New York Times

growth in more than 60 years, the fourth quarter of 2010, the fastest were up an astounding 29.2% in the American businesses

Tax Revenue
from American cor-

Profits
at American businesses were up an astounding 29.2% in the fourth quarter of 2010, the fastest growth in more than 60 years, the New York Times reported.

Tax Revenue from American corporations, compared to the overall economy, is near a historic low: down to just 1% of the Gross Domestic Product, according to data from the US Office of Management and Budget.

Executive Pay rose by 23% in 2010, even as 25 million unemployed and underemployed U.S. workers are drowning, according to the AFL-CIO Executive PayWatch. NV Energy’s Michael Yackira received $5,336,399 in total compensation, 160 times the median pay of U.S. workers.

Building skills for the fight at home

By Eric Wolfe

BEW Local 1245 members were on the ground in Florida in late April, helping unions fight anti-worker legislation and building skills needed to defend our own union against attack.

In Tampa, Orlando and Jacksonville the Local 1245 team has been recruiting support from small business owners, organizing delegations to meet with state legislators, and mobilizing support at worksites.

The Tampa team, consisting of Charley Souders (Merced Irrigation District) and Erika Barron (PG&E) was “reaching out to the public and encouraging them to put pressure on their Senators by contacting them and voicing their opinions,” said Souders in a dispatch posted on the IBEW Local 1245 Facebook page.

The union mobilization appeared to be making an impact. Florida Senate Bill 830, designed to cripple unions’ ability to collect dues through payroll deductions, was scaled back by its author on April 15. But the revised legislation still aimed to curtail unions’ ability to lobby elected officials.

Appropriately the bill’s authors think it’s OK for businesses to lobby, but not unions. A great system, if you want to protect profits and stomp on wages, but not so good if you’re an ordinary worker just trying to make ends meet.

“Our own members, especially in the public sector, know what it’s like to be under attack in the current political climate,” said Local 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell.

“We aren’t sending members to Florida just to be nice. The attack on workers is happening all over the country. The skills and strategies we’re helping develop in Florida can be brought right back here to California and Nevada,” he said.

In Orlando, Local 1245 members Jamie Angeles, Jennifer Gray and Thanh Trach were helping recruit small business owners to be part of a rally in Orlando, and organizing a delegation to Florida from the Local 1245 team in California.

Meet the candidates

Meet the candidates for Delegate to the IBEW International Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia. Candidates are listed beginning on page 21, along with short biographies of their union activities and photos, where provided by the candidate.

More than 200 Local 1245 members swelled attendance at “We Are One” rallies at 14 locations across California and one in Nevada in a vivid demonstration that workers are fighting back against political attacks on their rights and their livelihoods.

Local 1245 members—unmistakable in their fluorescent lime green t-shirts emblazoned with the IBEW 1245 logo—stood out at rallies and marches in Oakland, San Francisco, Redwood City, San Jose, Santa Cruz, Salinas, Sacramento, Stockton, Merced, Fresno, Modesto, Eureka, Bakersfield, the Zampa Bridge, and in Carson City, NV.

“We had a great time and I loved every minute of it!” reported Local 1245 Recording Secretary Chris Habecker, who participated along with approximately 400 in the Fresno action. “I live to walk the line for Labor!”
We Are One! continued from page 1

Local 1245 Office Manager Tonya Alston joined a large contingent from Solano County in the march across the Zampa Bridge. “It was awesome! The weather was beautiful,” she reported.

Local 1245 Administrative Associate Angela Jacobson tweeted the Zampa Bridge rally live. Her tweets were picked up by several labor organizations, including the AFL-CIO, SEIU, and AFTRA.

The rallies were the first major activation of Local 1245’s Solidarity Action Network, which was organized in the wake of political attacks on public employees and their unions in Wisconsin, Ohio and elsewhere. For many Local 1245 members, the issue is personal.

“Our members showed they are ready to take action when needed, and other unions really appreciated our energy at these rallies,” said Local 1245 Organizer Eileen Purcell.

In Oakland, about 50 Local 1245 members and supporters responded to the call, joining hundreds at the Frank Ogawa Plaza in the heart of Oakland. “Thirty young pre-apprentices stood behind the speakers’ podium, wearing bright yellow hard hats and holding the IBEW 1245 Solidarity Action Network banner,” Purcell said.

Twenty IBEW Local 1245 members joined the throng at the Federal Building in downtown Sacramento, while in San Francisco another 20 joined thousands of trade unionists and their families in a march from the Bank of America to the Federal Reserve Bank, holding signs that declared, “We Stand with Wisconsin.”

In San Jose, 30 members marched two blocks from Cesar Chavez Park to Civic Center carrying home-made signs, the IBEW Solidarity Action Network banner and chanting “We are the union, the mighty mighty union!”

In the Central Valley, 14 members and staff joined the rally in Stockton and 12 members joined the rally in Modesto. In Merced, 10 Local 1245 members formed a sizeable chunk of the 100 or so who participated in the rally. “It was impressive,” said Local 1245 Assistant Business Manager Ray Thomas.

The rallies featured speakers from labor, civic and religious organizations, many invoking the fighting spirit of Wisconsin. People spoke about the blood, sweat and tears that went into building this country and fighting for basic human rights, including the 40-hour week, child labor laws, health and job security, safety standards and a voice at work.

Many Republican leaders like Gov. Scott Walker of Wisconsin have attempted to blame public employees for the country’s financial woes. They seem to have forgotten the years of corporate greed, financial deregulation, absurd executive bonuses and unfair tax policies that preceded the crash.

The April 4 marches and rallies—proclaiming “We Are One”—demonstrate a growing unity among working people, and a fresh realization by many Americans that workers’ rights are not something that can be taken for granted, but must be actively fought for.

The April 4 events coincided with the 43rd anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s assassination in Memphis, where he was helping sanitation workers fight for justice.
believing that it is being carried out by another country or organization. The name comes from the historical naval tactic of flying the flag of a country other than one’s own to deceive enemy warships.

The false flag here is the Tea Party. The rich and powerful know a good flag when they see it, and the popular support that the Tea Party garnered among a small but devoted group of activists was a tempting and logical target for a false flag operation.

What started as a movement devoted to lower taxes and less government has quietly but quickly morphed into a vehicle for radical reform policies that are unrelated to the crisis at hand or the original message of the Tea Party. The Koch brothers—who have quietly helped fund the attacks on collective bargaining rights in Wisconsin and elsewhere—know that a message seen to be coming from “ordinary people” in the Tea Party is much more powerful than a message seen to be coming from the richest people in the country.

While throwing some red meat to social conservatives, the major thrust of the false flag operation seems to be the dismantling of the middle class and what is left of the trade union movement. To do this, the shock doctrine practitioners have turned to the policies of jealousy. Instead of focusing on the obscene salaries and bonuses of CEO’s and bankers, we are told that the enemy is the water treatment operator and

**False Flag**

I as I read about what is happening in Wisconsin, Ohio, Maine, and Florida, I can’t help but think of Naomi Klein’s book *The Shock Doctrine*. Klein’s theory is that unpopular and radical policies that are unrelated to the crisis at hand are pushed through while citizens are reacting to a crisis, disaster, or upheaval, and that some of these man-made crises may even have been created for the purpose of pushing through the unpopular and radical policies.

In the wake of the powerful evidence that the financial collapse that began in 2008 was the result of greed and manipulation by powerful banks and Wall Street institutions, the logical response would have been to investigate and punish those who were responsible. This has not been the response, and those responsible have emerged with their millions and billions and freedom intact.

Instead, the rich and powerful have taken a chapter from Klein’s book and have launched an all-out attack on the age-old tactic of the politics of jealousy. A false flag operation is a covert operation that deceives the public into believing that the financial collapse that began in 2008 was the result of greed and manipulation by powerful banks and Wall Street institutions, the logical response would have been to investigate and punish those who were responsible. This has not been the response, and those responsible have emerged with their millions and billions and freedom intact.

**Union bargaining committees gathered at Weakley Hall on April 18 to begin the process of sorting and reviewing member proposals for upcoming negotiations with PG&E. Although proposals were still being accepted through April 30, the committees already had received 450 proposals for the Benefit Agreements and 1,646 proposals for the Physical Agreement. Proposals have been submitted in writing at unit meetings, through business representatives and shop stewards, and have also been submitted via the union’s website.**

“We’ve had a great response from our members, despite weeks of bad weather that kept many of them working really long hours. The bargaining committees will read and carefully consider every single proposal that has been submitted,” said Business Manager Tom Dalzell.

The committees will work through May to review and evaluate the proposals. To help define and justify inequity proposals, the union may seek additional member input from Gas T&K, Electricians, Comm Techs, Working Foremen, and possibly others.

The union plans to exchange opening packages with PG&E negotiators on June 7, and to begin bargaining around Labor Day. Customarily a tentative agreement is wrapped up by Halloween, with a mail-ballot ratification vote taken before the end of the year. The current Physical and Benefit Agreements are set to expire on Dec. 31.

Negotiations will be led by Dalzell, with staff assistance from Senior Assistant Business Managers Bob Choate (Physical Agreement) and Dorothy Fortier (Benefit Agreements). Check www.ibew1245.com for regular updates on bargaining.

**PG&E Physical and Benefits Bargaining committees get to work**

**Utility Reporter**

May/June 2011

Volume 60 No. 3

Circulation: 22,200

Published bi-monthly at 30 Orange Tree Circle, Vacaville, CA 95687. Official publication of Local Union 1245, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, AFL-CIO, P.O. Box 2547, Vacaville, CA 95696.

Periodical postage paid at Vacaville and at additional mailing offices. USPS No. 65440, ISSN No. 0190-4965.

POSTMASTER: Please send Form 3579, Change of Address, and all correspondence to Utility Reporter, P.O. Box 2547, Vacaville, CA 95696.

Single copies $1. Subscription by arrangement. Have you moved recently? Please send complete new address and your Social Security Number (by U.S. Mail) to: “Address Change” IBEW Local 1245 P.O. Box 2547, Vacaville, CA 95696. Our Web Site can be viewed at www.IBEW1245.com.

Our phone number is (707) 452-2700.
I
BEW Local 1245 journeyman showed how it’s done at the Eleventh Annual American Public Power Association (APPA) Lineworkers Rodeo held March 19, 2011 in Nashville, Tenn.

Capturing first place out of 55 journeyman teams: the Sacramento Municipal Utility District. Placing second: the Turlock Irrigation District team. Also grabbing a spot in the winner’s circle were journeymen from Modesto Irrigation District, who took first place in the double cross arm event, and apprentices from SMUD who dominated the apprentice competition.

It all began at 6:00 a.m., when the rodeo grounds began to come alive. With dawn not yet arrived, linemen laid out their tools and equipment. As the sun began to show itself the rodeo events became visible and anticipation filled the air. Once the opening ceremonies were completed, the competition began.

After competing in his first event one lineman noted that his nervousness diminished shortly after entering the event area. “It was like going to work,” he said.

Competing in the rodeo is, in fact, a lot like going to work. At the rodeo linemen are judged on many of the same qualities required of them on the job: safety, work practices, neatness, ability, equipment handling, and timely job completion. Apprentices, judged on the same qualities, compete in separate events.

There were five apprentice lineman events: written test, conductor tie in, cross arm relocation, framing event and hurt man rescue.

There were also five journeyman lineman team events: narrow profile phase change out, alley arm insulator change out, double cross arm event, double dead end 4poly bell change out, and hurt man rescue.

The primary goal is to complete each event without any points being deducted from your score by the judges. Among the teams with perfect scores, timeliness becomes the deciding factor.

All safety rules established by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the APPA Safety Manual were observed during events.

California was well represented at the rodeo. Linemen and apprentices came from Sacramento Municipal Utility District in the north and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power in the south. The four participating organizations with IBEW

Setting the standard

SMUD, TID take top honors

ABOVE AND BELOW: Modesto Irrigation District team competes in the double dead end 4 poly bell change out.

ABOVE AND RIGHT: Turlock Irrigation District team competes in double dead end 4 poly bell change out.

SMUD, TID take top honors

Story and photos by Dennis Seyfer

May/June 2011
The Turlock Irrigation District team had plenty to celebrate, including second-best journeyman team overall. From left: supervisor Dennis Moon, team members Mark Perkins, Steve Johnson and Dustin Krieger, and alternate Aaron Baker.

1245-represented employees were: City of Lodi, Modesto Irrigation District, Sacramento Municipal Utility District, and Turlock Irrigation District.

Northern California shined at the awards banquet. Apprentice awards were announced first.

All three of the SMUD Apprentices—Justin Hirschi, Rorry Malia and Chris Miles—placed in events, winning four out of five of the first place awards for their events. Chris Miles won three first place awards in the following categories: conductor tie in, hurt man rescue and framing event. Rorry Malia won first place for cross arm relocation. Justin Hirschi took second place in hurt man rescue, and Chris Miles took second place in cross arm relocation.

As the awards for the journeyman events were presented, the SMUD journeyman team of Todd Prangley, Matt Wilson and Cayleb Brown took the stage for their first place finish in alley arm insulator change out. The TID journeyman team of Mark Pickens, Dustin Krieger and Steve Johnson placed second in the event.

The next first place award went to the MID journeyman team of Victor Madrigal, Scott Dutey, and Roby Higgins in the double cross arm event.

Then things settled into something of a pattern, with the next three first place...continued on next page
awards all going to the SMUD team of Prangley, Wilson and Brown: hurt man rescue, double dead end 4 poly bell change out, and narrow profile phase change out. MID's Madrigal-Dutey-Higgins team captured second in hurt man rescue.

The excellent performance of these IBEW 1245 journeyman teams took center stage when the Master of Ceremonies announced the most sought after award of all: the best Journeyman Teams Overall. Second place went to Turlock Irrigation District. First place went to Sacramento Municipal Utility District’s Cayleb Bowman, Todd Prangley, Matthew Wilson.

Local 1245 congratulates these winning teams and all of our union journeymen and apprentices who made the commitment of time and effort to participate in these rigorous competitions. Your training and skill in safe work performance truly set the standard for all.
Spirited exchange at Fresno Tree Unit

About two dozen line clearance tree trimmers showed up at the unit meeting in Fresno on April 6 for a spirited exchange over a variety of issues.

The meeting was conducted in both English and Spanish, with Business Rep. Junior Ornelas serving as translator.

“They have been working around the clock on storm work for the last several weeks, but their story is seldom told. They were working to clear trees for the line crews clear up to the Helms project in extremely deep snow,” said Ornelas.

Line Clearance Tree Trimmers have many issues to deal with. They often feel like the employers use them up and cast them to the side.

“We fielded questions about insurance, promotion and de-motion, among many others,” said Senior Assistant Business Manager Ron Cochran, who also attended. “There was a lot of tension in the room at times, but Junior did a good job communicating in both languages.”

Business Rep. Carl Lamers also attended the meeting.

The Local 1245 tree group includes immigrants, combat veterans, league soccer players—people who have known conflict from a variety of perspectives and aren’t shy about sharing their views with the union.

At times they work 120 feet in the air, cutting and trimming overhanging branches in the Giant Sequoias, including work in Sequoia National Park, Kings Canyon National Park, Sierra National Park, and Yosemite National Park.

These locations include some of the oldest and tallest trees in the world. And they are kept clear of electric power lines by some of the toughest tree trimmers in the world.

Meeting explore creating new units

Special meetings were held in both Marysville and Sonoma at the request of Local 1245 members working for Trees Inc. and Utility Tree Service. Attendance at the Sonoma meeting was very good, but low in Marysville due to storm work. Those at Marysville hope to have another meeting to explore the possibility establishing a tree unit there.

We are still gathering cell phone numbers and e-mail addresses to increase our ability to communicate during negotiations later this year. We are doing a killer job with over 80% completion. We still need your assistance in order to complete this task. Communication is the key to building the strength of our members.

The IBEW 1245 Gold Cup Soccer Tournament is set for May 21 in Livermore. The tournament reached its capacity in less than 10 days. The door has now closed for 2011. Plan on bringing your family and hanging with your friends. Food, fun, and beverages provided. We’ll see who the best team is!

A Lineco seminar was held on March 23. The Blue Cross medical plan changes were explained in great detail. We see the positives in the changes in the plan that will benefit our members. The Lineco website has been enhanced and is also in Spanish.

Northern Area Report

Davey Tree Surgery management continues to push employees to obtain Commercial Driver’s Licenses. But members report that local supervisors aren’t very accommodating when it comes to members driving one of these trucks after getting a permit. Driving and doing the Pre-Trip Inspection greatly increases the probability of continued on page 9.

Reuniones para explorar la creación de nuevas unidades

A solicitud de los miembros del Local 1245 que trabajan para Trees Inc. y Utility Tree Service se llevaron a cabo reuniones especiales en Marysville y Sonoma. La asistencia a la reunión en Sonoma fue muy buena, pero fue baja en Marysville debido a los trabajos relacionados con las tormentas. Los miembros de Marysville esperan poder tener otra reunión para explorar la posibilidad de establecer una unidad de poda de árboles en esa localidad.

Continuamos recaudando información de números de teléfonos móviles y direcciones de correo electrónico (e-mail) para aumentar nuestra capacidad para comunicarnos durante las negociaciones que se llevarán a cabo más adelante este año. Hemos hecho un trabajo extraordinario y hemos logrado completar 80% de la información. Ahora necesitamos su ayuda para completar esta tarea. La comunicación es la clave para el fortalecimiento de nuestros miembros.

El Torneo de Fútbol “Gold Cup” del IBEW 1245 está fijado para el 21 de mayo en Livermore. El cupo de equipos participantes se completó en menos de 10 días. Las puertas se han cerrado para 2011. Haga planes para traer a su familia y pasar un rato con sus amigos. Habrá comida, diversión y bebidas, ¡ya veremos cuál es el mejor equipo!

El 23 de marzo se llevó a cabo un seminario Lineco. Se explicaron con gran detalle los cambios en el plan médico Blue Cross. Vemos el lado positivo de los cambios en el plan los cuales beneficiarán a nuestros miembros. Se ha mejorado la página web de Lineco y ahora también está disponible en español.

Informe del Área Norte

La gerencia de Davey Tree Surgery continúa en la página 17.
Getting a public sector agreement in a tough economy

Anatomy of an Extension

By Al Fortier

IBEW Local 1245 members at the City of Alameda ratified a tentative agreement for a one-year contract extension on March 21. The vote was 21-1.

The one-year extension provides for 100% employer-paid medical coverage in the Kaiser and Blue Shield health plans. Union negotiating committee members Mark Regan and Fernando Morales were assisted in bargaining by Assistant Business Manager Ray Thomas and myself.

When bargaining began with the City of Alameda on Oct. 7 of last year, the union’s initial proposals reflected the members’ interest in maintaining medical benefits, improving general wages, and gaining additional increases in salary through educational and training incentives. IBEW members in Alameda had not received a general wage increase since 2008; however, during the first meeting with the City, Interim City Manager Anne Marie Gallant told the negotiating teams that “sentiment toward public sector was poor, and that the PERS pension is unpopular with citizens.” She also said that even though she moved quickly to cut 10% of payroll expenses of up to $200 dollars per employee, this course of negotiations could hinge on picking up a share of medical would be conditional on getting a wage increase. But increases didn’t fly with the City.

When the extension expired on Dec. 18, 2010, the negotiations were again unable to respond to emergency callouts or to get direction from the City’s new management. We had already agreed to address FLSA and callout procedure language in an Ad-Hoc committee. But without economic direction, the City negotiating team was again unable to respond to our other proposals.

Talking Extension

The conversation again turned to talk of an extension, but this time for a year. The extension would give the City more time to deal with its negotiations with police and fire. City Negotiator Jorry suggested an extension could be on the table in exchange for restructuring medical. We suggested that picking up a share of medical would be conditional on getting a wage increase. But increases didn’t fly with the City.

We often tell members it’s important to be involved in the democratic process, and to vote for candidates who respect labor. Our just-concluded negotiations with the City of Alameda proved the point beyond any doubt.

We had already agreed to address FLSA and callout procedure language in an Ad-Hoc committee. But without economic direction, the City negotiating team was again unable to respond to our other proposals.

Hoping for a Game-Changer

The union eyed the Nov. 2 election with hopes of it being a game changer.

Public sector negotiations have become increasingly political during these recessionary times. Increasingly, cities have looked to unions for concessions. Or they have laid workers off as a means of balancing the budget. Labor’s voice was getting drowned out or ignored by fiscal conservatives sounding the alarm of impending financial doom.

IBEW 1245 representatives interviewed candidates seeking endorsements. Mayoral candidate Marie Gilmore and City Council candidates Lena Tam and Rob Bonta respected labor’s opinion and pledged to work with unions. IBEW 1245 support was instrumental in securing endorsements for these candidates at the Alameda Central Labor Council.

During the election campaign, our members phone banked at the Labor Council and at Gilmore’s campaign headquarters. We also precinct walked for our endorsed candidates.

Meanwhile, back at the table, negotiations were slowed by the uncertainty of the City elections. On Election Day, IBEW 1245 and the City met for the second time.

The City negotiating team proposed to delete our current overtime provisions and replace them with Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) regulations, which do not provide for overtime pay until after you’ve worked 40 hours in a week.

The City also proposed sweeping changes to callback procedures, eliminating existing provisions for standby, and language that requires employees to respond to emergency callouts or face disciplinary action.

We responded that the FLSA proposal was unacceptable to our members and counter-productive to achieving emergency response. Eventually we offered to work with them on the callout procedures in an Ad-Hoc committee.

IBEW 1245’s lead negotiator, Ray Thomas, presented wage comparison studies with surrounding areas showing that our journeymen were paid approximately 12% below average. He also pointed out that our members received inferior health and welfare benefits as compared to Public Safety employees.

The latter argument carried all the more weight because Alameda Municipal Power, the municipality that our members work for, is an “enterprise fund” that transfers millions of dollars to the City of Alameda’s general fund. These huge transfers, said Thomas, “are paying for superior benefits for Police and Fire.”

Negotiations Hinged on Election

The City could not, at this time, respond to any of our economic proposals. With polls closing in hours, City negotiators were playing it pretty close to the vest, knowing full well that the course of negotiations could hinge on the election results. We also had our fingers crossed, feeling that victory by all three endorsed candidates was our best chance at getting a fair agreement.

With our contract set to expire on Dec. 18, we were running out of time.

At stake for our members were escalating costs for medical coverage.

That night, thanks to the huge effort of labor, all three labor-endorsed candidates won. All those months of phone banking, precinct walking and encouraging members to get involved in the political process paid off.

These candidates had said they believed in giving labor a seat at the table, and now it was time to see if they would match their campaign rhetoric with action.

The election left the City negotiating team without direction or authority. The new council was not going to be sworn in until Dec. 21. At our Nov. 17 meeting we asked the City to extend the contract for three months to allow the City team to get direction from the City’s new leaders. We suggested the bargaining relationship would be damaged if the extension was not granted.

On Dec. 21, the City Council approved a contract extension for IBEW 1245, including fully-paid medical, until March 26, 2011. On Dec. 28, the newly-elected City Council, by a 3-2 vote, passed legislation that the City Manager and the City Attorney on paid administrative leave. The Interim City Manager had been aggressively cutting spending, ordering layoffs and cutting benefits. The extension gave us breathing room to negotiate.

The new city council represented a more level playing field for labor negotiations, but the City’s poor finances still loomed large. Under normal circumstances, they suggested, the City would be more apt to address our inequities. But given the financial state of the City, they were determined not to make any proposals on wages, health and welfare.

In recent years, negotiations with the City have been a drawn out, protracted ordeal that was frustrating for Local 1245 negotiators and members. This time around, lengthy negotiations would not only have been frustrating, but costly. Half of our members would have experienced out-of-pocket expenses of up to $200 dollars per month to cover rising medical premiums if the contract expired without negotiated increases in coverage. The union’s past experience with the City’s negotiating team convinced us that if things were not done differently, these negotiations could drag on for more than a year.

The original contract was set to expire on Dec. 18, 2010.
**MID, TID bowlers square off**

**Rivalry on the lanes**

By day, they keep the lights on. By night, they try to knock each other’s lights out.

On the bowling alley, that is.

It was the first-ever battle of the heavy balls, pitting IBEW members at the Modesto Irrigation District against their union brothers at the Turlock Irrigation District. About 20 members in all competed in the match-up, which included a practice round, an elimination round, a championship round, and a beer round. Or two.

“We had the highest score in the practice round,” insisted TID Lineman Aaron Baker. “But not the highest in the final round,” he acknowledged. He had a little trouble remembering his personal score, but he remembered that TID was represented in the championship round by Ken Gross, Troy Borges, Rick Brenes, and John Nelson.

The inspiration for the competition arose at a TID unit meeting.

“We discussed ideas of having a joint event with MID and we brainstormed different activities we could do and we finally came up with bowling,” Baker said. “It didn’t matter what we did as long as we participate together.”

Getting to know each other in friendly competition could come in handy, Baker believes.

“We were looking at the possibility for mutual support if bargaining gets difficult—let each other know we’re there if they need us.”

**“Really Competitive”**

Mutual support may be part of the long-term agenda, but each District was definitely on its own when it came to pursuing the bowling title.

“I don’t know how much they’ve bowled in the past, I have no clue, but they were all really competitive and they wanted to win,” said Karri Daves, an IBEW member in the Modesto ID Clerical unit, who showed up at Yosemite Lanes in Modesto to “give support to my guys.”

In the end, the Modesto team of Dave Quresmasa, Dave Ferreira, Mike Gomes and Sean Coulson emerged victorious and laid claim to first prize—a set of IBEW-monogrammed poker chips, presented by Local 1245 Business Rep.

**Creating New Units**, from page 7

obtaining the license. We have had to contact the company several times about getting “behind the wheel” time.

Terminations for falsification of paperwork—also called penciling—are increasing. As reported previously, many of these cases are clerical in nature with a minority of them being intentional.

PG&E is the driving force in these terminations on the premise that they are being charged for work that is not done. Language can be an issue since a majority of tree trimmers have Spanish as their first language.

Wage progressions are another problem. Some members do not look at their pay stubs or keep records. The company does not automatically progress employees and many employees do not track when they are due to receive progressions. In some headquarters there is a fear of harassment if they request a progression or call us about it.

We have seen some applications for what appear to be credit cards sent to tree trimmers. The outfit is called Union Credit Services from Texas. A fee of forty dollars is required with the application. On investigation the card issued is a paper card enabling purchase from a catalog and not accepted elsewhere. Not a good deal!

**Southern Area Report**

In the Yosemite Divisions, Local 1245 tree trimmers had an abundance of emergency work due to heavy snows. Many outages were reported in the Southern Yosemite territory. Yosemite Park has been closed. Crews had storm work in Sonora, Mariposa and Oakhurst, and San Joaquin crews were also called up for action.

**Davey Tree Surgery:** In Central Coast we are having concerns over how emergency work is supposed to be handled at each local headquarters. The understanding we have with management is that when the emergency call-out is made the clock starts, and after all the work has been completed you discuss with the entire crew how much time will be charged to the company, giving you the half-hour drive time to return home.

Another problem we are encountering: work requests being changed by first level supervisors. The company is requesting more information regarding these practices in order to avoid these types of problems in the future.

**Trees Inc.** We held a Grievance Review Committee meeting in Yuba City on March 25.

Due to the recent storm work, Yosemite crews have been called back into the action in Jackson, Angels Camp, and Oakhurst. The company recently terminated two employees in Fresno for falsification of company documents (“penciling”). Based on our investigation we will be challenging both cases.

**Information for this report was supplied by Ron Cochran, Carl Lamers, and Junior Ornelas.**

---

**NCPA’s Safety Record: Outstanding**

The Geothermal Facility employees have worked 1,880 days without a lost time accident, and the Combustion Turbine Facility employees have worked 2,367 days without a lost time accident.

Local 1245 congratulates IBEW members at NCPA for promoting and practicing safety at work. The union’s number one priority is making sure that our members always get back home safe and sound!

The employees responsible for NCPA’s award-winning safety record are, from left: Jason Ingham, Rick Hayes, Kris Klemme, Shawn Beverlin, Jerry Pangle, Frank Aguon, Jenny Pope, Clay Ames, Eric Winchell, Devin Hoberg, Tom O’Brien, Dave Scott, Ross Calvin, and Paul House.

---

**Utility Reporter 9**
Outside Construction

Storms draw crews from all over

From the end of February through the end of March our jurisdiction has been hammered by winter storms which have resulted in multiple crews traveling in under the National Storm Agreement. This latest round of storms has brought crews from Washington, Oregon, Nevada, Southern California and Montana. A copy of the International Emergency Response Agreement can be found on our web site under Outside Construction.

Work Outlook

The work picture is expected to be robust in our area, with several projects slated for 2011. Most of the projects consist of transmission, substation and solar work; however, they have not been awarded yet, or are on hold until the weather improves.

Cupertino Electric has been awarded two solar projects in the Helms and Five Points area which will be starting in the next week or two. There are some local hire requirements mandated by the customer and CPUC for these projects and we will be working diligently to fulfill this mandate.

Labor-Management

Ron Cochran, Ralph Armstrong and Mark Bolow all participated in the Labor-Management process in Riverside California at the end of February. There were five grievances to be heard. One was put on hold pending more information. The four grievances that were heard were all from Local 47 and all were resolved during this process.

Lineco Training Conference

Gina Britt, Elizabeth McInnis, Junior Ornelas and Ralph Armstrong attended a one-day training session put on by Lineco. The training session not only covered general information about this Taft Hartley insurance plan used by most Outside Line Construction local unions, but also covered some of the enhanced changes that have already been made and the ones that will be coming down the road in the near future.

Here is some interesting information pertaining to this plan as well as some of the changes mentioned above:
- No contribution rate increase after 1/1/2006 until 1/1/2011, and then only 2.5%
- Plan’s costs rising less than national trend
- Employment levels expected to increase in 2011 and 2012
- Despite increasing claims costs and decreasing hours, Lineco remains healthy
- Trustees are closely monitoring income and expense
- Health care reform is helping Lineco offer enriched benefits. As of Jan. 1, 2011:
  - Adult children covered until age 26, regardless of student or marital status, or residency and financial dependency
  - $2,000,000 lifetime max eliminated, including max for treatment of substance abuse
  - Covered preventive care expanded (subject to age/frequency guidelines implemented by federal agencies)—covered at 100% PPO, 70% non-PPO
  - New claim appeal procedures added
  - Emergencies paid as if PPO

In addition to Lineco benefits coming:
- Retroactive Plan changes not permitted (3/2013)
- Calendar year limit will phased out, increasing each year until eliminated (1/2014)
- Coverage expanded to clinical trials (1/2014)
- Coverage not limited by type of provider license (1/2014)

Training

OSHA 10 ET&D will be held at the union hall from 6 pm – 10 pm on Fridays and 8 am -4:30 pm on Saturdays: July 8/9 and October 7/8.

OSL Shop Steward Training: This training was scheduled for March 12 but needed to be changed at the request of the instructors we had contracted due to an unexpected event. The new date for this training will be December 10, 2011—Vacaville, This training will be limited to 40 members.

First Aid & CPR is the 2nd Saturday of every month at our Riverside and Sacramento facilities.

JATC

The California Nevada JATC program is expected to open up the application process again for outside line construction apprentices. The application process can be found on the JATC website: www.callnevjatc.org . Interested parties should visit this website to obtain information about the program.

Organizing

We signed the following contractors in the month of March:
- T& D Power, line contractor based in Arizona assented to the OSL agreement.
- Machado & Sons based in Turlock will be subbing to Cupertino Electric on the PG&E Solar Project in the Fresno area.
- Highway Technologies will be subbing to Cupertino on the Solar Project as well.
- BGN Construction, based in Chico, assented to the OSL agreement

Injured Worker Fund

The balance of the fund as of 2/28/11 was $183,728.93. We paid out two disability payments in the month of March.

Apprentice Report

We currently have 240 outside line apprentices registered in our JATC program:
- 39 apprentices are working out of Local 1245
- 176 are working out of Local 47
- 0 are working out of Local 396
- 25 are off of work (2 are on disability -2 are on leave of absence)

We have graduated 13 apprentices this year to journeyman lineman.

We have indentured 13 outside line apprentices this year.

We have 21 traffic signal maintenance apprentices registered.
- 6 are working for Republic Electric in Local 1245’s jurisdiction.
- 14 are working for Republic Electric in Local 47’s jurisdiction.
- 1 is unemployed.

BOOK STATUS as of 3/25/11:

Linemen—IV .......................... 232
Equipment Man—I ...................... 4
Equipment Man—II .................... 9
Equipment Man—III .................. 17
Cable Splicer—I ....................... 5
Cable Splicer—II ...................... 4
Cable Splicer—III .................... 2
Groundman—I ......................... 19
Groundman—II ....................... 153
Groundman—III ...................... 241
Groundman—IV ....................... 238
Fabricator Tech—I .................... 0
Fabricator Tech—II ................... 39

YEAR TO DATE REFERRALS:

Lineman .................................. 140
Apprentice Lineman .................. 50
Equipment Man ....................... 22
Groundman ............................ 36
Fabricator Tech ........................ 14
Cable Splicer ........................... 1

Information for this report was supplied by Ralph Armstrong, Liz McInnis, and Ron Cochran.

False Flag, from page 3

not blue collar greed. Never mind that public employees don’t get social security, and that public agencies don’t make the 7% contribution that private sector employers make. Never mind that pensions are a small fraction of the overall cost of public services. Ignore the facts, and act on jealousy.

If you listen to the words of the City Council in Redding attacking the wages and benefits of our members, you will hear the same themes and phrases being used to bash public workers and unions in Wisconsin and Ohio and Florida and Maine. If you read newspapers describing the pension plans at the Modesto Irrigation District and the Turlock Irrigation District, you will read the same themes and phrases.

Our private-sector members are not safe—they’re next. In fact, NV Energy’s campaign against its employees and retirees is based, in large part on these themes and phrases—“Why should these pampered employees and retirees enjoy a middle class living in a state with soaring unemployment?” Never mind the sky-rocketing salary and bonus collected by NV Energy’s CEO even as the rates paid by customers soar and service levels plunge—the retiree with a $900 a month pension is the problem.

Brothers and sisters, our heads are on the chopping block. If we don’t speak out against the madness, if we don’t act to stop it, we risk losing all that we have built over decades. We are fighting for our lives, but as your union, we can fight this fight for you. We have to fight it together, because without our members the union is nothing.

This is not a lost cause by any means, and I am optimistic that together we can thwart the efforts to take away our gains. When we ask for your help, please step up. We were born 70 years ago this month as a fighting union, and that is exactly what we have to be today.
Lula Washington doesn’t hold anything back, not when it comes to defending the rights of IBEW members.

During her nearly 20 years as a Local 1245 business representative, Washington was always prepared to give members the benefit of the doubt in grievance cases and held firm to a belief that the company should, too.

“She never met a case she didn’t believe in. Every case she would go to the extreme defending the member,” said former Senior Assistant Business Manager Sam Tamimi.

Even in cases where she “didn’t have a leg to stand on,” he said, Washington would find a way to go the extra mile in arguing for leniency based on a member’s personal circumstances or other considerations.

Washington, who went out on long-term disability last year and will soon retire, began her IBEW career in 1991 representing PG&E members in the San Francisco General Office, but later moved to an East Bay assignment that grew to include Oakland, Richmond, Emeryville, the City of Oakland, and Concord.

“She had considerable respect for some of the people she dealt with across the table at PG&E. But that respect began to erode over time. “When I first started, the HR (Human Resources) people were more cooperative with the union. I think they had a better feel for how to deal with unions and how to negotiate with unions,” she said.

“But a lot of new HR people came in and I think they were more anti-union types, weren’t really willing to cooperate or try to work through issues. They put a lot of emphasis on winning at all costs.”

Instead of trying to work issues out, she said, it seemed like the company “just wanted to punish the workers.” Trying to deal with this new style of management, she said, was the most difficult part of her job.

Back in 1991, when she first started, “they had management people who’d been there a long long time, and most of those people came up through the ranks at PG&E. Most of the union people knew the management people, worked together,” she said.

When managers feel like they’re going to be around for a while, they have a stake in making sure things are done right, she believes. But now PG&E management has a higher turnover and “there’s no real stability—they just come and make their little mark, get paid, and leave, and somebody else comes in.”

But like other business representatives in recent years who’ve been frustrated by the lack of stability in management, Washington tried to make the best of it. Ambeau, who has brought the Clerical perspective to many bargaining committees through the years, said that Washington understood Clerical issues very well.

“She was a well-rounded business rep,” said Fortier. “She negotiated contracts, she did grievances, she did the whole nine yards.”

“Even though she had a big assignment area she knew most of the members who were in it,” said Tamimi. “She was an excellent business rep for us.”
Sacramento, CA
February 11, 2011

45 Years
Holding their plaques for 45 years of service are Grady Prince and Ralph Gerolamy. Presenting the plaques were Senior Assistant Business Manager Ron Cochran, left, and Business Rep. Darryl Norris, right.

40 Years
Receiving their service awards for 40 years are Alvin Wolf and Raul Alcala.

35 Years
Honored for 35 years of service are Kathleen Hughes and Cheryl Lewis.

30 Years
Antonelli, Mark L
Borrego, Anthony D
Boschee, Danny M
Buchholz, Geoffrey
Cabetic, Elisa G
Cardwell, Karen L
Clifton, Donald L
Elder, Debbie M
Engel, Mark A
Enriquez, Anna M
Flattland, Robert C
James, Regina P
Jean, Teresa R
Jones, Karen L
Kemp, Louis A
Kirby, Carl P
Lopez, John A
Macdonald, Catherine
Mack, Felicia A
Mc Kee, Mark J
Melanson, Linda S
Mena, Michael M
Montiero, Mark N
Mullikin, Sandy P
Nielsen, Frank E
Padilla, Conrad L
Paluch, Paul
Perry, David R
Ramirez, Pamela S
Reyes, Jose A
Sargent, E R
Smith, Duane E
Tissot, Stephen D
Young, Larry C

De Flores, Grace R
Dremel, Garry C
Fakin, Gabriela
Entijer, Therle J
Glover, Michael
Glucka, Gregory V
Gonzalez, Salvador L
Gracyk, Lucinda
Gutierrez, Albert D
Harris, Vera E
Johnson, Mark E
Kehrer, Kenneth P
Kelly, David M
Krause, Walter L
Lafore, William T
Lagunas, Richard
Lopez, David A
Maclauchlan, Robert D
Mankins, Gerald W
Mennel, Louis G
Misiewicz, Franklin R
Padilla, Raymond
Parker, Michael T
Prangley, Todd R
Rebins, Linda D
Rutledge, Frank M
Sawyer, Gregory L
Schlager, Gary G
Stockel, Joseph W
Thatcher, Robert L
Vanmuyden, Michael W
Vernier, Richard K
Williams Sr., Darnell
Williams, Wade
Wooderson, James A
Zwierzynski, Anthony J

THE HONOREES
Perry Zimmerman’s 24th Annual Golf Tournament

Green Tree Golf Course
Vacaville, CA
Saturday, June 18, 2011

8:00 a.m. Shot Gun Start

Entry Fee: $90 (includes Cart, Green Fee & BBQ)
Entry Deadline: June 10, 2011
Limited Tee Spaces – First Come, First Served!

Contests:
Longest Drive! Closest to the Hole!

Registration begins promptly at 6:30 a.m., Shot Gun Start at 8:00 a.m. If you don’t have a 4-some, we will assign you or your group to a 4-some. BBQ and awards after the tournament will be at Weakley Hall, 30 Orange Tree Circle, Vacaville (behind Home Depot).

Don’t miss out! Space is limited! Send your names and checks for $90 now!
Make check payable to “IBEW Local 1245” and mail to:
Local 1245 Golf Tournament
PO Box 2547
Vacaville, CA 95696
Attn: Gail Varner

Name (Print): _________________________________________________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________________
Name (Print): _________________________________________________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________________
Name (Print): _________________________________________________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________________
Name (Print): _________________________________________________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________________

For information, call  John Mendoza  or  Joe Osterlund
(209) 329-3449   (415) 238-2898
BEW linemen working from helicopters for Wilson Construction are installing over 30 miles of transmission line on newly-built towers north of Sacramento.

The project, which began in June 2010 with the pouring of concrete footings for the towers, will increase transmission capacity for the Sacramento Municipal Utility District and the Western Area Power Administration. Wilson came onto the job that September.

Although the linemen seem to be violating the laws of gravity as they sail through the air beneath the helicopter, flight helps linemen use time more efficiently and lightens the job’s environmental footprint.

The High Life

Photos by Eric Wolfe and Ross McFate

A helicopter whisks the linemen between the towers, saving time and reducing the job’s environmental footprint.

I
The High Life
Helicopters speed work, lighten footprint of tower job

A helicopter whisks the linemen between the towers, saving time and reducing the job’s environmental footprint.

Right: The small cable is taken off as they prepare to install the new conductor.

Left: Orange hose is used on the conductor to protect it from bumping into the pulling wire.

LEFT: An early task was to create massive concrete foundations for the towers.

Below: The new conductor is pulled in.

The towers are equipped with rollers (called travelers) that enable the electric line (conductor) to be pulled into place. To get the process started, the helicopter lays rope (sockline) onto the travelers. The sockline isn’t strong enough to pull in the conductor, but linemen on the ground use it to pull in a steel cable, which in turn is used to pull in the conductor, which comes off large spools, up over the traveler and then onto the next tower.

Linemen are ferried up to the tower riding on the skids of the helicopter. After they transfer to the tower, the helicopter returns to the ground to fetch the “clipping ladder.” The ladder is hooked onto the arm and the linemen use it to

continued on next page

Lightening the footprint

When you’re building transmission towers and stringing wire you’re throwing a lot of weight around. That can be a big problem in environmentally sensitive areas.

An environmental specialist educates workers and visitors about the turtles, snakes, owls and other creatures in the area that need to be protected. Wooden pads are laid down to cushion the impact from the heavy equipment used to pull in conductor.

But environmental obstacles would be far greater if the job was to be done without a helicopter. Instead of laying that initial sockline through all the travelers from the air, the line would have to go from ground to traveler and back to ground, with trucks being used to pull the line through each tower, making for a lot of unhappy snakes and turtles.

An owl is among the critters observing the transmission job.

(Last page: Photos by Eric Wolfe and Ross McFate)
The High Life continued from previous page

climb down to the traveler. The conductor is then jacked out of the traveler with a long-handled hoist.

Having served its purpose, the traveler is attached to a rope and flown away. The helicopter returns with hardware needed by the linemen to “clip in” the conductor. When they’re finished, the clipping ladder is reattached to the helicopter, which lowers them to the tower’s next arm so the process can be repeated.

When the linemen have clipped in all of the conductor, it’s time to fly. Perhaps not as birds know it, but damn close. The linemen reattach the clipping ladder to the rope and then just hang on and enjoy the view as they fly from this tower to the next one down the line.
Hold the Pull
By Ralph Armstrong

The Hold the Pull committee has completed a majority of the 22 scheduled presentations around the PG&E system. These presentations are designed to inform linemen about the important role they play in developing safety awareness on the job.

Due to storm work we had to cancel and reschedule presentations several times. We hope to have all presentations completed by the end of May. Next on the agenda is the appointment and training of Safety Stewards.

Business Manager Tom Dalzell has had initial discussions to start a similar peer-to-peer safety program in PG&E's Gas Department. We expect to bring a group of members to Weakley Hall in the near future to start developing a program.

New PG&E Rain Gear

There are 1,100 sets of the new Omega 3 rain gear being used in wear trials at PG&E this year. There has also been some misinformation being passed along pertaining to the new Omega 3 gear and the ability to use it as a second layer for FR protection. This information is false. In order for any piece of FR Clothing to be considered for layering purposes the company must perform tests with each clothing combination to verify the actual level of protection that is being offered.

It is important for everyone to know that the only combination of clothing allowed for layering is what has been approved by PG&E. If there are any questions pertaining to these requirements you should verify with the company what combinations are allowable.

If this new rain gear receives good feedback from employees, the rain gear issue can be put to rest. If not, the company has stated it will return to the old rain gear which did not leak but was not breathable and caused the workers to sweat.

Biedinger fatality citations

OSHA has issued three serious citations in connection with the Gerald Biedinger fatality totaling $21,000. Biedinger, a T&D Equipment Operator, was fatally electrocuted in Tuolumne, Ca. on Aug. 20, 2010 when the Highway Digger he was operating came in contact with an energized 17 kV line. Federal OSHA was the agency handling the case, rather than Cal-OSHA, because the fatality occurred on Indian land.

Each citation carries a penalty of $7,000. They include one for violation of the MAD, one for not having the vehicle wheels chocked, and one for not performing a proper hazard assessment on the site.

Instead of invoking the General Duty Clause which states that the employer shall furnish its employees a safe place to work free of hazards, OSHA issued two letters under this clause with recommendations for abating future citations based on things they discovered during their investigation.

The first letter involved the umbrella that was used to block the sun. This umbrella also blocked the view of the operator while he was raising and lowering his boom. The recommendation is to have the umbrella removed.

The second letter pertained to having the employee exposed to electric shock by not having the equipment grounded to earth when working in the vicinity of electric power lines. The recommendation is to have the vehicle grounded to earth when the safe working distance to electric power lines can be encroached upon.

La creación de nuevas unidades, viene de la página 7

Informe del Área Sur

En las Divisiones de Yosemite, los podadores de árboles del Local 1245 tienen abundante trabajo de emergencia debido a las fuertes tormentas de nieve. Se han reportado muchas interrupciones eléctricas en el territorio de Yosemite Sur. El Parque Yosemite Park ha estado cerrado. Las cuadrillas han tenido trabajo debido a las tormentas en Sonora, Mariposa y Oakhurst, y las cuadrillas de San Joaquin también fueron llamadas a trabajar.

Davey Tree Surgery: En la Costa Central estamos preocupados sobre cómo debe manejarse el trabajo de emergencia en cada una de las sedes locales. El convenio que tenemos con la gerencia es que el tiempo se empieza a contar a partir del momento en que se declara la emergencia, y al finalizar todo el trabajo se discute con toda la cuadrilla cuánto tiempo se le cobrará a la compañía, dándoles la media hora necesaria para conducir de regreso a su casa.

Otro problema que hemos estado encontrando: los supervisores de primer nivel están realizando cambios a las solicitudes de trabajo. La compañía está solicitando más información sobre estos incidentes para evitar este tipo de problemas en el futuro.

Trees Inc.: Tuvimos una reunión del Comité de Revisión de Quejas en Yuba City el 25 de marzo.

Debido a los trabajos recientes debido a la tormenta, las cuadrillas de Yosemite han sido llamadas de regreso para trabajar en Jackson, Angels Camp y Oakhurst. Recientemente la compañía despidió a dos empleados en Fresno por falsificar documentos de la compañía. Basado nuestras investigaciones, vamos a impugnar ambos casos.

La información para este informe fue suministrada por Ron Cochran, Carl Lammers, y Junior Ornelas.

Safety updates on line

Find additional safety news online under the “Safety Matters” tab at www.ibew1245.com. The April safety report includes information about:

- Recent accidents
- Low voltage lock out tag out vs. clearance procedures
- 100% fall protection on wood poles
- Troublemaker work jurisdiction and safety
- CalOSHA proposed change to PPE purchase requirement
- Setting poles around energized voltages in excess of 21,000 volts
- CalOSHA crane standard
“Shame on NV Energy” becomes Facebook phenomenon

I

BEW Local 1245’s “Shame on NV Energy” Facebook page in March became the most populated and active advocacy page in Nevada. Shame on NV Energy by late March had achieved an incredible 17,865 “likes”, indicating that Nevadans are increasingly upset with the company as they learn more about service cuts, workforce downsizing, extravagant CEO pay, and mistreatment of retired workers. To get some idea of the popularity of this page, compare with the number of “likes” at other Nevada advocacy pages as shown below.

If you haven’t “liked” this Facebook page yet, now’s as good a time as any to hop on board!

Facebook Page Membership
- Shame on NV Energy 17,865
- Senator Harry Reid 16,931
- Brian Sandoval 9,297
- Organizing for America – Nevada 2,586
- Senator John Ensign 1,674
- The Wrong Angle 1,652
- Nevadans for Sensible Marijuana Laws 1,491
- ProgressNow Nevada 1,287
- Nevada Senate Democratic Caucus 984
- Young Democrats of Nevada 413

NV Energy’s aging workforce

IBEW seeks intervenor status at PUCN investigation

I

BEW Local 1245 has asked to be granted status as an intervenor in the Public Utility Commission of Nevada’s investigation into workforce issues at Sierra Pacific Power Co., the northern Nevada affiliate of NV Energy. The investigation was opened in response to a petition filed by IBEW Local 1245 with the Commission last October, and over the objection of SPPC.

In a motion filed with the PUCN on April 1, the union noted that it had a “direct and substantial interest” in the subject of the proceeding, namely “whether the workforce of Sierra Pacific Power Company is, or in the future will be, experiencing a significant amount of aging, and the potential impact, if any, that such aging may have on the reliability of SPPC’s service.”

In arguing that it ought to have intervenor status, the union noted that the investigation comes in response to the union’s own petition, which contained a detailed factual presentation about SPPC’s aging workforce and the possibility that the aging workforce could adversely impact the utility’s service quality and reliability.

The union’s petition for intervenor status notes: “As IBEW Local 1245 represents the workforce that is the subject of this proceeding, and submitted the petition that resulted in the initiation of this proceeding, the Union submits that its interests, and those of the members it represents, could not be more direct or substantial. The Union represents more than 700 Company employees, all of whom are directly involved in the provision of safe and reliable service to customers. These workers perform diverse tasks, including those involving generation, transmission, distribution, clerical, transport and customer service functions.”

Human Resource Planning

Although it may appear to the average customer that electric service involves little more than flipping a switch and watching the lights come on, IBEW members are deeply familiar with the difficult and sometimes dangerous work that goes into keeping an electric system operating reliably and safely, and the importance of human resource planning in ensuring that the utility is sufficiently staffed with highly trained personnel. The union’s petition states: “The Union reasonably believes that it has particular and unique insights into matters warranting Commission investigation in this proceeding, including whether the Company’s plans are sufficient to allow it to fulfill its public service obligations.”

The union goes on to state that: “The SPPC employees represented by IBEW Local 1245 have a strong general interest in the safety and reliability of the Company’s operations and the staffing, planning and workforce practices necessary to ensure the provision of satisfactory service to the consuming public. In these regards, IBEW Local 1245’s participation will fulfill a unique role in these proceedings. No other party has a similar obligation or ability to protect the interests of IBEW Local 1245 members.”

In its petition, the union requests that it be permitted to participate with “full party rights during all phases” of the investigation.

Check the union’s website at www.ibew1245.com for updates on the PUCN investigation as they become available.

Sleaze that sticks

W

hen U.S. Senator John Ensign resigned in disgrace from the US Senate, effective May 3, he left NV Energy up to its elbows in one of the sleaziest political soap operas in ages.

It all began when Ensign contacted NV Energy and asked CEO Michael Yackira to “hire” Ensign’s mistress’s husband, Doug Hampton. NV Energy, for reasons understood only by its executives, agreed to enable Ensign’s questionable behavior—and now Hampton has been indicted for lobbying on behalf of NV Energy.

But actually, the sordid tale begins earlier than that, when Hampton came to Washington in 2007 to serve as Ensign’s top administrative assistant. They were good buds, it seemed.

Then, late in 2007, Hampton learned that his wife, Cindy, a close friend of Ensign’s wife since high school, was having an affair with Ensign, who had given her a job as treasurer of his political operations.

Ensign struggled to cover up his philandering. You can see why he would want to keep Hampton quiet, considering the sordid mess that Ensign had created for himself. And you can almost admire how Ensign managed to convince his own parents to give Hampton’s family $96,000 as “severance” pay. And it’s obvious why Hampton, who didn’t want to work for Ensign anymore, would accept a well-paid gig as a lobbyist for NV Energy.

But it’s mighty hard to see why NV Energy’s Yackira would agree to the deal, considering that federal law prohibits senior Senate staffers from lobbying the Senate for a year after they leave their Capitol Hill jobs. Could it be that no one in the company’s stable of attorneys was familiar with federal law?

Now Hampton faces up to 35 years in prison for the seven counts against him handed down in the federal indictment, as well as a fine of up to $1.75 million. And Ensign, facing an ethics investigation from a Senate panel, has headed for the hills.

Hampton has said that both he and Ensign were fully aware of the lobbying rules and that they decided to work around them. Whatever that means. Apparently they had a willing partner in NV Energy. Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval on April 22 said he will announce an appointment to replace Ensign before the senator’s resignation date of May 3.
Retirees’ Corner

Retiree Club Meeting Schedule

You can find the specific dates for each month at http://www.ibewninthdistrictretns.org/unit_meetings.htm

East Bay Chapter: 2nd Thursday each month, 10 a.m., IBEW Local 595, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin, CA
San Jose Chapter: 1st Thursday each month, 10 a.m., at IBEW Local 332, 2125 Canoas Garden, San Jose, CA.
Vacaville/Sacramento Chapter: 2nd Wednesday every other month, 10 a.m., at IBEW Local 1245, 30 Orange Tree Circle, Vacaville, CA.
Santa Rosa Chapter: 1st Tuesday each month, 10 a.m., at Coco’s Restaurant, 1501 Farmers Lane, Santa Rosa.

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

Reno/Sparks Chapter: 3rd Wednesday each month, 8:30 a.m., Denny’s Restaurant, 205 E. Nugget Ave., Sparks, NV.

Yerrington Chapter: 4th Tuesday each month, 11:30 a.m., Casino West, 11 Main Street, Yerrington, NV.

Congratulations newly-retired members

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

Arthur Aguilar
37 years
Hayward CA

Ronnie Caldwell
32 years
Oakland, CA

Bruce Coddington
33 years
McKinleyville, CA

Moni Collins
15 years
Pittsburg, CA

Linda Cortez, 9 years
Stockton CA

Donald Cram
16 years
Mariposa CA

Julia Crosby
28 years
Collins, MS

Sandra Damitz
33 years
Middletown, CA

Richard Daniels
26 years
Santa Rosa, CA

Yolanda De Rouen
37 years
San Francisco, CA

Charlie Dora
32 years
West Sacramento, CA

Darrell Drennon
1 years
Morro Bay, CA

Thomas Dudley
41 years
San Francisco, CA

Avelino Dulay
33 years
Sacramento, CA

Glenda Dwyer
29 years
Hanford, CA

Rose Escalante
29 years
Oxnard, CA

Dennis Farrell
40 years
Rancho Cordova, CA

Craig Feldhaus
45 years
Sunnyvale, CA

Lana Flaten
13 years
Paso Robles, CA

Darleen Foote
55 years
Clovis, CA

George Ford
44 years
Richmond, CA

Herald Frickman
39 years
Yuba City, CA

Karen Gibson
30 years
Fresno, CA

Donna Gonsalves
25 years
Los Banos, CA

Manuel Gonzalez
38 years
Bakersfield, CA

Robert Gren
28 years
Cloverdale, CA

James Habe
32 years
Oroville, CA

Eugene Harrison
48 years
San Francisco, CA

Eric Helmle
1 years
Pioneer, CA

Rhina Hernandez
16 years
San Ramon, CA

George Hernandez
40 years
Soledad, CA

Donna Horsman-Morain
31 years
San Bruno, CA

Thomas Hibbard
32 years
Redding, CA

Frank Hiegel
25 years
Yuba City, CA

Clara Hoganas
31 years
San Francisco, CA

Glenn Hollands
12 years
Oregon City, OR

Louis Holst
39 years
Lower Lake, CA

Dale Horn
24 years
San Francisco, CA

Mark Hopp
41 years
Auburn, CA

Robert Hubbard
31 years
Eureka, CA

Dennis Incardone
26 years
Fairfield, CA

James Johnston
41 years
Atwater, CA

Norman Keeling
33 years
Coarsegold, CA

Peter Kilkenney
26 years
Eureka, CA

James Kizer
27 years
Atwater, CA

Stephen Landers
39 years
Merced, CA

Steve Lane
30 years
Lodi, CA

Ben Lombard, CA

David Lawton
39 years
Elk Grove, CA

Mark Leary
21 years
Chico, CA

Don Lillie
41 years
Newark, CA

Jeffrey Lima
33 years
Susanville, CA

William Lowe
39 years
Marysville, CA

Michael Lucero
18 years
Mineral, CA

Ralph Marbach
38 years
Salinas, CA

Vincent Martinez
36 years
Freedom, CA

Jack Maslov
40 years
El Dorado Hills, CA

Patrick McCullough
38 years
Holister, CA

Jeffrey Morris
37 years
Pacifica, CA

Kevin Mulhern
33 years
Livermore, CA

Mark Naranjo
20 years
Novato, CA

Michael Nastari
17 years
Burlingame, CA

Scott Neibi
26 years
Napa, CA

Mark Neuvett
13 years
Jackson, CA

Gaelynn Nunes
32 years
Lodi, CA

David Olivera
35 years
San Jose, CA

Russell Orobo
42 years
Salinas, CA

Robert Orr
25 years
Santa Rosa, CA

Daniel Parmenter
27 years
Knights Landing, CA

William Pederson
41 years
Petaluma, CA

Shipa Pettier, 9 years
Sacramento, CA

Orlando Perondi
41 years
French Camp, CA

Robert Pontecorvo
26 years
Fresno, CA

Lorraine Popovich
12 years
Seaside, CA

Lorraine Popovich
12 years
Seaside, CA

Steve Posey
35 years
Kerman, CA

Anton Ragland
33 years
Cottonwood, CA

Joe Ramos
13 years
Ubuntu, CA

Robert Reed
4 years
Highland, CA

Michael Rego
24 years
Hayward, CA

Ronda Sandovol
39 years
Sacramento, CA

Fredrick Sarey
3 years
Verona, VA

Linda Sauer
41 years
Shasta Lake, CA

Timothy Savage
31 years
Bayside, CA

Steve Sheppard
31 years
Grass Valley, CA

Larry Shirley
30 years
Red Bluff, CA

Robert Shuss
37 years
Castro Valley, CA

H Simmons
32 years
Palermo, CA

Wilma Smith
1 years
San Pablo, CA

continued on page 20

IBEW retirees submit resolutions
Shareholders urge more corporate responsibility at NV Energy

Several members of the Reno/Sparks Chapter of the IBEW Local 1245 Retirees Club who are stockholders in NV Energy have submitted shareholder resolutions for the upcoming shareholder meeting.

Proposal 9 would give holders of 15% of NV Energy’s shares the power to call a special meeting of stockholders if they believe the situation warrants it. The retirees argue that the current practice of prohibiting stockholder-called special meetings gives management too much control over the timing of stockholder action.

The retirees contend that stockholders should have the ability, within reasonable limits, to call a special meeting when they think a matter is sufficiently important to require stockholder consideration before the annual meeting. The proposal asks NV Energy’s board to amend the bylaws to establish a process by which holders of 15% of NV Energy’s outstanding common shares may demand that a special meeting be called.

Proposal 10 asks that senior executives be required to retain a significant percentage—the proposal suggests 75%—of shares acquired through equity compensation programs until two years following the termination of their employment (through retirement or otherwise).

The retirees contend that requiring senior executives to hold a significant portion of shares obtained through compensation plans until after the termination of employment would focus them on NV Energy’s long-term success and would better align their interests with those of NV Energy’s stockholders.

Useful links for retirees

http://renosparksibewninthdistrictretirees.blogspot.com/

IBEW Ninth District Blog
http://ibewninthdistrictretirees.blogspot.com/
meet with a state senator who hadn’t taken a position yet on the anti-union legislation.

Lorenso Arciniega (PG&E), Francesca Keeney (PG&E) and Dean Evans (Outside Construction) were on the ground in Jacksonville, canvassing door-to-door and visiting worksites to collect cards and letters opposing the legislation.

On April 18, the Local 1245 teams participated in “Tax Day” rallies to drive home a related message: the federal tax burden is being shifted from large corporations and the super-wealthy onto the backs of working people, at the same time that corporations are pushing legislation to gut unions and make it harder for working people to earn decent wages.

Workers are clearly tired of playing in a game that is rigged against them.

In Wisconsin this winter, workers made it clear they were mad as hell and weren’t going to take it anymore. Their uprising galvanized movements in several other states, and in April the battle came to Florida.

“This is what solidarity looks like,” said Local 1245 Organizer Fred Ross, Jr. “We need to be standing with other public sector unions because this is bigger than just one union or one state. We are affected and we have to be prepared. We have to be part of the solution.”

Over 500 Local 1245 members have recently signed up to be part of the union’s “Solidarity Action Network,” saying they are willing to stand up to attacks on unions in California and Nevada.

We know you work hard for your money. That’s why we’ve created 40 benefits to help get more out of life.

- Save on wireless devices and services available through “Union Proud” AT&T.
- Get discounts and upgrades on rental cars, vans, SUVs and trucks, plus great deals on family vacations.
- Save on theme parks, sporting events, theater, movies, movie rentals, restaurants and more.
- Secure a Union Plus Mortgage with special cost savings and protections against layoff and hardship.
- Get Union SAFE grants to help weather economic storms.

PLUS EVEN MORE BENEFITS offer you additional financial, health, legal, travel, entertainment and educational savings and services.

Live. Relax. Enjoy. 40 BENEFITS help stretch your paycheck and make life a little easier.

Congratulations!
We want you to STAY CONNECTED to IBEW 1245.
**Election of Delegates to the International Convention**

Loral 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. 19-23, 2011 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Local 1245 members will receive their ballots around June 1st. Ballots will contain instructions on voting procedure, including the maximum number of candidates you can vote for, and 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 name and initiation date appears.

---

**Lorenzo Arciniega**

Initiated into IBEW in November of 2001; Member of Unit 1511, San Jose; Classification: Customer Service Representative. Committees: PG&E Business Transformation Committee Call Center Operations, 2004-2005; CCO Shift Swap 2008; Clerical Bargaining Negotiation 2009-2011; Young Engaged for Solidarity (Y.E.S.) 2010-Present; Planning Committee, for 1st Ever IBEW Local 1245 Youth Conference, 2010; PG&E Wellness Program 2010; PG&E CCO Attendance Management 2011; IBEW Local 1245 Social Media 2011; Young Workers Bay Area Leadership & Development Training Planning 2011; Activities on behalf of the Union: Shame on NV Energy Picket (Reno, Nevada), 2009; Shame on NV Energy Picket (Las Vegas, Nevada), 2010; Delegate to attend the AFL-CIO Next Up Young Workers Summit, 2010; PG&E Quarterly Benefits Meeting, 2010; Union Plus National Future Leaders Mentorship Program, 2010; IBEW Local 1245 Young Workers Leadership & Development Training, 2010; Delegate to the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus, 2011; Appointed by International President Ed Hil as IBEW representative for the AFL-CIO National Young Workers Advisory Council, 2011-present; Point Organizer for WE ARE ONE/Day of Action Rally San Jose, CA, 2011; Point Organizer for WE ARE ONE/Day of Action Rally Santa Cruz, CA, 2011; Point Organizer for WE ARE ONE/Day of Action Rally Salinas, CA, 2011; Elected as Delegate to Florida AFSCME Mutual Aid Project, 2011; Member of: Pride@Work (National); Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (EWMC); Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCALLA); Next Generation Bay Area (South Bay Labor Council).

**Ralph M. Armstrong Jr.**

Initiated into IBEW Local 349 in 1986 transferred to Local 759 in 1989, transferred to Local 1245 in April 1995-December 2003 currently, as of April 2007, a member of Local 1245 and American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE); Member of Unit 4911, Outside Line. Classification: Sr. Business Representative (Journeyman Lineman); American Federation of Government Employee’s (AFGE) April 2, 2007-Current. Committees: Chairman of the IBEW 1245 Safety Committee 2008 to Present; Chairman of the IBEW/National Electrical Contractor Association (NECA) Joint Safety Committee, 2008 to Present, Union Lead on the Joint IBEW 1245/PG&E Health and Safety Committee, 2008 to Present; Lead on the Lineman to Lineman, 2009; Peer to Peer Safety Committee 2009; Alternate to the California Nevada Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee for Local 1245; IBEW 1245/PG&E, FR Clothings Negotiating Committee; GCCI Committee Member, 2003; Joint Company/Union member on the Safety Committee (WAPA); Joint Fall Protection Policy/Procedure and training committee (WAPA); Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (WAPA); Activities on behalf of the Union: Joint Company/Union participation in Live-Line Maintenance practices for Western Area Power Administration (WAPA); Joint Company/Union member for Safety Rule Manual and various Maintenance Manual revisions (WAPA);

**Anna Bayless-Martinez**


**Rick Berridge**

Initiated into IBEW on January 31, 1986.

**Lonnie Bolden**

Initiated into IBEW on July 31, 2007.

**Bill Brill**

Initiated into IBEW in June of 1980; Member of Unit 1511, San Jose; Classification: IBEW Business Representative; Shop Steward 1980-1999, San Jose Unit Chair 1981-1999; Committees: Ballot Committee, 1983.; San Jose Division Labor, 1990-1999; Co-Chair of Continuous Improvement through Employee Involvement Advisory Board, 1993-1995; Member of San Jose Division Safety Walk Around, 1991-1999 (Chairman of San Jose Division Safety Walk Around, 1992-1999); Member of Meter Reading 94-53 Committee, 1997-1999; Member of the CEO Meeting that met with Stan Skinner, 1994; Delegate to South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council 1984-Present; Executive Board Member to South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council, 1994- Present; Currently serving as second Vice President of South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council Executive Board; Chair of Union Label Committee South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council 1989-1999. Activities on behalf of the Union: AFL-CIO Organizing Training 1988; Graduated from George Meany Labor College class in organizing, 1999; Collected over 2500 signatures in 1988 for Cal-OSHA initiative; Joint Apprentice Training Committee 1997 to present; Multiple Shop Steward Conferences.

**Adam Caballero**


**Lloyd I. Cargo IV**

Initiated into IBEW in October, 2003; Member of Unit 3811, Sacramento; Classification: Gas Service Representative. Shop Steward July, 2009 to Present; Committees: Election Committee 2010, Youth Engaged for Solidarity June 2010-Present, Current Member of PG&E Benefits Education Committee. Activities on behalf of Union: Next Up Young Workers Summit in Washington D.C. June 2010, International Gas Conference in Florida September 2010, Organizing Campaign for NUHW from August-September 2010, Worked with the Sacramento Labor Council during the elections from October-November 2010, New Employee Orientation In San Ramon from January 2011- Present, Health Care Management Conference in March 2011.

**Phil “Haystack” Baker**

Initiated into IBEW in January of 1993; Member of unit #3213, Burney; Classification: Electrical Technician; Shop Steward 2003...to present; Unit 3213 chairman

**Scott Barnes**

Initiated into IBEW on March 31, 1996

**Walter Carmier**

Initiated into IBEW in May, 2000; Member of Unit 4014, Elk Grove (Frontier); Classification: Transmission Technician. Shop Steward: March 23rd, 2006 to Present; Committees: Ballot Committee 1 Oct, 2008; Ballot Committee 30 Jun 2004; Ballot Committee 24 Nov 2004; Promissory Note Review Committee October 18th, 2005.
ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION


Donna Franklin
Initiated into IBEW on November 30, 1979

Art Freitas

Robyn A. Goff

Jay Greer
Initiated into IBEW on January 31, 2002

Ken Gross
Initiated into IBEW on December 31, 2000

Margaret M. Humphreys
Initiated into IBEW in May, 1992; Member of Unit 3111, Sacramento; Classification: Specialty Representative.

Richard Gutierrez
Initiated into IBEW in November, 1973; Member of Unit 3811, Sacramento. Classification: Gas Service Representative.

Christine “Chris” Habecker

Mickey Harrington
Initiated into IBEW in March, 1960; Member of Unit 3417 Paradise (Chico.)

Justin Heberlein
Initiated into IBEW on November 30, 2003

Ward Hollesen
Initiated into IBEW on January 31, 1984

Scott “Hud” Hudelson

Jim Hummel
Initiated into IBEW on April 30, 1978

Mike Jessen
Initiated into IBEW in June, 1991; Member of Unit 3417, Chico; Classification: Lineman/Compliance Inspector, PG&E: Shop Steward ; Unit Recorder Unit 3417; De Salla Division Advisory Council member. Committees: 2012 PG&E Physical Contract Negotiations - OIR over Time Sub-Committee; North Valley Safety Walk-Around

Casey Kelly
Initiated into IBEW on May 31, 1999

Jesse Kenney
Initiated into IBEW on March 31, 1985

Bryan “Lov” Lovio
Initiated into IBEW in October, 2003; Member of Unit 1126, Turlock; Classification: ‘A’ Card Journeyman Electrical Lineworker, Shop Steward 2005 to present; Unit Sergeant-At-Arms, 2003 - 2005, Committees: Hold The Full Lineman-to-Lineman Safety Program; Various Union sponsored training seminars.

Carla McAfee-Evans
Initiated into IBEW on March 31, 1991

Elizabeth “Liz” McNiss
Initiated into IBEW in August, 2000; Member of unit 4911 Outside Line. Classification: Business Representative/ Organizer; Activities on behalf of the Union: Vice President of Community Affairs – Napa-Solano Labor Council; National Labor College – Organizing; National Labor College – Negotiating

Elizabeth “Liz” McNiss
Initiated into IBEW on December 31, 1983

John Mendoza
Initiated into IBEW on December 31, 1997

Sergio Munoz

Stu Neblett
Initiated into IBEW in September, 1988; Member of Unit 1220, San Luis Obispo DCPP; Classification: Work Control Lead; Shop Steward 2005 to present; IBEW Local 1245 Advisory Council – Coast Valleys; Committees: Member of DCPP Oversight Committee; 2008 DCPP ADHOC Negotiations and 2011 DCPP Title 8 Committee. Activities on behalf of the Union: 2007 delegate the IBEW national Nuclear Conference.

Graciela Nunez
Initiated into IBEW in October, 2006; Member of Unit 1111, Fresno; Classification: Service Representative. Shop Steward 2007 to present; Committees: Benefits Bargaining 2009, Clerical Bargaining 2010. Quarterly Benefits committee, CIUW and Youth Engaged for Solidarity (YES.)

Carl Olguin
Initiated into IBEW on May 31, 1996

Pat Patterson
Initiated into IBEW in October of 2005; Classification: Electrical Line Worker. Shop Steward; 2009-Present; Unit Vice Chairman of Unit 1126, Tullock Committee. Negotiations Committee; Youth Council 2010-Present; Youth Engaged for Solidarity, 2010-Present. Activities on behalf of the Union: Youth Convention, Washington D.C. 2010; Solidarity Action Network.

Mike Rapozo
Initiated into IBEW on June 30, 1984

Veronica N. Rivera
Initiated into IBEW in August of 2004; Member of Unit 3311, Reno; Classification: Customer Service Credit and Collections at NV Energy. Shop Steward 2010 to present; Activities on behalf of the Union: The Youth/Leadership Council & Training – Current Electric Minority Caucus Member and attended the January, 2011 Convention; CAT-Contract Action Team and the Reno Evelyn Mount-Community Outreach Program.

George Payne
Initiated into IBEW on October 31, 2010

Steve Peeples
Initiated into IBEW on January 31, 2005

Gary E. Petersen
Initiated into IBEW in September, 1978; Member of Unit 1220, San Luis Obispo DCPP; Classification: Work Control Lead; Shop Steward 2005 to present; IBEW Local 1245 Advisory Council – Coast Valleys; Committees: Member of DCPP Oversight Committee; 2008 DCPP ADHOC Negotiations and 2011 DCPP Title 8 Committee. Activities on behalf of the Union: 2007 delegate the IBEW national Nuclear Conference.

Russell Pittman
Initiated into IBEW on July 31, 2003

Tana Prince
Initiated into IBEW in November of 1980; Member of Unit 1111, Fresno; Classification: Senior Operating Clerk Typist 1; Activities on behalf of the Union: Unit Recorder, Fresno for the past 15 years; Conflict Resolution Meetings, Fresno; Multiple Shop Steward trainings in the past 15 years. Clerical Bargaining Briefing for onsite volunteers in Vacaville, June 2010.

Hunter Stern
Initiated into IBEW in September of 1994; Member of Unit 2412, San Francisco. Classification: Business Representative; Committees: IBEW-Foster Wheeler Bargaining Committee, 1995 & 2003 & 2007; IBEW-PG&E Joint Apprenticeship and Training, 1997-2005; IBEW-PG&E Steam Plant Divestiture, 1997 & 2000; IBEW-PG&E Bargaining GC Subcommittee, 2000; IBEW-Southern Energy Bargaining Committee, 2001; IBEW-Mirant Bargaining Committee, 2005: Former Chair of the San Francisco Citizens’ General Obligation Bond Oversight Committee. Activities on behalf of the Union: Negotiating collective bargaining agreements including wages, benefits, working conditions, safety rules, state approved apprentice-ship programs and worker training programs with a variety of employers. Appeared hundreds of times before City Councils, County Board of Supervisors, State Legislative Committees, the California Public Utilities Commission and other public agencies. Speak on behalf of worker friendly legislation and administrative rules with elected officials and agencies as well as advocating energy policy and initiatives that support all IBEW Local 1245 members. Political campaigns initiated by Local 1245; IBEW Registrar, IBEW, California Labor Federation conventions; Workforce Development conferences. Member of the Executive Board of the North Valley Labor Federation, San Joaquin, Stanislaus & Merced counties; Member of the Executive Board of the Alameda Labor Council; Delegate to the Contra Costa, San Francisco and San Mateo Labor Councils, Member of the Marin County Workforce Investment Board.
### Candidates for Local Union Office

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Initiated into IBEW</th>
<th>Activities on behalf of the Union</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Stout</td>
<td>August 31, 2005</td>
<td>Initiated into IBEW on August 31, 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee Thomas</td>
<td>December 31, 1977</td>
<td>Initiated into IBEW on December 31, 1977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dennis Thompson</td>
<td>July 31, 1972</td>
<td>Initiated into IBEW on July 31, 1972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann Tims</td>
<td>January of 1978</td>
<td>Initiated into IBEW in January of 1978; Member of Unit 3801, Sacramento Clerical; Classification: Senior Service Representative II.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dennis Hampton Torres</td>
<td></td>
<td>Initiated into IBEW Local Union 465 in August of 1974, joined Local 1245 in February 2002; Member of Unit 3512, City of Roseville; Classification: Electric Utility Technician. Committees: Unit 3512 Safety Representative and City of Roseville Safety Representative, 2002 – 2005; Unit 3512 Negotiation Committee Member, 2006. Activities on behalf of the Union: Delegated from Local 465, 1996 IBEW International Convention.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**YOU have a voice**

Democracy means your vote counts. The union members listed on these pages have declared their interest in representing you at the IBEW’s international convention—but the final decision is up to YOU.

Please review the candidates, and then VOTE when your ballot arrives in the mail. Look for your ballot around the beginning of June.
We Are One! continued from page 2

Local 1245’s Solidarity Action Network

more photos on pages 2 and 28

Solidarity Action in Modesto!

Solidarity Action in Carson City!

Solidarity Action in San Jose!

Solidarity Action in Merced!

Solidarity Action in Oakland!
To sign up for the Local 1245 Solidarity Action Network, go to www.ibew1245.com/solidarity_action.html.