the IBEW International Convention being held Sept. 11-15 in Cleveland, OH. Local 1245 members will receive their ballots around June 1st. Ballots will contain instructions on voting procedure, including the deadline for returning the ballot. Please follow the instructions carefully. A return envelope will be provided for you to use to return your completed ballot.

On the following pages you will find resumes for the candidates for Delegate. Information was supplied by each candidate. If the candidate supplied no information, only their initiation date will appear.

Ignacio Araquistain

Initiated into IBEW in June 1984.

Joseph "Joe" Audelo

Initiated into IBEW in May 1978.

Anna Bayless-Martinez

Initiated into IBEW in August 1980.

Paul Boyd

Initiated into IBEW in May 1981.

Bill Brill

Initiated into IBEW Local Union 1245 in June of 1980; Member of Unit 1511, San Jose; Classification: IBEW Business Representative. Shop Steward 1980-1999; Have attended many Shop Steward conferences. San Jose Unit Chair, 1981-1999; Ballot Committee, 1983; San Jose Division Labor Management Committee; Co-Chair of San Jose Labor Management Committee, 1993-1999; Continuous Improvement through Employee Involvement Advisory Board, 1993-1995; Member of San Jose Division Safety Walk Around Committee, 1991-1999; Chair of Safety Walk Around Committee, 1992-1999; Member of Meter Reading 94-53 Committee, 1997-1999; Member of CEO Meeting that met with Stan Skinner in 1994; Delegate to South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council, 1984 to present, Executive Board Member to South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council, 1984 to present; Delegate to Monterey AFL-CIO Labor Council, 2002 to present; Chair of Union Label Committee, South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council, 1989-1999; Attended 3 day organizing training, 1998; Graduated from George Meany Labor College class in organizing, 1999; Delegate to Consumer Federation of California, 1999; Collected over 2500 signatures in 1988 for CAL-OSHA Ballot Initiative, Attended the 2001 International Convention as an Alternate Delegate.

ing, 1999; Delegate to Consumer Federation of California, 1999; Collected over 2500 signatures in 1988 for CAL-OSHA Ballot Initiative, Attended the 2001 International Convention as an Alternate Delegate.

Carmier, Walter



Initiated into IBEW Local Union 1245 in May 2000. Member of Unit 4014, Elk Grove; Classification: Transmission Tech. Shop Steward March – Present; Promissory Note Review Committee October 2005; Ballot Committee June 2004; Ballot Committee November 2004.

Robert (Bob) Choate



Initiated in IBEW Local Union 1245 in July 1965. Member of Unit 2316, Concord/Walnut Creek; Classification: Assistant Business Manager. Served as Shop Steward 1976-1984. PG&E Negotiation Committees – 1979, 1981, 1983, 2003, 2006; Steam Divestiture Sierra Pacific 1998-1999; Multitude of

bargaining contracts with several properties within 1245's jurisdiction; Delegate to International Convention 1991, 2001. Many Utility Conferences and Ninth District Progress Meetings; 14 Labor Studies Certificates from University of California Berkeley, 1977-1992; 8 Labor Federation (AFL-CIO) Certificates in Industrial Relations and contract negotiations, 1980-1992; Past President of Nevada State Electrical Association, 1998-2000. Barehand/Rubber Glove Committee (Chairperson) 1999-Present; Two-Man Rubber Glove Committee (Chairperson) 2003-Present; LTD Committee (Chairperson) 2003-Present; Return to Work Committee 2001-Present; Hiring Hall Committee 2001-Present; Transformation Negotiations 2005-Present; DOSH Committees 1999-Present; 9th District Organizing Committee.

David Crawford



Initiated into IBEW in October 1990. Member of Unit 4911; Classification: Journeyman Lineman; Shop Steward, 1996-1998. Committees Served on in Union: Outside Line Negotiations 2003-Present; IBEW/Henkels & McCoy Outside Line Negotiations 2003-Present; IBEW/Canus Relay Tech Negotiations 2003-Present; San Francisco Negotiations 2003-Present; IBEW/NECA Teledata Negotiations 2003-Present;

IBEW/HENKELS & MCCOY Teledata Negotiations 2003-Present; IBEW/NECA Underground Negotiations 2003-Present; IBEW/Osmose Pole Test and Treat Negotiations 2003-Present; Davey Tree Pole Test and Treat Negotiations 2003-Present; IBEW/Republic Electric Street Light and Signal Maintenance Negotiations 2005-Present; Trusty for Cal-Nev JATC 2003-Present; Secretary for Cal-Nev JATC 2004-2006; Chairman for Cal-Nev JATC 2006-Present; Chairman Journeyman Lineman Examining Committee 2003-Present; Officer for Joint Safety Committee 2003-Present; Member of IBEW 1245 Joint Labor Management Committee 2003-Present; ; Other activities on behalf of Union;; Delegate for Construction Maintenance Conference for 3 years 2003, 2005-2006; Delegate for IBEW/NECA Benefits Conference for 2 years 2003-2004; Delegate for California & Nevada State Association Meetings for 3 years 2003-2006.

Mike Davis

Initiated into IBEW Local Union 1245 in June 1967. Mem-



ber of Unit 1501- San Jose. Classification: System Operator. President, Vice President, Treasurer, Southern Area Executive Board; Shop Steward 1969-Present; Local 1245 Political Education Committee 1988-Present; Delegate to South Bay Labor Council 1977 to Present; Degree in Labor Studies UC Berkeley.

Cecelia De La Torre

Initiated into IBEW in September 1987.

David Durston

Initiated into IBEW in December 1979.

Ed Dwyer, Jr.

Initiated into IBEW in August 1979.

Dennis (Scooter) J. Flores



Initiated into IBEW Local Union 1245 in February 1975. Member of Unit 1215, San Luis Obispo; Classification: Foreman's Clerk.

Gloria Flores

Initiated into IBEW in May 2001.

Al Fortier



Initiated into IBEW in May 1991. Member of Unit 2211; Classification: Journeyman Lineman. Unit Chair for 2211; Shop Steward, 1996-1998, 2001-present; Other activities on behalf of Union; Delegate to Alameda County Central Labor Council, 1998-present, Alternate Delegate to 36th IBEW International Convention, 2001, Delegate to Electrical Worker's Minority Caucus International Convention, 1998-2001, 2003, 2005-2006, Delegate to A. Phillip Randolph Regional Conference, 2003, Delegate to A. Phillip Randolph State Conference, 2005, AFL-CIO organizing for the 21st Century, 1998, President, Electrical Worker's Minority Caucus Northern California Chapter, 2001-present, C. L. Dellums African American Union Leadership School, 1/06-present, Contract Costing and Compensation Survey Training, 3/04-4/04, Alameda County Central Labor Council Campaign School, 6/4/04-6/5/04, IBEW 1245 Future is Now Leadership Training, 2002, Local 1245 The Next Generation, 2/05, Relief Business Representative, 10/02-11/02, 7/03-10/03.

Dorothy Fortier



Initiated into IBEW on May 1st, 1975. Member of Unit 2301, East Bay Clerical; Classification: Assistant Business Manager, 1987-present; Served as Chair or Co-Chair PG&E – RMC Committee, 2006; PG&E Retiree Benefit Negotiations, 2005; PG&E Medical Benefit Vendor Selection Committee, 2005; PG&E AMI Impact Negotiations, 2005; PG&E Meter Reader Title 8 Committee, 2002 – 2005; PG&E Meter Reader Assessment Committee, 2004; PG&E Meter Reader 94-53 Committee, 2000, 2001; PG&E Meter Reader Exhibit 17 Committee, 2000, 2001; PG&E 401K Savings Plan Committee, 2000; PG&E Premium Standard Committee, 2004 – 2006; PG&E Benefit Education Committee, 2002; PG&E Benefit Appeals Process Committee, 2002; PG&E Medicare Supplemental Plan (MSP) and Retiree Optional Plan(ROP) Committee, 2002, 2003; PG&E Clerical Lines of Progression Committee, 2000 – present; PG&E – CPUC Quality Assurance Standards Committee, 2000; PG&E Clerical Position Evaluation Committee, 1989 – 2006; Clerical Consolidation Committee, 2000; Call Center Labor/Management Committee, 1995 – 2001; Call Center Scheduling Committee, 1996 – 2005; Customer Service Records Backlog and Records Committee, 1995 – 1999; Customer Service Cash Handling Committee, 1999; Call Quality Monitoring Committee, 1997 – 2000 and 2002; P/T Employee Benefit Committee, 1996, 1998; PG&E New Customer Connection Committee, 2001, 2002, 2003; Operating Clerical Joint Pole Committee, 1998; Omaha Call Center Tour Committee, 1998; Clerical Position Evaluation Committee, 2001 – 2005; Senior Service Representative Technical Training Committee, 1997; Sr. Service Representative Training Committee, 2003 – 2005; Customer Service Rep-

resentative Training Committee, 2002 – 2005; Silent (Remote) Monitoring Committee, 1995 – 1997; P/T Employee Issues Committee 1995 – 1997; Call Center Employee Development, 1997; West Sacramento Customer Billing Center Committee, 1996 – 1997; Call Center Overtime Committee, 1996; Title 18 (Bidding) Committee 1996; Correspondence Management Committee, 1996; Call Center Performance Standards, 1996; Help Desk Study Review Committee, 1996; Business System Replacement Project (BSRP) Payroll Issues, 1995 – 1996; San Francisco/General Office Design Drafting and Reprographics Committee, 1995 – 1996; Call Center Telephone Initiatives (Call Answering), 1995 – 1996; Measure, Bill, Collect, Print, Mail and Payment, 1995 – 1996; Customer Service correspondence Management, 1995 – 1996; General Office Building Department, 1995 – 1996; Call and Credit Center Labor Management, 1994 – 1995. Served as a member of the following committees: PG&E Wage-Opener Bargaining Committee, 2005, PG&E General Bargaining Committee, 1990, 1993, 2003; PG&E Pension Education Committee, 2002; PG&E Plan of Reorganization Committee, 2002; PG&E 2000 General Bargaining Retention Subcommittee, 1999; PG&E CorDaptix Committee, 2001 – 2003; Port of Oakland Organizing Committee, 2001; Working Group Board of Directors (WGBD), 1997 – 2000; WGBD Personnel Committee, 1999 – 2000; Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) California State Vice President, 2006; CLUW – IBEW

Union National Executive Board (NEB) Member, 1996 – 2005; CLUW – NEB Women in Leadership Co-Chair, 2001 – 2006; SF/GO Engineering and Planning Negotiating Committee, 1999; Emergency Response Committee, 1996; PG&E Benefits Committee, 1998 – 2000; PG&E Physical/Clerical Agreement Titles 19/206 Committee, 1998 – 1999; Family Issues Committee, 1998; Employee Retention 94-53 Committee, 1997 – 1998; General Office Building Department Training Committee, 1997 – 1998; Work and Family Labor Project Committee, 1998; Summer Institute of Union Women Conference Planning Committee, 1998; PG&E Video Display Terminal Committee, 1991 – 1997; CES Coordinating Committee, 1997; PG&E Grievance Procedure (Titles 9/102) 94-53 Committee, 1996 – 1997; Work and Family Labor Project Committee, 1998; A. Philip Randolph State Executive Board, 1997; All-Hands 94-53 Committee, 1996; Bilingual Issues Committee, 1991 – 1996; CES Overview Committee, 1996; Emergency Resource Coordination 94-53 Committee, 1996; CES Coordinating Subcommittee, 1996; City of Oakland Negotiating Committee, 1995 – 1996; PGT Clerical Bargaining, 1990; Contra Costa County Video Display Task Force, 1990 – 1993; Other activities on behalf of Union: Business Representative 1979 – 1987; Administrative Assistant 1977 – 1979; Secretary, 1975 – 1977; Local 1245 Leadership Conference Coordinator, 1996, 1999, 2002, 2004; Local 1245 Retirement Seminar Coordinator, 2005, 2006; IBEW International Convention delegate,

1978, 1982, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001; IBEW International Convention Sergeant at Arms, 1996; IBEW 9th District Progress Meeting delegate, 2002, 2005; IBEW National Women's Conference Workshop Leader and Panelist, 1997, 2000, 2004; IBEW Utility Conference Delegate 1998, 1999, 2001; IBEW 9th District Women's Conference and Progress Meeting delegate, 1998; IBEW 9th District Women's Conference Workshop Leader, 1996; Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (EWMC) Conference delegate 1991 – 2006; EWMC Board Member since 1992; EWMC Secretary-Treasurer since 1993; Congressional Black Caucus Political Education and Leadership Institute Boot Camp, 2003; Alameda County Central Labor Council (ACCLC) delegate since 1979, ACCLC Executive Committee Member since 1984; ACCLC President since 1999; ACCLC Unionist of the Year, 2003; AFL-CIO Women's Leadership Conference 1997, 2000; A. Philip Randolph Institute (APRI) Conference delegate, 1996 – 1999, 2000, 2001, 2005; APRI California Chapter Conference delegate, 2005; AFL-CIO Western Region CLC Conference, 1999; CA Works Health Care Coalition, 2005; CA State Federation of Labor Health Care Conference, 2003; CA State Federation of Labor Health Care Steering Committee, 2003; CA State Federation of Labor Women's Conference, 1999; AFL-CIO Full Participation Conference, 1998; CA State Federation of Labor and CLC Conference, 1997, 1999; Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU) Convention delegate 1996 – 2002 - 2005; CBTU Conference Panelist, Seattle – 2002; Education: Successful completion of numerous specialized labor relations courses and certified training programs.

Anthony E. Fortune

Initiated into IBEW Local Union 1245 in March 1972. Member of Unit 2515, Modesto; Classification: Gas Crew Leader. Shop Steward, 1975-Present; Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary; ADHOC Stub-Completion 2005-2006, Local Yard Committees, Labor Management Yosemite Division, Shop Stewards Training.

Leroy Foster

Initiated into IBEW Local Union 1245 in February 1966. Member of Unit 2317. Classification: Retired Electric Crew Foreman; Advisory Council; Head Trustee 1972, D.O.T. Ad Hoc and CDL Committee 2003.

Arthur (Art) Freitas



Initiated in IBEW Local Union 1245 in September 1984. Member of Unit 1513; Classification: Retired Electric Foreman's Clerk; Shop Steward 1985-2005; Petty Cash Ad Hoc; GRC Communication Team; 1998 Election Board Judge; 2001 Election Board Judge; Area 3 CMO Labor Management Co-Chairperson 1998-2005; 2003 General Negotiations Committee; Exhibit 16 Contracting Committee; Unit Chairperson #1513 1994-2005; Santa Cruz/Monterey Labor Council Delegate.

Tim Gilbride



Initiated into IBEW in September 1989. Member of Unit 1220; Classification: Chemistry & Radiation Protection Technician.

Alycia Gordon

Initiated into IBEW in October 2001.

Mike Grill

Initiated into IBEW in February 1981.

Sam Guitierrez

Initiated into IBEW in April 1985.

Jason Haase

Initiated into IBEW in August 2002.



Election Committee

Serving on the Local 1245 Election Committee for the International Convention delegate election, seated from left, are Art Torres, Jim Findley, and Ray Shepherd. Standing, from left, are Ruth Bailey, Sheila Lawton, Virgil O'Neal and Katharine Reeves. Not pictured is Election Judge Lem Stubblefield.

Christine “Chris” Habecker



Initiated into IBEW in January 1976. Member of Unit 1111, Fresno; Classification: Operating Clerk. Unit Recorder; Recording Secretary for the Advisory Council; Executive Board Southern Area Member; Clerical at Large Advisory Council; Shop Steward 1982-present. Committees served on in Union (specify committee dates and year); ; Designated Alternate San Joaquin Valley Region Shop Steward for the Clerical Position evaluation System Appeals procedure: 1990 to present. (Reference L.A. 90-43); Member of the San Joaquin Division Joint Grievance Committee: 1986 to present; Member of the 1989 Local 1245 Election Committee; Member of the 1990 PG&E General Negotiating Committee; Member of the 1994 PG&E General Negotiating Committee; Member of the 1992 Telephone Service Study Committee (Reference L.A. R2-92-120-PGE); Member of the 1993 Telephone Service Improvement Workstation Station Evaluation Committee; Member of the 1993 Telephone Center Staffing Advisory Committee.; Member of the 1994 IBEW Title 19 Presentations to PG&E's Clerical Consolidation Impacted Members.; Member of the 1994 Bilingual Telephone Center Study Committee; Member of the 1994 Video Display Terminal Committee (VDT); Member of the 1998 CISD Labor/Management Committee- Area 4.; Member of the 94-53 Job Retention Subcommittee (General Rate Case); Member of the “No on Prop 9” Committee; ; Other activities on behalf of Union (Delegate to Labor counsels, Conventions, Education, etc.); ; Delegate to the Women in the Workforce Conference: 1986; Delegate to the 8th Annual western Regional Summer Institute for Union Women at San Diego, CA. 1989; Attended 1991 and 1992 Con-

ference for I.B.E.W. Local 1245 Union Women in Concord, CA.; Delegate to the 1996 IBEW Utility Conference in Los Angeles.; Delegate to the 1997 IBEW Utility Conference in New Orleans.; Delegate to the 1998 IBEW Utility Conference in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida; Delegate to the 2003 IBEW Utility Conference in New Orleans.; Delegate to the 2004 IBEW Utility Conference in Palm Springs.; Delegate to the 1997 IBEW National Women's Conference in Washington D.C. ; Delegate to the 1997 IBEW Ninth District Progress Meeting in Lake Tahoe, Nevada; Delegate to the 1998 IBEW Ninth District Women's Conference and Progress Meeting; In Portland, Oregon.; Delegate to the 1999 IBEW Ninth District Progress Meeting in Maui, Hawaii.; Delegate to the 2000 IBEW Utility Conference in St. Louis, Missouri.; Delegate to the 2000 IBEW Ninth District Progress Meeting in Anaheim, CA; Delegate to the 2003 IBEW Ninth District Progress Meeting in Kauai, Hawaii.; Delegate to the 2000 IBEW National Women's Conference in Washington, D.C.; Appointed to attend the Labor's Victory 1998 Regional Conference in Fresno, CA.; Delegate to the 36th IBEW, International Convention in San Francisco, September 10-14, 2001; Delegate to the 2002 IBEW Utility Conference in Toronto, Canada.; Delegate to the 1998 Consumer Federation of California Convention in Millbrae, CA.; Delegate to the 2002 California Labor Federation AFL-CIO Convention 2002 in San Francisco, CA.; Delegate to the 2003 Recall Convention, Manhattan Beach, CA. August 26, 2003.; Delegate to the 2002 Inter-Union Gas Industry Workers Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada, September 16-19 2002.; Appointed as Delegate the 17th Annual Western Regional Summer Institute for Union Women Conference In Berkeley, CA. July 6-11th, 1998.; Appointed as Delegate to the Western Regional summer Institute for Union Women ; At Tokai University Pacific Center in Honolulu, Hawaii May 2001.; Appointed as a Delegate to the 21st Annual Western Regional Summer Institute for Union Women; In Santa Cruz , CA. in July 2002.; Delegate to the “Women in the Trades Confer-

ence” May 5, 2002 in Sacramento, Ca.; Delegate to the Central Labor Council of Fresno and Madera Counties: 1991 to present; Appointed as Trustee to the Central Labor Council of Fresno and Madera Counties: 1993 to 1994; Elected as Recording Secretary to the Central Labor Council of Fresno and Madera Counties: 1994 to 1997. ; Member of the Central Labor council of Fresno & Madera Counties: 1994 to current.; Participated as a “rank and file member” at the December 21, 1994 meeting with Stan Skinner. ; Attended numerous Shop Steward Training Conferences.; Attended Effective Grievance Resolution Training.; Attended Positive Discipline Guidelines Training in 2003.; Chairperson of the Fresno Unit #1111: 1989 to present; Advisory Council Clerical at Large 1994 to 1995 ; Southern Area Executive Board Member elected in 1995 to November 2001.; Recording Secretary OF IBEW Local 1245 appointed in November 2001 to present.; Recording Secretary for the IBEW 1245 Advisory Council appointed in November 2001 to present.

Mike Haentjens

Initiated into IBEW in April 1978. 1979 – 1981 Shop Steward G.C.; 1981 – 1987 Shop Steward Diablo Canyon PP; 1981 - 1987 Unit Recorder 1220 Diablo Canyon; 1987 - 1999 Business Representative Los Padres/DCPP PG&E; 1999 – 2000 Relief Business Representative; 2000 – Present Business Representative GC/Coast Valleys PG&E; As a Business Representative and Shop Steward has been involved with numerous Labor/Management Committees, Delegate to IBEW conferences, Delegate and Vice President to the San Luis Obispo Chapter of the Tri-Counties CLC, Negotiated Letters of Agreements and handled hundreds of grievances.

Richard Harness

Initiated into IBEW in February 1980.

Mickey Harrington

Initiated into IBEW in March 1960. Member of Unit 3214, Red Bluff; Classification: Equipment Operator HH, as of April 16, 2004; 1967-68: Executive Board at Large; 1967-68: Local Union Ways and Means Committee; 1968-72: Public Employees Council; 1971-74:

Local Union Recording Secretary; 1971-74: Secretary to the Policy and Resolution, Staff Benefit Committee and Political ; Action Committee and Chairman Local Union Ways and Means Committee ; 1966-68: Unit 3815 Vice Chairman - G.C. Davis; 1971-76: Unit 3815 Chairman -G.C. Davis; 1976-78: Unit 3815 Recorder-G.C. Davis ; 1962-68: Shop Steward-G.C.; 1968-71: Business Representative Local 1245; 1971-78: Shop Steward-G.C.; 1978-99 : Business Representative Local 1245; 2001-06: Unit 3214 Recorder-Red Bluff ; 1966: Ballot Committee; 1966-80: G.C. Grievance Committee; 1970-73: G.C. Line of Progression Committee; 1970-71: G.C. Equipment Committee ; 1984-85: Spokesman for City of Lodi Negotiations; 1985-88: Spokesman for Tri-Dam Negotiations; 1987-89: Spokesman for Oakdale Irrigation District Negotiations; 1985-87: Spokesman for South San Joaquin Irrigation District Negotiations; 1985: Spokesman for Hinkle and McCoy; 1988-90-93: Spokesman for Lassen MUD Negotiations; 1989-92: Spokesman for Citizens Utilities Negotiations; 1991-94-96-98: Spokesman for Plumas Sierra REC and Telecommunications Negotiations; 1990-93: Spokesman for Chambers CATV Negotiations ; Delegate ; 1974, 1978, 1982, 1986, 1991, 1996 and 2001 IBEW International Convention; 1985, 1987, 1989, 1993, 1995, 1997,1999, 2001 and 2005 National AFL-CIO Convention; 1968, 1972, 1984,1986,1988, 1990, 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004 and 2006 California State AFL-CIO Convention and served as member of the Credentials Committee from 1984 to 2006.; 1972: Nevada State AFL-CIO Convention; 1972, 1978: California State Association of Electrical Workers; 1968, 1970, 1980 and 1991: 9th District Progress Meeting; 1973 and 1985: IBEW Utility Conference; 1974 and 1998: Inter-Union Gas Conference; ; 1972, 1982 through 2004: California State COPE Pre-Primary Convention; 1980 to 1990: San Joaquin Central Labor Council, severed as Secretary Treasurer 5 years; 1984, 1986, 1988, 1990 and 1992: Telephone Conference; 1972, 1982, through 2006: California State Legislative Conference; 1984-90: Secretary of the San Joaquin/Calaveras Central Labor Council; 1980-

90: San Joaquin /Calaveras Labor Council on Political Education; 1990-Present: Butte/Glenn Central Labor Council, serving as President from 1997 to date ; Education ; 1996: Konocti Leadership Conference; 1971, 1974, 1977, 1980, 1983, 1986, 1989, 1992, 1996 and 2001: Leadership Conference; Dr. Morris Hurleys Management and Industrial Relation Program. Attended UCB classes on the following Subjects: Public-Private Sector Negotiations, Communications, Cost of living Adjustments, Labor Law, Bargaining Techniques, Interest Arbitration, Training Union Leaders, Psychology of Leadership Work Shop and Mutual Gains Bargaining.

Mary Herr

Initiated into IBEW in January 1992.

Mike Jameson

Initiated into IBEW in March 1977.

Mike Jimenez

Initiated into IBEW in September 2003.

Joe “Jypsy” Johnson

Initiated into IBEW in January 1971.

Linda S. Jurado

Initiated into IBEW in January 1982. Member of Unit 3111, Eureka; Classification: Foreman's Clerk. Unit Recorder Fresno, 1989-1995; Unit Recorder Eureka, 1995-present; Committees served on in Union: 1992 Election Committee, 1993, 1994, 1997 Safety Committee, Safety Action Forum 1994, Title 18 94-53 Committee 1996, 206/19 Displacement Presentation 2000, Effect of PG&E proposed POR on 2002 General Negotiations, Oct. 2001; Other activities on behalf of Union: Summer Regional Institute of Union Women 1987 and 1988, Los Angeles/Berkeley, IBEW Tri-District Women's Issues Conference 1990 Reno, Women's Conference 1991 and 1992-Concord, Women in the Workforce Conference 1994-Los Angeles, Delegate to Central Labor Council- Fresno-Madera October 1991-May 1995, Ad Council Clerical At Large Alternate, Ad Council Clerical at Large 1995-1998, Delegate to International Convention 1996-Philadel-

phia, Joint Grievance Training, 1997, Ad Council Clerical at Large Nov. 2000 to 2002, Delegate to Utility Worker's Conference March 2001-Reno, Delegate to International Convention 2001- San Francisco Delegate to Utility Workers Conference 2003-New Orleans, Delegate to 9th District Progress Meeting July 2004- Tacoma, WA, Delegate to the 2004 IBEW Women's Conference September 2004, Washington, DC.

Steve Landers

Initiated into IBEW Local Union 1245 on July 1972. Member of Unit 1123, Merced. Classification: Foreman's Clerk. Shop Steward 1975 to 1978.

Ed Mallory

Initiated into IBEW in May 1966. Former member of Unit 1111; Classification: Retired from PG&E 4-1-2005. Local Union offices held: Treasurer (1989-1993) Recording Secretary (1993-2001) President (2001-2004); Shop Steward: Yes (1977-2005); Member of Political Education committee (1993-2001); Ex Officio member of Political Education committee (2001-2004); Ex Officio member of LU 1245 Ways and Means committee (2001-2004); Ex Officio member of all LU 1245 negotiating committees (2001-2004); Delegate To: Kern-Inyo-Mono Counties Central Labor Council (1986-2005); Served on Executive Board of CLC (1996-2001); Attended Shop Steward Conferences (1977-2005); Attended LU1245 Leadership Conferences (1978 1981 1984 1990 1996 1999 2002); 9th District Progress meeting (1989-1992, 1995-1997, 2002); IBEW Utilities Conference (1990-1993, 1996-1996, 1999, 2001, 2004); Inter Union Gas Worker's Conference (1997, 2000, 2003); California Federation of Labor Constitutional Convention (1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002); California Federation of Labor Pre Primary Conference (1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002); California Federation of Labor Legislative Conference (1994-2002); Member of International Fund of Employee Benefit Plans (2001-2004); Member of Board of Directors LU 1245 Energy Workers Center Inc. (1989-2001); Chair of Energy Workers enter (2001-2004); Member of LU 1245 Pension Plan Board of Trustees (2001-2004); Responsible for and appointed all LU 1245 commit-

tees (2001-2004); Chair and Hearing Officer LU 1245 Trial Board (2001-2004); Host for LU 1245 Leadership Conference (2002); Instructor for Unit Chair Workshop.

Oscar Martinez

Initiated into IBEW in February 1985.

Landis Marttila

Initiated into IBEW in March 1977.

Dan Mayo

Initiated into IBEW in June 1975.

Jim "Mac" McCauley

Initiated into IBEW in March 1960.

John Mendoza



Initiated into IBEW Local Union 1245 on December 1983. Member of Unit 2511. Classification: IBEW 1245 Temporary Representative/PG&E M.E.O.; Executive Board Member at Large; Shop Steward 1985-Present; Executive Board Member 1997-Present; Political Account Committee 2001-Present; Per Diem Ad Hoc Committee 2005- Present.

Darryl Norris



Initiated into IBEW Local 1245 on 8/31/1970. Member of unit # 3811; Unit Chairman Sacramento # 3811 from 1982 to 1995; Shop Steward 1978 to 1995. Advisory Council representative from Sacramento Division; 1985 to 1987; Attended California AFL-CIO Summer School 1985; Member Gas Serviceman Interim Com-

mittee 1986. Sacramento Division Labor Management Committee 1983-1995; Sacramento 4-10 schedule committee 1988, 1992; Region Labor Management Committee 1987-1995; Shop Steward Conferences: 1981, 1982, 1984, 1986-1990, 1994; IBEW Local 1245 Ballot committee 1989, 1992. Election Committee 1987; Sacramento Division Safety Committee 1982; 1985, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1992; Employed by PG&E from 1969 to 2001 as a Gas Serviceman; Currently employed by IBEW Local 1245 as a Business Representative.

Arthur "Buddy" C. Palmer

Initiated into IBEW in March 1970.

Glenn Richards

Initiated into IBEW in June 1978.

Mike Romo

Initiated into IBEW in October 1970.

Michael Saner

Initiated into IBEW Local Union 1245 in October 1985. Member of Unit 2314. Classification: Sub foreman A/Line-man; Shop Steward 1989-Present; Vice-Chairperson of Unit 2314 1999-2001; Sergeant of Arms of Unit 2314 2002-2004; Vice-Chairperson of Unit 2314 2004-Present; Alternate for General Construction of Advisory Council 2001-2004; Member of Advisory Council for General Construction 2004-Present; Santa Nella IBEW/PG&E Partnership Forum 1995; Labor Management Committee; General Negotiation Committee for Wages 2005; General Construction Safety Walk Around Committee for Area 2; Participated in 1994 Walk from San Francisco to PUC about Deregulation on behalf of IBEW. Positive Discipline Training 1997; Positive Discipline Training 2003; Shop Stewards Training 1989-2005.

Barbara Saunders

Initiated into IBEW in December 1977.

Christian Schaefer

Initiated into IBEW in May 2002.

Brad Schuback

Initiated into IBEW in March 1986. Shop Steward.

David Scott

Initiated into IBEW in March 1979.

Bernard R. Smallwood



Initiated in IBEW Local Union 1245 on October 1985. Member of Unit 1512. Classification: Business Representative; Current Alameda County Chapter A. Philip Randolph Institute Committee Member; Current Electrical Workers Minority Caucus Member; Current Coalition of Black Trade Unionists Committee Member; Previously held positions: IBEW Local 1245 Shop Steward; San Francisco Division Advisory Council Member; 1990 IBEW/PG&E General Negotiations Committee Member; IBEW/PG&E D.O.T. Drug Testing Negotiations Committee Member; IBEW 1245 Ballot Committee; Delegate to the Alameda County Central Labor Council; Chairperson San Francisco Unit # 2414; Vice Chairperson San Francisco Unit # 2414. Attended numerous Shop Steward seminars; IBEW/PG&E Mutual Gains Bargaining Seminar and the California AFL-CIO Sponsored Summer School, Classes included Labor History, Grievance and Arbitration Handling.

Lonnie Smith

Initiated into IBEW in April 1978.

Hunter Stern

Initiated into IBEW Local Union 1245 in September 1994. Member of Unit 2412, San Francisco. Classification: Business Representative - IBEW Local 1245; 2001 PG&E Steam Generation Displacement Bargaining; 2004 Foster Wheeler General Bargaining; 2005 Mirant General Bargaining; Delegate to Contra Costa, San Mateo and San Francisco Labor Councils; 1998 IBEW 9th District; 2002 IBEW Utility Conference; 2000 Delegate California Labor Federation Convention; 2004 Delegate California Labor Federation

Special Election Convention; 2006 Delegate California Labor Federation Pre-Election Convention.

Diane Tatu

Initiated into IBEW in August 2003.

Ray Thomas



Initiated into IBEW in January 1986. Member of Unit 4419; Classification: Senior Business Representative. 1245 Advisory Councilman 1992 thru 1995; Former Unit Recorder for City of Redding Unit 3217; Shop Steward City of Redding Electric Dept. 1991-1998; Union Committees Served on; 1245 Negotiating Committee member with the City of Redding Electric Dept., 1991-1992 and 1993-1994; Lead 1245 Organizer and Negotiator for the City of Fernley, NV. 1999-2000. Lead 1245 Negotiator for Power Plant divestiture bargaining at Sierra Pacific Power, 1998-1999. Lead Negotiator for Citizens Communications of Elko, 2000; Lead 1245 Negotiator for Wells, REA bargaining, 2001. Lead 1245 Negotiator for Mt. Wheeler Power, Physical and Clerical bargaining, 2000 and 2006. Lead Negotiator for Plumas Sierra Electric bargaining, 2000. Lead Negotiator for Truckee Meadows Water Authority bargaining 2000. Lead Negotiator for Truckee Donner P.U.D. bargaining 2000. Lead 1245 Negotiator for Lassen Municipal Utility District, bargaining 2001 and 2006. Negotiator and Lead Negotiator for the Frontier Communications bargaining of 2003-2004; Lead 1245 Negotiator for bargaining at: Arbor Tree Service, Asplundh Tree Expert Co., Davey Tree Surgery Company, EPA PROVCO, Utility Tree Service, Inc., Family Tree Service, Arrowhead Tree and Trees, Inc. in various negotiations from 2001 to present; 2001 to current Pension Trustee for the Line Clearance IBEW 1245 Money Purchase Pension Plan; Other Activities

on Behalf of Local 1245; 1994 to present delegate to the 5-Counties Central Labor Council. Since 2000, I have attended courses at the National Labor College in Maryland and I am scheduled to graduate in June of 2006 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Labor Studies

Rob Thomas

Initiated into IBEW in November 2003.

Dennis H. Torres

Initiated into IBEW in 1976; Member of Unit 5343413; Classification: Electronics Tech 2. Shop Steward San Diego Gas & Electric; J.A.C. 1980; Delegate of 1996 Convention.

John Villegas

Initiated into IBEW in April 1974.

James Walpole

Initiated into IBEW in February 1984.

Geary Weaver

Initiated into IBEW in July 1971.

Eric Wolfe



Initiated into IBEW in February 1990. Member of Unit 2412, San

Francisco; Classification: Communications Director/Business Representative. Other activities on behalf of Union: Communications Director 1990-present; Managing Editor, Utility Reporter 1990-present; Webmaster, www.ibew1245.com 1998-present; Business Representative for PG&E San Francisco Call Center 1995-1997; Relief Business Representative 1997-present; Coordinated media for Asplundh Strike in 1992; Organized rallies at CPUC in 1994 and 1999; Numerous first-place awards from the International Labor Communications Association and Western Labor Communications Association for the Utility Reporter, including: Best News Story - Asplundh Strike (1992); Best Overall Publication (1993); Best Analysis - Impact of NAFTA (1993); Best Series - Clinton & Labor (1993); Unique Performance Award - Coverage of PG&E downsizing (1993); Saul Miller Award (1993); Best Overall Publication (1994); Best Series - Electric Deregulation: Who Gains, Who Loses, Who Decides? (1994); Best Overall Publication (1995); Best News Story - Fighting PG&E Layoffs (1995); Best Feature Story - PG&E's Disaster: Downsizing & the Storms of 1995 (1995); Saul Miller Award - General Excellence (1996); Best Series - Partnership on Trial (1997); Saul Miller Award - General Excellence (1998); Best Photograph - PG&E Hot Wash (2001); Best Overall Publication (2003); Best News Story - PG&E Negotiations (2003); Best In-Depth Analysis - Utility Tree's Dangerous Gamble (2004).



Redding, CA

February 24, 2006



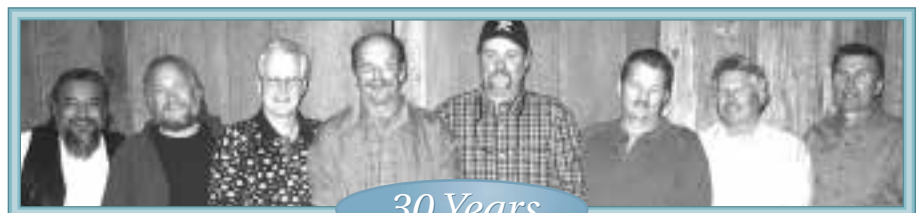
Terrance Husa (45 years), left, accepts award from Assistant Business Manager Dennis Seyfer



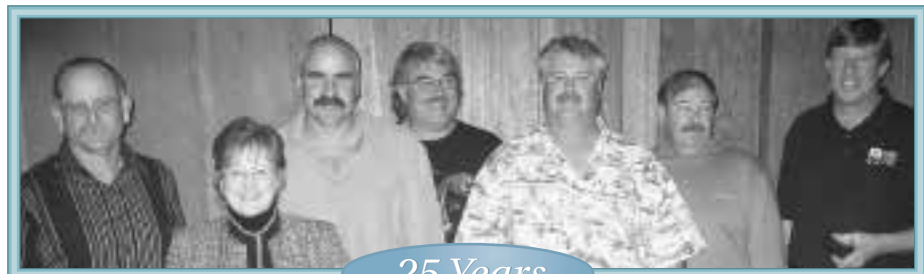
Lester Felkins (40 years), left, accepts award from Assistant Business Manager Dennis Seyfer



35 Years



30 Years



25 Years

THE HONOREES

45 Years

Terrance Husa

40 Years

Lester Felkins
William Raffety

35 Years

Jerry Covert
Daniel Derenobe
Charles Fisher
Jack Jardine

Leon Logan II
Gary Luther
David Mitchell
John Roberts
Michael Russell
James Simon
Mary Uterreiner

30 Years

Jessie Chandler
Connie Devlyne
Steven Fisher
John Grennan

Doyle Jennings
Dwayne Norman
Thomas Perez
Michael Pierce
Stephen Prigmore
Dan Stone

25 Years

Michael Anderson
Mark Bailey
Gloria Baker
Matthew Clark
Dale Darrah

Marc Holliday
Gregory Lynch
Michael McCullough
Kristina McGie
Darrel Meeker
Kevin Miller
Matthew Netzloff
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Tim Perales
Roxanne Redenius
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John Stacher
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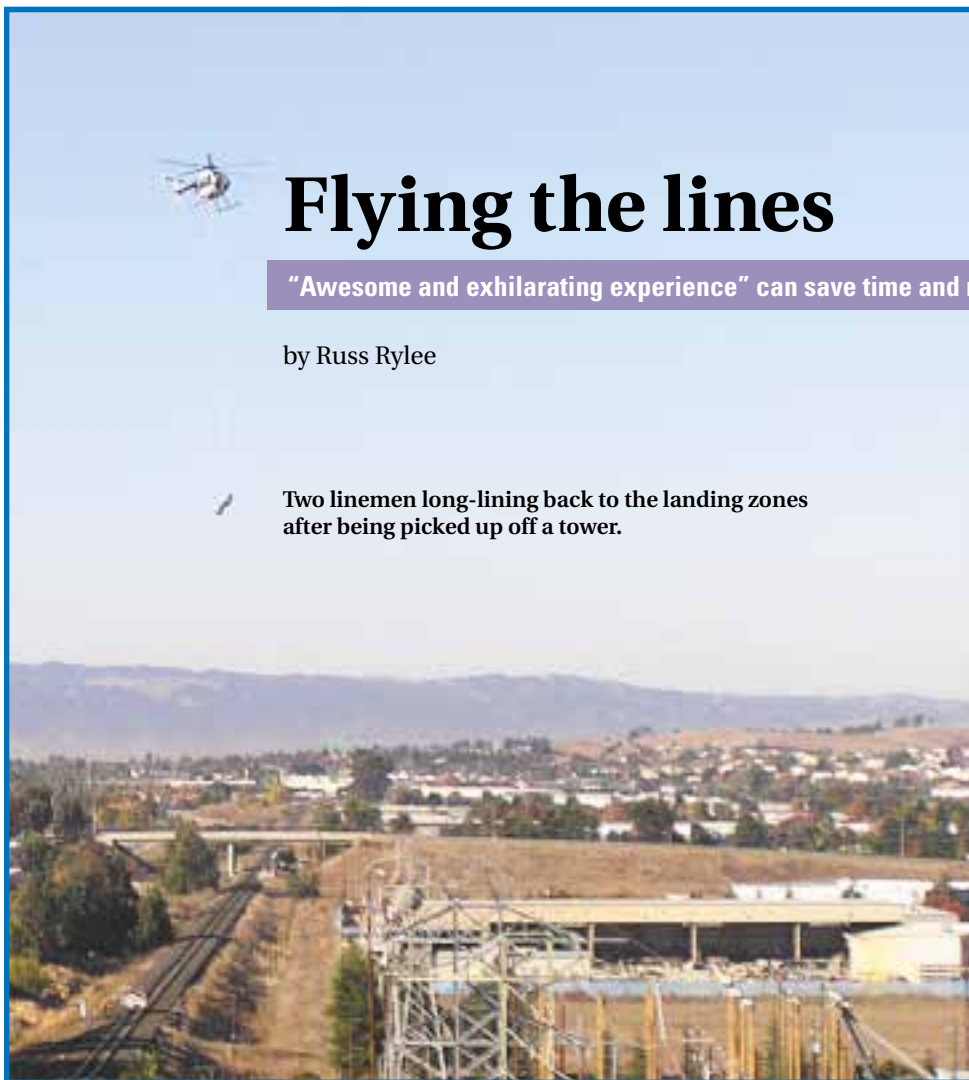
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Flying the lines

"Awesome and exhilarating experience" can save time and reduce exposure to injuries

by Russ Rylee

Two linemen long-lining back to the landing zones after being picked up off a tower.



ABOVE: Russ Rylee taking off as he prepares to demonstrate techniques for working off of the helicopter skid.

RIGHT: Donnie Landingham inspects a 500kv corona shield as he sits comfortably in a bosun's chair.

BELOW: Donnie Landingham checks out the conductor as he hangs 60 feet below the helicopter at PG&E's Livermore training center.



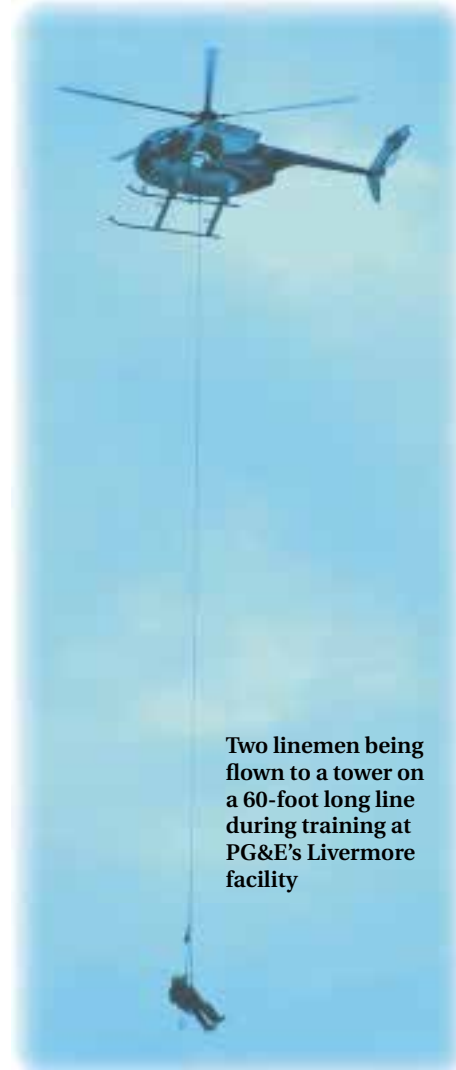
IN THE LINE DEPARTMENT using helicopters is nothing new. I remember when we started using them to set poles and on rare occasions we would patrol a line to look for a problem. There have been good experiences and bad experiences along the way.

I remember one job that I was a lineman on. We had to set several poles in the backyards of homes that had no access. We thought the helicopter would be the way to go. It worked great except it blew most of the shingles off of the rooftops.

I also remember when PJ Helicopters purchased their 204 in the 1980's and we set up a training session out on the east side of Redding. We had pre-dug holes and had poles on site. PJ Helicopters flew in and we practiced setting poles with the helicopter. It was a new tool

and we thought it was great. It made our job easier and more efficient.

As a transmission troubleman for PG&E, I spend a lot of time flying the transmission lines. Transmission lines are usually in very remote and hard to access areas. With the help of the PJ Helicopters of Red Bluff, Ca., IBEW and



Two linemen being flown to a tower on a 60-foot long line during training at PG&E's Livermore facility



Instructor Joe Ferriera looks on as Table Mountain transmission crew straps John Harper into the bosun's chair. Crew from left to right: Ron Johnson, Greg Garretson, Donnie Landingham and John Little.

PG&E have developed a program to allow linemen to long line and transfer to the tops of poles and towers. Along with the transfer method, we have also developed three new ways to do the work.

In late 2005, IBEW and PG&E completed most of the training for line workers in the transmission department in helicopter work procedures. This was a major step forward as this work procedure had never been done at PG&E. The class involved training the workers in safety procedures and then a day and a half was spent on the actual helicopter work procedures.

There are several work methods that have been incorporated into transmission line work to help the worker do his or her job more easily,

more efficiently and—most important—more safely.

A new harness was developed that can be worn in all elevated positions and that also allows the helicopter to carry up to two workers to a structure. The ability to long-line workers to a remote location shortens the time on the job considerably. There are issues with landowners, waterways and environmental issues. These can all be mitigated by long lining the worker straight to the structure to be worked.

Transferring one or two workers from the skid of the helicopter is also an approved work method. The helicopter

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Russ Rylee is a Transmission Troublemaker for PG&E and a long-time steward for Local 1245.