Lead Maintenance Mechanic Lee Soukup reads a locator tag on an oil leak at the Fort Churchill Unit #2 boiler.
Jennifer Gray hired as organizer

Jennifer Gray has been hired as an organizer for Local 1245. Gray, who came on staff Feb. 4, brings plenty of experience to the job. She was a lead organizer in Local 1245’s campaign last year against Proposition 32, an anti-union measure that was soundly defeated. She was one of several Local 1245 members dispatched in recent years to Florida, Ohio and Wisconsin to fight anti-union campaigns there, and helped organize the union’s participation in “We Are One” rallies at several locations in California.

Gray, 30, also has contributed to the union’s new community outreach efforts. She helped develop the Sacramento Area Organizing Committee, which sponsors an annual Charity Bowl in the Sacramento area, and recently coordinated Local 1245’s participation in Earth Day activities at 10 locations in eight California counties.

You might say that union is in her blood. Her mother is a former IBEW member. So is her brother, who worked at a PG&E Call Center. Sister Gray hired onto PG&E in 2006 as a Service Rep at PG&E’s Sacramento Call Center. She has served as a steward, as unit recorder for the Sacramento Clerical unit, and on the

Unit meeting changes

Unit 3511, Auburn, has changed its meeting location to Round Table Pizza, 2260 Highway 49, in the BeAir Shopping Center, Auburn. The change is effective immediately.

Bob Gerstle
Business Representative

Unit 4014, Frontier, has a new meeting location effective April 16. The new location is Mountain Mike’s, 7440 Laguna Blvd, Elk Grove.

Sheila Lautson
Business Representative

Unit 3801, Sacramento Clerical, has changed its meeting location effective April 16. The new location is Black Bear Diner, 2790 El Centro Road, Sacramento. Meetings continue to be on the first Tuesday of the month beginning at 4:30 pm.

Arlene Edwards
Business Representative

Unit 3111, Eureka, will now start at 4:00 pm. This change took effect in February.

Sonny Hollesem
Business Representative

Unit 3812, Vacaville, has a new location, date, and meeting time. Meetings will now be held on the third Tuesday of the month at 4:00 pm. The new location is the Outback Steakhouse at 521 Davis St. in Vacaville.

Lloyd Cargo
Business Representative

Gray hired as organizer

Jennifer Gray speaking at a “No on 32” event last fall.

IBEW bargaining committee at PG&E.

“I love the union. I understand the roles unions play in workers lives and families,” said Gray, “Organizing gives me an opportunity to bring more people into this movement.”

Welcome aboard, Sister Gray!
Famous work celebrates Latin history and labor's struggle for social justice

San Francisco unit helps preserve beloved mural

An artistic treasure in San Francisco’s Mission District has a new lease on life, thanks to a helping hand from IBEW Local 1245’s San Francisco unit.

"500 Years of Resistance" graces the outside of St. Peter’s Parish at 24th and Florida streets, covering two walls. It is one of the great examples of mural art in a city known for its murals. Painted 21 years ago by world renowned muralist Isaias Mata, the mural has been memorialized in the internationally acclaimed book, “San Francisco Street Art: Mission Muralism.”

But time can take a heavy toll on outdoor art. "500 Years of Resistance" has begun to crack and peel. The Parish, along with the Precita Eyes Muralists’ Association, recently had been looking for some way to restore this masterpiece.

Enter IBEW Local 1245’s San Francisco unit.

“I’ve been on 24th Street for years and years, I eat in the neighborhood. I have seen that mural many times,” said San Francisco Unit Chair Vince Jones. “I just never paid close attention to it.”

But when Local 1245 Organizer Eileen Purcell and Business Representative Landis Marttila approached Jones about involving the unit in the mural’s restoration, he jumped at the chance.

“I thought it was a good idea,” said Jones. “The mural has a good story line. It goes from the beginning of time and runs around the building to modern times,” telling the story of native peoples before the conquest, and their resistance after the conquest.

Jones said this portrayal of an epic story in mural form reminds him of another epic story told in a mural: the Book of Genesis portrayed on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel at the Vatican, by the artist Michelangelo.

Community Engagement

The San Francisco unit was in the right place at the right time to help.

Purcell, a San Francisco native, was involved in 24th Street for years. "There’s so much more we can do when we work together than when we try to do something on our own," said Purcell. “The San Francisco unit saw this as an opportunity to make a difference, to make something happen.”

At its March meeting, the unit contributed $500 toward the project. It was an important boost to the committee that has been planning the restoration, which includes Jeannette Saccheri, the 48-year veteran office manager of St. Peter’s Parish, Jose Artiga of the SHARE Foundation, and Susan Cervantes, the founder of Precita Eyes Muralists’ Association. When Mata, who is a native of El Salvador, agreed to return to San Francisco to restore his artistic creation, there was reason to celebrate.

“This mural is important to this community, a part of the 24th Street ‘cultural corridor,’ ” said Purcell. “It is a celebration of Latin identity, history and culture, and it is also an affirmation of the power of labor organizing. By helping this restoration, the San Francisco unit has found a wonderful way to become involved in this local community.”

But the IBEW’s effort didn’t stop there. The union also reached out to Gunnar Lundenberg at the San Francisco Bay Area Port Maritime Council. Lundenberg was impressed by the mural, and after a presentation by Local 1245 Business Representative Hunter Stern, the Council donated $200 to support the mural.

Others have come on board as well, in an outpouring of support from neighborhood, labor, religious, academic, and foundation groups. The completion of Mata’s restoration was celebrated with a blessing ceremony on April 30.

“You can visit the mural at the corner of 24th St. and Florida in San Francisco.

Local 1245 hires Abel Sanchez

Abel Sanchez has been hired as an IBEW Local 1245 business representative.

Brother Sanchez’s initial assignment will be to represent IBEW Line Clearance Tree Trimmers in the Southern Area. He has over 30 years’ experience in the tree trimming line of work and will be a great asset to the local union and our members.

Welcome aboard, Brother Sanchez!

Local 1245 Contrata a Abel Sanchez

IBEW 1245 ha contratado a Abel Sanchez como Business Representative de la unión. La primera asignación del Hermano Sanchez va a ser la representación de podadores de arboles en el area del sur. El lleva mas de 30 años de experiencia en la línea de trabajo con poda de los arboles y es un gran beneficio para la unión local y para nuestros miembros.

¡Bienvenido Hermano Sanchez!

Utility Reporter
At NV Energy’s Fort Churchill power plant, there was an area around the electro-hydraulic units that was always wet, kind of slippery. People were careful passing through there, naturally, but at Fort Churchill people go beyond careful.

“I put it in as a safety issue and we got some grippy paint, put that on the ground so we didn’t slip anymore,” said Tom Houghton, a Control Room Operator and 11-year IBEW 1245 member.

It sounds like a small thing, but small things add up. At Fort Churchill, the employees’ attention to safety has added up to 25 years without a lost-time accident—a phenomenal record that has drawn national attention. And questions. Like, how do you do it?

“Everybody looks out for everybody else, everybody knows everybody,” says Gary Detrick, an Assistant Control Room Operator and 11-year union member. “From the time you get here, you’re part of the family.”

You hear the family comparison a lot here at Fort Churchill, whose two gas-fired units are about an hour south and east of Reno, near Yerington.

“We’re more of a family,” says Eddie Eubanks, an I and E Tech. “It’s not an ‘I’ thing, it’s a community thing.”

Anyone with a family knows, of course, that family relations aren’t always about sweetness and light. “When I first came here, if somebody saw you doing stuff that was not safe, you got told—in a demonstrative manner, so you paid attention,” says Mike Chisum, a Lab Technician.

If people shout at you “in a demonstrative manner” at Fort Churchill, there’s most likely a good reason for it. Potential hazards include electrocution, chemical burns, fires, falls, power tools and moving vehicles, not to mention high-pressure steam.

“If any of that stuff ever gets loose and you don’t hear it and you walk into it, it will cut you in two,” says Detrick. “You have to be aware of that every time you’re around this equipment.”

**Making a Dangerous Place Safer**

A power plant is an inherently dangerous place. At Fort Churchill the employees understand that you make a dangerous place safer by watching out for yourself and others.

Good maintenance is another important factor, according to Chisum, who is a 33-year IBEW member. You’re going to be safer, he says, “if machinery and tools and ladders and automobiles are maintained.”

Safety is built into the plant’s way of life. Morning tailboard meetings make sure everybody is on the same page about the work to be done, but tailboards are also a place where safety issues can be raised—even if it’s just normal wear and tear.

“If a leak has developed, for example,” says Detrick. “It’s good to go over those little things so everybody knows.”

The plant’s safety committee, which meets monthly, also plays an important role. It’s a chance to look into safety issues in a little more depth.

“Mainly it’s the members themselves who run it, organize it—a lot of pride there,” says Brett Bristol, an Emergency Relief Operator and 13-year IBEW member, currently working on upgrade to supervisor.

But the pride you find at Fort Churchill isn’t the pride of individual accomplishment. It’s the pride of collective accomplishment. Another person’s...
accomplishments don’t detract from yours, they add to it.

“From day one, when I started working here, the other personnel would say, ‘If you need help with anything, just call me, we’ll come over and help you,’” says Noni Killian, the storekeeper who’s been at the plant for 16 years, in the IBEW for 21 years, and at NV Energy for 23 years altogether.

Knowing when to ask for help is another component of safety, says Killian. She might ask for help with lifting something that’s too heavy for her, or asking someone to spot for her when she’s driving the forklift.

On her desk, Killian displays one of IBEW Local 1245’s “Don’t Tread on Me” decals. She says the union has always been part of her family. Her mother worked out of a union hall as a flagger for construction companies. She told Killian about the financial benefits of being in a union, and the idea of brotherhood—workers watching each other’s back, “looking out for each other.”

“I agree with that now, that’s what it means to me,” says Killian. It’s part of my brotherhood and part of my family.”

**Communications and camaraderie**

When you go 25 years without an accident, it’s not unusual that a lot of people want to know how you did it. The employees themselves aren’t entirely sure, and tend to think it’s a combination of things. Some of it, they acknowledge, is probably plain old luck.

But not all of it.

“Communications and camaraderie is the biggest component of our safety record,” says Duane Matheus, a working foreman and 34-year IBEW member.

The phenomenal accident-free record, he believes, is based in part on “a sense of ownership” that employees have felt about the plant.

Bronc Cutler, a welder-mechanic who has given some thought to the long safety record at Fort Churchill, came up with a different theory:

“Must be something in the water here in Yerington.”

If it’s not broke…

Although they are justifiably proud of their safety record, and their ability to keep their Fort Churchill family free of injuries, some employees worry about the future.

One important concern, among others, is workforce attrition. Employees are not being replaced when they retire—leaving a smaller workforce to try to do the same amount of work. This trend, they worry, will make it more difficult to preserve their culture of safety, making an accident more likely in the future.

No one wants to take anything away from Fort Churchill’s safety achievement. They’re proud of it. They’d like to see the safety record continue. But most of all, they want to do everything possible to make sure that no one in their family at work gets hurt on the job.

Why change something, they wonder, that has been working so well?
Member benefits from “me too” provision in new MOU

The Port of Oakland Board of Commissioners on March 14 approved the terms of the “Me Too” provision in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Port and IBEW 1245, concluding a negotiation process that started in November of 2011.

The “Me Too” provision increases wages for IBEW members by an additional 2% over the term of the agreement, provides IBEW members a $3500 signing bonus, and accelerates the 8% wage increase employees receive in exchange for picking up the Employer Paid Member Contribution (EPMC) for CALPERS.

The original MOU that was ratified by the members on Nov. 26, 2012 and was later approved by the Board contained the following major provisions: the 8% wage increase in exchange for the EPMC pickup, a 3% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) effective Jan. 1, 2013, 100 hours of lump sum vacation deposit, $1100 per year into a professional development fund, and another wage increase of 2.5% wage increase effective July 2013, an additional 2.5% wage increase effective July 2013, and another wage increase of 2.5% effective July 2014.

Most on the Board believed that the long-term debt that the Port had accumulated prior to and during the recession required drastic cuts in employee wages and benefits.

Once all the proposals were submitted, the teams staked out their positions based on interpretations of the finances,” said Business Rep Al Fortier. “However, the union negotiating team reinforced its position by using the argument that any increases in employee contributions to the pension must be accompanied by a comparable advantage given to the employees in the form of wages.”

This argument is derived from the state Constitution, and is commonly referred to as the Contract Clause. Simply put, there must be an exchange of wages equal to the increase in contribution to the pension, hence the 8% for 8% exchange of wages for EPMC.

With financial data on our side, and legal arguments supporting our position, we felt confident we could grind out a tentative agreement that was at least cost neutral,” Fortier said.

Meanwhile, the Port Board of Commissioners moved forward with impasse proceedings against the largest Port union, SEIU, whose members had rejected a tentative agreement with the Port.

New Board appointments

With the majority of the Board apparently determined to extract major concessions from the unions, IBEW concluded it was necessary to actively participate in the selection process for the next appointments to the Port Board of Commissioners.

The issue of good faith bargaining toward a “fair” agreement became one of the central themes during the candidate interview process. IBEW 1245 worked with the Alameda Central Labor Council to identify and support candidates that were open to labor, and after extensive interviews committed to support Mayor Quan’s slate of appointees. "It was tough fight, full of political drama, and City Council infighting and high jinks,” said Fortier, but the three appointees were finally approved by a 6-2 Council vote on July 26, 2012.

There was another factor in the union's favor during bargaining. The IBEW had filed an Unfair Labor Practice (ULP) charge against the Port of Oakland and the City for failing to bargain before implementing a Second Tier pension plan at the Port.

"The ULP was a major factor in influencing the Port toward the 'me too' language, and in the end it also protected our Port members from the Second Tier pension plan adopted by the City of Oakland,” said Fortier.

On October 19, 2012 the union formally submitted a comprehensive four-year proposal to the Port that included the 8% for 8% exchange of wages for EPMC, a 120 hour lump sum deposit of vacation into a holiday account over a three year period, a 3% wage increase in year four, an $1100/year professional development fund, and a “Me Too” provision to gain superior wages or benefits if negotiated by any other bargaining unit. The Port would achieve its 20-year vesting schedule for new employees for Retiree Medical.

The Port accepted the proposal with only a slight modification of 100 hours of lump sum vacation instead of 120, and on Nov. 26, the IBEW membership ratified the tentative agreement reached with the Port of Oakland.

The terms negotiated by the IBEW became the basic framework for all the other bargaining unit tentative agreements at the Port.

Where differences arose in the subsequent settlements with the other unions, it was understood by our committee and our members that the “Me Too” provision that we negotiated would insure that we were not disadvantaged for the leadership role we played” in getting negotiations going, said Fortier.

IBEW members received the $3500 signing bonus on April 4, and are to receive a 5% accelerated wage exchange in July 2013, an additional 2.5% wage increase effective July 2013, and another wage increase of 2.5% effective July 2014.

Negotiating for the union at Merced Irrigation District were, from left, Craig Tatsum, Assistant Business Manager Ray Thomas, Business Representative Charley Souders, Shane Peck, Jerrid Fletcher, Pete Stone, and John Ellet (not pictured.)

Merced Irrigation District

Wage and benefit improvements

A multi-year agreement with Merced I.D. was ratified by Local 1245 members on April 8.

The agreement, which runs from April 1, 2013 to Sept. 30, 2016, provides general wage increases of 2% in 2014 and 2% in 2015. It also includes bonus pay of up to 2.5% of regular wages plus $500 to be paid in April 2013, and another bonus of 0.5% to be paid in April 2016.

Employees will have the option of taking their bonus payment in pay or as payments into their deferred compensation account.

The agreement also provides:

- Enhancements to health and welfare coverage benefit levels through United Health Care.
- Enhanced DSO work week and hours language.
- Increased on-call compensation.

The terms of the table agreement are subject to approval by the Board of the Merced Irrigation District.
IBEW & Redding settle retiree medical litigation

I

n supporting IBEW Local 1245’s fight to protect the vested benefits of our members at the City of Redding, Assistant Business Manager Tom Dalzell said it best when he wrote that employers expect us to keep our promises, and we expect them to keep theirs also.

With that guiding principle in mind, Local 1245 filed—and won—an important lawsuit requiring the City of Redding to keep its promises to pay retirement medical benefits. Following the California Supreme Court’s recent decision upholding the union’s position in that lawsuit, the City of Redding and Local 1245 negotiated an agreement that restores the retirement medical benefits and compensates employees for any excessive retiree medical premiums they were subjected to.

The court’s decision is precedent-setting for California, and has been closely watched by workers and their unions in other states. Here is how this important victory came about.

Last, Best, Final

On March 15, 2010, following some 18-months of contentious contract negotiations with IBEW 1245’s Electric bargaining unit, the City of Redding City Council voted 4-1 in a special council meeting to implement its Last Best and Final offer.

This offer contained a change in future retiree medical eligibility for active employees. Both at the bargaining table and at the Council’s special meeting of March 15, 2010, IBEW 1245 representatives warned City Council and staff that future retiree medical benefits for active employees was a vested benefit by the Memorandum of Understanding, and subject to law. During the Council’s special meeting on March 15, 2010, and with Local 1245 Union Attorney Jenny Marston present, Assistant Business Manager Ray Thomas put the City Council on notice that the illegal retiree medical formula the City was considering implementing would subject the City to a bad faith bargaining unfair practice charge through the Public Employees Relations Board, and probable litigation in the courts.

Lone Dissent

Councilwoman Mary Segall was the lone dissenting vote against the implementation and argued prior to the Council vote that the financial benefits cited by staff would be reduced by costs to battle legal proceedings or a Public Employment Relations Board complaint brought against the City by IBEW. She asked the Council to look at the situation a little further and consider the people who work for the City. Segall’s counterparts on Council should have heeded her wise advice. Following all public comment and Council member input, a 4 to 1 majority of the Council implemented the illegal change in retiree medical benefits, drastically changing the future retiree medical benefit for active employees.

IBEW 1245 filed the Unfair Practice Charge and the Public Employees Relations Board filed a complaint of bad faith bargaining against the City. This complaint was settled during the subsequent set of contract negotiations, while the legal issue of vested retiree medical benefits worked its way through the courts.

As a result of the union’s lawsuit, the vested retiree medical benefits at the City of Redding are fully reinstated for all of those IBEW 1245 members within both the Electric and Maintenance bargaining units.

The first step of the court battle began with the Shasta County Superior Court ruling against IBEW 1245’s claim that active employee future retiree medical benefits were vested. The Superior Court judge in that case ruled that all terms and conditions of a Memorandum of Understanding are subject to change after the termination of the agreement in which they are contained.

Appellate Court Decision

IBEW 1245 appealed the State of California 3rd Appellate Court of Appeals, which has oversight over California Superior Court rulings. The 3rd Appellate Court ruled in favor of IBEW 1245, overturning the Shasta County Superior Court Judge’s ruling and allowing that IBEW 1245 was entitled to Superior Court trial in order to prove its retiree medical vesting claim. In their decision, the three judges on the 3rd Appellate Court also voted 3-0 that the retiree medical vesting language in the IBEW 1245 and City of Redding Memorandum of Understanding did guarantee vesting rights as IBEW 1245 was claiming.

Santa Clara pact ratified

With municipal budgets tight, it’s been tough going at the bargaining table for public sector unions. In IBEW 1245’s most recent negotiations with the City of Santa Clara, the employer proposed a 15% wage reduction for a year. With that stark figure as the starting point, the Local 1245 bargaining committee negotiated an agreement with no wage reductions. The agreement included 40 hours of furlough time for 2013.

The agreement was ratified 41-8 with one abstention.

Bella Vista pact is ratified

Members of IBEW Local 1245 have ratified a tentative agreement with the Bella Vista Water District.

The two-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was reached at the bargaining table on April 2 and ratified on April 18 after an explanatory meeting. The vote to ratify was unanimous.

The MOU provides an 8.5% general wage increase to all Exhibit “A” classifications and subsequent step progressions. The MOU provides that effective July 1, 2013 employees who participate in the 2% @ 60 CalPERS defined benefit retirement plan will begin paying the 7% member contribution. Employees hired on or after Jan. 1, 2013 will be subject to the terms and requirements of the California Public Employees’ Pension Reform Act of 2012 (PEPRA).

The MOU is subject to final approval by the District’s Board of Directors.

Serving on the bargaining committee for the union were Phil Alleman, Shop Steward; Brad Solso, Shop Steward; Sheila Lawton, Business Rep; and Ray Thomas, Assistant Business Manager.

Further, the City and Union reviewed those employees in both bargaining units who retired subsequent to the City’s change in retiree medical benefits to determine the negative financial impact they had suffered. The City will be paying those employees for any and all excessive retiree medical premiums they were subjected to.

Lastly, all IBEW 1245 members at the City of Redding who retired subsequent to the City’s change in retiree medical benefits, and who either did not elect the City’s retiree medical, or who elected the coverage and then subsequently dropped it, will have a one-time opportunity to opt back in to the retiree medical plan with their full and vested City premium contributions moving forward.

This important victory demonstrates the union’s intent to make employers live up to their agreements, and also shows that the union’s role sometimes must extend beyond the bargaining table and into our nation’s courts.

Santa Clara pact ratified

Negotiating for the union were John Sanders, Dan Ryker, Chuck Hayden and David Coetzee, along with Assistant Business Manager Ray Thomas and Business Representative Bill Brill.

Local 1245 members working at the Mission sub at sunrise on March 25. Working the job are Innemen Coetzee, Baza, Goshia, Guerrero, Contreras, and Lindquist. Photo by Dan Ryker

Local 1245 members at Bella Vista Water District after ratifying the new MOU.
The people who keep Sacramento on the move put their skills on the line in recent competitions sponsored by Sacramento Regional Transit.

The Bus Rodeo (Roadeo) on Feb. 23 tested IBEW members’ skills in maintaining the vehicles in RT’s bus fleet. The Light Rail Rodeo (Raildeo) on April 13 tested members’ skills in maintaining RT’s Light Rail fleet.

“A lot of the work these members do is diagnostic,” said Local 1245 Business Representative Sheila Lawton. “Their ability to find problems and get them fixed is what makes these employees so valuable.”

These competitions provide an opportunity for skilled union workers to be recognized “for doing their job really well,” said Lawton.

Those who win the local contests will have the opportunity to go to national competitions. The Bus Roadeo will be held May 3-7 in Indianapolis. The Raildeo will be held May 30 – June 2 in Philadelphia.

Local 1245 steward Steve Gallow served as a judge for the April 23 competition and also helped with event design. The events included Circuit Box, Mystery Build, Tire Gauge, and Dexterity.

The fifth event, Trouble-Shooting, was the only one that required the contestants to board one of the light rail vehicles. “They’re looking for problems. There are three bugs on the train they have to find. They have 15 minutes,” said Gallow, keeping one eye on his stop watch as a contestant scurried on and off the vehicle in a diagnostic hurry.

“They’re competing to be the best rail technicians in the country,” said Local 1245 Advisory Council member Lauren Bartlett. She noted that the Raildeo is a family event, including a breakfast, a lunch, and activities for the kids.

THE WINNERS

The Roadeo featured contestants working in teams. Emerging victorious was the team of Mark McKee, Jeff James, and Peter Guimond. However, James is unable to go to the national compe-
Competing in the driver competition were Pete Chico (left) and Bonifacio Torres.

Cook competed on the rival team, which also included Dan Flavin and Jesse Ledesma.

The Raildeo featured individual rather than team competitions. Winning the right to go to the national raildeo were Rick Mibach, Scot Rutherford and Kevin Anderson. Also competing were Nick Ramirez, David Tang and John Haswell.

Two IBEW members participated in a separate competition for train operators: Pete Chico and Bonifacio Torres. Although this event is designed primarily for RT drivers belonging to the Amalgamated Transit Union, IBEW members are allowed to participate because their jobs require them to possess train driving skills to move the vehicles in and out of the service yard.

Next time you’re scooting around Sacramento on an RT vehicle, you probably aren’t going to see the IBEW Local 1245 members who keep the fleet moving. But you might want to tip your hat to them just the same.
Growth in membership

In 2012 Outside Construction reported over 5 million man-hours worked. Tree Trimming reported 2.28 million man-hours worked. There were 640 members working as utility hiring hall employees in 2012.

A little less work in Northern California and a little more work in North Eastern Nevada. We think the PG&E electric contracting will be reduced overall by 15% in 2013. We are on track to meet or exceed the same amount of hours in 2013.

Our membership grew by 350 members in 2012. All signs point to a good year in 2013.

A majority of the pole replacement work on PG&E property is in central California this year. We are adjusting our staff schedules and unit meetings to accommodate the needs of the members. We will maintain the current OSL meeting in Vacaville and encourage everyone to attend.

The AMI projects are winding down; the PG&E project will likely finish at the end of August. Wellington will be laying off 10 journeymen and several installers in the near future. There will be more layoffs as the work finishes. It looks like meters will not be changed in Marin and some other areas due to local politics.

We have several projects currently working and starting in Nevada. We just started 18 miles of 345KV line to intertie the SWIP line into the NV Energy grid. The PG&E project will likely finish at the end of August. Wellington will be laying off 10 journeymen and several installers in the near future. There will be more layoffs as the work finishes. It looks like meters will not be changed in Marin and some other areas due to local politics.

We have several projects currently working and starting in Nevada. We just started 18 miles of 345KV line to intertie the SWIP line into the NV Energy grid. The PG&E project will likely finish at the end of August. Wellington will be laying off 10 journeymen and several installers in the near future. There will be more layoffs as the work finishes. It looks like meters will not be changed in Marin and some other areas due to local politics.

A large number of OSL members allow their union membership to be suspended and are dropped for failure to keep their monthly dues paid. Some who are working are so far behind in their dues that they have to restart their membership. Local 1245 has made it very easy for the members to pay their dues now. They can call the front desk and pay by card or go on-line and pay it there.

The OSL agreement requires a member to be current on their dues or they can be removed from the job. It is the member’s responsibility to keep this up and failure to do so can not only run the risk of having them removed from a job but also can impact one of the three retirement systems the OSL members have as part of working in this group. There is also a death benefit that is worth nothing if the member is not current and we have had some family members left without this benefit due to the untimely death of a member.

GRIEVANCES

There are two wrongful termination grievances in the early stages with the Solar projects that we are in the discovery stages of and one major pay issue that we are using a compliance agency to verify the correct pay was given to a handful of members.

In addition to the above issues we still have 11 cases of wrongful termination that are scheduled for arbitration after Labor Management was unsuccessful in coming to an equitable resolution.

• 10 cases are with one contractor with arbitration scheduled over 4 days. Half of the cases will be heard in Reno, where the work is being performed on March 9 & 10th and the other half are scheduled for July. All 10 cases involve wrongful terminations.

SUBSTATION TECHNICIAN BOOKS AND TESTING

On April 12 the JATC performed assessment testing at Local 1245 for the new substation technician classification. On that day we had 96 members signed up to come in and test with several questions asked pertaining to the new classification leading up to the test as well as on the day of the testing. What has made it confusing is there was a wrong assumption made by people signing up or who have taken the test in Local 47 at area that if they took the test they were in the program and that is not true. For the test on the 12th we had an information sheet that hopefully cleared up some of the confusion. This classification was intended to fill the gap within the OSL agreement that is left when a journeyman, utility substation electrician or out of class lineman who has performed nothing but substation work has found themselves unemployed and using the OSL out of work books. This classification will require an individual to know all aspects of the substation and work inside the fence. This includes control wiring as well as all the other disciplines that go into working in a substation.

ORGANIZING

The following Contractors were recently organized:

• Dale Carter Fencing, PG&E Support Agreement
• Baldry Brothers, CA OSL Agreement
• CES Utility Solutions CA-LLC – Gas Inspector agreement

Busy day in Fresno

Line Equipment Man Steve Miller, a 14-year IBEW member, sent this picture of work being performed in Fresno by Diversified Utility Services, one of the union’s signatory outside line contractors. As you can see, there were many crews working together that day.

BARGAINING

Siemens Traffic Signal and Street Light Maintenance agreement is a joint agreement with Local 47. We are set to meet with Local 47 on May 6-7 in Riverside.

APPRENTICE REPORT

The California-Nevada JATC has opened the application process for Outside Lineman Apprenticeship program. You will find information relevant to this process and application at: http://www.calnevjatc.org/

We currently have 326 outside line apprentices registered in our JATC program.

• We have 33 traveling apprentice working in our jurisdiction.
• 76 apprentices are working out of Local 1245.
• 224 are working out of Local 47.
• 20 - working out of Local 396.
• 39 are off of work (12 are on disability - 10 are on leave of absence - 6 are suspended).

We have graduated 10 apprentices to journeyman lineman.

• We have indentured 19 outside line apprentices this year.
• We have 2 traffic signal maintenance apprentices registered.
  • 1 is working for Republic Electric in Local 1245’s jurisdiction.
  • 1 is unemployed.
  • 0 are working for Republic Electric in Local 47’s jurisdiction.

INJURED WORKERS FUND

The balance of the fund as of March 31, 2013 was $538,641.12.

DISPATCH

The California-Nevada JATC has opened the application process for Outside Lineman Apprenticeship program. You will find information relevant to this process and application at: http://www.calnevjatc.org/
Defending retirement medical benefits

Nevada retirees honor union for its support in three-year fight

nevada retirees on March 22 presented Local 1245 with a handcrafted plaque that expresses their gratitude for the union's support during a three-year campaign to defend retirement medical benefits at NV Energy. “We dedicate this plaque to the Executive Board, leadership and staff of IBEW Local 1245 in our appreciation from the Nevada IBEW retirees,” said retiree Tom Bird, known to most as T-Bird, in a ceremony at Weakley Hall in Vacaville. Joining T-Bird in the presentation were Nevada retirees. Tom Bird, Bob Vieira and Rita Weisshaar.

The company began reconsidering its position on the retirement medical benefit question in October 2011 after three years of protests by the retirees, supported by Local 1245. In presenting the plaque, T-Bird listed some of the highlights of the campaign:

• Multiple rallies in Las Vegas, Reno, and Carson City, and even one in New York City.
• Several trips to the Nevada Legislature and the Nevada Public Service Commission
• Letters to NV Energy’s CEO and Executive Board
• Letters to the editor and full-page ads in the state's major newspapers
• A radio spot featuring Ron Borst, president of the Reno/Sparks Chapter of the IBEW Local 1245 Retirees Club
• A television ad featuring the late Sylvester Kelley, who was a decorated World War II veteran and Sierra Pacific Power retiree
• A Facebook campaign that attracted an astonishing 50,000 followers

“The IBEW Local 1245 Executive Board, leadership and staff can be very proud of its accomplishments, along with the active members and retirees,” said Bird, who also acknowledged “all the help of the Nevada AFL-CIO, National Alliance for Retired Americans, Culinary Workers Local 226, talk radio supporters and all the citizens who stood with us on Facebook.”

The plaque itself was a work of art, made of walnut from Unionville, NV, and carved into the shape of Nevada by Bob Vieira and Rita Weisshaar.

“Bob Vieira and Rita Weisshaar. The Local 1245 Retirees Club congratulates these recently-retired members of the union. We dedicate this plaque to the World War II veteran and Sierra Pacific Power retiree, the help of the Nevada AFL-CIO, National Alliance for Retired Americans, Culinary Workers Local 226, talk radio supporters and all the citizens who stood with us on Facebook.”

“We were there when we were happy, the next minute we’ d be sad. It was an emotional roller coaster we rode the past 3 years,” T-Bird said.

The retirees acknowledged there will probably be more battles going forward, and that retirees may need to walk the line for sisters and brothers at other Local 1245 employers or other unions.

“Don’t anybody to miss the point. We’re united for a reason,” said T-Bird. “This is one battle, and it may be more challenging as we go forward.”

Retiree Club Meeting Schedule

You can find the specific dates for each month at www.ibew1245.com/unit_meetings.html

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, CA.

Merced Chapter: 1st Tuesday each month, 10 a.m., Merced Senior Community, 775 W. 15th Street, Merced, CA.

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

Yerington Chapter: 2nd Tuesday each month, 10:30 a.m. lunch, 11:30 a.m. meeting, Dinri’s Lucky Club, 45 N. Main St., Yerington, NV.

Carson City Chapter: 4th Thursday each month, 9:00 a.m., Grandma Hatti’s Restaurant, 2811 S Carson St., Carson City, NV.

Winnebago Chapter: 4th Wednesday each month, 11 a.m., Round Table Pizza, 1043 W. Fourth St., Winnemucca.

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 Yerington. If you don’t have a chapter nearby, call the union at 707-452-2718 and find out how you can start one!

Denise Adams 20 years Placerville, CA
Joseph Alameda 16 years Clarkburg, CA
James Angel 31 years Sacramento, CA
Kenneth Apple 23 years Aberdeen, NC
James Baldoz 6 years Antioch, CA
Deborah Balmino 8 years Antioch, CA
Bob Vieira 20 years Antioch, CA
Rita Weisshaar 20 years Antioch, CA

Edward Bunden 29 years Martinez, CA
Charles Chapman 42 years Soquel, CA
Mike Cresci 16 years Soquel, CA
Dennis Harrison 28 years Soquel, CA
Edward Bunten 26 years Soquel, CA

Gary Calderaz 29 years San Marcos, CA
Janene Carter 14 years Woodland, WA
Kathy Cooper 16 years Auburn, CA
Michael Cresci 34 years Woodland, WA

Elise Chilton 18 years Ventura, CA
Gene Chruszcz 8 years Burlingame, CA
Bob Clausen 11 years Bakerfield, CA
Kathy Cooper 14 years Tucson, AZ

Richard Burke 28 years Fresno, CA
Gary Calderaz 28 years Fresno, CA
Mary Colloia 28 years Quincy, CA
Mark Endicott 16 years OAH, OR

Nevada retirees honor union for its support in three-year fight

Denise Adams 20 years Placerville, CA
Joseph Alameda 16 years Clarkburg, CA
James Angel 31 years Sacramento, CA
Kenneth Apple 23 years Aberdeen, NC
James Baldoz 6 years Antioch, CA
Deborah Balmino 8 years Antioch, CA
Bob Vieira 20 years Antioch, CA
Rita Weisshaar 20 years Antioch, CA

Edward Bunden 29 years Martinez, CA
Charles Chapman 42 years Soquel, CA
Mike Cresci 16 years Soquel, CA
Dennis Harrison 28 years Soquel, CA
Edward Bunten 26 years Soquel, CA

Gary Calderaz 28 years Fresno, CA
Mary Colloia 28 years Quincy, CA
Mark Endicott 16 years OAH, OR

Nevada retirees honor union for its support in three-year fight

Denise Adams 20 years Placerville, CA
Joseph Alameda 16 years Clarkburg, CA
James Angel 31 years Sacramento, CA
Kenneth Apple 23 years Aberdeen, NC
James Baldoz 6 years Antioch, CA
Deborah Balmino 8 years Antioch, CA
Bob Vieira 20 years Antioch, CA
Rita Weisshaar 20 years Antioch, CA

Edward Bunden 29 years Martinez, CA
Charles Chapman 42 years Soquel, CA
Mike Cresci 16 years Soquel, CA
Dennis Harrison 28 years Soquel, CA
Edward Bunten 26 years Soquel, CA

Gary Calderaz 28 years Fresno, CA
Mary Colloia 28 years Quincy, CA
Mark Endicott 16 years OAH, OR

Edward Bunten 29 years Martinez, CA
Richard Burke 28 years Fresno, CA
Gary Calderaz 28 years Fresno, CA
Mary Colloia 28 years Quincy, CA
James Connelly 34 years Groville, CA
Kathy Cooper 16 years Auburn, CA

Edward Bunden 29 years Martinez, CA
Richard Burke 28 years Fresno, CA
Gary Calderaz 28 years Fresno, CA
Mary Colloia 28 years Quincy, CA
James Connelly 34 years Groville, CA
Kathy Cooper 16 years Auburn, CA

Present at the ceremony were, from left, Business Manager Tom Dalzell, retirees Tom Bird and Bob Vieira (behind), Recording Secretary Chris Habecker, Executive Board member Tom Cornell (behind), retiree Rita Weisshaar; Vice President Art Freitas, Executive Board member Bob Bayless-Martinez; retirees Ron Borst, Treasurer Cecelia De La Torre, Executive Board members Mike Cottrell and Mike Jacobson, and President Mike Davis.

Photo by Caitlin Ramirez

“We don’t anybody to miss the point. We’re united for a reason,” said T-Bird. “This is one battle, and it may be more challenging as we go forward.”

Retiree Club Meeting Schedule

You can find the specific dates for each month at www.ibew1245.com/unit_meetings.html

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, CA.

Merced Chapter: 1st Tuesday each month, 10 a.m., Merced Senior Community, 775 W. 15th Street, Merced, CA.

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

Yerington Chapter: 2nd Tuesday each month, 10:30 a.m. lunch, 11:30 a.m. meeting, Dinri’s Lucky Club, 45 N. Main St., Yerington, NV.

Carson City Chapter: 4th Thursday each month, 9:00 a.m., Grandma Hatti’s Restaurant, 2811 S Carson St., Carson City, NV.

Winnebago Chapter: 4th Wednesday each month, 11 a.m., Round Table Pizza, 1043 W. Fourth St., Winnemucca.

Useful links for retirees

 Reno/Sparks IBEW 1245 retirees blog http://renosparksibew1245 retireesclub.blogspot.com

IBEW Ninth District Blog http://ibewninthdistricitreirees.blogspot.com/
WHY UNIONS MATTER

Welcome tooooo... Labor Jeopardy! Fifty-five members of Local 1245 got a taste of that classic TV game show at the union's most recent Leadership Development Conference on March 16 at Weakey Hall in Vacaville. Only the topic wasn't history, geography, or popular culture. It was "Why Unions Matter."

With Donchele Soper serving as host, the game featured inspired performances from four contestants, each offering a unique perspective on the economic realities of today. Competing to be the first to ding the bell with their answers were Kirk Haugen, playing the part of a union member, and Veronica Rivera, playing a recent college graduate. Things got a little stranger with the performance of Pete Sandoval, who came dressed in a floppy gardening hat and revealed himself to be a laid-off worker who had taken on two jobs to make ends meet.

But it was Tanny Hurtado who stole the show, portraying a corporate CEO blissfully out of touch with the economic realities faced by the rest of us. At one point, confronted with some information he didn't want to hear, Hurtado abruptly excused himself and walked out of the room to "take a call" on his cell phone.

No, this wasn't your usual union conference, but instead a fast-paced and participatory look at unions today: why they matter, and how to get yourself plugged into the action.

Casey Salkauskas, a PG&E electrician from Bakersfield and 12-year IBEW member, was surprised to find so many other people of all ages who shared his interest in building unionism.

“There were linemen and electricians to Call Center employees and clerks, tree trimmers to water and irrigation workers, all of us with the thirst for knowledge and the enthusiasm to help our brothers and sisters in our trades,” Salkauskas said.

High Energy

High energy, strong participation and an eagerness for more opportunities to become involved characterized the day. 

Organizer Fred Ross Jr. discussed the power of ‘sharing your story,” illustrating the point with his own personal story and a short video of a farm worker organizer sharing hers.

“The stories shared made me realize the power we have together,” said Georgette Carrillo, IBEW Customer Service Rep and two-year IBEW member. “Fred’s story inspired me to want to get more involved in the union.”

Tanny Hurtado, Veronica Rivera, Kirk Haugen and Pete Sandoval lit up the conference with game of “Labor Jeopardy,” moderated by Donchele Soper (not pictured).

Day activities on April 13.

There were many takers. The conference also took a look at the upcoming “Our Wal-Mart Campaign,” an organization of Wal-Mart workers calling on Wal-Mart to improve labor rights and standards for its workers. People signed up for that, too.

There were several workshops, led by the conference planning committee members: Donchele Soper, Veronica Rivera, Kirk Haugen, Tanny Hurtado, and Pete Sandoval. The Sacramento-area organizing committee, which will soon hold its second annual charity bowl, received a lot of attention as a model for other areas.

Eric Wolfe presented a brief history of Local 1245, helping to deepen members’ appreciation of those who came before.

"I am very thankful for my job now and what it has to offer me, but I realize this would not be possible if it weren't for our union setting such a great foundation," said Ricardo Hernandez, a PG&E Customer Service Rep. “Our foundation has been built, and now it’s our responsibility to continue to pave the way for generations to come.”

When a shop steward at the conference called him “brother,” it made Hernandez think about the word in a new way.

“It felt so powerful to hear that. I can smile in my day knowing I have brothers and sisters who will look out for me, as I will for them.”

Newly retired, from page 11

Galina Porter 15 years
Stockton, CA

Steven Potter 40 years
Bakersfield, CA

Allan Powers 33 years
Oakland, CA

Keith Prater 12 years
Escalon, CA

Shelby Puckett 24 years
Walnut, Hi

Michael Purcell 19 years
Santa Rosa, CA

Manuel Rosas 28 years
Plattsburgh, ME

James Rupe 18 years
Flagstaff, AZ

L Saunders 32 years
Sanger, CA

Manuel Rosas 28 years
Novato, CA

Robert Silva 43 years
Fort Bragg, CA

Kevin Smith 24 years
Carson City, NV

Nancy Smith 15 years
Stockton, CA

William Scott 5 years
West Sacramento, CA

Linda Slack Cruz 2 years
Kings Beach, CA

Darryl Sandeford 24 years
Newark, CA

Angie Hernandez 3 years
Clovis, CA

Robert Watts 30 years
Arroyo Grande, CA

Eileen Watley 4 years
Milpitas, CA

Maria Hernandez 2 years
Stockton, CA

Alfredo Ramirez 18 years
Santa Cruz, CA

Ricardo Jimenez 16 years
Clayton, CA

Jesse Varella 20 years
Salinas, CA

Robert Watts 30 years
Arroyo Grande, CA

Eileen Watley 4 years
Milpitas, CA

Maria Hernandez 2 years
Stockton, CA

Alfredo Ramirez 18 years
Santa Cruz, CA

Ricardo Jimenez 16 years
Clayton, CA

Jesse Varella 20 years
Salinas, CA

Robert Watts 30 years
Arroyo Grande, CA

Eileen Watley 4 years
Milpitas, CA

Maria Hernandez 2 years
Stockton, CA

Alfredo Ramirez 18 years
Santa Cruz, CA

Ricardo Jimenez 16 years
Clayton, CA

Jesse Varella 20 years
Salinas, CA

Robert Watts 30 years
Arroyo Grande, CA

Eileen Watley 4 years
Milpitas, CA

Maria Hernandez 2 years
Stockton, CA

Alfredo Ramirez 18 years
Santa Cruz, CA

Ricardo Jimenez 16 years
Clayton, CA

Jesse Varella 20 years
Salinas, CA

Robert Watts 30 years
Arroyo Grande, CA

Eileen Watley 4 years
Milpitas, CA

Maria Hernandez 2 years
Stockton, CA

Alfredo Ramirez 18 years
Santa Cruz, CA

Ricardo Jimenez 16 years
Clayton, CA

Jesse Varella 20 years
Salinas, CA

Robert Watts 30 years
Arroyo Grande, CA

Eileen Watley 4 years
Milpitas, CA

Maria Hernandez 2 years
Stockton, CA

Alfredo Ramirez 18 years
Santa Cruz, CA

Ricardo Jimenez 16 years
Clayton, CA

Jesse Varella 20 years
Salinas, CA

Robert Watts 30 years
Arroyo Grande, CA

Eileen Watley 4 years
Milpitas, CA

Maria Hernandez 2 years
Stockton, CA

Alfredo Ramirez 18 years
Santa Cruz, CA

Ricardo Jimenez 16 years
Clayton, CA

Jesse Varella 20 years
Salinas, CA

Robert Watts 30 years
Arroyo Grande, CA

Eileen Watley 4 years
Milpitas, CA

Maria Hernandez 2 years
Stockton, CA

Alfredo Ramirez 18 years
Santa Cruz, CA

Ricardo Jimenez 16 years
Clayton, CA

Jesse Varella 20 years
Salinas, CA

Robert Watts 30 years
Arroyo Grande, CA

Eileen Watley 4 years
Milpitas, CA

Maria Hernandez 2 years
Stockton, CA

Alfredo Ramirez 18 years
Santa Cruz, CA

Ricardo Jimenez 16 years
Clayton, CA

Jesse Varella 20 years
Salinas, CA

Robert Watts 30 years
Arroyo Grande, CA

Eileen Watley 4 years
Milpitas, CA

Maria Hernandez 2 years
Stockton, CA

Alfredo Ramirez 18 years
Santa Cruz, CA

Ricardo Jimenez 16 years
Clayton, CA

Jesse Varella 20 years
Salinas, CA

Robert Watts 30 years
Arroyo Grande, CA

Eileen Watley 4 years
Milpitas, CA

Maria Hernandez 2 years
Stockton, CA

Alfredo Ramirez 18 years
Santa Cruz, CA

Ricardo Jimenez 16 years
Clayton, CA

Jesse Varella 20 years
Salinas, CA

Robert Watts 30 years
Arroyo Grande, CA

Eileen Watley 4 years
Milpitas, CA

Maria Hernandez 2 years
Stockton, CA

Alfredo Ramirez 18 years
Santa Cruz, CA

Ricardo Jimenez 16 years
Clayton, CA

Jesse Varella 20 years
Salinas, CA

Robert Watts 30 years
Arroyo Grande, CA

Eileen Watley 4 years
Milpitas, CA

Maria Hernandez 2 years
Stockton, CA

Alfredo Ramirez 18 years
Santa Cruz, CA

Ricardo Jimenez 16 years
Clayton, CA

Jesse Varella 20 years
Salinas, CA

Robert Watts 30 years
Arroyo Grande, CA

Eileen Watley 4 years
Milpitas, CA

Maria Hernandez 2 years
Stockton, CA

Alfredo Ramirez 18 years
Santa Cruz, CA

Ricardo Jimenez 16 years
Clayton, CA

Jesse Varella 20 years
Salinas, CA

Robert Watts 30 years
Arroyo Grande, CA

Eileen Watley 4 years
Milpitas, CA

Maria Hernandez 2 years
Stockt...
Congratulations on your service!

HONOREES

45 Years
Goss III, Albert G

40 Years
Albert, Michael
Day, Russell A
Dyer, Rodney
Gonzalez, Terry R
Iwaski, Arthur
Jones Jr., George
Massey, Kent
Parsons, Michael
Pickering, Rexford E
Ricardy, Richard H
Whiteley, Darrell

35 Years
Bell, Rex A
Bell, Robert E
Bowman, Timothy E
Brown, Wayne L
Chiavola, Robert
Connelly, James J
Cook, Aric
Covert, Gary W
Douglas Jr., Wallace
Goodrich, Gregory
Hogan, Dan
Hutcheson, Mike G
Johnston, Kenneth A
Jones, Kevin C
Juhl, Ellen M
Kopriwa, John J

30 Years
Lancerti, Michael J
Malacky, William
Marley, Marcia R
Matousek, Charles
Monroe, Merritt J
Moore, Kevin J
Moss, Calvin
Murillo, George J
Navarro, Donald R
Oreilly, Linda
Parker, James T
Ponsegrow, Paula M
Sanders, James
Stout, Robert
Thomas, Robert L
Underhill, Scott J
Warren, Richard R
West, David
Ybarra, Frank S

30 Years Honorees

Hopp, Keith W
Horton, Kay E
Hursh, John H
Ihle, Jim A
Javors, Gregory L
Kincade, Rebecca A
Palmerton, Daniel L
Price, Jack
Saldizar, Eloy E
Sciarratta, Janice S
Shipley, Martin G
Simon, Ron J
Souza, Greta B
Stice, Kit
Vaughn, T K
Williams, John R

25 Years
Babcock, John
Christensen, John B
Costa, Frank M
Dewey, Julie A
Garcia, Fernando J
Gerlach, David
Goff, Ronald H
Kemp, Gary W
Lee, Douglas
Littleton, Jerry F
Linton, Mark S
Martin, Brent A
Martinez, Jim
Mastelotto, Guy
Medlin, Stephen C
Morris, Mark S
Morton, Dave B
Newlove, Roy

25 Years Honorees

Osborn, Ron L
Robinson Jr., Ted
Rubino, Ken G
Russell, Brian W
Salas, Zenaida A
Sotero, Brad
Steidlmayer, Jeanette L
Svetz, William P
Wagner, Greg
Wernet, Joseph A
Woodward, Phillip A

20 Years
Benjamin, Michelle L
Capra, Kenneth F
McQuiston, Jay J
Millard, Jeff D
Park, Gerald J
Schwilling, Sharon A
Stocking, Thomas L
Travis, Richard E
Viera, David J
Wilson, David G

20 Years Honorees

Osborn, Ron L
Robinson Jr., Ted
Rubino, Ken G
Russell, Brian W
Salas, Zenaida A
Sotero, Brad
Steidlmayer, Jeanette L
Svetz, William P
Wagner, Greg
Wernet, Joseph A
Woodward, Phillip A

15 Years
Conner, Dana A
Franca, Michael A
Lowe, Jason
Raney Jr., Roger W
Vawter, Cheryl
Vascunccellos, Garrett A

15 Years Honorees

Osborn, Ron L
Robinson Jr., Ted
Rubino, Ken G
Russell, Brian W
Salas, Zenaida A
Sotero, Brad
Steidlmayer, Jeanette L
Svetz, William P
Wagner, Greg
Wernet, Joseph A
Woodward, Phillip A

10 Years
Arden, James T
Ashcraft, Randy
Blancett, Roger L
Bogdanoff, Brian A

10 Years Honorees

Schneider, Timothy J
Smith, Brian R
Smith, Robert M
Stone, Jonathan R
Taylor, Scott H
Travis, Raymond L
Villalobos, Miguel A
Welshenbach, Andreas F
Whitlock, Brian E
Wilkins III, Rafael L
Young, Denise R

5 Years
Arambula, Samuel
Beach, Catherine L
Bell, Jason A
Belmontes, Alejandro
Boyle, James W
Bryan, Joseph D
Buschmann, Gregg
Butler Jr., Boyd
Carver, Debra M
Charmbury, Karyn A
Clarke, Brian S
Cook, Dawn
Dibbern, Benjamin
Dolloff, Steven J
Dunlap, Wade J
Foote, Charles W
Gentry, Jeremy M
Hamlet, Ryan S
Hardy, Johnny V
Howerton, Brian D
Hunt, Matthew W
Iwaski, Eric M
Jensen, Joey
Jimenez, Jose
Jones, Alicja J
King, Philip G
Latta, Kevin E
Maciel, Francisco
Marsh, Eric A
Merrifield, Darrell M
Merkle, Jared L
Nauman, Erik R
Osburn, Sean M
Pacheco, Sonya A
Petersen, Grant
Petersen, Susan J
Ross, Leroy E
Scott, Steven D
Stanley, Clinton
Tafua, Nephi E
Thomas, Alvin L
Tidey, Joshua A
Villegas, Fabian J
Weatherall, Lenny S
Wetmore, Ryan A
Wilcox, Robert G
Ziel, Greg A

5 Years Honorees

Arambula, Samuel
Beach, Catherine L
Belmontes, Alejandro
Boyle, James W
Bryan, Joseph D
Buschmann, Gregg
Butler Jr., Boyd
Carver, Debra M
Charmbury, Karyn A
Clarke, Brian S
Cook, Dawn
Dibbern, Benjamin
Dolloff, Steven J
Dunlap, Wade J
Foote, Charles W
Gentry, Jeremy M
Hamlet, Ryan S
Hardy, Johnny V
Howerton, Brian D
Hunt, Matthew W
Iwaski, Eric M
Jensen, Joey
Jimenez, Jose
Jones, Alicja J
King, Philip G
Latta, Kevin E
Maciel, Francisco
Marsh, Eric A
Merrifield, Darrell M
Merkle, Jared L
Nauman, Erik R
Osburn, Sean M
Pacheco, Sonya A
Petersen, Grant
Petersen, Susan J
Ross, Leroy E
Scott, Steven D
Stanley, Clinton
Tafua, Nephi E
Thomas, Alvin L
Tidey, Joshua A
Villegas, Fabian J
Weatherall, Lenny S
Wetmore, Ryan A
Wilcox, Robert G
Ziel, Greg A

5 Years Honorees

Chico
February 9, 2013

35 Years Honorees


30 Years Honorees

Front row, from left: Tom Dalzell, and Janice Scarfrottota, and Paula Henley. Back row, from left: Dean Evans, (Dalzell), and John Hursh.

25 Years Honorees

Front row, from left: Brian Russel, Julie Dewey, and Jeanette Steidlmeyer. Back row, from left: (Dalzell), and Stephen Medlin.
I
BEW Local 1245 linemen have shown once again they have the stuff to compete and excel, no matter what distractions the weather may throw at them. In this case, the distractions were balmy breezes, blue skies and the warm waters of the Pacific spraying a fine surf onto the sandy beaches of Kona on the Island of Hawai‘i. Oh hardship! In truth, the Local 1245 linemen seemed totally beyond distraction. They came to compete and proved it by sweeping up some of the top honors in the First Annual Hawaii Lineman’s Rodeo, sponsored by IBEW Local 1280 and a trio of electric utilities.

Local 1245 sponsored teams from Liberty Energy, Sacramento Municipal District, Pacific Gas & Electric, and Outside Line Construction, and apprentices from SMUD and Outside Line.

The Sacramento Municipal Utility District team of Cayleb Bowman, Matt Wilson, and Greg Baird captured first place in the Journeyman Hurtman Rescue event, with Wilson taking first place in the individual Hurtman competition.

The Pacific Gas & Electric team of Adam Beene, Anthony Albright, and Steve Bentley took third place in the overall journeymen competition.

SMUD’s Rorry Malia took first place in the Apprentice Cut-Out Door Re-Fuse event, just ahead of fellow SMUD apprentice Louis Jimenez, who took second. Jimenez took first place in the Apprentice Hurtman Rescue and third place in the Apprentice Pole Climb.

These outstanding performances prove that Local 1245 members can compete with the best, and earned the awards, leis and tropical drinks that awaited them at the end of the day.

Mahalo!
Local 1245 Assistant Business Manager Ralph Armstrong, lower right, served as a judge.

SMUD Apprentice Rorry Malia is ready to compete.

Joel Kuntz, left, and Nicholas Rains of Liberty Energy.

SMUD Apprentices Rorry Malia and Louis Jimenez.

Showing off their award is the SMUD team of, from left, Greg Baird, Cayleb Bowman, and Matthew Wilson.

The PG&E team of Anthony Albright, Adam Beene and Steven Bentley savor their award.

SMUD Apprentice Rorry Malia is ready to compete.
… a day of soccer, kids games, a BBQ, cook-off, prizes, and fun!

ADA GIVENS PARK, MERCED • APRIL 13, 2013
Amistad, Unidad, Solidaridad

... un día de fútbol, juegos para niños, un BBQ, un “Cook Off,” Premios y diversión!

The Teams
Los Equipos

Angels Camp
Bakersfield
Mission
Santa Cruz
San Jose
Stockton
Visalia

Photos by John Storey
More on next page.

Coming in the next issue of Utility Reporter:
The IBEW Soccer Tournament in Fairfield!

For the latest news about Line Clearance Tree Trimmers, visit www.ibew1245.com

2013 · 13 de Abril, 2013
Bakersfield team, with medals. Fun and food for all

The Cook-Off!

Volunteer coach Jose Artiga and IBEW 1245 kids played soccer while the grown-ups competed in the Soccer Tournament and Cook Off.

Practice makes perfect.

IBEW 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell hands out medals

Business Rep Mike Saner grills the hot dogs

Piñata!
Living Proof

CPR works

There’s a reason that Outside Construction members of Local 1245 are required to receive training in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation. CPR saves lives.

David Ochoa is living proof.

In January, Ochoa was working on a pole replacement for Diversified Utility Services in Selma, Ca. Linemen working from buckets had just transferred two phases to the new pole and were in the process of transferring the third phase. Ochoa, a fifth-step apprentice, was standing by on the ground with material and equipment. That’s when the conductor broke midspan.

“The lineman was holding the wire up off the ground as best he could,” said Foreman Steve Blevins, but it was a 300-foot span of #4 copper wire and it fell to the ground, making contact with the boom. Ochoa, who was touching the side of the digger, fell to the ground.

The circuit relayed several times before it finally went out. Ochoa was unconscious and struggling for breath. Blevins dragged him away from the truck and called 911 while Lineman Justin Smith started CPR.

Another crew working two spans away rushed to the scene to assist. After two or three cycles of CPR, Ochoa regained consciousness. An ambulance arrived quickly and transported him to hospital.

“We are trained for this,” said Blevins, who is 32 and made foreman just last year. “We have to have CPR training every two years. You train for it so much you remember what to do.”

An investigation showed that the wire had been damaged previously, perhaps nicked by a bullet from someone shooting at birds.

“It was just kind of a freak accident,” said Blevins. “The wire just broke as we were moving it up and we weren’t moving it up a great deal so we weren’t putting any great amount of tension on it.”

Local 1245 Business Representative Richard Ingle visited Ochoa in the hospital and attended the company’s stand-down the next day.

“The guys from all accounts really reacted in a professional manner and I believe they did save David’s life with the CPR,” said Ingle. “David told me he couldn’t talk to them but he realized what they were doing (during the CPR) and he was thinking, ‘Come on, guys, don’t give up on me now.’ ”

Others involved in the rescue were John Jones from Blevins’ crew, and Jeff Emerson, Wade McKay, Ryan Krug, and Steve Miller from the other crew.

Ingle believes these men will always remember the incident and “will definitely sit up and take notice” in their next First Aid class.

“You always think, ‘That ain’t going to happen to me,’ ” said Ingle, “but it might happen to the guy next to you.”

It happened to David Ochoa. And thanks to his crew mates’ training and quick response, he’s fully recovered and back at work.

Protecting our brother

What does “brotherhood” mean? Rayshawn Neely knows.

“It means I’m going to look out for you. I’m not just looking after your well-being at work, I’m looking after you because you’re like a family to me.”

When Neely, a foreman at PG&E and 4-year IBEW member, was assaulted by a deranged motorist in Fresno, his crew-mates leaped to his defense.

For their selfless action, Neely’s union brothers were awarded the union’s highest honor—the IBEW Life Saving Award. Receiving the award in person at the union’s April 27 Advisory Council meeting in Vacaville were Richard Gonzales, Steve Hakker, Nicolas Starkey, Ken Simon and Nelson Pereira. An investigation showed that the wire had been damaged previously, perhaps nicked by a bullet from someone shooting at birds.

“When the driver, a huge man named Jett McBride, tried to get out, Starkey slammed the door on him and told him to stay in the car. But when Starkey turned his attention to helping Neely, who was seriously injured, the driver got out and started ranting at Neely.

“I heard him say, ‘I’m here from Jesus come to take you home,’ ” said Simon.

When McBride started pulling on Neely, Starkey jumped on McBride and pulled him to the ground. All the commotion began to attract the attention of shoppers at an outdoor swapmeet.

“Everybody and their mother came over,” said Starkey. “It was just pandemonium.”

President Mike Davis, left, and Business Rep Mark Rolow, right, present the IBEW Life Saving Award to, from left (Davis), Nicolas Starkey, Richard Gonzales, Steve Hakker, Rayshawn Neely, Ken Simon, Nelson Pereira, (Rolow).

PHOTO BY ERIC WOLFE

“Next issue of the Utility Reporter—a report from the Safety Stewards Summit

McBride was back on his feet, assaulting two women who’d come over to help. A hitchhiker began slamming McBride in the head with a camp axe. “People were screaming and holliering,” said Starkey.

Crew members wrestled McBride back to the ground.

“I just had to make this guy stop hurting Rayshawn,” said Starkey, who is friends with Neely outside of work.

IBEW members are trained how to respond to emergencies. But this was almost beyond belief.

“I don’t think there is any training that could prepare you for the level of craziness in that incident,” said Starkey.

You could call it instinct. Or courage. But Simon, like Neely, calls it something else: family.

“I feel we as a crew, we become sort of a family. What we were doing was protecting our brother, our fellow lineman, from any harm that could come to him,” Simon said.

“I want to thank all of my brothers,” said Neely after the awards presentation. “This is for them.”

The others know that if the situation was reversed, he would do the same for them.

That’s what brotherhood means.
IBEW Local 1245 pitched in to help over a hundred people volunteering at Benicia State Recreation Area, according to Michael Gomez. “We planted native plants, weeded non-native plants, cleared old debris, added mulch to plant beds and cleared trails,” said Gomez, an Operating Clerk at PG&E’s Concord RMC.

The eleven-member IBEW 1245 contingent at the Millerton Lake State Recreation Area helped clean up the North Shore Trail, picking up trash and removing obstructions, reported Jose Rey Mendoza, a Service Rep at PG&E’s Fresno Call Center and IBEW’s lead recruiter for this area. The group also planted trees.

Anthony Brown helped organize a contingent of four PG&E Gas Servicemen and two family members for a clean-up mission at Redwood Regional Park, tucked away in the Oakland Hills. Brown called it an opportunity “to put in some good old fashioned labor” for the earth.

A cool dozen participated for IBEW 1245 at Beals Point in the Folsom Lake Recreation Area, reported Jammi Juarez, the union’s lead recruiter for this project. The work included replacing fence poles, weed-whacking and raking, painting kiosks and fences, improving trails and cleaning trash.

“The IBEW 1245 Sacramento Team was asked to take on the task of weed-whacking and raking at the Granite Bay Boat Ramp. We accepted enthusiastically!” said Juarez, a Customer Service Rep at PG&E’s Sacramento Call Center.

“The next three hours were spent cleaning over-grown weeds in the parking vicinity. The area hadn’t been tended to in five years,” said Juarez.

Proof of their hard work could be seen at the end of the day in their sun-burnt cheeks, sore arms and backs, and blistered hands, but no one was complaining.

“We wouldn’t have had it any other way!” said Juarez.

IBEW Local 1245 recruited members, their families, and friends to help make the planet a little greener and cleaner during this year’s Earth Day events.

“Earth Day was a great opportunity to show our commitment as a union to the broader community, as well as a chance to build solidarity amongst our members,” said Local 1245 Business Rep, Jennifer Gray, who coordinated the union’s participation. “People had a really great time.”

Local 1245 fielded 52 volunteers, participating at 10 locations in eight counties.

Justin Casey, a Line Clearance Tree Trimmer at Davey Tree, led a group at Auburn State Recreation Area. Ten members of the IBEW 1245 contingent enjoyed a small breakfast, then split into smaller work details, he said.

“We picked up any trash and debris that we came across. Some groups painted over graffiti as well,” Casey said. “All in all it was a great day.”

IBEW 1245 volunteer at Benicia State Recreation Area.

IBEW 1245 helps spruce up Folsom Lake Recreation Area in Sacramento County.

IBEW 1245 at work at Eastshore State Park in Alameda County.

The Sonoma Coast crew hauled out a 12 foot Penta-treated cross arm complete with lead-topped steel pins.

Auburn State Recreation Area in Placer County was a little more inviting after this IBEW 1245 contingent helped clean it up.
In memoriam: Helen Gan (1936-2013)

She was initiated into IBEW Local 1245 on April 30, 1962—and her dues were still paid up.

Helen Gan—a hard-working, big-hearted, and fervently pro-union woman—died April 15. Still working at age 76, she was a Senior Accounting Clerk II at PG&E, her employer for 53 years.

Sister Gan was dedicated to the concept of worker unity. As recently as last year she brought her energy and her life story to the cause of organized labor as a spokeswoman for the campaign to defeat Proposition 32, the infamous anti-union ballot measure.

“I don't understand those people who do not pay union dues, but are pleased to take the benefits the unions bring them. Don't they see that companies give nothing unless the union fought for it?” Gan said in a campaign piece.

She didn't need consultants to tell her what to say in the campaign, didn't need to memorize a pro-union pitch. When it came to telling the truth about unions, Helen Gan wrote the book.

Sister Gan’s belief in worker rights was born of her own personal experience as a woman of Chinese descent trying to get a job at PG&E at the start of the 1960s.

“I was one of the first non-whites they hired,” she recalled last year. “Chinese women are strong, not the china dolls seen in movies; as soon as we had an issue, we hollered for the shop steward. On my first job evaluation, the supervisor noted, ‘She is a fast and accurate keypunch operator, but she is defiant.’”

When IBEW President Ed Hill visited San Francisco a couple of years ago, he wanted to meet with some Local 1245 members to learn about the issues that concerned them. Local 1245 brought our best to the fore—we introduced President Hill to Helen Gan.

Hill was charmed to meet someone with more than 50 years of IBEW membership, but he quickly came to realize that Gan was more than just a sweet-faced 76-year-old woman who still managed to get to work every day. She was charming, a straight talker, and probably as strong an advocate for the IBEW as any member Hill ever met in his wide travels.

“She was one of my great heroes,” said Local 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell. “I admired her so.”

A lot of people admired her so, and mourn her passing. She made us better.

You can read Helen’s final message to her friends and see her photo album online at: http://www.ibew1245.com/news-Local1245/Gan_Farewell_Message_4-19-13.pdf
Hazel, Aileen, and Pat were in the laundry room. The two old washers standing on the concrete floor belched the suds up from the gray water. The children all played on and around the swing set nearby and had been good except Hazel had to bring her son out of the dirt with the threat of the ass whipping. He had been holding Aileen's youngest down in a choke hold and scrubbing her head with his knuckles, a trick his dad had shown him when he came home last night and waited for a mad Hazel to finish this dinner while she could plainly see he was whiskey drunk. She asked him nice where he had been but he wouldn't answer. He just kept scuffling with his son so glad to be alive and there with his family. He wanted to tell her but he knew she would worry too much and he didn't want her to worry about things the trade took away. She already heard enough bad stories.

Aileen looked into the water and laughed.

"I can't believe how fast that nice, clean water turns so filthy."

"Those boys do get some kind of dirty playing on those poles," said Pat.

"OOOH OOOH, I know it girl".

Hazel was running clothes through the ringer and shaking them out when they came through and dropping them into the basket. She didn't like this part of the washing, but she didn't have much else to do. She already heard enough bad stories.

Aileen said, "I don't know if I'd do that yet Aileen." Pat said it as Aileen passed her by and went out into the morning sun thinking about all the beautiful rays going to waste while Becky just sat there glaring at the laundry room and knowing her clothes were done.

It should be remembered that these women were tough. Much in the same mind set and upbringing of the men they traveled with. Not the standard home bound women of the day settled into the community by the same church and binding rules of the master of the house. Although all having different appearance and behavioral patterns, brought from all parts of the country to follow men chasing money and dreams and dragging along the family bound in the promise of settling down some day, not all of them ever would and many already knew it. It went through her mind as she approached the door of the trailer house, how long before I have my own clothes line and washer. How long do the kids have to change schools? How many more nights on the road going to a different place?

She was from a large family in Arkansas, her father a farmer and logger. Her dad had four kids with his first wife and she died and he married big momma and Aileen was third of a four set in this marriage.

Big Momma was married before too with four kids she brought to the new place and so the grand total was twelve. Aileen knew what unity and hope was and had good judgment and had a hot Irish temper when pushed too far to match her long, red, thick hair. She felt a blouse and a pair of pants as she passed and they were dry and it made her mad to see all the clothes taking up space and Becky just sitting there glaring out the window and knocked on the door hard.

"Go away Aileen, I don't want to come to the door right now, go away."

"We need the clothes line Pat!" aiming the fury to ward her friend. Her red hair seemed to find a brighter tone and her blue eyes seemed to sharpen and the glances toward the trailer and Becky hardened more.

Hazel sat quietly not looking that way and said in normal collected way, "She's a bitch. She's mad at somebody for something all the time."

"Well, I can get mad too. I'm going over and tellin' her to get her clothes off so we can start hanging ours out."

"I don't know if I'd do that yet Aileen." Pat said it as Aileen passed her by and went out into the morning sun thinking about all the beautiful rays going to waste while Becky just sat there glaring at the laundry room and knowing her clothes were done.

"I'm going to start pulling them off myself." Aileen tapped the cigarette hard against the coffee can and the ashes dove off into the sand below.

"If she doesn't come out of her trailer and get off that high throne long enough to get her clothes off the line, I'm going to start pulling them off myself." Aileen tapped the cigarette hard against the coffee can and the ashes dove off into the sand below.

Hazel said softly, "I don't want to come to the door right now, go away.

"We need the clothes line Becky, yours are dry, and it's supposed to rain later. You're holding everything up."

"I don't care, go away please, I can't come out right now."

"I'll take them down for you—"

"NO! Leave my clothes alone and go away. Please go away."

Becky's voice broke and she began to weep and Aileen went in and saw the bruises on her arms and the black eye.

"What happened to you Becky?"

"I fell down. Go away. Leave my clothes alone Aileen." She sobbed and Aileen held her.

"I want to go home. I'm homesick and I hate this place and Mickey too."

"He did this didn't he?"

"NO!"

"Yes he did Becky. You can't fall down and come up looking like this. I'll tell Buddy and he'll kick the shit out of him."

"NO! You can't tell anybody, please."

She cried and Aileen pulled over another chair and sat and held her and Hazel
and Pat could see them from the laundry room. Hazel said, “They’re hugging. Is she going to tell her to get the clothes off the line or make love to her?” “Love’s out I’m pretty sure. Something is wrong. Let’s go over and see.” “No Pat, I’m not going. I’m waitin’ here and watchin’ the kids and the clothes. You go.” Aileen saw her coming and went out and met Pat at the clothesline. “What’s wrong Aileen?” “Mickey beat her up, but she said she fell.” “That son-a-bitch hit her again?” screamed Pat. “He’s done this before?” “Every two or three months he uses her for a fuckin’ punchin’ bag and she stays hid out until makeup will cover it.” “Take her clothes down Pat, you and Hazel and I’ll console her for awhile and then come help you.” Aileen looked at the ground and kicked a rock and then looked at Hazel in the window of the laundry room and waved and smiled. “You go on Aileen, be with her. We’ll take care of it. Sit with her awhile.” “Pat?” “What?” “She doesn’t want anyone to know, okay?” “So she’ll have to hide out and be alone until the bruises go away?” “We’ll go see her and bake her cookies and stuff and sit with her, one of us every day, deal?” “You bet Aileen, deal!” Aileen went back to Becky’s trailer and Pat went and got Hazel and they started changing the clothes on the line. Aileen sat while Becky made more coffee and cried all the while saying she wanted to go home and never see him again. But she loved him and wanted to stay too. Her dad would have a fit if she separated. She was Catholic and bound to her marriage for life. They sat at the table now and she had settled down and wanted the company. Aileen could tell she felt better as they sat and watched Hazel and Pat take the clothes down and put them in her basket and start hanging theirs. Aileen had seen plenty of black eyes and bruises. Fighting with her brothers and sisters back home and falling off horses and being kicked by milk cows and taking spills out of tall trees she had tried to climb. “He really popped you a good one in that eye girl. You look like Jake LaMotte sitting there ready for round two.” “They made a bond at the bar last night about Kenny.” “A bond? What kind of bond Becky?” “Mickey came home and I asked him where he was and he hit me and I told him he better not again. He said they were in the bar all day because a pole fell over in the mud and Kenny was on it and it would have killed him, but it fell close to the pole your Buddy was on and he threw Kenny a line or something like that and Mickey said Kenny would have been dead.” Aileen heard but just froze and then she turned her head slowly out and saw the kids playing by the swing set and looked closer to the line and saw the black hair of Hazel and her hands on the pins attaching them to a work shirt of Kenny’s and looked down at her feet. That’s all she saw of her friend. The work shirt had her face covered. A shirt that was still needed by a man that had worn it or one just like it yesterday and may have never needed it again. “Oh my God,” she whispered and glanced again at the children playing and back to Hazel hanging out the work shirt. In the darkness of their room in the back of the trailer they held and loved and enjoyed the yearnings of their youth and she went out and to the bathroom and then checked on the girls and came back and giggled and played with Buddy for awhile longer and they enjoyed the yearnings of their young marriage again. “Is everything alright at work Buddy? I worry about you sometimes.” “Everything is fine as frog hair kid, and that was sure good lovin’. I’ll be right back here tomorrow night for more. Go to sleep. Those fried potatoes were good too.” She didn’t tell Hazel or Pat and didn’t want Buddy to know Mickey had told Becky about the accident. She knew the skinner had to put the mule down because Becky had told her so and that was the only life taken yesterday. He came home drunk too, but he didn’t beat her up. He never had touched her in violence and she knew he wouldn’t. She just drew close to him now and enjoyed the sound of his breathing as he went off to sleep and she did not sleep too well and drifted in and out and checked the children a lot during the night. She got up for the last time at two in the morning and looked across the park at Mickey and Becky’s trailer. She made coffee and got the eggs out of the Frigidaire, took the Hershey’s cocoa and sugar down and started making the cookies she would send in his lunch and after they went to work she would take some over and sit and have coffee and cookies and conversation with Becky. She was just that way, tough, kind, and loving.

continued in next issue
Congratulations on your service!

Reno
January 11, 2013

45 Years
Robert Callender with Business Manager Tom Dalzell.

35 Years
From left: Patrick Waite and William Springer with Tom Dalzell.

30 Years
Patrick McQuary with Tom Dalzell.

25 Years
Jill Johnson with Tom Dalzell.

50 Years
Appleton, Charles

45 Years
Paul, Larry G Callender, Robert L

40 Years
Curl, Steve
Fanoni, Allan P
Foster, Dan
Lamberti III, Alfred L
Badekin, Martin
Surrett, Randy L
Wines, James

35 Years
Braun, Michael
Bryan III, William W
Byrne, Robert E
Elvey, Dennis N
Etcheberry, Michael A
Lewis, Tom H
Malekos, Norman
Matheus, Duane P
Patterson, Wayne A
Springer, William R
Tracy, Richard T
Waine, Patrick J
Webb, Miles E

30 Years
Anderson, Gayle L
Boogman, David J
Chidwick, Mark T
Debye, Steven K
Fisher, Brian C
Gill, David L
James, Corey N
McQuary, Patrick M
Milligan, Trudi
Riddle, Tim
Rimmington, Kelleen M
Wynn, Michael

25 Years
Bartoletti, Harry
Brown, Rocky L
Buschene, Glenn M
Davies, Robert H
Garrison, Grant M
Gruterwald, Paul J
Hildebrand, Teresa M
Howard, Monty B
Johnson, Jill D
Jones, Earl D

15 Years
Clark, William B
Eaton, Diane K
Flanagan, Tim E
Hage, David M
Henderson, Wade E
Kennedy, Michael R
Kimbrell, Martin G
Kuykendall, Patrick J
Lopez, Dennis W
Puff, Richard J
Roberts, Joe
Shaw, Michael R
Stone, David
Tonkin, Matt R
Whitford, Michael L
Winters, Jimmie R

10 Years
Ahour, Michael F
Ballard, Thomas R
Bedell, Melissa A
Cardenas, Fernando
Coloso, Eleodoro T
East, John W
Farthing, Scott E
Finland, Robert C
Garland, Darrin A
Garza, Gerald B

5 Years
Backland, Clayton W
Boering, Linda R
Brook, Larry H
Brouwer, Lisa B
Cortez, Phillip J
Dewees, Jeffrey G
Fidler, Amanda N
Fink, Anthony P
Hagerty, Kevin E
Hagen, Thomas R
Hansen, Michael M
Henderson, Sonja M
Heffernan, John H
Heigl, Michael R
Holmes, Scott M
Kemp, Robert C
Ladd, Christopher J
Lanphier, Kevin J
Linn, Mary D
Long, David L
McGowen, David J
McManus, Joseph A
Moore, Laura D
Mukherjee, Anirban
Neff, Patrick M
Newmark, Andrew N
Ramos, Robert K
Reaves, Tony L
Reed, John A
Roberts, William R
Smith, Steven L
Sutton, Andrew D
Worthington, Jennifer A

3 Years
Blair, David A
Brook, Larry H
Brew, David A
Brown, Roderick W
Burke, John S
Carter, David E
Chapman, Scott A
Chenault, Mitchell L
Conte, Daniel A
Costello, Christopher J
Cummins, Michael A
Dahlen, Charles K
Davies, Robert H
Davis, Ben B
Dehmlow, Brian B
DeRosa, Joseph M
Dewees, Jeffrey G
Dorn, Charles R
Draves, Robert B
Eaton, Michael D
Elmore, Richard M
Eshoo, Michael W
Farthing, James E
Fleischman, David A
Forsyth, John M
Fong, Victor C
Fossati, Joseph D
Frank, John D
French, Brian M
Futterman, Mark J
Garcia, Thomas R
Garland, Darrin A
Gleason, David F
Gough, Robert A
Hagen, Thomas R
Hansen, Michael M
Henderson, Sonja M
Heffernan, John H
Heigl, Michael R
Holmes, Scott M
Kemp, Robert C
Ladd, Christopher J
Lanphier, Kevin J
Linn, Mary D
Long, David L
McGowen, David J
McManus, Joseph A
Moore, Laura D
Mukherjee, Anirban
Neff, Patrick M
Newmark, Andrew N
Ramos, Robert K
Reaves, Tony L
Reed, John A
Roberts, William R
Smith, Steven L
Sutton, Andrew D
Worthington, Jennifer A

1 Year
Ashworth, Richard P
Barness, Joseph D
Bartolo, Michael W
Butler, John D
Chapman, Michael A
Colonna, Michelle C
Collins, John T
Corso, Joseph M
Craze, Thomas R
Dawson, Michael E
DeCarlo, Victor G
Dehmlow, Brian B
Dolby, Scott R
Draves, Robert B
Eaton, Michael D
Eshoo, Michael W
Fleet, Michael D
Fowloski, Joseph F
Fry, Michael W
Garcia, Thomas R
Gawthrop, Daniel G
Gough, Robert A
Greater, James M
Hagen, Thomas R
Henderson, Sonja M
Henderson, Sonja M
Henderson, Sonja M
Heffernan, John H
Heigl, Michael R
Holmes, Scott M
Kemp, Robert C
Ladd, Christopher J
Lanphier, Kevin J
Linn, Mary D
Long, David L
McGowen, David J
McManus, Joseph A
Moore, Laura D
Mukherjee, Anirban
Neff, Patrick M
Newmark, Andrew N
Ramos, Robert K
Reaves, Tony L
Reed, John A
Roberts, William R
Smith, Steven L
Sutton, Andrew D
Worthington, Jennifer A

24 April – June 2013
SERVICE AWARDS

Redding
February 8, 2013

45 Years
From left: 45 Years Stuart Neblett, 40 Years member Robert Valderrama, and Business Manager Tom Dalzell.

35 Years

35 Years
Front row, from left: Eugene Wilson, and Bryan Coleman. Back row, from left: David Peery, Alan Zahallo, Dalzell.

30 Years
Front row, from left: Daniel Parmenter, John Flores. Back row, from left: John Bell, Michael E. West, Kevin D. Weston, Kevin D. Weston, (Dalzell).

25 Years
Front row, from left: John Marzolla, James Lovercheck, Krista Hassell, Back row, from left: Virgil O’Neal, Mike Carnahan, (Dalzell).

25 Years
Front, from left: Frank Anderson, (Dalzell), and Philip Alleman.

Congratulations on your service!

HONOREES

40 Years
Cruickshank, Arthur D
Neblett, Stuart E

35 Years
Brutlag, Martin V
Buck, Terry
Castanet, Val R
Duesel, Alan W
Griffin, Gary L
McFarlan, Dennis
Valderrama, Robert M

30 Years
Amaral, Steven
Boedecker, Gerald
Bradley, James S
Coleman, Bryan L
Colgate, Tom
Colvin, William M
Connelly, Craig

25 Years
Foong, Kit
Foster Jr., James L
Fountain, Mike S
Harvey, John C
Hayes, James A
Sardoch, Charles J
Stagner, Sharon G
Weston, Kevin D
Wilson, Eugene D
Zahallo, Alan

25 Years
Foong, Kit
Foster Jr., James L
Fountain, Mike S
Harvey, John C
Hayes, James A
Sardoch, Charles J
Stagner, Sharon G
Weston, Kevin D
Wilson, Eugene D
Zahallo, Alan

25 Years
From left: 45 Years Stuart Neblett, 40 Years member Robert Valderrama, and Business Manager Tom Dalzell.

25 Years
From left: John Marzolla, James Lovercheck, Krista Hassell, Back row, from left: Virgil O’Neal, Mike Carnahan, (Dalzell).

25 Years
From left: Frank Anderson, (Dalzell), and Philip Alleman.

20 Years
Baker, Philip B
Hicks, Andy D
Malloy, Michael A
Stock, William E
Wanbaugh, Stewart W

15 Years
Adams, Brian R
Campbell, Scott W
Courtright, Douglas E
Harper, Jacob
Hoyer, Aksel K
Johnson, Paul S
Lohr II, Arthur B
Martin, John A
Miller, Steven W
Orner, Travis A
Osburn, Donald R
Potter, Steven R
Rhodes, Richard E
Stansberry, John W
Stevens, Patrick A
Whitaker, Dennis

10 Years
Beeson, Wayne F
Benedict, Sherry I
Bruce, Ronald K
Cain, Benjamin S
Cantrell, Kevin C
Carter, Lester R
Chadwick, Geoffrey A
Coffee, Bill R
Cole, James D

5 Years
Aitken, Tony W
Arey, Michael J

Utility Reporter 25
There will be two separate ballot mailings:
The first ballot is for Executive Board/Officer seats and will be mailed to all members. Approximately 19,000 members will get these ballots. These ballots and their return envelopes will be color coded. This will be the first of two ballot mailings.

The second ballot is for Advisory Council seats which have two or more candidates:
• If there is no candidate, a ballot WILL NOT be sent.
• If there is one candidate, a ballot WILL NOT be sent and the sole candidate will be declared the winner after the election closes on Monday, June 24, 2013.
• If there are two or more candidates, a ballot WILL be sent. These ballots and their return envelopes will be color coded. Only 5,500 members will get these ballots. This will be the second of two ballot mailings.

The following are Advisory Council seats with two or more candidates:
• Sacramento Division of PG&E and Calibration & Testing—Advisory Council
• Coast Valleys Division PG&E—Advisory Council
• Tree Trimmers Companies—Advisory Council
• General Construction At Large of PG&E—Advisory Council (3 seats—one ballot—vote for 3)
• Clerical At Large of PG&E—Northern Area—Advisory Council
• Clerical At Large of PG&E—Southern Area—Advisory Council
• Humboldt Division of PG&E—Advisory Council
• City of Santa Clara and San Jose Division of PG&E—Advisory Council

If you are represented by one of the above listed Advisory Council seats you will receive an Advisory Council ballot AND an Executive Board/Officers ballot—two ballots—two separate mailings. If your Advisory Council seat is not listed above you will ONLY receive an Executive Board/Officers ballot—one ballot—one mailing.

In summary, all members will receive a ballot for Executive Board positions. Members in contested Advisory Council areas will receive another separate ballot for Advisory Council. If you receive two ballots, please remember to send in both ballots, each in its own color coded envelope.

If you have moved, please update your address with the Union or you may not receive a ballot.

Ballots will be mailed to members on Wednesday, May 29, 2013.

Ballots will be counted on Monday, June 24, 2013. To be counted ballots must be received at the ballot post office box by 10:00 am on Monday, June 24, 2013.

If you have not received a ballot(s) by Friday, June 7, 2013 please call the Election phone at 707-689-8558 or send an e-mail to the Election e-mail address at mvg6@IBEW1245.com

Your message should include your full name, phone number, mailing address and either your member ID number or the last 4 digits of your Social Security number.

Candidate resumes (concerning their union activities) appear on pages 27 – 31. Please learn about the candidates, and VOTE!
President

Ernest Bonner
Initiated into IBEW August 1969.
Classification: Retired. Water Systems Crew Leader (PG&E). Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: Attended Unit Meetings since 1969; Advocate of Benefits for current and retired members. Submitted various proposals regarding the safeguard of benefits as well as COLAs for retirees since 1969.

Recording Secretary

Christine “Chris” Habeker
Initiated into IBEW January 1976.

Vice President

Art Freitas
Initiated into IBEW September 1984.
Classification: Retired Electric Foreman’s Clerk. Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: Petty Cash Ad Hoc; GRC Communication Team; Election Board 1998; Election Board Judge 2001; Area 3 CMO Labor Management Co-Chairman 1998-2005; General Negotiations Committee 2003; Exhibit 16 Contracting Committee 2003; Spokesperson, ISTS; Spokesperson, SAP 1994-2006.

Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Tom Dalzell
Initiated into IBEW April 1981.
Classification: Business Manager. Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: Legal Worker, United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO 1972-1976; Attorney, United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO 1977-1980; Business Representative/Staff Attorney, IBEW Local 1245 1981-1983; Assistant Business Manager/Staff Attorney IBEW Local 1245 1984-1986; Business Manager/Staff Attorney IBEW Local 1245 2001-2006; Business Manager, IBEW Local 1245 2006-Present.

Gate 2006, 2011.

Activities on Behalf of the Union: Petty Cash Ad Hoc; GRC Communication Team; Election Board 1998; Election Board Judge 2001; Area 3 CMO Labor Management Co-Chairman 1998-2005; General Negotiations Committee 2003; Exhibit 16 Contracting Committee 2003; Spokesperson, ISTS; Spokesperson, SAP 1994-2006.

Initiated into IBEW June 1967.
Classification: Retired. Shop Steward: 1969 - 2018; Local Union Offices Held: Outside Construction Southern Area Executive Board; Treasurer; Vice President; President. Committees Served at the Union: Union Switching Retiree Committee 1980s-1990s; Local Political Education Committee 1991-Present; Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: California Labor Federation Convention 1992-Present; Delegate to South Bay Labor Council 1971-Present; Inter-Union Gas Conference 2005-2009; Nevada State AFL-CIO Meetings 2001-Present; Delegate to several 9th district meetings; Delegate to IBEW Construction Conference 2009; Delegate to IBEW 38th Convention; Member of EWMC 2012-2013. Graduate from UC Berkeley Labor Studies Program 1979.

Gate 2006, 2011.

Initiated into IBEW August 1969.
Classification: Retired Water Systems Crew Leader (PG&E). Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: Attended Unit Meetings since 1969; Advocate of Benefits for current and retired members. Submitted various proposals regarding the safeguard of benefits as well as COLAs for retirees since 1969.

Initiated into IBEW January 1976.

Initiated into IBEW June 1967.
Classification: Retired. Shop Steward: 1969 - 2018; Local Union Offices Held: Outside Construction Southern Area Executive Board; Treasurer; Vice President; President. Committees Served at the Union: Union Switching Retiree Committee 1980s-1990s; Local Political Education Committee 1991-Present; Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: California Labor Federation Convention 1992-Present; Delegate to South Bay Labor Council 1971-Present; Inter-Union Gas Conference 2005-2009; Nevada State AFL-CIO Meetings 2001-Present; Delegate to several 9th district meetings; Delegate to IBEW Construction Conference 2009; Delegate to IBEW 38th Convention; Member of EWMC 2012-2013. Graduate from UC Berkeley Labor Studies Program 1979.

Gate 2006, 2011.

Initiated into IBEW August 1969.
Classification: Retired Water Systems Crew Leader (PG&E). Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: Attended Unit Meetings since 1969; Advocate of Benefits for current and retired members. Submitted various proposals regarding the safeguard of benefits as well as COLAs for retirees since 1969.

Initiated into IBEW January 1976.

### Treasurer

**Lorenzo Arciniega**

Initiated into IBEW November 2001.

**Classification:** Customer Service Representative.

**Shop Stewart:** 9/2011 to Present.

**Local Union Offices Held:** Committee seats served at the Union: PG&E Contact Center Operations (CCO)/Rewards and Recognition Committee 3/2013; PG&E Contact Operations (CCO) Wide Reopener 9/2012; PG&E Contact Center Operations (CCO) Attendance Management Committee (Phase 2) 9/2012; Young Workers Bay Area Leadership and Development Training Planning Committee 2/2011; IBEW Local 1245 Social Media Committee 2/2011 to Present; IBEW Local 1245 Social Media Committee 1/2011; PG&E Wellness Program Committee 9/2010; Planning Committee for initial IBEW Local 1245 Youth Festival 8/2010; IBEW 1245 Youth Engaged for Solidarity (YES) Committee 9/2009; Attended the IBEW PG&E Clerical Bargaining Committee 11/2009-1/2011; Contact Center Operations (CCO) Shift Swap Committee 9/2008; PG&E Business Transformation Committee Contact Center Operations (CCO) 2/2004-2005 Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: Delegate to the California State Federation Legislation Conference (Sacramento, CA) 4/2013; Attended the IBEW 1245 Leadership Development meeting with the State of California (Minneapolis, MN) 12/2011; Spoke at the AFL-CIO Next Up Young Workers Summit (Seattle, Washington) 11/2011; Panelist/Speaker/Facilitator/ Delegate at the AFL-CIO Next Up Young Workers Summit (Vancouver, Minnesota, MN) 9/2011; Met with and introduced the 25th United States Secretary of Labor, Hilda Lucía Solís at the AFL-CIO Next Up Young Workers Summit (Seattle, WA) 5/2011; Mentored several IBEW Young Workers and Various Locals in International District 9, 8, 7, and District 3 8/2011 to Present; 2012 Young Workers Engagement Summit Next Generation Committee Area 1st Leadership and Organizing Training 7/2011; Participant at the AFL-CIO Leadership Development workshop at Stanford University with Professor Clay Carson, the Executive Director of Martin Luther King Jr. Institute for Research and Social Action 3/2011; Delegate to IBEW Local 77 Seattle Washington Call Center Summit (Seattle, WA) 5/2011; Team Leader/Organizer against the State of Florida Legislative attempt to privatize and eliminate automatic pay-roll deductions for Union dues (SB830) (Jacksonville, FL) Met with Mayor John Peyton regarding proposed fiscal cuts and implications on city residents. Testified on behalf of Florida residents at hearings with the Florida State Council on the Status of Women. Co-organized a city wide protest against the closure of the only Low Income Hospital facility in Jacksonville, FL. 4/2011; IBEW 1245 Point Organizer for WE ARE ONE/Day of Action Rally in San Jose, Santa Cruz and Salinas, CA 4/2011; Appointed by IBEW International President Ed Hill as IBEW Young Worker representative for the California State Federation of Labor Workers Advisory Council (Y.W.A.) 1/2010 to Present.

### Cecelia De La Torre

Initiated into IBEW September 1987.

**Classification:** Operating Clerk. Shop Stewart: 1997- Present. Local Union Office: 10/2010 to Present; Unit Chairperson #2511 2002- Present; Unit Recording Secretary #2511 2000-2002. Committees Served at the Union: Negotiations Committee Clerical 2010; Negotiations Committee Benefits 2009, 2011; Negotiations Committee 2011; Women of Labor Committee 2009-2011; Young Workers Committee 2011; 7, 5 and District 3 8/2011 to Present; 2012 Young Workers Engagement Summit Next Generation Committee Area 1st Leadership and Organizing Training 7/2011; Participant at the AFL-CIO Leadership Development workshop at Stanford University with Professor Clay Carson, the Executive Director of Martin Luther King Jr. Institute for Research and Social Action 3/2011; Delegate to IBEW Local 77 Seattle Washington Call Center Summit (Seattle, WA) 5/2011; Team Leader/Organizer against the State of Florida Legislative attempt to privatize and eliminate automatic pay-roll deductions for Union dues (SB830) (Jacksonville, FL) Met with Mayor John Peyton regarding proposed fiscal cuts and implications on city residents. Testified on behalf of Florida residents at hearings with the Florida State Council on the Status of Women. Co-organized a city wide protest against the closure of the only Low Income Hospital facility in Jacksonville, FL. 4/2011; IBEW 1245 Point Organizer for WE ARE ONE/Day of Action Rally in San Jose, Santa Cruz and Salinas, CA 4/2011; Appointed by IBEW International President Ed Hill as IBEW Young Worker representative for the California State Federation of Labor Workers Advisory Council (Y.W.A.) 1/2010 to Present.

---

**Candidates for Local Union Office**

**Candidate:** Lorenso Arciniega

**Position:** Treasurer

**Candidate:** Cecelia De La Torre

**Position:** Treasurer

---

**Candideates for Local Union Office**

**Candideate:** Lorenso Arciniega

**Position:** Treasurer

**Candideate:** Cecelia De La Torre

**Position:** Treasurer
**Candidates for Local Union Office**

**Southern Area Executive Board Member**

**Mike Jacobson**


**Pete Sandoval**

Initiated into IBEW June 1976. Classification: Electric Crew Foreman Shop Steward; For 10 years. Local Union Offices Held: Co-Chair in Selma for 5 years; 12 years as Unit Chair and Recorder in Selma; 6 years as Fresno Unit Chair Committees Served at the Union: Served on two ballot committees; Delegate to the International Conference in Vancouver, Canada; Leadership Development Conference of 2013; Hold The Pull; Delegate to the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus Conference 2012 and 2013 Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: Worked on "No on 32" Campaign.

**Central Area Executive Board Member**

**Anna Bayless-Martinez**

Initiated into IBEW August 1980.

**Northern Area Executive Board Member**

**Joshua Alpine**

Initiated into IBEW July 1997. Utility Reporter

**At-Large General Construction of Department PG&E**

**Stan Zamora**

Initiated into IBEW October 1985.

**Outside Construction and Tree Trimming Companies**

**Mike Cottrell**


**Northern Area Executive Board Member**

**Thomas “Tom” Cornell**

Candidates for Advisory Council

San Joaquin Division of PG&E

Daniel “Dan” Mayo
Initiated into IBEW June 1975.

Coast Valleys Division of PG&E

Cory Armstrong
Initiated into IBEW September 1997.
Classification: Lineman. Shop Steward: 2008 to Present. Local Union Offices Held: Unit Chairman Committees Served at the Union: Job Bidding Committee 2013; ballot Committee 2012 Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: Delegate to Electrical Workers Minority Caucus 2011 & 2012; Delegate to CBTU 2012.

East Bay Division of PG&E, Materials Distribution Department of PG&E, and Foster-Wheeler

Anthony C. Brown

San Francisco Division of PG&E and General Office of PG&E

Gary Maschio

Stockton Division of PG&E and City of Lodi

Robert Harty
Initiated into IBEW December 1985.

Sacramento Regional Transit District

Lauren Bartlett

TransCanada

No Valid Nominations.

Humboldt Division of PG&E

Thomas Brown
Initiated into IBEW November 1995.

Lee R. Thomas

Shasta Division of PG&E, City of Redding, Lassen Municipal Utility District, City of Shasta Lake, and Bella Vista Water District

No Valid Nominations.

NV Energy, TMWA, City of Fernley, Truckee Donner PUD, Mt. Wheeler Power Inc., Wells REA, City of Fallon, Liberty Energy

Denver Thomas
Initiated into IBEW October 2001.

De Sabla Division of PG&E

Mike Jessen
Initiated into IBEW June 2006.

Sacramento Municipal Utility District

Arthur “Art” Torres
Initiated into IBEW April 1979.

USBR, Western Area Power Administration

No Valid Nominations.

Frontier Communications

Thomas Greer
Initiated into IBEW August 1986.

General Construction of PG&E – At Large (Three Positions)

Harold Blackshire Jr.
Initiated into IBEW June 2006.
Michael Frasu  
Initiated into IBEW December 1988.

Scott Powell  
Initiated into IBEW August 2010.

Daniel Stalcup  
Initiated into IBEW September 1996.

Tree Trimmer Companies

Ray Banfill  
Initiated into IBEW July 1984.

Tanny Hurtado  
Initiated into IBEW February 2003.  
Classification: Line Clearance Tree Trimmer (Foreman).  
Committees Served:  
- IBEW 1245 Leadership Conference Planning Committee 3/2013;  
- Soccer Planning Committee 11/2012 – 3/2013;  
- Tree Master Contract Campaign (YES Committee) 7/2012-9/2012  
Other Activities on Behalf of the Union:  
- Annual Construction and Maintenance Conference (Washington DC) 4/2013;  
- Attended IBEW 1245 Leadership Development Meeting with the State of California Attorney General Kamala Devi Harris (San Francisco CA) 4/2013;  
- Attended the IBEW 1245 Leadership Development Luncheon with former U.S. presidential advisor to Bill Clinton and White House Deputy Chief of Staff during the second Clinton administration, Maria Echaveste (San Francisco, CA) 4/2013;  
- Became member and attended the IBEW Electrical Workers Minority Caucus Conference (Houston, TX) 1/2013;  
- Unit Chair and recorder training (Petaluma, CA) 12/2012;  
- Organizer/Recruiter for the “No on Prop 32” campaign at South Bay Labor Council 2012;  
- IBEW 1245 We Are One/Day of Action Rally, San Jose 2011.

Clerical at Large of PG&E – Northern Area

Thelma Dixon  
Initiated into IBEW June 1970.

Clerical at Large of PG&E – Central Area

Julia Steffen  
Initiated into IBEW September 1983.  
Classification: Operating Clerk.  
Shop Steward: Physical and Clerical Shop Steward Experience.

Clerical at Large of PG&E – Southern Area

Lynn Flavin  
Initiated into IBEW September 2001.  
Classification: Senior Service Representative.  
Activities on Behalf of the Union:  
- Phone Banking for No on Prop 32 (Anti-Union) at South Bay Labor Council 2012;  
- IBEW 1245 We Are One/Day of Action Rally, San Jose 2011.

Clerical at Large of PG&E – Southern Area

Thelma Dixon  
Initiated into IBEW June 1970.

Clerical at Large of PG&E – Central Area

Julia Steffen  
Initiated into IBEW September 1983.  
Classification: Operating Clerk.  
Shop Steward: Physical and Clerical Shop Steward Experience.

Clerical at Large of PG&E – Northern Area

Lynn Flavin  
Initiated into IBEW September 2001.  
Classification: Senior Service Representative.  
Activities on Behalf of the Union:  
- Phone Banking for No on Prop 32 (Anti-Union) at South Bay Labor Council 2012;  
- IBEW 1245 We Are One/Day of Action Rally, San Jose 2011.

Jose Mendoza  
Initiated into IBEW October 2007.

Irrigation Districts

Craig Tatum  
Initiated into IBEW April 1991.

Outside Construction

No Valid Nominations.

Delegate: Western Area Power Association, Government Coordinating Council 1 (GCC-1)

Sam Glero  
Initiated into IBEW December 1978.

Members of the Local 1245 Election Board are, from left: Ron Fort, Al Estes, Delina Davis, Lem Stubblefield (all PG&E); David Thieme, NV Energy; Donchele Soper, Bill Hunt, Kevin Krummes (all PG&E); Mike Grimm, Judge, NV Energy; Walter Carmier, Frontier.

Please learn about the candidates, and VOTE!
Lineman’s Club

The old neon warrior was looking pretty decrepit: weather-beaten, unlit, on a fast track to oblivion.

When Business Manager Tom Dalzell saw the ancient “Lineman's Club” sign still clinging to the side of a building in Oakland, he decided this was one piece of lineman history that needed to be preserved. The club is gone—has been for years. The building needed to be preserved. The club was one piece of lineman history that Tom Dalzell decided this was one piece of lineman history that needed to be preserved. The club is gone—has been for years. The building

Quick action rescues iconic sign

The neon needs to be put back in working order. And oh yeah—the sign could probably use a little bit of love after decades of neglect.

So if you happen into the union hall one day and see a neon sign glowing in the wings, you might want to offer a small toast to all the guys so long ago who tossed one back in the good old days at the Lineman’s Club.

Cheers.

Kamala Harris discusses leadership with IBEW members

Eleven IBEW 1245 young members met with California Attorney General Kamala Harris, former Deputy White House Chief of Staff Maria Echavaste, and Jesse Marron of Delancey Street. The civic and community leaders shared their perspective on leadership and organizing in San Francisco in three different settings.

The set of meetings, held April 8, were part of IBEW 1245’s leadership development program for emerging leaders. The meetings were set up by IBEW 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell and Organizer Fred Ross.

The meetings focused on the importance of engaging the struggle for social justice from the streets as well as from the inside of power centers. They emphasized the importance of searching for the truth, and having the courage to put ourselves out there in that search.

“The gentleman from Delancey Street’s motto – ‘each one, teach one’ – is a great motto to live by as members of IBEW,” said Rosario Garcia, a Line Clearance Tree Trimmer from Trees Inc.

“[We] need to always train the next generation. If we don’t, then everything we worked for will die with us.”

Jammi Juarez, a PG&E clerical worker active in the IBEW’s Sacramento Organizing Committee and a veteran campaigner in Wisconsin, Ohio and Florida, was moved by Maria Echavaste’s emphasis on the power of each of us to make a difference as long as we are united and the importance of leaders listening in order to figure out the truth.

Davey Tree Trimmer Justin Casey was moved by Kamala Harris’s insight that “being a leader isn’t always easy. It’s a commitment to take on that role.”

PG&E clerical worker Donchele Soper underscored the theme of courage.

“Attorney General Kamala Harris stood up to the big banks and other politicians, and didn’t buy into the excuses the rich or those in power have sold for decades. She asked questions, demanded answers and refused to give up,” said Soper.

Common themes on effective leadership included the courage to tell the truth, the need to listen, to motivate others, to lead by example, to sacrifice for the greater good and to be true to one’s self and to the values we hold dear.

Participating in the activities on April 8 were Jammi Juarez, Donchele Soper, Kevin Krummes, Justin Casey, Tanny Hurtado, Roderigo Flores, Rosario Garcia, Jacinto Hernandez, Logan Thomas, Rene Cruz Martinez, Lorenzo Arciniega, along with Business Manager Tom Dalzell and staff members Fred Ross, Jennifer Gray and Eileen Purcell.