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Meet the Candidates for IBEW 1245 Union Leadership Election

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2022 Primary Election Endorsements:
ibew1245.com/endorsements

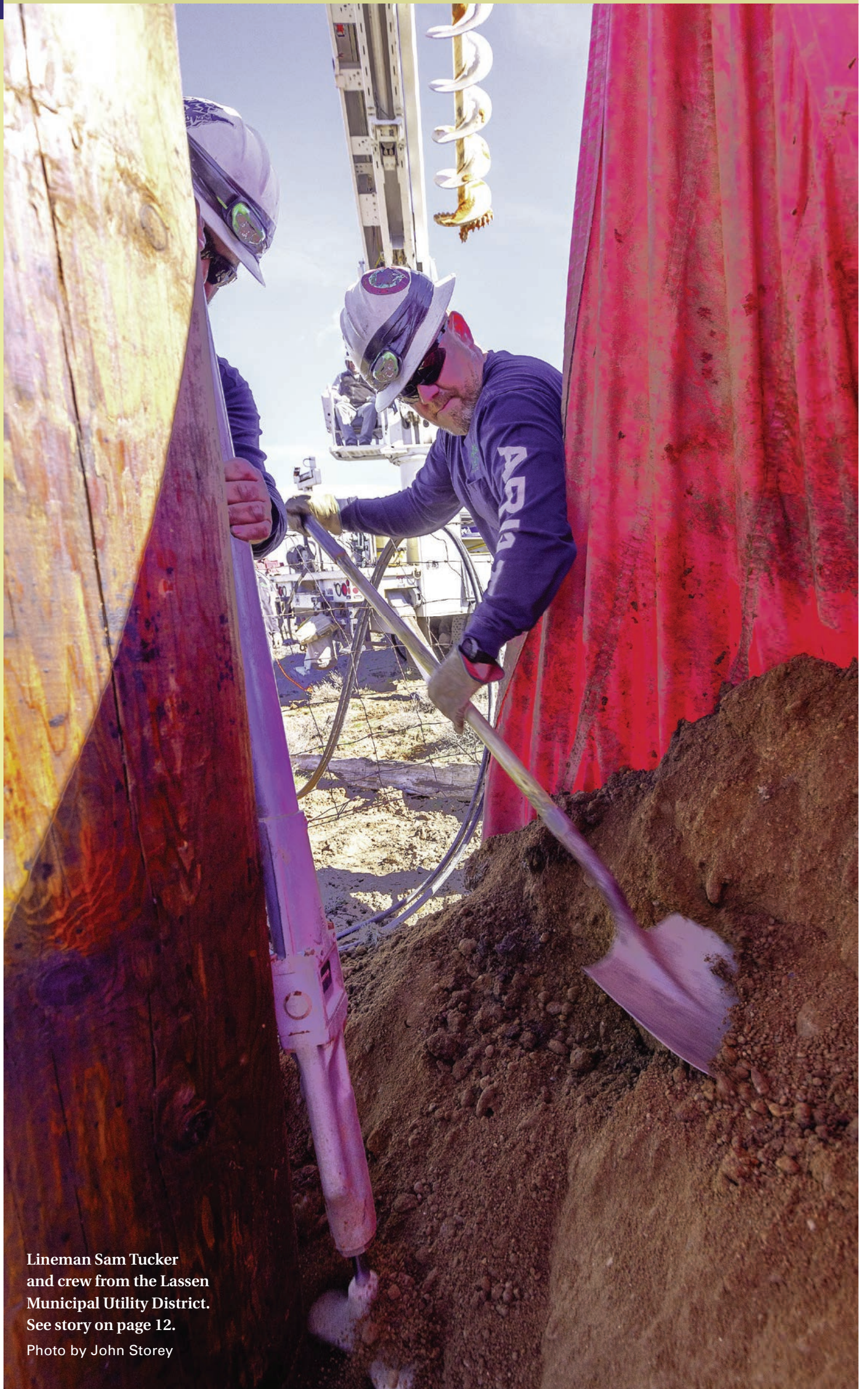
Utility Reporter

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UNITY IS STRENGTH

For up-to-the-minute news, see our website: www.ibew1245.com



Lineman Sam Tucker
and crew from the Lassen
Municipal Utility District.
See story on page 12.
Photo by John Storey



Bob Dean
Business Manager

Looking Ahead: Three Major Opportunities to Set Course

When I was growing up and learning to make decisions, my dad used to tell me: "I'll give you advice, but it's your ship to sail. Sail it where you want to go and try not to crash." As a kid, I found that both empowering and nerve-wracking: I understood that I was in charge of (and responsible for) my future.

Most of the decisions I was making at the time were admittedly low-stakes, but they slowly changed into larger decisions — What car should I buy? What should I do with my life? Should I join the Navy? I knew if I crashed, these decisions were on me. But I felt I could take credit for the wins, too.

As adults, we are in charge of the collective ships we sail — our families, our union, and our government. In the weeks ahead, 1245 members will have three major opportunities to set course.

Kim Camatti Joins IBEW 1245 Staff

Seventeen-year IBEW 1245 member Kim Camatti has joined the IBEW 1245 staff as a Business Rep. She will be working with public sector members in the North Bay and North Coast areas, taking over for long-time Senior Business Rep JV Macor, who will be retiring from the union this summer.

Sister Camatti began her career at SMUD in 2002 as an office worker, but within a few years, she moved to the field and became an IBEW member in 2005 as a Material Specialist with Class A. Over her 17 years with the utility, she also became a Certified Forklift Trainer and Safety Facilitator.

Camatti has been a powerful union advocate for many years, serving as a Shop Steward, Organizing Steward Lead, and contract negotiations team member for the last two contracts at SMUD. After the 2018 U.S. Supreme Court *Janus* ruling, she spearheaded 1245's "I'm In" campaign at SMUD, recruiting over 90% of the bargaining unit employees to become volunteer Union dues-paying members. She has also served as a Union New Member Experience (UNME) presenter, guest speaker for the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (EWMC), IBEW Election Committee member, and Cam-



Kim Camatti

The purpose of this column is to highlight those opportunities and what's at stake, so you can make decisions that are best for you and your family.

On April 15, we reached a Tentative Agreement with the Western Line Chapter of NECA on the California Outside Line Construction Agreement. We were proud to work with our sibling Local IBEW 47 on these negotiations, which produced the biggest total package increase to this agreement ever bargained. If approved by members, it will be the largest compensation package for construction agreements in the country (highlights of the tentative agreement can be found on page 16).

Our bargaining team is proud of these achievements, and personally I'm proud that we continue to set the bar for compensation nationally. We have historically negotiated the strongest contracts in the country, and this one is no exception. Ballots with the full list of changes have been mailed to all eligible voters and are due back on May 23 to be counted. My hope is that we have a large turnout. We will announce the results on the Local 1245 and Local 47 websites and via social media as soon as they are tallied.

The second opportunity is our upcoming Union Election. IBEW Local 1245 is a democracy run by workers, for workers — and in accordance with our Bylaws, we conduct open and transparent elections every three years. Every leadership position — including President, all union officers, members of the Executive Board and Advisory Council

campaign Lead for multiple IBEW-endorsed candidates in the Sacramento area and beyond.

"I've found my passion. Employees have the right to be represented by their

Union fairly, in good faith and without discrimination. Nothing gives me more pride than serving as an advocate for employees within the IBEW," Camatti said. "Years of blood, sweat and tears went into every fight 1245 has undertaken over the decades, and what the members have today is evidence of that. I've made it my personal mission to educate as many employees as possible; to never forget the benefits we receive because of those men and women who came before us; and to empower current Union members to come together and uphold our negotiated benefits."

"Union members and staff are the backbone of our union," she added. "I'm blessed to call each of them my brothers and sisters and to be a part of this family."

Sister Camatti is married with four children (the youngest is 12, oldest is 30), three grandchildren, and two cats. In her free time, Camatti enjoys camping with friends and family, paddle boarding, live music, theater and sporting events.

— is up for election this year, and we have many qualified candidates representing diverse viewpoints to choose from.

On pages 21-24 of this edition of the *Utility Reporter*, you will find the full list of verified candidates for all the positions available. Per our Bylaws, we have included a factual description of their activities within the Local, committee assignments, offices held, and experience. Ballots will be mailed out by May 31, and must be returned to union headquarters by 10am on June 29 to be counted.

Our union's leadership determines the quality of the contracts we can bargain, the representation we can provide, and the relationships with legislators and regulators that are key to our success. Take an active role — do your research, ask questions, and by all means, vote.

The third opportunity is our upcoming state and federal midterm elections, which give us a chance to

support candidates who understand and value our work. Voter participation in off-year elections is usually low (and in California, notoriously low), but the stakes are high. Electing legislators who support workers means we have a seat at the table when policy is being made. It means that crucial legislation can become law — and anti-worker measures, frequently pushed by large corporations and a handful of extremely wealthy business owners, can be questioned and turned back. To see the candidates that IBEW 1245 is endorsing in your area, visit <https://bit.ly/IBEW1245endorsements>

I am thankful that we live in America, where we are free to debate and navigate these decision points together. Each one represents an important opportunity, and comes with responsibility. I am confident that, with 1245 members steering the ship, we are sailing to a place where our families, our union and our country will prosper.

Don't forget to vote!

Union Hall Construction Update

We appreciate the patience of the membership, staff, and visitors while our remodeling effort is underway at the IBEW 1245 Union Hall in Vacaville. This temporary inconvenience will result in a modernized main lobby and Dispatch lobby to better serve all visitors to our Hall. It will also provide more secure administrative areas for our staff to perform all of the functions they execute daily to serve

our vast membership.

The current construction schedule plans for a completion in late May. That, like with all construction, is tentative. But it gives a light at the end of the tunnel as to when our Hall will return to normal. Thanks again for everyone's patience.

— Anthony Brown,
IBEW Local 1245

Senior Assistant Business Manager

Geyserville Unit Meetings Re-Established

In January of 2022, the IBEW 1245 Executive Board approved a motion to re-establish Geyserville Unit #3713. The Geyserville unit began holding meetings in March at Catelli's, 21047 Geyserville Ave in Geyserville. Meetings are on the third Wednesday of the month at 4:30p. Dylan Rose is serving as Unit Chair.

— Garrett Markwood, IBEW 1245 Business Rep



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Members Approve Four-Year MOU at City of Roseville

On April 21, 2022, IBEW 1245 Members at the City of Roseville voted to approve a tentative agreement on a four-year successor MOU. Salary increases in the first year are effective May 7, with an average market adjustment increase of 6% across 63 classifications. Years two, three, and four salary increases will be tied to market adjustments with a minimum of 2% each year.

City family health contributions will be increased up to \$1,945 per month in the first year, \$2,020 per month in the second year, \$2,095 per month in the third year, and \$2,170 per month in the fourth year. Standby compensation is increased with six hours to be paid on holidays and an additional 4.5 hours per week (going from 13.5 hours per week to 18 hours paid per week). Take-home

vehicle distances are increased. Nine certification pays have been improved in the areas of Traffic Signals, Preventative Maintenance, SCADA Systems, Plant Mechanics, and Water Distribution. CDL Class-A pay will be increased to 3%. The classifications tied to the 2.5% 15-step advancement program will transition to a 3.0% 12-step advancement program with a 4.7% second step advancement. Rest period provisions are improved with the four-hour rest periods during unusual or emergency situations, and the ability to extend rest periods in combination with existing time-off banks.

Negotiating for the Union were members Mike Barton, Adam Carpineta, Clint Castle, Brendan Gossic, Matt Jones, Shawn Murphy, and myself.

— Charley Souders,
IBEW 1245 Business Rep

New Unit Established: Quincy Canyon Dam #3419

In 2021, the IBEW 1245 Executive Board voted to approve the establishment of a new unit, Quincy Canyon Dam #3419. The new unit began monthly meetings in April at the Taylorsville Tavern in Taylorsville, CA. The meetings are at 5:15pm on the first Thursday of every month (unless the first day of the month is a Wednesday or Thursday, in which case they would be on the second Thursday). Chad Lavezzo is serving as Unit Chair.

— Todd Wooten, IBEW 1245 Business Rep

Local 1245 Receives Numerous Awards from IBEW 9th District

At the IBEW's annual 9th District Progress Meeting, Local 1245 was once again recognized for its exceptional membership growth and commitment to organizing. 1245 received the coveted Henry Miller Award for excellence in organizing in 2021, marking the eighth consecutive year that the local has taken home this award. Additionally, 1245 was recognized for growing our membership in 2021, among both A and BA members.

The local was also presented with awards from 2019 and 2020 (the meetings where those awards would have been presented were cancelled due to the pandemic). In total, 1245 came home with 13 awards from the 9th District this year.



IBEW 1245 Business Rep Assignment Changes

Please note the following changes to IBEW 1245 Business Rep assignments:

- Business Rep **Mark Wilson** will be working with PG&E T200/T300 members in **Humboldt Division & Humboldt PP** (includes Clearlake, Eureka, Fortuna, Humboldt, Lakeport, Pt. Arena, Ukiah)
- Business Rep **Garrett Markwood** will be supporting PG&E T200/T300 members in **North Bay/Sonoma** (includes Fortuna, Geyserville, Lakeville, Napa, Petaluma, San Rafael, Santa Rosa, Vallejo)

Marty Finnerty Joins IBEW 1245 Staff

Thirty-six-year IBEW 1245 member Marty Finnerty has joined the union staff as a business rep. He will be working with PG&E members in the Mission and East Bay areas.

Prior to coming on staff, Brother Finnerty worked for PG&E for nearly four decades in a variety of classifications, including Meter Reading, Revenue Protection, Gas Department, Customer Service, and most recently in the Materials Department as a Materials Lead in Concord.

The son of a longtime IBEW 1245 shop steward, Finnerty also served as an IBEW 1245 Shop Steward for the past 30+ years. He sat on the union's Advisory Council and Ballot Committees, and has represented 1245 as a conference delegate, a member of the labor management committee, and during informational union pickets and rallies.

"Joining the IBEW 1245 staff is a great opportunity to build on my union experience and help people in a much larger role and scale," Finnerty said. "I consider it an honor to be asked to join this staff, so for me it was a no-brainer,

because I am 100% believer and supporter of union, what it stands for, and what it provides for its members — which is a fair reward for hard work. I really enjoy talking with the members I am meeting when in the field. I like to help people resolve their issues, and I feel like I'm making a difference for them."

"It's an honor to be a part of one of the largest, most powerful, recognized unions in this country. We are consistently approached by other unions to help support their needs, which shows the difference we have made in many facets of people's lives," he added.

Finnerty is a native San Franciscan, married with three adult children. In his free time, he's cheering on his beloved Bay Area sports teams, especially the Giants and 49ers. He enjoys travel and seeing new places, both in the US and abroad. Some of his most memorable trips include seeing his daughter sing in a private recital at the Sistine Chapel in Rome with her high school choir, and a US baseball trip where he attended games at nine different ballparks in five different states.



Marty Finnerty

UNION
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2022

Learn what's
happening.

Speak your mind.

Build our unity.

IBEW
Local 1245



Attend an IBEW
1245 Unit Meeting!

Please note that some meeting locations,
dates and times may have changed.

To find the most up-to-date meeting
information, scan the code below, or visit

www.ibew1245.com/unit-meetings



See
you
there!



ACRT Vegetation Management Inspectors, from left, kneeling: Andrew Hanna, Kevin Keen II and Grace Barber. Standing: Jose Figueroa, Salvador Mendoza, Sean Crooks, Eric Price, Nathan McFarlane, Evan Turek, Kirra Susalla and Errol DeBella. In truck bed: Kevin Faulkner, Andrea Zelaya and David Chou.

“A Lot More Help When We Need It”

Vegetation Management Inspectors Value the Benefits of Unionization



ACRT Vegetation Management Inspector Kirra Susalla inspects power lines in San Mateo.



Kirra Susalla

At this time last year, the Vegetation Management (VM) Inspectors who monitor the trees that grow around PG&E’s power lines (among other responsibilities) were earning, on average, less than \$20 an hour, with little to no benefit options. Worse yet, these non-union inspectors weren’t receiving any of the same sort of standardized safety and skills training that nearly every other worker in the utility industry gets under their union contracts.

In June of last year, IBEW 1245 Business Manager Bob Dean decided it was high time to fix this issue and give these workers the wages, protections, training and union benefits that they deserve. He reached out to the executives at PG&E’s vegetation management team,

and together, the union and the company quickly came to an agreement that would turn the tide for all VM Inspectors, including those working for contractors as well as those working directly for the company.

Under this new agreement, the VM Inspectors got a significant and immediate pay raise, anywhere from 50 – 100% over their previous wage. The agreement also comes with training and enhanced oversight, paid health care options for the contractors, and countless improvements to their working conditions.

VM Inspector Kirra Susalla, who works for a PG&E contractor called ACRT, is one of more than 1,500 workers who

came into the union after this new agreement was signed last year.

“It’s great. I love the fact that I get more money. And I also love the fact that I already have insurance added to my pay [through the in-lieu benefits agreement]. Before, we had to pay more just for insurance ... so that’s really nice,” she said. “And the fact that I have fixed hours, that’s really good. I don’t have to work nearly as many overtime hours as I’ve had to in past years.”

For Jose Figueroa, another ACRT VM Inspector, the best part of his newly acquired union representation is knowing that someone’s in his corner.

“I feel a little bit more grateful thanks to the union. They’re giving me more support in my job,” he said. “I’m glad we

are unionized now, because we’re also gaining a lot more benefits, a lot more help when we need it.”

As VM Inspectors, Figueroa, Susalla and their co-workers carry the important responsibility of monitoring the trees that grow around power lines and calculating their growth to determine if and when they need to be trimmed.

“I started in vegetation management in 2019, right after the Camp Fire. It was a pretty gruesome sight, so I wanted to do something to make a difference,” said Figueroa. “That’s when we started the EVM, Enhanced Vegetation Management program, and I got to experience the whole cleanup of the incident, trying to mitigate any hazardous trees, dead or dying trees.”



“I started in vegetation management in 2019, right after the Camp Fire. It was a pretty gruesome sight, so I wanted to do something to make a difference.”

— Jose Figueroa

ACRT Vegetation Management Inspector Jose Figueroa marks a tree to be trimmed.

When the *Utility Reporter* caught up with Figueroa, he was working in a very different type of setting — a residential area in San Mateo. He explained a bit about what his day-to-day job entails.

“Basically, we’re taking a look at the rate that the tree is going to grow within a year, and we have to maintain that one-year cycle, to keep compliance year to year,” Figueroa explained. “For instance, a Modesto Ash tree, they typically grow three to seven feet a year, depending on the amount of sunlight and water they get. So I look at the point it was last trimmed, to the point where it grew this year, and that’s how I determine if the tree needs to be trimmed or not, and also the distance between the tree and the line.”

Often times, their work in the field requires them to gain access to private properties, and the reactions they get from customers can vary widely.

“When I have to ask the owner for permission to enter their property, I reach out to them either via phone call or by a door hanger, or I try to go to their door if I can. If I’m really lucky, I’ll happen to see the people themselves outside taking a stroll. They end up being inquisitive, trying to figure out what I’m doing, and [once I explain my job] then they’re open arms about the idea, said Susalla. “They’re like, ‘You’re here to cut the trees? Please, take them away!’”

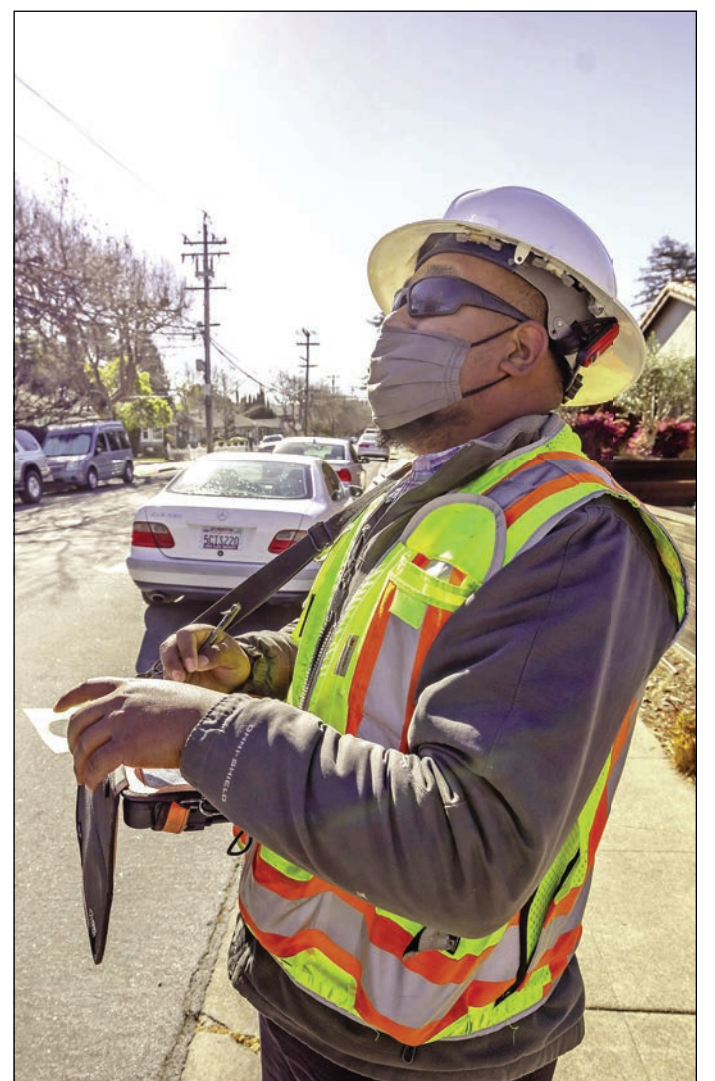
“But some customers are very particular about having people like myself going into their backyards and messing up their landscape or not abiding by what they, as the customer, would want us to do,” she added.

IBEW 1245 VM Inspectors know that they have a vitally important job to do to mitigate the risk of both outages and wildfires. But the job doesn’t just stop at the vegetation. Like all utility workers, VM Inspectors occasionally find themselves in emergency life-or-death situations. Figueroa remembers the time when he was patrolling and saw an elderly man lose consciousness while sitting on a nearby guardrail.

“I dropped everything and rushed towards him, started asking him if he was all right. Didn’t hear any response from him, so I decided to call 9-1-1. I flipped him over because he was facing downwards, and I immediately took off his jacket because he wasn’t responsive,” he recalled. “I was telling 9-1-1 what happened, and I started checking for a heartbeat and checking if he was breathing. He wasn’t doing any of those things. So [9-1-1 dispatch] told me to start doing the CPR, and I started doing CPR on him.”

“Luckily, the fire crew was literally about two minutes out. They were really quick,” he continued. “One of them took over and they started doing it by hand. Then after they set up the equipment, they started doing it with the machine, and also did oxygen on him. They got a heartbeat back within two minutes, and they rushed him to the hospital after that.”

— Rebecca Band, IBEW 1245
Communications Director



Jose Figueroa

Photos by John Storey

Statement From Business Manager Bob Dean on New COVID Supplemental Paid Sick Leave Legislation

In response to the signing of the new COVID supplemental paid sick leave legislation in February, IBEW 1245 Business Manager Bob Dean issued the following statement:

“Reinstating paid COVID sick leave is the right thing to do for our workers, our families and our communities. It’s also a common-sense public health strategy, which is why IBEW Local 1245 joined the California Labor movement to make it a top priority when the Omicron surge

emerged. We are proud to have played a part in this extraordinary, labor-driven victory, and we thank the Legislature and the Governor for their quick and decisive action on this critical issue.

“A broad coalition of labor unions, including IBEW 1245, was at the table every step of the way as the bill moved through the Legislature. We voiced our concerns over early proposals that would have limited availability of paid sick leave, or potentially allowed employers to require workers to report to work without testing when symptoms

may be present. We raised issues around the possibility of COVID getting into the workplaces of emergency responders, including utility workers, and noted that had the Omicron surge occurred just a few weeks earlier, before the severe winter storms in December, it could have severely hindered our members’ ability to respond to power outages, and customers could have been out of power much longer, putting life and property at greater risk.

“In order for all essential workers to continue to perform their essential du-

ties, they need access to paid sick leave to use when they or their family members are sick with COVID. As the Omicron surge thankfully subsides, workers across the state appreciate the fact that they will still have access to up to 80 hours of leave, should another surge or variant present itself in the coming months.”

IBEW 1245 members are encouraged to view our FAQs (below) to learn more about how this new law will impact them. If you have any questions, please contact your 1245 Business Rep.

2022 COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave FAQ

Source: Bill Text – SB-114 Employment: COVID-19: supplemental paid sick leave. (ca.gov)

Who is covered under the new Supplemental Paid Sick Leave (SPSL) law, and how much time off can we use?

Full-time workers at companies and municipalities with 26 or more workers are eligible for 40 hours of paid sick leave for COVID related illness, COVID quarantine, OR caring for a child sick with COVID. The triggering quarantine can come from a multitude of sources, including the employer.

Workers may also be eligible for up to another 40 hours of paid sick leave for an additional COVID illness, quarantine OR caring for a child with COVID. That additional 40 hours can be a continuation of existing COVID illness or child illness so long as the person tests positive after 5 days of illness. The employer can require the employee to provide proof of positive test.

When can we use SPSL? Is it retroactive?

The law is in effect retroactive to January 1, 2022, through September 30, 2022.

If I already used my vacation or sick time for COVID reasons this year, will I get that time back?

Yes. Upon the oral or written request, your employer should credit you for any leave hours used for COVID-specific leave purposes, and the employer should subsequently be credited for providing those hours as COVID-19 supplemental paid sick leave. Members at PG&E who already used sick or vacation time for a covered absence in 2022 should update their own prior time entries utilizing time code for **Emergency Paid Leave (EPL-2048)**; no approval from the HR Help Line needed.

Can I use SPSL before I use of my own sick or vacation time?

Yes. Your employer shall not require a covered employee to use any other paid or unpaid leave, paid time off, or vacation time before the covered employee uses COVID-19 SPSL or in lieu of COVID-19 SPSL.

Can I use SPSL if I need to quarantine or isolate?

If you are subject to a quarantine or isolation period related to COVID-19 (as defined by an order or guidance of the State Department of Public Health, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or a local public health officer who has jurisdiction over the workplace), you shall be permitted to use COVID-19 SPSL for the minimum quarantine or isolation period under the order (or guidance that provides for the longest such minimum period).

Can I use SPSL for myself or a family member even if I work from home?

Yes, SPSL applies if you are caring for yourself or for a family member experiencing symptoms due to certain reasons related to COVID-19 and are unable to work OR telework.

Statewide Vaccine Mandate Legislation Shelved After Union Coalition Voiced Opposition

On March 29, a broad coalition of public safety unions, including IBEW Local 1245, issued a scathing letter in opposition to proposed legislation that would enact a statewide COVID vaccine mandate as a condition of employment for all workers in the state.

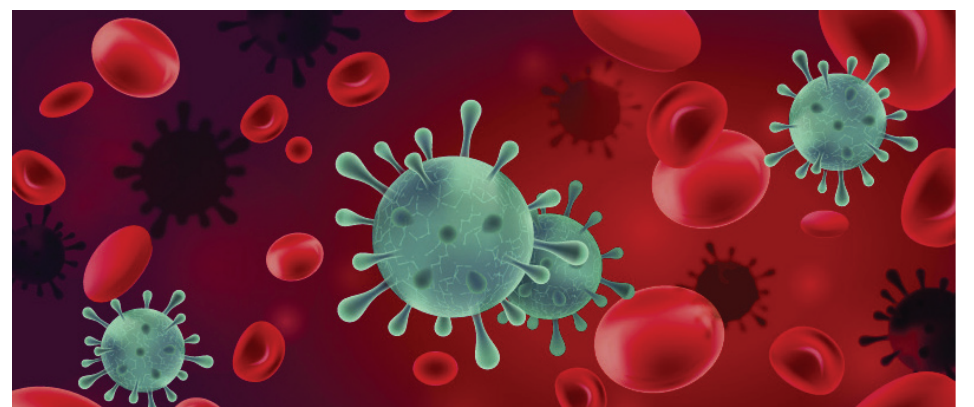
In the letter, the unions explained how this bill would gut workers’ rights by overriding previously bargained agreements around the COVID vaccine, and would circumnavigate the union’s process of meeting and conferring with management over any new condition of employment:

“These negotiations are part of the core of organized labor, and to summarily remove these bargained policies with a blanket mandate sets a dangerous and demoralizing precedent. With a broad reach to every public and private employer throughout the state, this measure has the potential to allow any employee to face discipline and even termination after having previously come to some solution with their employer.”

Our voices were heard, and within hours of receiving that letter, the bill’s author, Assemblymember Buffy Wicks, announced that she would not be moving forward with the legislation (AB 1993). She specifically cited the union opposition when asked why she decided to pull the bill.

“We are pleased to see that Assemblymember Wicks has taken our letter to heart, and she clearly understands and respects our major concerns with the bill,” said IBEW 1245 Business Manager Bob Dean. “Acting quickly and decisively when presented with new information is the mark of a true leader. We’ve always had a positive relationship with Assemblymember Wicks, and we look forward to working together with her on pro-worker legislation in the future.”

“Since the start, we have held fast to the principle that vaccine mandates violate workers’ rights, and this is the latest in a string of victories we’ve had in combatting these proposed mandates at nearly every turn,” Dean continued. “In these instances, it’s plain to see why IBEW 1245 has and will continue to make legislative and political advocacy a priority. When our voice is loud and clear in the places where decisions are being made, we can make a real difference for our members, and for all workers.”



COVID-19 Updates

For the latest COVID-19 news and updates, please visit www.ibew1245.com/covid19



Business Manager Bob Dean: Keeping Diablo Canyon Open is the Right Thing to Do

In response to Gov. Newsom's announcement on April 29 about the Diablo Canyon Power Plant, IBEW 1245 Business Manager Bob Dean issued the following statement:

“On behalf of 28,000 members of IBEW 1245, we welcome, applaud and support the announcement by Governor Gavin Newsom, in which he expressed interest in exploring federal funding to keep the Diablo Canyon Power Plant open.

“DCPP is California's largest source of clean and safe baseload energy, and our long-standing position is that operating Diablo Canyon into the future is the right thing to do for our communities and our economy. According to a 2021 study by MIT and Stanford, retrofitting the plant in order to keep it in operation until 2050 would save up to \$21 billion in power grid costs.

“Diablo Canyon is also a vital part of California's clean energy future. As the largest generator of local, greenhouse-

gas-free power in the state, Diablo Canyon provides much of the critical, local baseload power that California needs to meet its Climate Action goals. If Diablo Canyon were to close, the loss of the 2.2 GW of clean power produced there would inevitably cause a significant increase in greenhouse gas emissions, and destabilize an already stressed grid. We saw this occur when the San Onofre Nuclear plant in southern California was first curtailed, and then shut down several years ago. Californians are facing big challenges, from COVID to the impacts of extreme drought. A shortage of electric power supply and rolling blackouts must not be added to this list.

“Additionally, Diablo Canyon is a key economic driver in San Luis Obispo County, and thousands of residents and businesses depend on it as a source of quality jobs and revenue. More than 1,150 workers — including hundreds of IBEW 1245 members — are employed at Diablo Canyon, making it one of the largest creators of jobs in the San Luis Obispo area. The plant's operation tax

base helps fund everything from public safety to schools, and plays a key role in the economic stability of the region.

“We thank the Governor for his

foresight, and look forward to working with his office, Legislative leaders and the Public Utilities Commission to best serve our communities.”



In 2016, IBEW 1245 members rallied in Sacramento in support of keeping the Diablo Canyon Power Plant open.

Regulate the Voltage

A New Peer-to-Peer Safety Group for Substation, Generation and Operations

“The danger which is least expected soonest comes to us.”

— *Voltaire*

Recently at the IBEW 1245 union hall, 10 rank-and-file IBEW Local 1245 members from PG&E, NV Energy, & SMUD, along with Business Representative Fred Aboud, joined together to stand up a new Peer-to-Peer Safety Committee for substation, generation and operations personnel. This committee came to be known as the “Regulate the Voltage” Peer Safety Committee. Our intent with building this committee is to try to mimic the success of similar committees in 1245 such as the “Hold the Pull” Committee of linemen from a cross-section of 1245 employers and Outside Line, the “Control the Pressure” Committee for our Members working in gas, and the “Keep the Clearance” Committee for our line clearance tree trimmer brothers and sisters.

We're still working to build our new committee from the ground up, but

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once we get it up and running, it's going to be a Safety Initiative similar to those mentioned. This is not to be confused with Grassroots Safety, as there is no company involvement with these committees; they're created, designed, and managed by 1245 members for 1245 members. Each program has an Advisory Committee consisting of rank-and-file members who oversee the activities of the program. Each Advisory Committee member works with a pool of safety stewards — motivated, driven volunteers who understand safe work practices, follow them, and encourage and inspire others to do the same. Unlike a traditional shop steward, safety stewards do not file grievances and are not required to join company safety committees or participate in accident investigations. Their role is to keep their Peer Advisory Committee member aware of safety conditions at their workplace and, if needed, to request the committee intervene when an unsafe situation exists.

These Peer-to-Peer Initiatives exist

wholly outside of company safety programs. Company safety programs have their place and have various ways to encourage employees to work safely: training, reward, recognition, and discipline. At times, these tools may work, but none of these alone can create a safety culture based on taking personal responsibility for oneself and accountability for one's fellow worker; **being your sister's and brother's keeper.**

The Peer-to-Peer Initiatives are dedicated to creating a safety culture that motivates union members to find other means to promote their own personal safety through mutual support, camaraderie, fellowship, and protection on the job. I'm honored to have this opportunity to reach out to the membership to make everyone aware of this new committee.

Every one of you has unique experiences and ideas, and can bring something valuable to the table. Those of us who are newer to the industry have the opportunity to perpetuate a culture of safety that can ultimately save lives, and

those who have been around the block a few times have the unique perspective and experiences that can be passed on and incorporated into how we safely transition into the future of our industry.

Coming aboard as a Safety Steward is an excellent way of getting more involved in the union, making a positive impact on your work groups, and sounding off when it comes to safety concerns, as well as bouncing ideas off of personnel from other entities and lines of business. If Regulate the Voltage sounds like something that might interest you, or even if you just want to come to one of our meetings to check it out and see if you'd dig it, feel free to reach out anytime, 707-880-5784, miketilden1986@yahoo.com. You can also reach out to Fred Aboud at MFA1@IBEW1245.com and he can talk to you more about what we're trying to build and get you plugged in to whichever initiative would be right for you. Spread the word!

— *Mike Tilden, IBEW 1245*

Regulate the Voltage

Peer-to-Peer Safety Committee Chair



IBEW Local 1245 Keep the Clearance Safety Summit was held at the Sunrise Center in Vacaville, Calif. on March 1, 2022.

“Growing Our Safety Culture”

Highlights from IBEW 1245’s “Keep The Clearance” 2022 Tree Trimmer Safety Summit

Upwards of 40 line clearance tree trimmer safety stewards and safety committee members met for IBEW 1245’s annual “Keep the Clearance” Peer-to-Peer Safety Summit at the Sunrise Center in Vacaville on Tuesday, March 1, 2022.

Over the last six months, the number of safety stewards has more than doubled, thanks to outreach by safety committee members and IBEW 1245 line clearance tree trimmer business representatives. The members in attendance brought with them more than 528 years of line clearance experience from a cross section of employers, including Family Tree, Core Tree, Wright Tree, Mountain Enterprise, UTS, Trees Inc, Arbor Works, Nates Tree, Family, Loggers Unlimited, KDE, Wright Tree and TSU.

KTC Committee Co-Chairs JP Peredes, Steve Speak, and Javier Astorga opened the convening by leading the group in the pledge of allegiance, followed a minute of silence for our IBEW 1245 brothers who have lost their lives on the job.

Senior Assistant Business Manager Ralph Armstrong thanked the group for stepping up and assuming responsibility as safety stewards, underscoring their pivotal role in helping grow the safety steward program and strengthen our safety culture. He also shared the upcoming process for bargaining and the impact of SB 247 not only on higher wages, double time, and improved benefits, but also on the certification and training component that 1245 has been fighting for over decades.

IBEW 1245 Business Manager Bob Dean also joined the group, thanking each and every steward and committee member for their commitment and for standing up to advance safety.

“This peer safety program is the most important thing we do,” Dean said. He then invited questions and comments.



A moment of silence for fallen members

Several stewards raised concerns about PG&E’s recent decision to revert from three-man tree crews to two-man crews, and Dean committed that he and Armstrong would address it with PG&E.

Business Rep Fred Aboud, 1245’s Peer-to-Peer Safety staff liaison, introduced guest speaker, Dr. John Ball, an arborist at South Dakota State University, who shared a powerful presentation entitled Arborist Safety by the Numbers.

According to Dr. Ball, across all industries in the United States, there are, on average, four work-related fatalities per 100,000 workers per year. Among police and fire, that figure is 20 fatalities/100,000 per year. But among tree trimmers and pruners, it’s a staggering 60 fatalities/100,000 per year. Ball then delineated the top three causes of death in the tree trimming industry:

- 1) Falling from trees
- 2) Being struck by a falling tree
- 3) Contact with overhead power lines

Other causes of death included falls from a bucket, chipper incidents, traffic incidents, chain saws and hand saws. He completed his presentation with a critical message.

“Your most important mission any day is to show up to work tomorrow,” he said. “Arbor culture is a team sport.”

After a showing of IBEW 1245’s newest Safety Steward video, Steve Speak, a safety steward since 2014 and a safety

committee member since 2018, shared his sentiments.

“First, we must take care of ourselves so we can go home to our families. KTC is a group promoting safe work practices and support to all of our members,” he told the group. “We don’t want to add any more names to the [In Memoriam section of that] video. Be your brothers’ keeper...It warms my heart to see this many tree trimmers together.”

“We do it not because a supervisor is standing behind you, but to get each other home at the end of the day. All of us lead by example,” Committee Co-Chair Javier Astorga added. “Character is doing the right thing when no one is looking. [We want to] get out there and talk with other union members and get them excited about safety, about taking care of each other.”

Safety Committee Members Steve Merchant and Willy Underhill talked about the role of Safety Stewards to document “close calls.”

“Close calls are unplanned events that could’ve resulted in an accident or incident, but didn’t,” said Merchant. “The way it works, we [committee members] call you once a month or more. You collect ‘close calls.’ You have a form in your packet — you fill it out, date it, describe the incident, check off contributing factors on the back of the form. And share it with us. It’s all about communication. The reports are kept anonymous. Nobody gets in trouble.”

“The key is to report close calls so we can share them and minimize fatalities,” added JP Peredes, committee co-chair.

Safety Committee members Russell Gordon and Vance Myers reviewed the Duties and Responsibilities of a Safety Steward.

“It’s about building trust with our safety stewards,” said Myers. “The main thing is to look after each other, to slow down a bit, and to communicate with each other.”

Gordon added, “For us, it’s a choice to



Dr. John Ball



Business Manager Bob Dean



Vance Myers



Senior Assistant Business Manager Ralph Armstrong



Javier Astorga

be here. Part of being a safety steward is to be a keeper and caretaker of each other. We’re taking responsibility to grow our safety culture.”

— Eileen Purcell, IBEW 1245 Senior Advisor

My Safety Story:

The Day I Died and Came Back to Life

We were working in the Orinda Hills, doing pole changeouts. The year was 1997, and I was a young IBEW 1245 journeyman lineman at the time, working in outside construction. The job package contained poles that were mostly inaccessible by bucket truck, and many of the poles were rotten, including the one we were working on that day. It was a double circuit 12kv. The lower circuit was line and buck. It was, by all accounts, a hairy job. But I was young, unafraid, and undaunted. At the time, I had little respect or fear of 12kv. Despite being a young journeyman, I had a great deal of confidence in my ability.

My pole partner and I started our work on the new pole — putting up cover, framing the pole, and so on. When it came time to transfer the wire, I volunteered to go over to the old pole. We already knew the pole was rotten, and the wire was the only thing holding it up. We had the line truck grabbers holding the pole at the phone level.

Back then, there was no rubber gloving the 12kv in California. Besides, we were working off the pole anyway. We were in hot stick mode, and I was working in leather gloves only. We were using a crossarm gin to assist in transferring the wire, using hotstick. As I recall, we moved the bottom roadside 12kv phases out on a hot arm to give us room to work. We then applied hard plastic lightweight conductor cover to the phases — a decision that, undoubtedly, ended up saving my life.

We successfully transferred the two roadside 12kv phases on the top circuit, using hot sticks and an arm gin for assistance. The phases were already covered with similar lightweight hard plastic cover, which we married together to provide protective cover while working.

I went up into the primary area to retrieve the arm gin. Keep in mind, I am now in the primary with leather gloves only. At that time, this was permissible, since we were in hotstick mode, and the phases were covered. If I recall correctly, even in hotstick mode, linemen were required to carry rubber gloves on their belt. The decision to not put on rubber gloves was a near-fatal mistake.

Although the arm on the new pole

was slightly higher than the arm on the old pole, the weight of the cover sagged the conductor down within an inch or two of the old arm. Throughout the wire transfer process, and my attempt to retrieve the arm gin, the protective cover would constantly hit the arm as the phases moved while my pole partner and I worked the poles.

The crossarm gin was primarily insulated fiber glass, but the base was metal. The plastic cover on the inside top phase conductor began to separate while I was in the process of removing the arm gin, which was situated between two hot phases. My right hand came into contact with the metal portion of the base of arm gin, as the 12kv conductor came into contact with the crossarm. That's when I got hit with the 12kv.

My first thought was, "What the f*** is going on?" My second thought was, "I am being electrocuted!" My third thought was the one you always hear about — my life flashing before me. My last thought was, "Stay alive!" But the buzzing in my brain overwhelmed me. Then I was gone. All this happened over a period of approximately 1-2 seconds.

While I was hanging upside down, lifeless on the pole, the crew was in full panic mode. We were in an area with little to no radio communication. The groundman hopped in a truck to get to an area where he could get a signal out to call for help. My pole partner was on the other pole and trying to get to me. The foreman was trying to get a bucket truck in position to assist with a pole rescue. I only know all of this because they told me later after I had regained consciousness. They also told me how I screamed in agony as I was being electrocuted. They told me how terrified they were, how they were certain that I was dead. They told me that as I fell through the lower circuit, my arm hit an energized phase hard enough to knock the plastic protective cover we installed off and to the ground. I wish they had not told me that, because it haunted my nightmares for quite some time.

They told me I hung upside down on the pole for several minutes before I regained consciousness. As my senses slowly returned, the first thing I noticed was a strong, unmistakable smell of burning flesh. As my vision returned, I noticed that the leather glove on my right hand had been burned away, revealing my hand where the electrical



Al Fortier, as a young journeyman lineman

current entered my body. Three fingers on my right hand were burnt. Not a pretty sight for sure, but I felt a sense of relief that it was not worse.

I struggled to upright myself and detangle myself from the block rigging we were using to transfer the wire. My pole partner was trying to tell me to stop moving around so much, and to just be still. I was not in any position to argue, so I did what he said for once.

To my foreman's disliking, my pole partner pulled out his knife, and cut away the blocks that I had somehow become entangled in.

My foreman was able to get a bucket truck to the phone level. After I regained my senses fully, I assured everyone that I could manage to get down to the bucket. They reluctantly agreed. Not much of a choice.

A few minutes later, I was on the ground, sitting with my head down. My preference was to pace back and forth, but again, I was in no position to argue, considering I had been electrocuted. I had to sit down, and be humble. At this point, I was mostly feeling embarrassment and shame. I was prideful of my skill and my ability. But as they say, "Pride comes before a fall." That day, all pride was gone, and the fall was humiliating. I was told an ambulance was on the way.

When the ambulance arrived, I was laid on a stretcher, headed for the hospital. As the medics were examining me, they removed my line boots. My socks, on the bottom, were burned away, where the electrical current left my body.

I spent the rest of the day and half the next day in the hospital. Apparently, one of the effects of being electrocuted is that your blood cells become contaminated due to the extreme heat energy generated in your body. I needed a fluid change. I remember the unsettling conversation I had with the doctor. When I said I had "passed out," he corrected me and said I had, in fact, died. Semantics, I thought to myself, but the seriousness of the accident starts to sink in a little deeper.

The stay at the hospital was not all bad. I got a lot of care and attention from the nurses. I supposed it's not so common to have someone so young and virile in the ICU (their words, not mine). And it is definitely not common to have a high-voltage electrocution survivor.

The next day I got many calls from concerned family, checking on me (this is pre-cell phone era, so they had to use the hospital landline service). Safety Inspectors, Risk Management and the

Superintendent from the construction company came to the hospital to visit. The main thing I took away from them was that I should come back to work the next week so that this does not become a lost-time injury.

The accident happened on Thursday, I was released from the hospital on Friday, Monday was a holiday, and ironically, I had a funeral to attend on Tuesday. I was back at work on Wednesday, with bandages on my burned feet and hand. My family was not too happy with my decision. But even after all that I had been through, I still had that lineman mentality — "If you fall off a horse, you get back on."

When linemen are electrocuted and killed on the job, their life story ends abruptly for them — but not for their family, friends, and fellow coworkers. I have a somewhat unique perspective on being electrocuted, in the sense that I saw the end of the story for me, and somehow survived to not only hear the story from my crew's perspective, but to also see what I would have missed out on had I not survived. Since all my family was in town for the funeral for my grandmother's passing, I also got lectures from each and every one of them on how upset and concerned they were about my careless actions. I explained to them that I screwed up, and I paid the price. Had I not survived, everyone else would have had to live with that, except me.



I have been a IBEW 1245 member for 31 years. This accident happened 25 years ago. I worked as a lineman and foreman for 13 more years before I joined the staff at IBEW 1245 as a Business Representative, and later Assistant Business Manager, and now Senior Assistant Business Manager. I have been married for 21 years. I have two sons, ages 18 and 14. I have had countless moments of joy with family and friends since the accident.

Scars fade, memory fades. Maybe that is why they say time heals all wounds. But recently, during a safety presentation at a 1245 union staff meeting, we were invited to speak about any serious accidents that we had witnessed or been involved in — and that was the first time I had ever recounted the story of my electrocution to my co-workers. That wasn't just happenstance. The accident is something that I rarely speak of and have worked hard to forget. It had a deeply personal effect on me, leaving physical and emotional scars that I carried silently for years.

It's still hard for me to talk about that day and the days that came after. But, if sharing my experience might help someone else avoid a fatal mistake, I figured retelling the story was long overdue.

— Al Fortier, IBEW 1245 Senior Assistant Business Manager



Senior Assistant Business Manager Al Fortier in 2021

Moving Forward

The Spring 2022 Advisory Council meeting began on a somber note, as Assistant Business Manager Mike Adayan reported on a horrific workplace accident that injured two IBEW 1245 gas workers the night before the meeting. As of this writing, one member has been released from the hospital and is recovering at home, and the other remains in critical condition. This was the second serious incident to occur on the gas side in recent days, and Adayan also reported on a prior gas ignition incident that resulted in a member sustaining serious burns. That member has also been released from the hospital, but is facing a lengthy and difficult healing process.

“These incidents are very tragic, and we are all sending well wishes to the members and their families. They have a long road ahead, but the IBEW is standing with them to help them through the process,” Adayan said. He also underscored the fact that safety must always

be the top priority for our members, and urged all the union leaders in the room to remind members to take every opportunity to make sure the job is safe.

Following the harrowing accounts of these tragic incidents, the Advisory Council meeting proceeded with an overview of the state of the union from Business Manager Bob Dean. He began by reviewing the booming work outlook in 1245’s jurisdiction, which includes tens of billions of dollars in undergrounding, and billions more in transmission work — more than enough to keep IBEW 1245 members busy for many years to come. He also mentioned Gov. Newsom’s recent announcement regarding the potential of pursuing federal funding to keep the Diablo Canyon Power Plant open (more on page 7).

Senior Assistant Ralph Armstrong reported on the Outside Line tentative agreement (more on page 16), emphasizing that, if ratified by the members, this agreement would be the best in the



Assistant Business Manager Mike Adayan

Photos by John Storey

country. He also explained how SB 247 ties line clearance tree trimmer wages to the lineman rate, which means the tree trimmer negotiations are pending the ratification of the line agreement (see more on page 28), but are slated to proceed this summer.

“The outside line agreement and the tree agreement, economically, are going to be the largest packages ever done with those groups,” Dean underscored after Armstrong reviewed the details.

Dean went on to mention that IBEW 1245 was once again celebrated for outstanding organizing and membership growth as a recipient of the IBEW International’s Henry Miller award, in addition to other awards (more on page 3).

He concluded by recognizing the delegates that will be representing Local 1245 at the IBEW International Convention in Chicago in May. Highlights from the convention will appear in the next edition of *Utility Reporter*.



President Cecelia De La Torre and Business Manager Bob Dean



Senior Assistant Business Manager Ralph Armstrong



Longtime Advisory Council member Dan Mayo lightens the mood with a bit of juggling during his report.

Is Your Retirement Strategy at PG&E Leaving Money on the Table?

If you're an IBEW 1245 member working at PG&E, and you're contributing 20% of your pre-tax pay to your 401k without either choosing the spillover option or an after-tax contribution, you may be missing out on matching funds from the company — and those funds can really add up over the years.

At PG&E, the 401k employer match program is \$0.60 of up to 6% of eligible compensation for those hired before 2013, and \$0.75 of up to 8% for those hired in 2013 or later, and the IRS Pre-Tax Limit is set at \$20,500 for the year 2022. However, there are different ways to schedule your 401k contributions to ensure that you're maximizing your match from PG&E. Making the most of your 401k also means understanding the spill-over and after-tax options.

The following examples demonstrate various contribution options for an employee who makes \$60/hour in pension eligible pay. Note the differences for employees hired before 2013 and those hired after 2013 with the higher company match.

Examples 1 – 5 show how the contributions and match work for employees hired before 2013 in the Final Pay (traditional) pension formula.

EXAMPLE 1: Employee with 20 years of service (hired before 2013) contributes 20% of their pre-tax pay to the 401k Plan and does not elect the spillover to after-tax option. In this situation, the employee reaches the IRS limit in October, and cannot make any additional 401k contributions. They also **stop receiving the PG&E match** when their contributions stop. *While this might seem like the simplest option, employees in this income bracket who put too much money away too early in the year with no spillover are losing out on hundreds each year in employer match.*

EXAMPLE 2: Employee with 20 years of service (hired before 2013) contributes 20% of their pre-tax pay to the 401k

Plan but chooses the After-Tax Spillover Election. By electing the After-Tax Spillover, **the employee receives an additional \$691.20 in PG&E match and contributes \$4,460 in after tax contributions.** These after-tax contributions can remain in the plan or they may be rolled over to a Roth IRA. Currently the Roth IRA is not offered to our members at PG&E, but after-tax contributions could be moved to an IRA outside of the PG&E plan.

EXAMPLE 3: Employee with 20 years of service (hired before 2013) spreads out slightly smaller pre-tax contributions over the year and does not make any after-tax contributions. In this instance, **the employee contributes \$532 less than the IRS maximum pre-tax contributions for the year, but the employee receives an additional \$691.20 (18%) in PG&E match.**

EXAMPLE 4: Employee with 20 years of service (hired before 2013) spreads pre-tax contributions out over the year and adjusts mid-year to achieve IRS maximum pre-tax contribution (January through mid-June 17% contribution, 16% for the remainder of the year), and does not make any after-tax contributions. Here, **the employee contributes the IRS maximum pre-tax contributions for the year and receives an additional \$691.20 (18%) in PG&E match.**

EXAMPLE 5: Employee with 20 years of service at the plan maximum of 20%, with pre-tax set to hit the pre-tax annual limit by the end of the year, and elects spillover. **Employee contributes the IRS maximum pre-tax contributions for the year, contributes \$4,460 in after tax contributions, and receives an additional \$691.00 (18%) in PG&E match.**

Examples 6 – 10 show how the con-

tributions and PG&E match work for employees hired after 2013 under the newer increased 401k matching in the Cash Balance pension plan.

EXAMPLE 6: Employee with five years of service (hired after 2013) contributes 20% of their pre-tax pay to the 401k Plan and does not elect the spillover to after-tax option. The employee reaches the IRS limit in October **and stops making 401k contributions. They also stop receiving PG&E match** when their contributions stop, similar to Example 1 above. *Again, this might seem like the simplest option, but employees in this income bracket who put too much money away too early in the year with no spillover are losing out on more than \$1,000 each year in employer match.*

EXAMPLE 7: Employee with two years of service (hired after 2013) contributes 20% of their pre-tax pay to the 401k Plan, and chooses After-Tax Spillover Election. By electing the After-Tax Spillover, the employee receives **an additional \$1,185 in PG&E match and contributes \$4,460 in after tax contributions.**

EXAMPLE 8: Employee with two years of service (hired after 2013) spreads pre-tax contributions out over the year and does not make any after tax contributions. **Employee contributes \$532 less than the IRS maximum pre-tax contributions for the year, but receives an additional \$1,185 (19%) in PG&E match.**

EXAMPLE 9: Employee with eight years of service (hired after 2013) spreads pre-tax contributions out over the year and adjusts mid-year to achieve IRS maximum pre-tax contribution January through mid-June 17% contribution, 16% for the remainder of the year, and elects the spillover option. Employee

contributes the IRS maximum pre-tax contributions for the year, and receives an additional \$1,185 (19%) in PG&E match. Employee makes a small \$44 after-tax contribution.

EXAMPLE 10: Employee with eight years of service (hired after 2013) contributes at the plan maximum of 20%, with pre-tax set to hit the pre-tax annual limit by the end of the year, and elects the spillover option. **Employee contributes the IRS maximum pre-tax contributions for the year, contributes \$4,460 in after tax contributions, and receives an additional \$1,185 (19%) in PG&E match.**

View the detailed breakdown for all of the above examples at <https://bit.ly/3LJout8>.

Of course, results vary for each employee based on years of service, date of hire and eligible pay, but we've learned that a number of IBEW 1245 members aren't receiving their full employer match each year. In Example 1, the employee lost out on roughly \$14,000 in employer matching contributions over their 20-year career — and this doesn't include any potential gains those matching contributions could have earned over those 20 years. IBEW 1245 wants to make sure that our members are making informed choices to avoid such a scenario for themselves.

With this in mind, we encourage all IBEW 1245 members at PG&E to take a closer look at your retirement options to ensure that you're not leaving money on the table. If you have any questions, there are resources available to you. Additional information about your PG&E 401k plan can be found at <http://mypgebenefits.com/retirement-401k.shtml> or by calling Fidelity at 1-877-743-4015 or going the Fidelity Net Benefits website (<https://login.fidelity.com/ftgw/Fidelity/NBPart/Login/Init>). You may also want to discuss your 401k plan options with your tax and/or financial advisor.



New Letter Agreements Seek to Address Long-time Concerns and Staffing Issues

In February, we signed several letter agreements with PG&E in response to long-time concerns and staffing issues in some of our most crucial areas and departments. You can find the letter agreements at www.ibew1245.com/pge.

While these agreements do not address the entirety of our PG&E membership, they do open the door for ongoing partnership and discussion with the Company's senior leadership. We have a commitment from PG&E CEO Patti Poppe and the leadership team to continue to address staffing and other concerns across the system. We had to start somewhere, and these letter agreements are the beginning.

We appreciate your support on these matters, and we will continue to attempt to

address your priorities in future letter agreements. As always, we invite you to reach out to your 1245 Business Rep with any questions or concerns.

The Letter Agreements can be viewed on our website:

R1-22-04 (ibew1245.com/files/PGE-docs/LA-R1-22-04-PGE.pdf)

22-06 (ibew1245.com/files/PGE-docs/LA-22-06-PGE.pdf)

22-07 (ibew1245.com/files/PGE-docs/LA-R1-22-07-PGE.pdf), as well as the

22-06 FAQ (<https://bit.ly/2206faq>).

— Bob Dean, IBEW 1245 Business Manager

Looking for IBEW 1245 merchandise?

Shop online at 1245shopper.com for newer designs

Shop online at shopibew1245.com for classic designs

Visit the 1245 union hall and buy in person





The LMUD line crew. On truck, from left: Matthew Flores, Kenny Whitworth, Neil Dockery, David Vicondoa, Sam Tucker. On ground: Raul Faustino, Adam Hull, Sean Norvell.

LIGHTING UP LASSEN

SPOTLIGHT ON IBEW 1245 MEMBERS AT LMUD

Nestled in rural, northeastern California, the Lassen Municipal Utility District (LMUD) provides essential power service to the greater Susanville area. Susanville is a quaint mountain town in remote Lassen County with a population of just around 17,000. A former hub of logging and mining, the main industry in Susanville these days revolves around the town's two state prisons, and a third prison located nearby.

The IBEW 1245 members that work for LMUD may have a different way of life compared to their urban-dwelling union siblings, but the skills, dedication and quick thinking they display at work each day demonstrate that they carry the very same union values.

A life-long resident of Susanville, LMUD Lineman Sean Norvell has worked for the utility for 24 years. Given the rugged terrain and potential for extreme weather, no two work days are ever the same for Norvell and his crew. On a typical day, they tackle whatever comes their way, from substation work to jobs on new housing and businesses in the area. They are often busy with maintenance like replacing poles, some of which date back to the 1960s.

Not every day is typical, however, particularly in the winter. When a late-winter storm brought heavy snow to the area earlier this year, it kept the LMUD line crew on their toes.

"We had a pole go through a garage up in Eagle Lake," Norvell explained, recalling the severe weather event. "We had to pull it off the roof safely, kick the circuit, and replace the pole. There was about four feet of snow — it took

snowcats, four-wheelers, and snowshoes to get to it."

IBEW 1245 shop steward Michelle Langley, a Senior Customer Service Rep and nine-year veteran of LMUD, wears many hats at the utility's office, from helping customers start or cancel services, to managing billing, to handling outage calls. Langley is also the dispatcher for the linemen. In that role, she must think quickly on her feet, keeping track of the linemen when they are out on jobs, monitoring their safety, and reassigning them to urgent needs as they arise.

"If there are major outages, I take over," Langley explained. "I figure out who the normal troubleman is, call him out and give him the information. Outages are pretty exciting, because I'm multitasking and trying to keep track of everybody."

She recalled that same severe storm Norvell mentioned, and remarked on the challenges she faced in her own role during that event: "The storm broke a bunch of tree branches and downed power lines. It lasted for a week," she said. "I have to feel out every situation — if I have another priority call, do I reassign a lineman right away?"

Wildfires have also come close to home for the residents of Susanville. Last August, the Dixie fire reached nearby Westwood, impacting many LMUD customers.

"The fires burnt the communication lines," Langley explained. "For about two weeks, all the crew was out, and we worked 24 hours. We split



Lineman Neil Dockery



Lineman Raul Faustino

12-hour shifts. Somebody had to be here all the time, answering our phones and dispatching the linemen.”

When severe weather strikes, the IBEW 1245 members at LMUD work together to respond, mitigate the dangers, and get the power back on. No matter the challenge, the Local 1245 members at LMUD are able to focus on their work and keeping their community safe knowing that the union has their back.

“We wouldn’t be where we are without

the union,” said Norvell. “It’s the reason we have good benefits, good wages, good everything. I can’t say enough about the union.”

“I really like the union because I feel like everybody sticks together for your best interest. And if you’re having an issue, you can get someone else’s opinion,” said Langley. “It’s like a big group of best friends.”

Photos by John Storey



Linemen Sean Norvell (right), and Kenny Whitworth



CSR Marian Tweddell-Wirthlin, Senior CSR Michelle Langley, and CSR Rhonda Giannotti



New 2022 Organizing Stewards at the orientation in mid-February

“AN EMPOWERING DAY”

NEW ORGANIZING STEWARDS ATTEND ORIENTATION

On February 15, 2022, 15 newly appointed, first-time organizing stewards from Sacramento, Fresno, Nevada, and the East Bay met at the IBEW 1245 union hall in Vacaville for a half-day training and orientation. For several of them, this was their first opportunity to visit the union hall, and they appreciated the opportunity to connect with their union siblings and learn about their new roles and responsibilities as organizing stewards.

Below, the new stewards reflect on their orientation experience in their own words.

I really enjoyed attending the organizing steward orientation. My key takeaway was understanding the role of an organizing steward. This team is one of the biggest forces to push change and keep our family strong in solidarity. I really loved hearing how other organizations call on my brothers and sisters of 1245 to help them with different events or issues that may be taking place, no matter how near or far away they are. Orientation made me more excited ... because I see how this program will allow me to put my ability to work to help others. This was a great day.

— **Quentin Hunter**

Honestly, I wasn't sure what to expect going into the day, but I'm really glad I was able to attend. The message of solidarity that the staff and other stewards provided was inspiring, and I'm excited to learn from them and promote and effect change in any way I can. It seems like

we have a great, enthusiastic group!

— **Michael Tilden**

The orientation exceeded my expectations. I was a bit nervous at first, but the interaction made it easy and comfortable. I really enjoyed hearing about what everyone's view on what being a part of our Union means, as well as hearing about all the memories and achievements that were shared. I definitely have a better understanding of our Union and appreciation for our continued efforts to help make beneficial changes. I'm excited to get more involved to start working toward those positive outcomes and being able to share similar experiences in the future.

— **Valerie Salazar**

It was a pleasure seeing everyone ... I really enjoyed the orientation, and I'm ready to get out there and get going, as well take on some new tasks.

Can't wait to see everyone's faces again!

— **Micaela Avent**

I really enjoyed myself. It was great learning so much about our union, and interacting with everyone. I am looking forward to future opportunities and events.

— **Jocelyn Alexander**

This was an empowering day for me. Every time I come to the union hall in Vacaville, my candle gets re-lit and truly encourages me to not only make change, but be part of it. The new organizing steward training reflected how much we can accomplish with numbers and a mission. I am proud to be a 2022 organizing steward and look forward to our work together.

— **Nicole Frazier**

It was fun! I enjoyed learning the roles of the organizing steward and look forward to getting

my feet wet and uniting with the family!

— **Cheryl Roberson**

I did not know what to expect from the New Organizing Steward orientation. I'm just thankful to now be a part of this elite group of individuals who will continue to impact our communities, families, and individuals positively.

— **Juan Montoya**

I really enjoyed meeting my new extended family and cannot wait to start my journey. My biggest highlight was being able to stand up and speak in front of a crowd.

— **Latrina Jones**

The orientation was great! I loved hearing how we help other brothers and sisters across the country and we support those who want to Unionize.

— **Julia Ponce**

I can't thank you enough for

extending the opportunity to be a part of the Organizing Steward Class of 2022. It was uplifting and motivating to hear the personal journeys of others because everyone's journey is different. It is a personal goal of my own to surround myself with others who understand the value of unity while trying to achieve something greater than oneself. I've never been part of a union, never had someone negotiate my wages for me, nor spoken out loud of wages because it was "taboo" or frowned upon in most conversations. It is something that I am still adjusting to with great enthusiasm. The training reassured me that it is OK that I don't know every intricate detail of our Union right off the bat. Progress and growth are encouraged here, and with the guidance and counsel from my fellow brothers and sisters, I can still start somewhere. I'll start with me.

— **Dawn Fualau**



Organizing Stewards Jeff Munoz, Dawn Faulau Akolo, Alvin Dayoan and Maria Renteria-Orozco



Organizing Stewards Cory Alves, Danielle Bonds, Jocelyn Jordan Alexander, Maria Renteria, Staff Organizer Charlotte Stevens

When former Assemblymember David Chiu was appointed to serve as San Francisco's City Attorney in November of 2021, four candidates jumped at the chance to fill the Assembly seat that his appointment left vacant. IBEW 1245 was quick to throw support behind Matt Haney, a member of the SF Board of Supervisors and a longtime ally of 1245.

The special election for Assembly District 17 began with a primary over the winter, and a powerhouse team of IBEW 1245 organizing stewards lent their support by phone banking, flyering and door-knocking to drum up support for Haney.

"Cory, Danielle, Jocelyn and I handled business! Everyone worked well together. I feel communication was on point," Co-Lead Organizing Steward Maria Renteria-Orozco reported during the primary. "We made over our goal in calls each day. We door-knocked the houses we were supposed to hit, even though those SF hills got me by the last day."

"We also used a database to reach out to past volunteers to sign them up help us with door-knocking," added Lead Organizing Steward Danielle Bonds.

"I had a great time working the Matt Haney campaign," said Organizing Steward Jocelyn Alexander. "It was an experience, phone banking and talking with voters. It was fun, and I enjoyed interacting with the team and getting to know everyone."

When the primary votes were all tallied, Haney narrowly edged out the Utility Reporter

competition as the top vote-getter, with more than 36% of the vote, which meant he would advance to the run-off election on April 19, along with the #2 vote-getter, David Campos.

"Our hard work paid off! Seeing the numbers on Election Day made us proud to be a part of IBEW 1245," said Bonds.

"Victory victory victory! Another campaign that we came out with a win," Organizing Steward Cory Alves said enthusiastically. "I had lots of fun on this campaign. I like to think those who trained me and those who came before me allow me to be the best organizing steward I can be."

"Our organizing steward program prides itself in training by doing," IBEW 1245 Assistant Business Manager Rene Cruz Martinez pointed out. "We have been successful in identifying and developing new leaders by having them take on additional responsibilities."

In the Primary race, Haney and Campos came within 7/10th of a percentage point of one another, and with the expectation that the runoff election would also be a close race, IBEW 1245 once again dispatched a team of skilled and trained organizing stewards to help Haney over the finish line.

Renteria-Orozco returned to the campaign as the lead organizing steward. She was joined by seasoned Lead Organizing Steward Alvin Dayoan who was

1245 Organizing Stewards Help Propel Haney to Victory in Assembly District 17



Organizing Steward Nicole Frazier (right) with Alvin Dayoan

"It was my pleasure to be a part of the Matt Haney campaign; It was a great experience to speak with people within the San Francisco community and inform them of the upcoming election while advising on polling or ballot locations as needed.

I was able to complete 680 calls during my two-day assignment. But it was the door-to-door canvassing that really made the biggest impact for me. I was canvassing with Alvin side by side. This was my first time doing canvassing, but being paired with Alvin, a veteran canvasser, made me realize I had my brother by my side. The area we were canvassing in was a nice neighborhood surrounded by beautiful houses. I tend to be oblivious of the dangers around so I was reminded, don't walk around staring at your phone. This advice became imperative when we split to cover a larger area; I was tracking my phone GPS and at once I became unfamiliar with the area around me. Before I could react, Alvin drove up to get me. The unity of IBEW became evident — right when you feel alone, the union always has your back.

I was honored to be a part of the campaign and humbled to learn imperative skills and navigation techniques to be successful. I will forever be thankful to my union, IBEW 1245, for allowing me the opportunity to have this experience and I look forward to many more to come.

— Nicole Frazier, IBEW 1245 Organizing Steward

assigned to mentor and support the team. The team was complete with support from Organizing Stewards Dawn Faulau Akolo, and Jeff Munoz, as well as Nicole Frazier in the first week of the campaign.

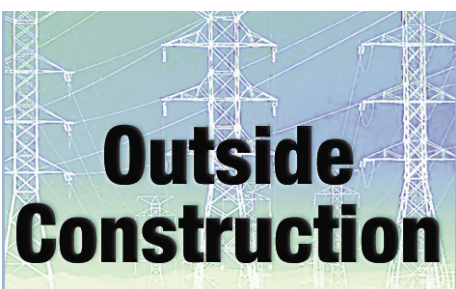
"In total, we've made a total of 6,402 phone calls and knocked on 1,175 doors," Dayoan reported at the close of the campaign. "We canvassed places all over SF in Excelsior, South Mission areas in Russian Hill, Haight-Ashbury, Tenderloin, Pacific Heights, and Potrero Hill."

"I'm very grateful for the opportunity to work alongside these amazing brothers and sisters," said Faulau Akolo. "I appreciated that everyone on this team worked diligently to get these phone calls and door knocks handled. No one was left behind, and it was clear from the start what our goals were. Maria, Alvin and Jeff were a dream to work with, and I look forward to working again with them in the future."

When the returns started to come in on Election Day, it was clear that those efforts were well-received. In a race than many expected to be neck-and-neck, Haney garnered a whopping 62% of the votes, while his opponent came away with around 38%.

"We were victorious at the end ... and we gain another labor friendly ally in Sacramento!" said Dayoan. "I am very grateful for the opportunity to help IBEW 1245 and our labor constituents of San Francisco."

— Rebecca Band, IBEW 1245 Communications Director



California

Work picture remains strong throughout Local 1245's jurisdiction, and we expect this trend to continue for many years to come. The amount of work to be done, in addition to the regular system maintenance work, is phenomenal.

We are at the beginning of this year's inspections, with close to 300 journeymen (mainly from Source Power) performing this work, which is intended to identify potential issues on the utility assets that could increase the likelihood of a failure that could result in a fire. This is a critical process that prioritizes what work needs to be done in the field by our members. This year, the customer has implemented a proficiency training program, and everyone who performs this work must successfully pass the training.

System hardening is still going on, with the installation of covered conductors and rebuilding those sections of lines in high fire threat districts as an example. PG&E's announcement that it will be undergrounding 10,000 miles of overhead lines in some of the high fire threat districts has added a new dimension to the work picture. PG&E has included this work in their wildfire miti-

gation plans, with 175 miles of overhead line in some of the northern counties of its territory to be done in 2022, and double that in 2023. The numbers they are hoping to hit almost double each year, with 2025 goals of around 1,200 miles a year in some of the roughest terrain in the state. This is a major undertaking that will reduce the risk of utility-owned equipment fires, and we need to be prepared to perform it. There is a lot of pressure to meet these goals, so we need to be ready. We are working in subcommittees to address what training may be needed for our current members, as well as future members in the coming years, so everyone is successful.

As we approach fire season (which almost seems to be year-round now), we also need to be prepared for Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events, which require inspections and repairs before lines can be energized. There is also a large cathodic protection program being launched that will impact thousands of transmission towers over the next several years. Tower painting will also return in full swing in 2022 after a break last year, with at least one new contractor in the fold. Par Western Line Contractors, Michels Pacific Energy and Tower Power are all potential contractors to perform this work.

Nevada

Wasatch still has the NV contract for all dock work. There are crews supplementing on NV property in Elko, Winnemucca, Carson City, and numerous dock hands supplementing NV crews all over the system. Sturgeon still has a crew working on NV property as well in

the Winnemucca area currently. All NDPP (National Disaster Protection Plan) must be completed by beginning of June on NV property, so work has picked up slightly.

Wasatch has the contract at Liberty as well, with three crews currently working on fire hardening Liberty's system (although they also are running into material shortage problems). Liberty's budget did go from 30 to 50 million dollars this year, so we are awaiting a strong push on their property shortly.

PAR West has a decent size transmission job at USA parkway outside of Reno that will last until the end of May.

CVE (Cache Valley Electric) has been doing substation work throughout Northern Nevada as well. As of this writing, they are in Elko due to material shortages for the scheduled jobs. They will be headed back to Utah if the material shortage does not get any better.

Dispatch

The IBEW 1245 Union Hall is currently under construction. The front desk and Dispatch have been moved into one of our conference rooms in the back of the Hall. Please follow the directions to the East side of the building where our Lineman sign is. As you enter the building, please follow the signage. If you're coming to sign the books, you will have to fill out a half sheet of paper that will include your name, email address and phone number. Please write clearly, as that is the only way to get your application to you. If your information is incorrect, it will delay your re-signing. When uploading your documents, please make sure you are sending us the most current and valid information. Please do not re-enter Dispatch until you receive an

email to do so. If you have any questions, please call our main office number, 707-452-2700.

Safety Campaign

In March of this year, 1245 launched its Outside Line safety campaign. The 1245 Outside Line Reps have begun having in-person safety conversations with everyone dispatched through 1245. Most of these interactions will be in larger yard visits, company safety stand downs, and training days, but some will be done in a small group setting like a crew visit.

The goal of this campaign is to make our members and travelers aware of the importance of following the safety and contractual rules. We stress the importance of how doing the right thing will help you return safely to your family at the end of each day. As part of the campaign, a sticker will be given out that has a QR code on it so individuals can scan it and be taken to the OSL section of 1245's web site, which includes accidents, news, reports, how to's, dispatch policies, wages, paying dues, Outside Line contract and the Redbook. You will be able to register your sticker number on the web site for future drawings and possible giveaways.

All the Business Representatives continue to pass Red Books and Contracts to each member they visit, amounting to several thousand books. There has been significant increase in discussion around different Red Book rules. By all of us questioning and clarifying, we will continue to get better together.

A large portion of our contractors were on storm, off and on, during the entire fourth quarter. There have been many questions around inclement weather and rain gear requirements.

Interested in becoming a contributor to the Utility Reporter?

The union welcomes

- feature articles
- photos
- fictional stories
- letters to the editor
- opinion pieces
- artwork
- graphics
- poems
- and other creative work by our members

Submissions can be sent to Communications Director Rebecca Band at RGB1@ibew1245.com or P.O. Box 2547, Vacaville CA 95696



Accidents and Safety Focus Items

Driving incidents continue to be our largest short coming. If unsure of HOW to drive in a particular situation, stop and evaluate.
We have experienced quite a few

neutral mis-markings, or lack of markings, that have resulted in property damage, including a house fire. Please ensure that we are focusing on safety and quality of work on EVERY task that is performed.
All the OSL Reps have been involved and Serious Incidents Fatality (SIF)

investigations which is taking up a significant amount of time. Many of the accident and incident we are experiencing here are resulting in these investigations.
SIF investigations so far this year:
• Driving incident in North Coast region (Truck tipped over, no

injuries)
• Pole fell over in Sierra region (Pole snapped at ground level, two members injured, full recovery from event)
• Debris fall from helicopter (Crossarm fell from helicopter line, no injuries)

Outside Line Tentative Agreement

On April 15, 2022, IBEW Locals 1245 and 47 came to terms on a tentative agreement with Western Line Chapter of NECA on the California Outside Line Construction Agreement.
The current agreement expires on May 31, and we are pleased to announce that, after several rounds of negotiations, we’ve secured a new tentative agreement that contains some significant enhancements to the total compensation packages.
The Tentative Agreement includes notable increases to wages and total compensation for the Journeyman classifications (intended to bring parity for Journeyman classifications across the state), with a total compensation package of 25.87% over five years, an average of 5.17% a year. All other classifications would receive a total compensation package of 16.76% over the term of this agreement, with an average annual wage increase of 3.35% a year.
This Tentative Agreement represents the largest total package increase to this agreement ever bargained, and, if approved by the members, will be the largest compensation package for construction agreements in the country.
Any classification that is paid at the same wage rate as a Journeyman Lineman or above will receive the following:
• June 1, 2022: Wages: 7.00%; NEAP: \$0.35
• June 1, 2023: Wages: 4.50%; NEAP: \$0.50; HRA: \$0.10
• June 1, 2024: Wages: 4.25%; NEAP: \$0.50; HRA: \$0.10
• June 1, 2025: Wages: 3.00%; NEAP: \$0.50; HRA: \$0.10
• June 1, 2026: Wages: 3.00%; NEAP: \$0.50; HRA: \$0.10
This five-year agreement would bring the Journeyman Lineman rate to \$74.43 an hour, NEAP to \$14.33, and HRA to \$1.40 an hour through the term of this agreement. Apprentice rates will continue to adjust to the current step percentages of the journeyman lineman.
All other classifications will receive:

- June 1, 2022: Wages: 4.00%; NEAP: \$0.35
- June 1, 2023: Wages: 3.50%; HRA: \$0.10
- June 1, 2024: Wages: 3.00%; HRA: \$0.10
- June 1, 2025: Wages: 2.25%; HRA: \$0.10
- June 1, 2026: Wages: 2.00%; HRA: \$0.10

In addition to the wage increases, the tentative agreement also contains the following changes:
• Clean up and clarification language for 3.5 EPR reporting, 4.11 Lineco and HRA, 4.12 NEAP
• Modification to 4.1, adding additional 15-minute break periods at 4-hour increments after the initial 8 hours.
• 4(a) Change the two (2) hour notice to a six (6) hour notice before the scheduled workday.
• Renew several Letters of Understandings (LOU)
• Category 1 Substance Abuse Testing language. Tied to Safety Red Book violations and preventable incidents.
• Modify 6.21 to include the use of Safety Wallet track training from employer to employer
• Modify 3.9 addresses not returning PPE that was issued and ability to recover cost. (FR Clothing not included)
• Extend all the current addendums through the term of the agreement.
• Modify Article VI, Section 6.9(e) as follows: The parties to this Agreement encourage all Employers to employ at least 1 (one) Cal-Nevada JATC Line Apprentice on every crew when practical.

The parties agreed to meet, discuss and address three additional items at a future date — helicopter work and insurance policies with Lineco; a statewide traffic control agreement; and a pilot program for journeyman training.
Ballots were mailed out with the list of all the changes, modifications and enhancements on Monday April 25, and ballots will be counted on May 23 at 1 pm.

LaborPower Mobile App

The IBEW Local 1245 LaborPower app can be downloaded to mobile devices, allowing members to check their position on the books, update contact info, pay dues, etc. You can find it in the app store.

Examining Committee

The Local 1245 examining committee continues to be extremely busy dealing with issues related to safety or other wrong doings by IBEW members in the local’s jurisdiction. This is not a good trend, and we as a membership must do better. The committee meets the third Tuesday of each month.

Cal-Nev JATC

The apprentice application period was opened April 4-14, and in that 10-day period, the JATC received more than 1,400 applications that are eligible to move on to the next step, which is the interview. The first round of interviews is scheduled for mid-May, with additional rounds to be held monthly until all applicants have completed their interviews. This year, we have the opportunity to bring on a large number of new apprentices, with a goal of having 1,000 apprentices in the program by the end of 2022. Best of luck to all applicants.
Current apprentice report as of 4/5/2022:
• 695 outside line apprentices registered in our JATC program.
• 7 traveling apprentices in Cal-Nev’s jurisdiction.
• 227 apprentices working out of local 1245.
• 389 working out of 47; 30 working out of 396.
• 26 are unemployed, 14 are not available to work for various reasons and 4 are on a leave.
• 36 apprentices graduated to Journeyman Lineman in 2022 so far.
• 39 new apprentices indentured as outside line apprentices in 2022.

First Aid & CPR is the second Saturday of every month at our Riverside and Woodland facilities.

Injured Workers Fund (IWF)

You can now obtain Summary Plan Description and Application on the Union website under the “Outside Construction” tab.
When submitting an IWF application, please make sure to read ALL of the eligibility requirements and submit with the appropriate documentation. To request an IWF application, please email IWF@ibew1245.com or text (707) 452-2720 with your name, email address, or mailing address if you prefer to receive this document through the mail.



**your VOTE
is your VOICE**

The right to vote is a fundamental cornerstone of our country’s democracy. Ordinary men and women have fought—and even died—to gain voting rights and to protect people’s right to vote without intimidation or obstruction. The outcome of local, state and federal elections have a direct impact on your life.

 **Check out IBEW 1245’s Endorsements for the June 2022 Primary Election at ibew1245.com/endorsements and then GO VOTE!**



“It’s All About Keeping Everybody Safe”

IBEW 1245 Members at Colusa Generating Station



Advanced Power Plant Technician Richard Flowers



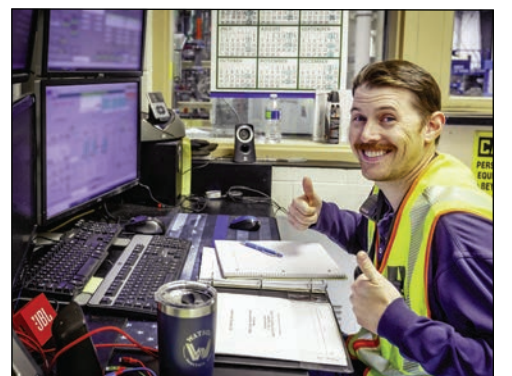
Lead Advanced Power Plant Technician Veronica Gibson checks meters on the plant.



Advanced Power Plant Technician Shane Jellsey



Lead Advanced Power Plant Technician Kevin Schroeder talks with a contractor.



Power Plant Technician Sam Wallace

Situated just outside of the small rural town of Maxwell, CA, PG&E’s Colusa Generating Station is a 657-megawatt natural gas plant that serves 500,000 residential customers. The plant is one of the cleanest natural gas-fueled power plants in California, and its smooth, safe operations are a testament to the dedicated team of IBEW 1245 members who work around the clock to keep the plant running efficiently and safely.

When the *Utility Reporter* visited the Generating Station this spring, the power plant had just completed its yearly outage, which lasted four weeks and brought about 150 additional

workers to Colusa.

“It’s a good time annually to do a lot of our preventative maintenance work throughout the plant, getting things back and running in order to be ready for peak season, to make sure that we are available to supply our customers with safe, reliable power,” Lead Advanced Power Plant Technician (APPT) Kevin Schroeder explained.

Schroeder works in the maintenance department, which was responsible for managing the contractors and crews on site, as well as overseeing the safety side during the outage. With so many extra hands at the plant, Schroeder and his team took extra care to

ensure everyone was aware of the various projects going on, and that the jobs went according to schedule.

Safety is always at the forefront for the IBEW 1245 members at Colusa. They face many of the same safety concerns as workers at other gas plants, plus an additional and somewhat unusual potential safety hazard — the presence of rattlesnakes, which like to visit the power plant property quite frequently, particularly in the hotter weather.

On average, the crew at Colusa runs across 50 and 100 rattlesnakes each year near the plant. To avoid unwit-

tingly encountering rattlesnakes in the course of their regular job duties, workers must also wear special PPE and watch a training video.

Senior Environmental Field Specialist and IBEW 1245 member TJ Gomez serves as the compliance manager at the Generating Station, where he helps mitigate the rattlesnake danger, in addition to his many other responsibilities.

“We have an extra layer of fencing; it’s about a quarter inch mesh and a foot in the ground so snakes can’t get through,” Gomez explained. “We have boards outside the fence, and we dig a little hole — like a makeshift den — to hopefully capture the snakes there.”



From left, back row: Advanced Power Plant Technician Richard Flowers, Power Plant Technician Henry Carballo, Lead Advanced Power Plant Technician Veronica Gibson, Lead Advanced Power Plant Technician Kevin Schroeder, and Advanced Power Plant Technician Shane Jellsey. Front row: Power Plant Technician Craig Pollock, Advanced Power Plant Technician Chris McMains, Power Plant Technician Sam Wallace, and Environmental Field Specialist TJ Gomez.



A pair of great horned owls nest in the facility every year.



Advanced Power Plant Technician Richard Flowers



Environmental Field Specialist TJ Gomez checks a trap for rattlesnakes.



Power Plant Technician Henry Carballo checks settings.



Power Plant Technician Craig Pollock

“We don’t want anybody reaching under somewhere to turn a valve on, or turn a valve off, and get bit,” Gomez continued. “Anytime we’re outside the fence, we have to wear gaiters.”

“During the outage, we had a biologist come out three times a week to walk around and look at all the areas where there could possibly be rattlesnakes,” added Schroeder.

Despite their best efforts, on occasion rattlesnakes still do make it past the fence and inside the facility. Fortunately, no one has been bitten.

“We use gloves and tongs to safely capture the rattlesnakes, and then we’ll release them offsite,” said Gomez.

Rattlesnakes are not the only unique wildlife impacting the work at the plant. “There is a pair of great horned owls that nest in the facility every year,” said Gomez. “It’s a protected species, so we’ll cordon off the area, and protect it until the eggs have hatched.”

In addition to the wildlife, working at the Colusa plant comes with the usual challenges and safety considerations. But the workers are well-prepared and ready to respond if an emergency arises, especially considering that they are in a remote area, and moments can make a difference. They have trained with the local fire department in Maxwell, which can respond in 11 minutes.

For the most serious injuries, they will call Life Flight to rush someone to the hospital in Chico. They also know which hospitals in the area have anti-venom, in case of a rattlesnake bite.

“It’s all about keeping everybody safe, and we do a really good job here at Colusa,” said Schroeder.

For IBEW 1245 workers, going home safe each day and being your brother’s keeper is always a top priority. Gomez and Schroeder agree that being part of the union brings other benefits as well.

“I worked for the county before this, and we had a small union,” said Gomez. “This one is a lot larger, and has a lot more pool. And the medical health in-

surance is great because of that.”

For Schroeder, who is also a shop steward, being part of the union means knowing someone has your back: “I always rely on our Local union rep for guidance. If I’ve got an issue or question, he’s there to answer the phone.”

“I’ve only been in [1245] for three years, but it doesn’t seem like the contracts lapse,” remarked Gomez. “We’re not out without a contract. We’re always with a contract. And in my opinion, it’s very lucrative for the employee to be in the union.”

Schroeder summed it up, “The union provides good guidelines for good jobs.”

MID Line Crew Rescues Child Who Climbed Out of Window

The day started out like any other for IBEW 1245 members Dave Quaresma and Chance Tarr, who work in the line department at Modesto Irrigation District. The two were putting in wire and doing secondary make-up in a residential area of Mountain House, where construction of a new subdivision is underway.

But in an instant, the ordinary day took a turn.

"We were splicing a wire together, when all the sudden we heard screaming. We didn't know what to think. We looked at each other, wondering if we were in a dangerous spot," recalled Tarr, an apprentice lineman.

Some construction workers nearby were yelling in Spanish. Quaresma and Tarr didn't understand what they were saying, but they could tell something was urgently wrong. They saw someone pointing in one direction. Quaresma and Tarr, who had been working part way underground, quickly climbed out to see what was going on.

What they saw took them aback — a young boy was dangling from a small ledge outside a second-story window. He had pushed out a screen on the window, climbed out, and was dangerously high in the air. They weren't sure how long he had been hanging there by his fingers.

The construction workers were separated by a wall and could not reach the boy from where they were. But Quaresma and Tarr could. The construction workers had a ladder, which they extended to the MID line crew.



Dave Quaresma and Chance Tarr received a commendation from MID.

Photo via Modesto Irrigation District on Twitter.

"I looked at Dave and he looked at me, and we both read each other's minds. We grabbed the ladder and ran over," Tarr recalled. "Dave went to talk to the boy, telling him, 'Hang on buddy,' while I set up the ladder. Before I could climb all the way up, the boy had already transferred over, while Dave was holding it stable below."

A neighbor alerted the child's father to the situation. The father had been working, and was unaware that his son had been able to remove the window screen and climb out. He was extremely appreciative of the effort to rescue his son.

"It all happened in a matter of minutes. I'm glad we were there to ladder up and help him down. He definitely could have injured himself, broken bones or something [worse]," Tarr explained.

Tarr spent four years in the Marine

Corps, where he gained experience responding to emergency situations. He also credits the training he has received from his employer and as a member of IBEW 1245.

"Power line work is very dangerous. People can get hurt. You need to be prepared for someone falling off a pole, out of a bucket truck, or getting an electric shock," Tarr said. "The union asks a lot from their guys, but it's to make sure that everybody is able to perform in any situation ... Situations happen, and you have to be prepared for them. If something happened to me, I'd be very confident that my brothers and sisters would assist and help out, instead of being a bystander."

By maintaining high safety standards, IBEW 1245 members are trained to assess every situation for safety: they evaluate the dangers, minimize the risks, and stop the work when a situation becomes dangerous. On this day in Mountain House, these two IBEW members utilized those skills to the fullest.

"I'm glad that we had the training and the ability to help the boy, and that it all worked out and that he is safe," reflected Tarr.

In recognition of their quick and heroic action, the MID Board awarded a Resolution of Commendation to the two linemen.

everyday
HEROES

Two-Year Extension Approved at Port of Oakland

IBEW 1245 members at the Port of Oakland have voted to approve a tentative agreement on a two-year MOU extension with 5% wage increases each year for all IBEW 1245 classifications. Special thanks to negotiations committee members, Dion Bailey, Toby Tatom and Chuck Campbell.

— Charley Souders,
IBEW 1245 Business Rep

IBEW 1245 Members Reject Four-Year Contract Extension at NV Energy

The IBEW 1245 members at NV Energy have overwhelmingly rejected a four-year extension to the current collective bargaining agreement, which is set to expire in September of this year.

Of the 407 IBEW 1245 members at NV Energy, 270 (66%) cast votes. The final vote tally was:

YES: 24 (8.9%) NO: 245 (91.1%) Void: 1

"The IBEW 1245 members at NV Energy have spoken loud and clear," said IBEW 1245 Business Manager Bob Dean. "This vote demonstrates the power that exists within our bargaining units — every union vote is true democracy in action, and this is all part of the process. The next step involves our negotiating team preparing opening letters in anticipation of returning to the

bargaining table, with the goal of achieving the best possible outcome for our members."

The union is currently accepting proposals from members at NVE for the next round of bargaining. Proposal forms have already been distributed to shop stewards, so please ask your shop steward for one if you have a proposal idea. Completed proposals may be submitted at unit meetings or to Business Rep Adam Weber.

Ad Hoc Negotiations Yield Equity Adjustments for Lompoc Police Records Techs and Office Staff Assistants

IBEW 1245 has negotiated equity adjustments amounting to 7% for the Police Records Techs and Office Staff Assistants working at the City of Lompoc. The adjustments are retroactive to Jan. 1, 2022. This concludes a year of Ad Hoc negotiations for seven groups that brought equity adjustments ranging from 5% to 25%.

— Jaime Tinoco, IBEW 1245 Business Rep

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IBEW 1245 2022 Union Election Information

For more information and FAQs, please visit
ibew1245.com/union-election-faqs/

Pull-out section

Watch for your ballot
in the mail

Candidates for Executive Board

Business Manager

Bob Dean

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 1/31/1992

President

Cecelia De La Torre

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 9/30/1987

Classification: Senior Operating Clerk I

Steward Positions: Shop Steward 1997 to Present

Local Union Offices Held: President 2019 to Present, Executive Board Treasurer 2004 to 2019, Unit Chairperson #2511 2002 to 2020, and Unit Recording Secretary #2511 2000 to 2002

Committees Served on behalf of the Local Union: IBEW 1245 Pension Trustee Committee 2019 to Present, Benefits Committee 2003 to Present, Corporate Clerical Committee 2015 to 2016, Negotiations Committee Clerical 2010, Negotiations Committee Benefits 2008-2009 & 2011-2012, Negotiations Committee Wages & Benefits 2005, Contact Center of the Future Committee 2007 to 2008, Labor Management Committee Credit & Records Center 1997 to 2008, Position Evaluation Committee 2001, Overtime Committee CRC 2001 and Safety Walk Around Committee

Other activities on behalf of Union: San Joaquin /Calaveras County Central Labor Council 2007 to 2017, SJC CLC Executive Board Member & Trustee 2011 to 2017, Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) Delegate 2004 to Present, CLUW National Executive Board Union Delegate 2009 to 2017, CLUW Rules Committee Co-Chairperson 2013, Women of Labor Conference 2011, Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (EWMC) Delegate & Member, Labor Council for Latin American Advancement Member 2004 -2005, IBEW International Convention Delegate 2006, 2011& 2016, IBEW 9th District Progress Meetings, IBEW Utility Conferences Delegate, IBEW International Gas Conference 2009, IBEW National Women's Conferences, California Labor Federation Bi-Annual Convention 2012, North Valley Labor Federation Convention & Conferences Delegate, Labor's Joint Legislative Conferences, Lobby Day Washington DC & Sacramento CA, Grievance Resolution Workshop 2008, FCMS Health Care Seminar 2010, Precinct Walking, Rally's & Phone Banking, Leadership Conferences and Shop Steward Trainings



Vice President

Travis Carlson

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 4/30/2003

Willy Garris

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 10/01/1999

Classification: Substation Electrician

Steward Positions: Steward Since 2012 DCP/ Moss Landing/Pismo Beach

Local Union Offices Held: 2021 - Current Executive Board - Vice President, 2019-2021 Executive Board - Southern Area

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: 2021 Local 77 General Contract Negotiations Partisan Arbitrator, 2019 Benefits Negotiating Committee, 2016 - 2018 Base Retention Program (BRP) Oversight Committee DCP/ LOA R1-16-22-PGE 2017, 2018 Decommissioning Committee DCP/ 2016 Keep Diablo Canyon Open Committee, 2015 - 2018 Labor Management Committee DCP/ 2012 - 2018 Outage Review Committee LOA R1-07-54-PGE, 2014 - 2016 Electrical Maintenance Shift Agreement Committee, 2016-2018 PGE-R1-16-20, 2012 - 2016 Lines of Progression Update and Consolidation Committee DCP/ LOA 16-55-PGE

Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: IBEW Nuclear Utilities Conference 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2019, Spoke to the California State Senate Appropriations Committee for Senate Bill, SB 1090 - Retention Program 2018, Spoke to the California State Lands Commission for the Keep Diablo Canyon Open Campaign June 2016



Recording Secretary

Rachel Ramirez

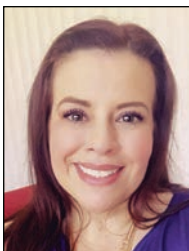
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 11/30/2008

Classification: Senior Operating Clerk

Steward Positions: Shop Steward 2011 - Present, Organizing Steward 2012-Pres

Local Union Offices Held: Executive Board Recording Secretary 2015 to Present, Executive Board Central Area 2015, Unit Recorder #3711 2020 to present, Unit Recorder #2511 2013 to 2020, Clerical-At-Large Central Area seat on Advisory Council 2013-2015

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Attendance Management Initiative for CCO 2012, CCO Labor Man-



agement Committee 2011 to 2013, CSO Labor Management Committee 2013 to Present, Lead Organizing Steward 2016 to 2021; Organizing Campaigns: Prop 32/30 Campaign, Tim Sbranti Campaign, Mary Landrieu Campaign, Susan Bonilla Campaign, Jon Ossoff Campaign No on Question 3 - Campaign to stop the deregulation of electricity in Nevada, Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW), Central California Chapter Vice President and Alternate for National Executive Board 2013 to 2017, CLUW National Executive Board Member 2017 to present, San Joaquin-Calaveras Central Labor Council Executive Board Member/Trustee 2017 to 2020

Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: Women's Leadership Conferences, IBEW Gas Conference, IBEW Women's Conference, IBEW Utility Conference, Shop Steward and Organizing Steward Conferences, National CLUW Member, CLUW Conventions and National Executive Board Meetings, San Joaquin Calaveras County Central Labor Council Delegate, North Valley Labor Federation Delegate, California Labor Federation Delegate, EWMC Member and Conference 2016, 2017, 2018, 2021, and 2022, IBEW 9th District Progress Meeting 2015, 2016, 2018, and 2019, Union New Member Experience Co-facilitator 2015 to Present, Various North Valley Labor Federation Campaigns throughout the Central Valley

Treasurer

Daniel "Not Retired" Congdon

Initiated Into IBEW 1245: 6/30/2015

Classification: Shift Control Technician (DCPP)

Thomas "Tom" M. Cornell

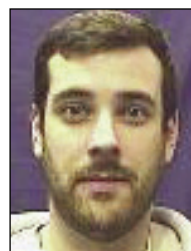
Initiated Into IBEW 1245: 7/31/1990

Classification: Retired Senior Relay Technician; System Protection

Steward Positions: Shop Steward 1998-2022

Local Union Offices Held: Treasure 2019- Present, Executive board member 2006- 2019, Advisory Council 2004- 2004

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Negotiation committee, Sierra Pacific Power Company/ NV Energy and Local 1245 collective bargaining:



1997,2002, 2005-2007, 2009, 2013, & 2019, Joint benefits committee NB Energy/ Local1245 1998-2017, Labor Management Committee NV Energy/ Local 1245 2017 -2020

Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: Delegate Norther Nevada Central Labor Council, Delegate AFL CIO COPE Convention, Delegate IBEW Utility Conference, Delegate IBEW 9th District Progress Meetings, appointed to investigate two (2) post-termination grievances, Attended Rocky Mountain Labor School 1998 & 2000, Attended contract pricing seminar, Vacaville.

Albert A. Jimenez

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 7/31/2008

Classification: Gas Service Representative

Steward Positions: Shop Steward

Local Union Offices Held: Unit 2511 Chair- Current & Unit 2511 Recorder

Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: AD council Stockton Division of PG&E - Physical 2 years, & Delegate of Local 1245 for International Convention 2022



Executive Board - Southern Area

Robert Mohler

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 9/30/2000

Classification: Gas Serviceman

Steward Positions: shop steward for 10+



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PLEASE NOTE:

- 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 May 24, 2022.
- Ballots will be counted on June 29-30, 2022. To be counted, ballots must be received at the ballot post office box by 10:00 am on June 29, 2022.
- If you have not received your ballot by June 7, please call the Election Committee line at 707-452-2779 or email elections@IBEW1245.com. Your message should include your full name, phone number, mailing address and either your member ID number/card number or the last 4 digits of your Social Security number.

Executive Board Candidates

continued from previous page

years

Local Union Offices Held: Current southern area executive board member

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Review committee for 6 years, physical contract negotiating committee for 6+ Years, Telogis committee, line of progression committee for gas service- ongoing, as well as gas service counsel for 1 year, procedure rewrites, and winters project committee

Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: Gas convention in Florida

Konang Sumaryadi

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 2/28/2014

Laquania “Q” Thompson

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 2/28/2014

Classification: Operating Clerk

Steward Positions: Shop Steward and lead Organizing Steward

Local Union Offices Held: Advisory Council

Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: Trustee of Fresno Madera Tulare and King's (FMTK) Central Labor Council, President of Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (EWMC)-Solano Chapter, CADEMS Delegate, Campaigns: “No on Question 3”, “No on Prop A”

Jeremy T. Winn

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 9/30/1999

Classification: Work Control Lead

Steward Positions: Shop (2008-present), Organizing (2016-Present) Chief Operation Steward (2015-present)

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: committee to keep Diablo Canyon open -KDCO (2014), training oversight committee (2012-present), committee for Diablo Canyon retention (2015), Decommissioning committee (2019-present), P25 committee (2019-present)

Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: IBEW Nuclear conference 2009, 2011, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2019, Young Union Workers convention 2011, March on the State Capital- KDCO (2016), CA congress blitz (2016), testified before state senate utility committee SB-1090 (2018)

Executive Board - Central Area

Cloudell Douglas

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 7/31/2008

Classification: ASDO

Steward Positions: Shop Steward Central Area 2016-2018

Local Union Offices Held: Advisory Council Eastbay 2015-2016

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Al Sandoval scholarship committee



Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: New Employee Orientation 2014-2016, A. Phillip Randolph Institute convention delegate 2014 (appointed), Coalition of Black Trade Unionist Convention delegate 2014 - (appointed), Electric Workers Minority Caucus convention delegate (appointed) 2014, A. Phillip Randolph Institute convention delegate 2015 (appointed), Coalition of Black Trade Unionist Convention delegate 2015 - (appointed), Electric Workers Minority Caucus convention delegate (appointed) 2015, RENEW delegate 2015 (appointed), Future Negotiation Training delegate 2015 (appointed), Distribution Energy Futures delegate 2015 (appointed), A. Randolph Institute Convention delegate 2016 (appointed), Coalition of Black Trade Unionist Convention delegate 2016 - (appointed), Electric Workers Minority Caucus convention delegate (appointed) 2016, Suriname lineman without borders delegate 2016 (appointed), 39TH IBEW International Conventions, St Louis (elected), Coalition of Black Trade Unionist Convention delegate 2018 (appointed), and Coalition of Black Trade Unionist Convention delegate 2022 (appointed)

Arnaldo Lizarraga

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 10/01/2012

Classification: Electric/Electronics Technician

Steward Positions: Shop Steward and Lead Organizing Steward

Local Union Offices Held: Advisory Council

Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: 2022 BMT IBEW Conference, 2021 Virtual BMT IBEW Conference, 2019 IBEW Manufacturing Leadership Training, 2018 GOTV Campaign, 2018 Organizing Seminar, 2018 AFL-CIO Martin Luther King Jr Conference, 2017 Kate Harrison Campaign, 2017 BMT IBEW Conference, 2016 GOTV Campaign, 2016 AFL-CIO Martin Luther King Jr Conference, and 2015 EWMC Conference

Gary Maschio

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 11/03/1980

Classification: Lead Critical Facility Technician, PG&E San Francisco

Steward Positions: Shop Steward: 1986 to Present, Organizing Steward 2019 to Present & Safety Steward 2022

Local Union Offices Held: Executive Board Central Area 2016 to Present, Advisory Council-San Francisco and General Office of PG&E 2012 to 2016

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: PG&E General Negotiating Committee (Physical) 2011-2012, 2014, 2015-2016, CRESS Labor Management 1996 to Present, PG&E Business Transformation Representing IBEW 1245 Members Best Interests 2005-2006, Union Ad Hoc Committees: Building Department-Work Normally Performed, Exhibit 16 Committee, Automatic Progression & Lines of Progression, Technician Training Program, Critical Facility Technician Training Program, Work Order Management Systems for Building Department

Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: IBEW Utility Conference 2017, IBEW 9th



District Progress Meetings 2017, 2018, & 2019, LAMPAC Conference 2018, San Francisco Labor Council 2019, California State Labor Board Hearing 2019, Local 1245 Delegate to IBEW International Convention 2022, Emergency Response Team for IBEW Local 1245, Phone Banking and Precinct Walking As Organizing Steward to Support IBEW & Local 1245, Worked on “No on 32” Campaign Precinct Walking and Phone Banking

Carl Olguin

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 5/31/1996

Rodney Simon

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 10/31/1991

Executive Board - Northern Area

Steve Mayfield

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 4/30/1993

Steve Segale

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 6/30/1984

Classification: Division Working Leader - Gas T&D

Steward Positions: Shop Steward 1998-Present

Local Union Offices Held: Executive Board Northern Area 2016-Present, Unit Chair San Rafael 2014-Present

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Labor/Management as Steward 1998-Present, Gas LOP Core Committee 2013-16, Gas LOP Oversight Committee 2015-17

Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: Delegate to North Bay Labor Council 2005-09, Inter Union Gas Conferences 2014-19, West Coast Gas Conference 2016-18, Utility Conference 2017

Executive Board - Northeastern Area

Ryan Morris

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 5/31/2004

Executive Board - General Construction at PG&E at Large

Steve Lange

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 10/31/2003

Classification: Working Foreman A, PG&E GC Gas

Steward Positions: Shop Steward, Safety Steward for Control the Pressure

Local Union Offices Held: Advisory Council, Executive Board

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Negotiation Committee 2016, Misc. Ad-Hoc committees

Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: Delegate multiple years for Inter-Union Gas Conferences

Executive Board - Outside Construction

Scott Hudelson

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 11/30/1996



Candidates for Advisory Council

San Joaquin Division of PG&E-Physical

Dan Mayo

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 6/30/1975

Coast Valleys Division of PG&E-Physical

Todd “Woo” Kadota

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 3/31/2004

Classification: Lineman

Steward Positions: Shop Steward

Local Union Offices Held: Templeton Unit 1217 Chair, Templeton Unit 1217 Recorder, Advisory council - Coast Valleys Division of PG&E Physical



Diablo Canyon Nuclear Generating Station

Sean Baker

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 8/31/2008

Chris Risley

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 10/31/2007

GPO&M-T&D and Gas Distribution and Control Center

James “Harpo” Walker

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 11/23/2006

Classification: Lead Gas Control Technician

Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: Safety Leader 11/06-7/10, Digital Catalyst Committee 2016-present, GPOM Gas Control Technician Codes and Standards Committee 2019-present



City of Santa Clara and San Jose Division of PG&E-Physical

Piotr Majewski

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 9/30/2002

Classification: Equipment Mechanic



Alameda/Contra Costa Transit District and East Bay Municipalities

Michael Patterson

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 3/31/2002

Advisory Council Candidates
continued from previous page

East Bay Division of PG&E-Physical

Foster Goree

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 3/31/2011

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

Steve Ramirez

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 3/24/1999

Stockton Division of PG&E-Physical

No Valid Nominations

Sacramento Regional Transit District

Connie Bibbs

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 8/31/1986

TransCanada

No Valid Nominations

Humboldt Division of PG&E-Physical and Resort Improvement District #1.

James H. Walpole

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 2/29/1984

Classification: Troubleman

Steward Positions: Richmond 1994, Los Banos 2000, Eureka 2006-now

Local Union Offices Held: Advisory Council 2015-2022

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: 2021 Advisory Council- Humboldt North

Shasta Division of PG&E-Physical, City of Redding, City of Shasta Lake, and Bella Vista Water District

David Williams

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 4/30/2012

NV Energy, TMWA, City of Fernley, Truckee Donner PUD, Mt. Wheeler Power, Inc., Lassen Municipal Utility District and Wells REA, Liberty Energy and Plumas Sierra REC

John McCue

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 10/31/2005

De Sabla Division of PG&E-Physical

Chad Lavezzo

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 1/31/1996

Drum Division of PG&E-Physical and City of Roseville

No Valid Nominations

Utility Reporter

Colgate Division of PG&E-Physical, Yuba County Water Agency, and City of Gridley

No Valid Nominations

North Bay Division of PG&E-Physical, City of Healdsburg, City of Ukiah, City of Willits

Doug Sanders

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 9/30/2017

Eric Wright

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 5/31/2013

Andrew Gordon Young

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 7/31/2007

Classification: Gas Service Rep

Steward Positions: Shop Steward, Organizing Steward, Safety Steward

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: SIF committee 2021

Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: No on Recall Campaign - Organizing Steward 2021

Sacramento Division of PG&E-Physical and City Light & Power

Sandi Busse

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 3/24/2011

Sacramento Municipal Utility District and City of Lodi

Steven Ross

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 8/31/2015

USB, Western Area Power Administration

Dustin Hawkins

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 2/29/2020

Classification: High Voltage Substation Electrician

Steward Positions: Steward for IBEW at WAPA Sierra Nevada Region

Frontier Communications

Kenneth Lawson

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 6/30/2006

Ryan Stewart

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 5/31/1999

Classification: Communications Splicer

Steward Positions: Shop steward since 2012

Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: Volunteered for organizing campaign during the Biden election 2020, Delegate for BMT (Broadcasting. Manufacturing. Telecom) Conference four times

General Construction of PG&E – At Large

Geraldine (Nicole) Brooks

Initiated Into IBEW 1245: 7/31/1990

Classification: Senior Construction Operator

Steward Positions: Shop Steward, Safety Stewards

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: CTP Committee member, Advisory Council-General Construction of P.G.&E. At Large (2) (2019-2022)

Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: 2019 National Natural Gas Convention Orlando, FL. 2022-Delegate to 78th Annual 9th District Progress Meeting, representing IBEW Local 1245



General Construction of PG&E – At Large

Jennifer Threlfall

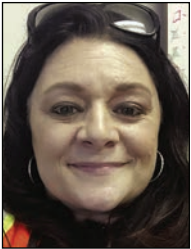
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 12/31/2011

Classification: First Field clerk

Steward Positions: Currently a Shop Steward in the North Bay area

Local Union Offices Held: Current Advisory Council member

Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: Was sent by the Union in November of 2016 to the Coalition of Labor Union Women's Conference and was also sent by the Union in 2018 to attend the IBEW International Women's Conference, I was asked to help the Organizing Steward's group in 2019 at the State Capital as well.



General Construction of PG&E – At Large

No Valid Nominations

Tree Trimmer Companies

Sergio Munoz

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 12/31/1997

Clerical PG&E – Northern Area

Alvin Dayoan

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 3/31/2016

Classification: Service Representative II

Steward Positions: Shop Steward and Lead Organizing Steward

Local Union Offices Held: Advisory Council for Clerical PG&E Northern Area 2019-Present, IBEW 1245 Registrar 2020-present, Sacramento Clerical 3801 Unit Vice-Chair 2016-2019 and Sacramento Clerical 3801 Unit Chair 2019-Present

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Election Committee 2020-2021

Other activities on Behalf of the Union: Sacramento Central Labor Council Delegate, IBEW 1245 Training Facilitator for Union Network Member Experience (UNME), EWMC Solano County



Chapter At Large Board Member, APALA Sacramento Treasurer, Delegate for CA, Biennial State Fed Labor Convention, IBEW EWMC National Convention, IBEW RENEW/NextGen Conference, APALA Biennial National Convention, IBEW Legislative Conference, Lobbying at the State Capitol: Keep Diablo Canyon Open, SB 901, AB 1054, AB 1139, AB 5, SB 1088, SB 702, AB 560, Sacramento CLC Campaigns: Darrell Steinberg for Mayor, Brandon Rose & Rosanna Here for SMUD Board, Scott Alford for City Council, Brian Dahle for State Senate, Organizing Blitz for Childcare workers. Gregg Fishman for City Supervisor, No on Prop 22, Christy Smith for CD 25, Solidarity Campaigns: Organizing BG&E, Missouri's No on Prop A, Jon Ossoff for Georgia's 6th Congressional District, Beto O'Rourke for U.S. Senate, VMI New Member Callouts, No on Question 3, Consolidated Communications House Visit Blitz, Matt Haney for AD 17

Clerical PG&E – Central Area

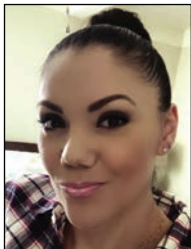
Julie Gonzalez

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 6/30/2012

Classification: Service Representative I

Steward Positions: Shop steward and Organizing steward

Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: IBEW Trustee, Lead Organizer for many campaigns, current IBEW delegate for the international convention, Trustee and Delegate for the San Joaquin-Calaveras Central Labor Council



Dawn Murry

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 5/31/2017

Classification: Operating Clerk

Steward Positions: Shop steward

Local Union Offices Held: Acting recording secretary at Unit 2314 & some 2211 meetings

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: 3/29/2022 Clerical Electric Execution Support LOB Discussions



Clerical PG&E – Southern Area

Lorenzo Arciniega

Initiated Into IBEW 1245: 11/30/2001

Classification: Senior Operating Clerk 1

Steward Positions: Shop Steward, Organizing Stewards

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union:

01/2022 Appointed to Organizing Steward, 01/2019 Appointed to Organizing Steward, 02/2016 Union Membership Development Campaignin Columbus, Indiana, 01/2016 Appointed to Organizing Steward, 11/2013 Appointed to the PG&E New Customer Service Training Redesign Committee, 05/2013 IBEW Local 1245 Community Fund Program Development Committee, 03/2013 Appointed to the PG&E Contact Center Operations (CCO) Rewards and Recognition Committee, 09/2012 Appointed to the PG&E

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Advisory Council Candidates
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Contact Center Operations (CCO) Wide Labor Management Committee, 09/2012 Appointed to the PG&E Contact Center Operations (CCO) Attendance Management Committee (Phase 2), 02/2011 Young Workers Bay Area Leadership & Development Training Planning Committee, 02/2011 - Present IBEW Local 1245 Social Media Committee, 01/2011 PG&E Contact Center Operations (CCO) Attendance Management Committee, 09/2010 PG&E Wellness Program Committee, 08/2010 Planning Committee for initial IBEW Local 1245 Youth Conference, 06/2010-06/2013 IBEW 1245 Youth Engaged for Solidarity (Y.E.S.) Committee, 11/2009 - 01/2011 PG&E Clerical Bargaining Committee, 09/2008 Contact Center Operations (CCO) Shift Swap Committee, 02/2004-2005 PG&E Business Transformation Committee Contact Center Operations (CCO)

Other Activities on Behalf of the Union:

02/2022 Appointed to the IBEW 1245 Unit Meeting Recorder (San Jose, Unit 1511),01/2022 Participated in the 2022 Virtual Organizing Steward Training,01/2022 Took part in the Net Energy Metering Emergency Mobilization Blitz Campaign, 11/2021 Assisted in the development of the Rewards and Recognition program for Service Planning & Design Department (PG&E), 11/2020 Participated in the 2020 Presidential Campaign at the South Bay Area Labor Council, San Jose, CA, 01/2019 - Present Sworn as Delegate to the South Bay Area Labor Council, San Jose, CA, 08/2018 Took part in the California Fire Conference Mobilization Blitz Campaign, 06/2018 Assisted in the EWMC Northern Chapter Sacred Heart Food Bank Event, San Jose, CA, 04/2018 Attended the California Labor Federation Pre-Primary Convention, San Jose, CA, 02/2018 Took part in the San Francisco CPUC Emergency Action regarding CCA Expansion in California (San Francisco, CA), 02/2017 Took part in the IBEW 1245 Changing the Narrative Training, Vacaville, CA, 04/2016 Participated in the 2016 Comprehensive Negotiating Union Contracts Seminar (Vacaville, CA), 03/2016 Participated in the 2016 IBEW Local 1245 Utility Procurement Conference (Vacaville, CA), 02/2016 Initiated the formation of the San Ramon Bishop Ranch Clerical Local Labor Management meeting. (San Ramon, CA), 02/2016 Supported IBEW Local 1424's Union membership development blitz in Columbus, Indiana, 02/2016 Participated in the 2016 in-depth Organizing Steward training titled: "Telling your story" (Vacaville, CA), 01/2016 Sworn in as a 2016 Organizing Steward for IBEW Local 1245 (Vacaville, CA), 01/2016 Participated in the 2016 Organizing Steward Training Session (Vacaville, CA), 01/2016 Panelist/Speaker/ Delegate at the IBEW Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (New York NY), Monthly Participated in the Tele-Town Hall meetings for IBEW 1245 Shop Stewards at PG&E, 10/2015 Represented IBEW 1245 at the 2015 IBEW 77 CSR Conference (Wenatchee, WA), 09/2015 Took part in the Member to Member outreach Blitz (Reno, NV), 07/2015 Participated in the GOTV for PGE Ratification vote (Southern Region of IBEW 1245), 06/2015 Took part in the Special Election through San Jose CLC (San Jose, CA), 05/2015 Delegate to the 2015 Seminar with former Secretary of Labor under President Bill Clinton, Robert Reich (Berkeley, CA), 04/2015 Participated in the George Miller & D Taylor training session (Vacaville,CA), 01/2015 Panelist/Speaker/ Delegate at

the IBEW Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (Atlanta, GA), 02/2014 Organized IBEW 1245 Unit 1511 participation in the 11th Annual National "Go Red" Day for Women event (San Jose, CA)

10/2013 Organized and lead a team of 25 IBEW 1245 members in the local Diabetes Walk-A-Thon that raised more than \$2500 (San Jose, CA), 08/2013 Presenter at the Net Roots Nation Youth Caucus (San Jose, CA), 08/2013 Delegate to the 2013 Net Roots Nation Conference (San Jose, CA), 07/2013 Took part in the Nora Campos Re-Election campaign at the South Bay Labor Council (San Jose, CA), 06/2013 Appointed as Chair of the AFL-CIO National Young Workers Advisory Council (YWAC) (Washington, D.C.), 05/2013 Assisted in the creation of the IBEW Local 1245 Community Fund Program (Vacaville, CA), 04/2013 Panelist/Speaker/Delegate to the California State Federation Legislation Conference (Sacramento, CA), 04/2013 Attended the IBEW 1245 Leadership Development meeting with the State of California Attorney General, Kamala Harris. (San Francisco, CA), 04/2013 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), 03/2013 Facilitated Educational Sessions at the United States Western Region State Federation and Central Labor Council Conference (Seattle, Washington), 03/2013 Attended the 2013 IBEW 1245 Leadership Development Conference (Vacaville, CA), 01/2013 Panelist/Speaker/ Delegate to the IBEW Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (Houston, Texas), 09/2012 Organizer/Recruiter for the No on Prop 32 campaign at the South Bay Labor Council (San Jose, CA), 09/2012 Appointed as Chair of the Education and Development committee for the AFL-CIO National Young Workers Advisory Council (YWAC) (Washington, D.C.), 09/2012 Co-Author of the "Young Workers Resolution" that was endorsed unanimously at the Alaska State Federation (Anchorage, AK), 08/2012 Co-Organized the AFL-CIO Young Worker Leadership Institute training session (Washington, D.C.), 07/2012 Co-Author of the "Young Workers Resolution" that was endorsed unanimously at the Biannual California State Federation Conference (San Francisco, CA), 07/2012 Delegate to the Biannual California State Federation Biannual (San Francisco, CA), 07/2012 Delegate to the 9th District IBEW Progress meeting (San Francisco, CA), 06/2012 Attended IBEW International Member to Member training Session (Vacaville, CA), 03/2012 Co-Hosted a Intergenerational assembly at the California State Legislation Conference (Sacramento, CA), 03/2012 Delegate to the California State Federation Legislation Conference (Sacramento, CA), 03/2012 Coordinator of the 2012 IBEW 1245 Unit Chair & Unit Recorder Conference (Vacaville, CA), 01/2012 Panelist/Speaker/ Delegate at the IBEW Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (Oakland, CA), 12/2011 Attended the IBEW 1245 Calpine Workers Filing and Rally (San Francisco, CA), 09/2011 Attended the 38th IBEW International Convention (Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada), 09/2011 Co-Author of the "Engaging Young Workers Resolution" that was endorsed unanimously at the 38th IBEW International Convention (Vancouver, Canada), 09/2011 Appointed as Shop Steward for IBEW Local 1245, 09/2011 Met with and introduced the 25th United States Secretary of Labor, Hilda Lucia Solis at the AFL-CIO Next Up

Young Workers Summit. (Minneapolis, Minnesota), 09/2011 Speaker/Facilitator/ Delegate at the AFL-CIO Next Up Young Workers Summit (Minneapolis, Minnesota), 07/2011 Participant at the Next Generation Bay Area 1st Leadership and Organizing Training (San Jose, CA), 06/2011 Participant at the Leadership Development workshop at Stanford University with Professor Clay Carson, the Executive Director of Martin Luther King Jr. Institute for Research and Education. (Stanford, CA)

05/2011 Delegate to the IBEW Local 77 Seattle Washington Call Center Summit (Seattle, Washington), 04/2011 Team Leader/Organizer against the State of Florida Legislative attempt to privatize and eliminate automatic payroll deductions for Union dues (SB830) (Jacksonville, FL), 04/2011 Met with Jacksonville, Florida Mayor John Peyton regarding proposed fiscal cuts and implications on city residents, 04/2011 Testified on behalf of Florida Residents at hearings with the Florida State Council on the Status of Women,04/2011 Co-Organized a city wide protest against the closure of the only Low Income Hospital facility in Jacksonville, FL, 05/2011 IBEW 1245 Point Organizer for WE ARE ONE/Day of Action Rally in San Jose, Santa Cruz and Salinas, CA, 01/2011 to 08/2014 Appointed by IBEW International President Ed Hill as IBEW Young Worker representative for the American Federation of Labor - Congress of Industrial Organization (AFL-CIO) National Young Workers Advisory Council (Washington, DC), 01/2011 Attended the IBEW 1245 Leadership Development meeting with United States Secretary of Labor, Robert Reich. (Berkeley, CA),01/2011 Delegate to the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (Washington, D.C.),11/2010 Elected to attend IBEW Local 1245 Young Workers Leadership & Development Training, 10/2010 to 10/2013 Elected and Appointed by IBEW International President Ed Hill to the Union Plus National Future Leaders Mentorship Program, Partnered with IBEW 9th District International Representative Keith Edwards, 08/2010 Attended PG&E Quarterly Benefits Meeting on behalf of IBEW Local 1245, 06/2010 Delegate to the AFL-CIO Next Up Young Workers Summit (Washington, D.C.), 02/2010 Attended Shame on NV Energy Home Office Picket (Las Vegas, Nevada), 11/2009 Attended Shame on NV Energy Picket (Reno, Nevada)

Brandon Fosselman

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 9/30/2012

Classification: Customer Service Representative

Steward Positions: Shop Steward, Organizing Steward

Local Union Offices Held: PG&E Clerical South and Local Unit 1110 Chairmen

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Home Agent negotiations, fall of 2019

Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: No on 3 campaign 2018, Jim Costa primary race 2020, Wisconsin 2020 presidential race, Georgia Senate runoff election 2020, Push to get senators from Arizona to support the PRO Act-2021, Gavin Newsom recall election 2021

Irrigation Districts (Merced ID, Turlock ID, Lindmore ID,



Paradise ID, South Feather

Rodrigo Flores

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 9/30/1999

Power and Water Agency, Modesto ID and South San Joaquin ID

No Valid Nominations

Outside Construction

Cole Dorsey

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 7/01/2005

Classification: Lineman

Steward Positions: Shop Steward 2015 and Shop Steward 2021 – present

Local Union Offices Held: Advisory Council 2019 – present

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: OLC Roundtable - 2021 – present

Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: A 1245 Delegate to IBEW Construction Conference in 2015



City of Lompoc

Leo Ramirez

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 2/28/2014

Steward Positions: Shop Steward, Organizing Steward & Safety Steward

Local Union Offices Held: Unit Chair

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: pass & present negotiations for IBEW 1245 members

Other Activities on Behalf of the Union: support for city council members and mayor that are pro union

Manufacturing

No Valid Nominations

Generation including Dynege, Foster-Wheeler, Genon, NCPA, NRG and Tri- Dam Project

No Valid Nominations

Materials Distribution Department of PG&E

No Valid Nominations

City of Vallejo and Greater Vallejo Recreation District

Oni Brown

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 1/01/2010

Candidates for Examining Board

Robert Maclauchlan

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 5/31/1986

Robert Ritola

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 8/01/2008

Grant Todd

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 7/16/2007



SERVICE AWARDS

San Francisco February 18, 2022



40 Years From left: Cindy Jew-Szeto, Assistant Business Manager Roberto Balistreri and Clara Morales



50 Years
From left: Executive Board Member Gary Maschio, Kenneth Fassio and Business Manager Bob Dean

Photos by John Storey



30 Years From left: Steven Gee, Craig Ramirez and Alexander Wong



15 Years From left: Doli Lee with (Dean)



25 Years Front row, from left: Herbert Louie and Executive Board Member Rachel Ramirez. Back row, from left: Steve Fare, (Balistreri), Rod Harrington and Ruben Hernandez



20 Years
Front row, from left: Marcos Severa Jr. and Justin Wall. Back row, from left: Ricky Jew, Michael Patterson and (Dean)

Congratulations on your service!



10 Years
From left: Phuong Tran, Arnaldo Lizarraga and (Dean)



5 Years
Front row, from left: Adam Ondricek and Trent Twisselman. Back row, from left: Jorge Perez Alvarez, Humberto Lima and (Ramirez)

HONOREES

55 years
Thompson, Theaophelus

50 years
Smith, Clifford

45 years
Gates, Edward
Harrington, Dolores
Reyes, Sylvia

40 years
Ayala, Ramon
Garvin, Glori
Kennedy, Suzie
Morales, Clara
Nogare, Robert

30 years
Blue, Calary
Gee, Stephen
Lee, Glenn
Ramirez, Craig
Wong, Alexander

25 years
Salgado, Bulmaro
Artates, David
Canaya, Erwin

Chin, Terri
Erazo, Oswaldo
Fare, Steve
Harrington, Rod
Johnson, Ronald
Lindquist, Craig
Louie, Herbert
Rodriguez, Luis
Tom, Pamela
Traverso, Tory
Villanueva, Francisco

20 years
Abrams, Matthew
Araneda, Alex
Chan, Benson
Corrigan, Kevin
Irwin, David
Kefu, Siaso
Koontz, Carl
Lombre, Travis
McCarthy, Mona
Miranda, Nicolas
Patterson, Michael
Ramil, Vic
Severa, Marcos Jr.
Silva, Dallas
Simmons, Ronald
Smethurst, Charles
Toy, Yardley
Vong, Eddy Kai

Wall, Justin
15 years
Ebrada, Daniel
Gonzalez, Fabian
Harrington, Johnny
Kern, Donald
Lee, Doli
McNall, Ross
Nieve, Kevin
Tan, Junhua
Torrence, David

10 years
Ayar, Jose
Bell, Jonathan
Carranza, Otto
Davies, Robert
Hussain, Moshein
Leonis, Craig
Ly, Thomas
Masong, Jaime
Murphy, William
Sandoval, Kelvin
Shui, Andrew
Solis, Jesus

5 years
Chang, Stella

Cosio, Arturo
Cunningham, Christopher
Dennis, Liam
Dirck, Kristin
Edwards, Chad
Franco, Michael
Garcia, Gabriel
Hildreth, Daniel
Jew, Ricky
Jimenez, Jose
Jimenez, Samuel
Kwok, Timothy
Lima, Humberto
Morales, Oscar
Najarro, Jose Jr.
Ng, Diana
Ng, Tony
Ochoa, Joel
Perez Alvarez, Jorge
Picetti, Pete
Randolph, Christopher
Riley, Benjamin
Roberts, Travis
Ruud, Miles
Simien, Lawrence III
Thiede, Richard
Twisselman, Trent



IBEW Member Spotlight: Line Foreman Teddy Hill

Line Foreman Teddy Hill has been working outside line on the Central Coast since 2018. Hill comes out of Local 852 and likes that he has the freedom to move around. He has worked all over the area, from Salinas to Paso Robles to Santa Maria. For the last three years, he has been with MGE.

When the *Utility Reporter* caught up with Hill and his MGE line crew, they had teamed up with a civil crew on an underground vault changeout on a ranch near Buellton, CA. The civil crew had already been on site the day before to do some digging, and they would also be responsible for most of the enclosure work.

“We’re going to pull the old wood enclosure out and put in a fiberglass enclosure,” Hill explained. “We are also changing out the transformer, so we’ll be putting on new elbows and redoing all the ground in there.”

For Hill, who has been a member of IBEW since 2013, having quality union representation makes the job rewarding.

“It’s good to have all the benefits on the union side,” he said. “It’s nice to be able to go to any state you want to work in and get on the books.”

Hill also underscored the important role the union plays in keeping workers safe.

“If employers start pushing on you to do things you don’t want, or it’s not safe for you to do, then the union will step in and have your back.”

Photos by John Storey



IBEW Member Spotlight: Groundman Destry Schaefer

Destry Schaefer is a groundman working for MGE Underground. Originally from Fresno, Schaefer joined IBEW 1245 in 2020 when she went to work for a civil and flag contractor, and came over to the line side in October of 2021. She aspires to become an IBEW 1245 journeyman lineman and reach her fullest potential.

“I want to build power lines, and I want to travel. This job gives you a lot of opportunities to do so,” Schaefer told the *Utility Reporter*.

Linework is a male-dominated profession. By some estimates, between 3–7% of journeyman linemen across the country are women. It can be hard to break into this field, but Schaefer has found support from her union brothers who have welcomed her into the crew.

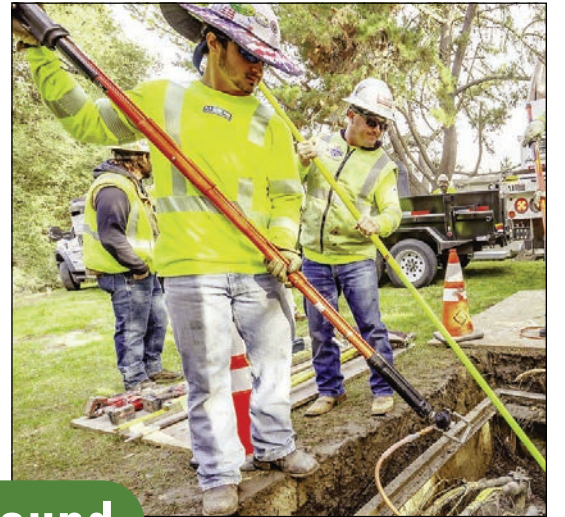
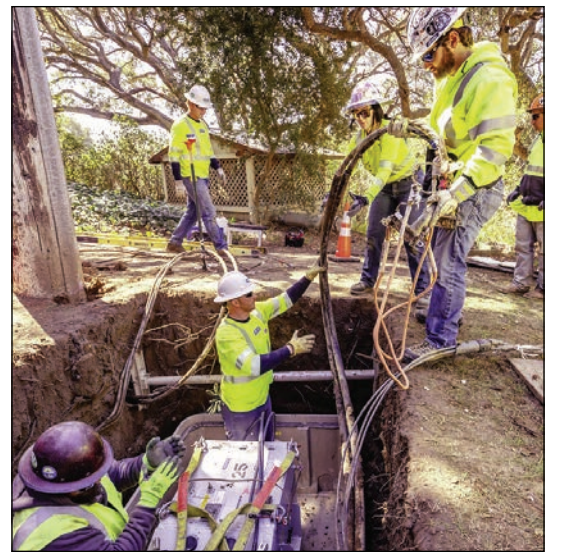
“I’ve actually been really lucky to be on a crew and in a yard that treats me like just one of the guys,” she said.

Linework is physically demanding, and requires endurance, strength, and agility. The physical aspect can present a barrier to entry for some women, but Schaefer is putting in the extra work to ensure she can fulfill that aspect of the job.

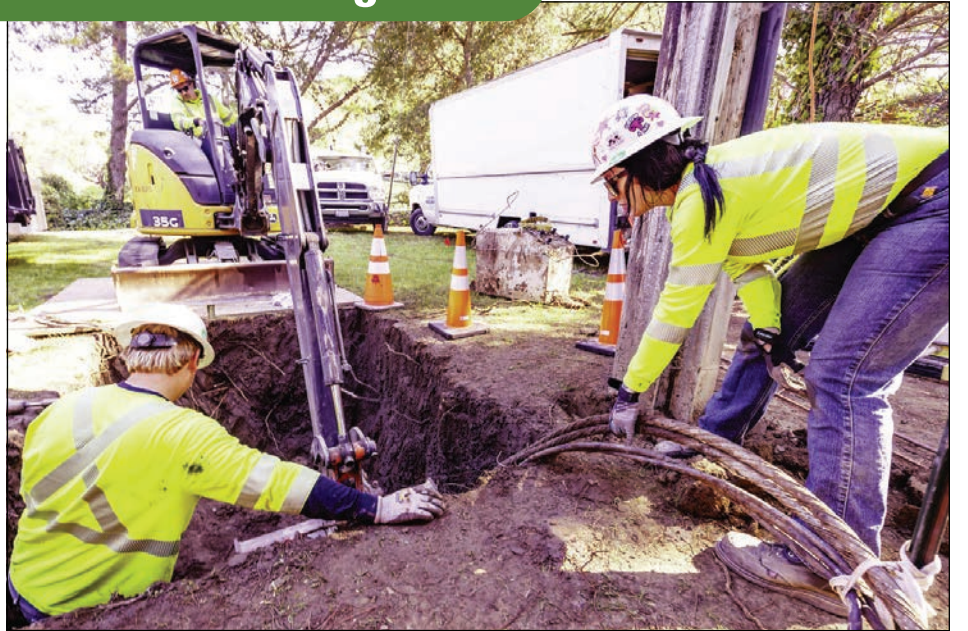
“I know that I’m not naturally as strong as a lot of guys can be, so I go to the gym and try to build up my strength so I can keep up with them,” Schaefer explained.

But her passion for the job has made it all worth it. “I like the work. I like building things. And I like getting to travel and see new locations every day. It’s really rewarding,” Schaefer said.





IBEW 1245 members with MGE Underground



Left to right: Groundman Josh Akerman, Journeyman Lineman Josiah Meyer, Brice Mundlin, Groundman Destry Schaefer, Journeyman Lineman Jonathan Meyer, Foreman Teddy Hill, General Foreman Johnny Rodda, Foreman Ryan Charleton and Groundman Jesse Shaw change out an underground transformer and vault on a ranch in Buellton, Calif.

Vegetation Management and Tree Trimmers

Work continues to be very strong as there has been no change to the amount of line clearance tree trimming mileage committed to by PG&E in their 2022 wildfire mitigation plans. As part of the effort to reduce the risk of utility owned-equipment starting wildfires, the company plans to underground 275 miles of power line this year, and a total of 10,000 miles of powerlines over the next 10 years, in the high fire-threat areas. As lines are undergrounded, trees in those areas will no longer need to be cut or removed, but we are still several years away from this, and 10,000 miles is only a small part of the total miles of line that PG&E owns and operates. However, this initiative can and will eventually impact the number of trees that will need to be maintained, as compared to today.

LCTT Training Program

In 2021, we began the process of creating a standardized line clearance tree trimmer training program managed by the Cal-Nev JATC, the same joint labor/management organization that has managed the Journeyman Lineman apprenticeship training program in California and Nevada for several decades. The new LCTT certification program began enrolling new trainees, as well as journey level workers, to test out with the LCTT Certification in December of 2021. On January 1, 2022, there were 40 enrollees in the program, but by the first of April 2022, there were over 550 enrolled, and 600 more pending (the program is enrolling, on average, 40–50 people per week).

For LCTTs, the enrollment date starts the clock toward regular field assessments, which are performed by our 10 full-time JATC instructors in Northern California (we are also starting to hire instructors in the south, with a few of the 10 mentioned above also covering parts of Southern California as well). The field assessments, combined with the self-study portion of the program (Canvas), are designed to prepare the trainee for a written step test. Upon passing the field assessments and the step test, the trainee earns an industry-recognized credential in the form of a digital wallet certificate, or badge, on their cell phone.

In addition to receiving state recognition of completing this program, this badge is important because PG&E will soon be requiring all Journey level tree trimmers and trainees to complete annual Operator Qualifications (OQ) on the various disciplines to be able to work in those classifications on their property. We are working with PG&E on the various disciplines they plan on

requiring the OQs on, so that the JATC can train to that level or greater. Our aim is to making passing these OQs easier, and we will be able to use the OQs as part of the field observations on the various disciplines that count towards the Journeyman certificates from the Cal-Nev JATC. Assistant Director Dan Kallai and his team have put together the curriculum and converted it to Spanish as well. This program is designed in a way to make it sustainable for many years to come.

LCTT Contract Negotiations

Under SB 247, we have a new way of establishing future minimums for wages and benefits for tree trimmers. The new law requires that a Journeyman LCTT cannot make less a first-step Electrical Line worker apprentice's total compensation package, as determined by the California Department of Industrial Relations (DIR). On May 31, both the tree agreement and the agreement that contains the Electrical Line workers' wages expire at the same time, and in order to establish what those LCTT increase minimums will be, the Electrical Line worker agreement must be bargained and ratified first, before bargaining and ratifying the tree agreements.

On April 15 there was a tentative agreement reached on the OSL Electrical Line workers agreement (details on page 16). I am happy to report as of this writing, our negotiating teams from 1245, 47 and 465 are scheduled to meet with 16 tree trimmer companies in late April to begin the process. Visit our website <https://ibew1245.com/news/tree-trimmers/> for the most up-to-date information.

New Vegetation Management Inspectors (VMIs)

As previously reported, IBEW Local Union 1245 secured an agreement with PG&E in the middle of 2021 that required all Vegetation Management Pre-Inspector companies to become signatory to IBEW 1245 before January 1, 2022. This agreement affected approximately 35 new VMI companies, and roughly 1,500 new 1245 VMI members, who are joining more than 28,000 union brothers and sisters working in 1245's jurisdiction.

On April 6, we held a tele-town hall call with these new members to go over how the new agreement transpired and how it was rolled out. We also explained how many of the new requirements in this agreement came about, such as the wage increases, which went from roughly \$20 an hour to at least \$34 an hour; doubletime for all overtime; \$50 a day subsistence; and the difference between the two agreements, one of which included benefits (such as healthcare and retirement) and the other with the In Lieu of Benefits (ILB) option (which takes the actual cost of the benefits and add them to the wages). Of the 1,500 hundred new members invited to the call, roughly 800 of them came on the line. Over the course of the two-hour call, we answered roughly 95 questions from the new VMI members. There's a lot of passion and engagement with this new

work group.

We encourage VMIs to visit www.ibew1245.com/vmi for copies of the agreements, as well as the FAQ and other important information.

Keep the Clearance (KTC) Peer Safety Program

The Keep the Clearance peer-to-peer safety program had an extremely successful safety summit in March of this year (see story on page 28). Most of the KTC safety stewards and advisory committee members are new, so to getting them together for a summit this year was a great step forward for our tree trimmer peer safety program. They are an enthusiastic group that is growing, with a total of 59 safety stewards as of this writing. We are working to get some presentations set up in the coming months with numerous different companies.

Business Representatives for both VMI and LCTT members are:

- Ray Banfill, Northern Area
- Junior Ornelas, Central West (Bay Area)
- Francisco Ferreyra, Central East (Sierras)
- Abel Sanchez, Southern Area

Their contact information can be found at <https://ibew1245.com/ask-your-rep>.

Northern Area

The Northern Area has been extremely busy this past quarter. Most tree companies are working a lot of overtime, trying to keep on schedule. We have members still working 60-hour work weeks all over the area. This has brought up a few concerns of members getting burnt out, and there are concerns about the potential for accidents. Most of the companies understand this, and are doing what they can to grant time off when needed.

Most of our calls this quarter have been coming from the new VM inspectors. These members, as well as the companies they work for, have a lot of questions about the contract and what they are supposed to do in certain situations. All the VMI companies are new to the union, and it seems that they want to do the right thing and follow the contract, but they still have many questions, and we are handling them on a case-by-case basis. There were a few contractors that were hired on just to do Enhanced Vegetation Management (EVM) patrolling. These companies were all ramped up and ready to go, and then the EVM work slowed way down. This caused the companies to put their employees on a stand down, hoping that the work would pick back up soon. That didn't happen, and a lot of members found other employment (some went to other VMI companies, and others that were here from out of state simply went back home). We are expecting that the EVM work will pick back up again soon, and will be busy again for the second half of the year.

Unit meeting attendance has been up these past months, mostly because of the VM Inspectors. They are very excited to be part of the union and want to be involved any way they can. We've

also had the instructors from the JATC certification program come to the meetings to explain the program to the line clearance tree trimmers, and they're able to answer everyone's questions without any time pressure. This program is really starting to pick up steam. The members are understanding the importance of being certified, and are signing up for the testing at a record pace. The trainers are still making their way around to each yard to get the members enlisted, and they should be conducting all the testing very soon. A new trainer has just been hired for the north valley area, and he will be a great asset to the program.

Safety is always a major concern for us, and we have seen a few accidents in recent months (nothing major, but an increase in frequency is not a good sign). We have also had a few Serious Incident Fatality (SIF) investigations with PG&E, and the most common factor is members not being aware of their surroundings. Situational awareness is a big part of staying safe on the jobsite, and is something that we all need to focus on more throughout the workday.

Grievances have been on the rise this past quarter, and most pertain to not following the proper procedures concerning layoffs. With a lot of the EVM work shutting down, some companies did not follow seniority when it came time to reduce forces. This has prompted a lot of research on hire dates, to make sure that the proper process was being followed. We are trying to work through these grievances as quickly as possible to get our members back to work.

As has been the norm these last several years, we are expecting things to get even busier in the next few months as we head into fire season.

— Ray Banfill, IBEW 1245 Business Rep

Central West Area

Wilhelm (Marin County): We received a report of an incident that took place in February on PG&E property in the North Valley. PG&E Safety Inspectors were involved and did not like what they observed, resulting in the entire Company being placed on a system-wide stand down by PG&E, which lasted several weeks. The Company did allow for members to apply for unemployment, and some members moved on to other employment opportunities after it became apparent that it was going to take some time before work could begin again. The company implemented a return-to-work plan that included additional training. We have received a few inquiries of pay issues, and we expect to be discussing these matters with local management. Our Union meetings in Novato were well attended in January and February, however March was problematic with the stand down. We encourage everyone to focus on the work you are doing. We need to make sure everyone is working safe 100% of the time. Your family depends on it!

KDF (Sonoma County): We were informed of a failed audit performed by

continued on page 30

Gestión de vegetación y Podadores de árboles

Los trabajos continúan muy activos ya que no ha habido cambios en la cantidad de millas de líneas eléctricas a despejar mediante la poda de árboles, que PG&E ha establecido en su programa de mitigación de incendios de 2022. Como parte del esfuerzo por reducir el riesgo de que los equipos pertenecientes a las compañías de servicios públicos inicien incendios forestales, la compañía planea enterrar 275 millas de líneas eléctricas este año, y un total de 10,000 millas de líneas eléctricas en los próximos 10 años, en las zonas de alto riesgo de incendio. A medida que se entierran las líneas eléctricas, no será necesario talar o remover árboles en esas zonas, pero todavía faltan muchos años para esto, y 10,000 millas es solo una pequeña parte del total de millas de líneas eléctricas que PG&E posee y opera. Sin embargo, esta iniciativa puede y eventualmente tendrá un impacto en el número de árboles que será necesario mantener, en comparación con los números actuales.

Programa de capacitación para podadores de árboles para el despeje de líneas (LCTT)

En 2021, comenzamos el proceso de crear un programa de capacitación estandarizado para podadores de árboles para el despeje de líneas, administrado por Cal-NEV JATC, la misma organización conjunta del sindicato y las compañías que ha supervisado el programa de capacitación de aprendices linieros jornaleros en California y Nevada durante varias décadas. En diciembre de 2021 comenzó la inscripción de nuevos aprendices en el nuevo programa de certificación LCTT, así como la inscripción de trabajadores de niveles superiores para que presenten el examen para la Certificación LCTT+.

Al 1o de enero de 2022, se habían inscrito 40 personas en el programa, pero para el primero de abril de 2022, había más de 550 inscritos y 600 más pendientes (en el programa se inscriben, en promedio, 40-50 personas por semana).

Al momento de la fecha de inscripción, comienza a correr el tiempo para los podadores de árboles para el despeje de líneas para que realicen las evaluaciones regulares de campo, que son hechas por nuestros 10 instructores de JATC a tiempo completo en el norte de California (también estamos empezando a contratar instructores en el sur, y algunos de los 10 mencionados anteriormente también cubren zonas del sur de California). Las evaluaciones

de campo, combinadas con la parte de autoestudio del programa (Canvas), están diseñadas para preparar al aprendiz para las pruebas por etapas escritas. Al aprobar las evaluaciones de campo y la prueba por etapas, el aprendiz obtiene una credencial reconocida por la industria en forma de certificado digital o insignia, en su teléfono celular.

Además de recibir el reconocimiento estatal por haber completado este programa, esta insignia es importante porque PG&E pronto requerirá que todos los podadores de árboles y los aprendices completen las Calificaciones de Operador (OQ) en las diversas disciplinas para poder trabajar en esas clasificaciones en sus instalaciones. Estamos trabajando con PG&E en las diversas disciplinas en la que planean requerir OQ, para que el JATC pueda capacitar a ese nivel o más. Nuestro objetivo es facilitar la aprobación de estas OQ, y podremos utilizar las OQ como parte de las observaciones de campo en las diversas disciplinas que cuentan para obtener los certificados de Jornaleros de Cal-NEV JATC. El Director Asistente Dan Kallai y su equipo han preparado el plan de estudios y también lo han traducido al español. Este programa está diseñado de manera que sea sostenible durante muchos años.

Negociaciones del contrato de los podadores de árboles para el despeje de líneas (LCTT)

De conformidad con SB 247, tenemos una nueva manera de fijar los salarios mínimos y beneficios futuros para los podadores de árboles. La nueva ley estipula que un jornalero LCTT no puede ganar menos que el paquete de compensación total de un aprendiz de trabajador de Líneas Eléctricas de primera etapa, publicado por el Departamento de Relaciones Industriales de California (DIR). El 31 de mayo, se venen al mismo tiempo, tanto el acuerdo de los podadores de árboles para el despeje de líneas como el acuerdo que contiene los salarios de los trabajadores de Líneas Eléctricas, y el acuerdo de los trabajadores de Líneas Eléctricas debe ser aprobado y ratificado primero, para así establecer cuáles serán los aumentos

mínimos de LCTT antes de negociar y ratificar los acuerdos de los podadores de árboles para el despeje de líneas.

El 15 de abril se llegó a un acuerdo provisional sobre el acuerdo de los trabajadores de Líneas Eléctricas OSL y se someterá a votación para su ratificación aproximadamente al mismo tiempo que comenzaremos las negociaciones con los contratistas de árboles. Me complace informar que al momento de preparar este documento, nuestros equipos de negociación de 1245, 47 y 465 tienen programado reunirse con 16 compañías a finales de abril para comenzar el proceso. Visite nuestro sitio web <https://ibew1245.com/news/tree-trimmers/> para obtener la información más actualizada.

Nuevos Inspectores de Gestión de Vegetación (VMI)

Como se informó anteriormente, el Local 1245 del sindicato IBEW llegó a un acuerdo con PG&E a mediados de 2021 que requiere que todas las compañías de Preinspección de Gestión de Vegetación deben pasar a ser signatarias de IBEW 1245 antes del 1o de enero de 2022. Este acuerdo afectó aproximadamente a 35 nuevas compañías de VMI, y a unos 1500 nuevos miembros VMI del 1245, que se están uniendo a más de 28,000 hermanos y hermanas sindicales que trabajan en la jurisdicción del 1245.

El 6 de abril, tuvimos una reunión a distancia con estos nuevos miembros para explicarles cómo se produjo el nuevo acuerdo y cómo entró en ejecución. También explicamos el origen de muchos de los nuevos requisitos de este acuerdo, tales como los aumentos salariales, que pasaron de aproximadamente \$20 por hora a al menos \$34 por hora; pago doble por horas extraordinarias; pago por subsistencia de \$50 por día; y la diferencia entre los dos acuerdos, uno de los cuales incluía beneficios (tales como atención médica y jubilaciones) y el otro con la opción "en lugar de beneficios" (ILB) (que toma el costo real de los beneficios y los añade a los salarios). De los 1,500 nuevos miembros invitados a la convocatoria, aproximadamente 800 de ellos se conectaron a la reunión. Durante el transcurso de la llamada de dos horas, respondimos a aproximadamente 95 preguntas de los

nuevos miembros VMI. Este nuevo grupo de trabajo es muy apasionado y está muy involucrado.

Invitamos a los VMI a visitar www.ibew1245.com/vmi para obtener copias de los acuerdos, así como acceder las preguntas frecuentes y otra información importante.

Programa de seguridad entre compañeros "Mantenga la Distancia" (KTC)

El programa de seguridad entre compañeros "Mantenga la Distancia" celebró una cumbre de seguridad extremadamente exitosa en marzo de este año. La mayoría de los delegados de seguridad y los miembros del comité asesor de KTC son nuevos, por lo que reunirlos para una cumbre este año fue un gran paso hacia adelante para nuestro programa de seguridad entre compañeros podadores de árboles. Ellos son un grupo entusiasta que está avanzando, conformado por un total de 59 delegados de seguridad al momento de redactar este informe. Estamos preparando algunas presentaciones para los próximos meses con numerosas compañías diferentes.

Los Representantes de Negocios tanto para los miembros VMI como LCTT son:

- Ray Banfill, Zona Norte
- Junior Ornelas, Zona Central Oeste (Área de la Bahía)
- Francisco Ferreyra, Zona Central Este (Sierras)
- Abel Sanchez, Zona Sur

Su información de contacto está disponible en <https://ibew1245.com/ask-your-rep>.

Zona norte

La Zona Norte ha estado muy activa este el último trimestre. La mayoría de las compañías de árboles están trabajando mucho tiempo extra, tratando de cumplir con el programa. Tenemos miembros por toda la zona que todavía trabajan semanas de 60 horas. Esto ha planteado algunas preocupaciones acerca del agotamiento de los miembros, y hay preocupación acerca de la posibilidad de que ocurran accidentes. La mayoría de las compañías entienden esto, y están haciendo lo posible para conceder tiempo libre cuando es necesario.

La mayoría de las llamadas que recibimos este trimestre han sido de los nuevos inspectores de VM. Estos miembros, así como las compañías para las que trabajan, tienen muchas preguntas sobre el contrato y lo que se supone que deben hacer en ciertas situaciones. Todas las compañías de VMI son nuevas en el sindicato, y parece que quieren hacer lo correcto y cumplir con el contrato, pero todavía tienen muchas preguntas y las estamos manejando caso por caso. Algunos pocos contratistas fueron contratados solo para patrullar la Gestión Mejorada de la Vegetación (EVM). Todas estas compañías contrataron más trabajadores y estaban listas para arrancar, y luego el volumen de trabajo de EVM se redujo. Esto hizo que las compañías colocaran a sus empleados en espera, con la esperanza



From left: Jose Jimenez, Juventino Hernandez and Prospero Salazar from Mowbray's tree Service
Photo by John Storey

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Trees, from page 28

PG&E in Petaluma, which was investigated by company management and the member. The audit found one tree signed off and not completed, and the utility sees it as falsification of documentation. When these types of incidents take place, the customer does not take them lightly. Given the risk of potential fires and the possible consequences associated with a utility facility starting a fire, everyone needs to make sure the work is complete before signing it as completed.

In Santa Rosa, an outage took place on January 19, 2022, that involved seven members and a line strike from an R-4 Eucalyptus Tree, causing considerable damage to the bucket and service line. The crew was stood down until they could complete their investigation. We were successful in getting five of the crew members back to work. The workers in charge of planning of this worksite were held responsible, and were released. We did get the company to agree to make them eligible for rehire in the future after a designated period away. We must make sure that if we see something, we say something. We all have the right and responsibility to call an all STOP! Safety has to our #1 priority.

The company began layoffs in January of this year, and we have filed a grievance for all members impacted by this layoff, as they didn't follow the company seniority provisions in the agreement. This grievance is scheduled for grievance review committee soon. Union Meeting attendance has been good, and getting better with negotiations coming up!

AERI (North Sonoma): All crews have been working eight-hour shifts. There was a complaint of hours being short on their pay stubs. We are following up on these issues. We were recently informed of a three-man crew that was terminated for causing damage to an electric gate. This was a first-time offense. We are looking into this matter at this moment, as we disagree with the action taken by the company. More information is expected!

Core Tree Care (Napa County): Crews have been working 10's with a split of Mon-Thurs / Tues-Friday shifts, and currently no one is working overtime. We are looking into an issue around the company not issuing company phones. We had a three-man crew disciplined for several safety infractions, that resulted in a five-day suspension. This suspension had one crew member make a threatening remark to two other employees, which led to his termination for violation of their workplace violence policy. We are currently looking into this incident. We also had an issue with a General Foreman that had written up a member for not calling in on time. The rule is one-hour notice prior to your scheduled shift when you're calling in sick. Union meeting attendance has been getting better every month.

DRG (VMI): We were contacted by the company of an issue with a

crewmember in Silverado Division, regarding GPS tracking of vehicles and a member's hours while at work. All crew members have been instructed not to go home during the day, and all Company vehicles are equipped with GPS devices. One member did not follow those directions and was placed on suspension. Upon review of the GPS data of the vehicle with the union and the member, the discipline was upheld. It's important for all to know that the GPS does not lie about the whereabouts of the company vehicle or company-issued handheld devices. With this workgroup, all workers typically work alone, and the GPS data is used primarily for safety to locate the workers if they fail to show up where they are supposed to, or in case they find themselves in need of assistance. However, it can also lead to issues if the vehicle or equipment is in a place that it wasn't supposed to be. Please keep this in mind, as the information provided by these devices are difficult to dispute. We all need to be communicating with our supervisors. Keep track of your work activities and all your hours worked. These are being closely monitored.

Sonoma County had a concern with their roving crews related to lodging for days not worked, since all of the crews in the North Bay are travelers. We met with the company, and they explained they fully intended to follow the agreement and cover the lodging, if the crews were working. The agreement is clear and addresses the reasonable lodging and applicable subsistence to be paid for days worked. Weekends would no longer be part of the package, since PG&E has already been begun not paying for the days that are not worked, and will not reimburse the employers for those days. In a follow-up meeting with the company, they asked the question about an employee changing residence (which is always the employee's prerogative, but we will have no intent in making it a requirement), but the contract is clear that reasonable lodging is required by the company if the employee works more than 50 miles from their residence. Union meeting attendance has been strong in Sonoma County.

Mario's Tree Service (Solano/Yolo Counties): All crews have been working eight-hour shifts. The company began layoffs when PG&E announced the elimination of paying for the third man on the climbing crew. The company also attempted to force employees to change over to VM Tree Service, a sister company, to circumvent the seniority clause in the agreement. Because of the layoffs and not following the seniority clause in the agreement, the union was forced to file a system-wide grievance.

Mowbray's Tree Service (East Bay & Peninsula): All hands have been working ten-hour shifts in the East Bay and the Peninsula. The company sent a select group of members to a training in Visalia, with no explanation on why everyone was not offered this training. The company was stood down by the utility for several days, and all Mowbray's operations on PG&E property were stopped. As of this writing, we

have very little detail as to why. We have continued to push progression issues with the company, as they are not progressing workers per the agreement, and it seems to be a continued problem. We have a wrongful termination grievance that is scheduled for the next grievance review committee, which should be soon. Union attendance has been low in East Bay but strong in the Peninsula.

ACRT (Golden Gate & South Bay VMI): We had several compliance issues related to not having all trees listed that were discussed with the company. Everyone needs to make sure the trees are being listed correctly and as required. Keep good notes of your activities, as we all know the GPS in vehicles is being used and can be monitored at any time. Regarding 10-hour shifts, we had several discussions with HR over the changing of the work hours. The main issue pertains to having management coverage as well as approval of utility.

Davey Tree (De Anza & Mission Division): We previously reported that the company made a change to payroll and went totally electronic using direct deposit, without providing hard copies of paystubs. Many employees did not understand what was going on with the change, and we have been working with the company and their HR team in getting all pay stubs from the beginning of the year provided to the employees, having their stubs mailed to those who want them, and those choosing to have them accessed electronically. HR also provided us with a copy of the list used to opt out of the electronic version. We continue to have issues with the per diem being paid on a regular basis, and we are working with management to get corrected.

We have an active grievance for a member that had been forced to work out of town when he should have never been required to go by the CBA until everyone else had already been sent. This became an issue when the member informed his GF that he was staying put and was not going to be sent out of town again, and was subsequently terminated. This case is scheduled to be heard at the next grievance review committee (GRC). All crews have been working eight-hour days and meeting attendance has been good in both areas.

Rapid Response (San Jose Division): All crews have been working 10-hour shifts. We have a concern with how individuals are not being progressed in the field, and will be pursuing these concerns as per the agreement. Replenishing equipment continues to be a topic of discussion, with claims of using expired saddles being a key concern. Union meetings have been well attended.

Wright Tree Service (Peninsula & East Bay – Transmission): All crews have continued to work a 4-10 schedule, Monday through Thursday with three consecutive days off. Union meeting attendance has picked up in the Peninsula.

— Junior Ornelas,
IBEW 1245 Business Rep

Central East Area

This past quarter has been quite busy, with plenty of calls from our members, especially our VMI group. Many of our crews were working plenty of OT, however the work slowed down and now it is ramping back up again. The unit meetings have seen an increase in attendance, with our members wanting to be more involved with the union and gain a better understanding of what being an IBEW member is all about. Many of our members have come forward to express interest in becoming shop stewards and safety stewards. Our members are recognizing that their voice has the power and potential to make a difference.

Mountain Fire Enterprise continues to be the leader in calls and grievances for the Central East area. Many of our members across a few counties have reported concerns with GF and managers overstepping with discriminating, favoritism, and intimidation. These have and continue to be addressed today as upper management is working diligently with 1245 to fix these issues. It appears to me that the problem mainly lies in the managers in the field, as well as one or two leads from higher up. Members in our MFE group have attended 1245 unit meetings with visions of a better future. MFE members have made motions at our unit meetings and are creating petitions for positions and classifications. MFE is working 40 hours in some areas, however work is ramping back up again, and it seems more OT is around the corner.

Our VMI group has been eager to learn more about what it is to be a IBEW member. I have received a number of calls on how they can gain more knowledge and understanding of what being a 1245 member is all about. I have appointed many shops stewards in my area who have worked out extremely well. Our VMI group has a deep understanding of vegetation management; however being a union member is new to many of them, but this has quickly changed. Our 1245 VMI members are a highly educated group, are quick to refer to their contract, and are not afraid to call for a better understanding of the verbiage. At the beginning of the year, EVM was in full affect, but all of the sudden the work stopped, which led to a reduction of force in some areas, and many of our members were affected. Our grievances with the VMI group have been swift, communicating at a high level with both the members and our VMI management team.

Mario's Tree Service has been a challenge this quarter. Our grievances have been slow, as we continue to battle wrongful terminations company wide. Mario's Tree Service was the first to lead in layoffs, as the three-men rule was removed for all climb work. With work ramping back up again, hopefully it will open the door for our members to return to work. Unit meetings with Mario's have been great, with members eager to step into more roles in the union. I appointed two new shop stewards with plans to add a few more.

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de que el volumen de trabajo se recuperaría pronto. Eso no sucedió, y muchos miembros encontraron otros empleos (algunos se fueron a otras compañías de VMI, y otros, que estaban aquí y venían de otros estados, simplemente regresaron a casa). Creemos que el volumen de trabajo de EVM va a aumentar pronto, y habrá mucha actividad nuevamente durante la segunda mitad del año.

La asistencia a las reuniones de la unidad en estos últimos meses aumentó, debido principalmente a los inspectores de VMI. Están muy entusiasmados de ser parte del sindicato y quieren participar de cualquier manera que puedan. También hemos invitado a los instructores del programa de certificación JATC a las reuniones para explicar el programa a los podadores de árboles para el despeje de líneas, y responder a las preguntas de todos sin presión de tiempo. Este programa está empezando realmente a tomar impulso. Los miembros están entendiendo la importancia de estar certificados, y se están registrando para presentar la prueba a un ritmo sin precedentes. Los instructores todavía están visitando todos los patios para lograr que los miembros se registren, y deben realizar todas las pruebas muy pronto. Se acaba de contratar a un nuevo instructor para la zona del valle norte, y será muy valioso para el programa.

La seguridad es siempre una preocupación importante para nosotros, y hemos tenido algunos accidentes en los últimos meses (nada grave, pero un aumento en la frecuencia no es una buena señal). También hemos tenido algunas investigaciones de Incidentes Graves y Fatalidades (SIF) con PG&E, y el factor más frecuente es que los miembros no son conscientes de su entorno. La conciencia situacional es una parte importante de la seguridad en el lugar de trabajo, y es algo en lo que todos necesitamos centrarnos más durante toda la jornada laboral.

Las quejas han ido en aumento este último trimestre, y la mayoría se refieren a no seguir los procedimientos adecuados en relación con los despidos. Con la suspensión de muchos de los trabajos de EVM, algunas compañías no cumplieron con las normas sobre antigüedad al

momento de reducir la fuerza laboral. Esto ha dado lugar a una gran cantidad de investigaciones sobre las fechas de contratación, para asegurar que se estaba siguiendo el proceso adecuado. Estamos tratando de resolver estas quejas lo más rápidamente posible para que nuestros miembros vuelvan a trabajar.

Como ha sido la norma en estos últimos años, esperamos que haya mucha más actividad en los próximos meses, ya que comienza la temporada de incendios.

— Ray Banfill, IBEW 1245
Representante de Negocios

Zona Central Oeste

Wilhelm (Condado de Marin): Recibimos un informe de un incidente que sucedió en febrero en las instalaciones de PG&E en North Valley. Los inspectores de seguridad de PG&E estuvieron involucrados y no les gustó lo que observaron, lo que dio lugar a que PG&E suspendiera a toda la compañía durante varias semanas. La Compañía permitió que los miembros solicitaran beneficios de desempleo, y algunos miembros cambiaron de empleo después de que se hizo evidente que iba a tardar algún tiempo antes de que el trabajo pudiera comenzar de nuevo. La compañía aplicó un plan de retorno al trabajo que incluyó capacitación adicional. Hemos recibido algunas preguntas sobre temas de remuneración y esperamos discutir estos asuntos con la gerencia local. Nuestras reuniones del sindicato en Novato tuvieron una buena asistencia en enero y febrero, sin embargo, marzo fue problemático debido a la suspensión de los trabajos. Alentamos a todos a centrarse en el trabajo que están haciendo. Tenemos que asegurarnos de que todo el mundo trabaje a salvo el 100% del tiempo. ¡Tu familia depende de ello!

KDF (Condado de Sonoma): Se nos informó sobre una auditoría fallida realizada por PG&E en Petaluma, que fue investigada por la gerencia de la compañía y el miembro. La auditoría encontró que un árbol marcado como finalizado no se había completado, y la empresa de servicios públicos consideraba esto como falsificación de documentación. Cuando se producen este tipo de incidentes, el cliente no los toma a la ligera. Dado el riesgo de incendios

potenciales y las posibles consecuencias asociadas con una empresa de servicios públicos que origine un incendio, todos deben asegurarse de que el trabajo está completo antes de firmarlo como finalizado.

En Santa Rosa ocurrió un apagón el 19 de enero de 2022, que involucró a siete miembros y una línea eléctrica que hizo contacto con un eucalipto R-4, que causó daños considerables a la cesta de la grúa y a la línea de servicio eléctrico. La cuadrilla fue suspendida hasta que pudieron completar su investigación. Logramos que cinco de los miembros de la cuadrilla regresaran al trabajo. Se responsabilizó a los trabajadores encargados de la planificación de este lugar de trabajo, y fueron despedidos. Logramos que la compañía acordara que pudiesen volver a ser contratados en el futuro después de un periodo de tiempo determinado. Debemos asegurarnos de que si observamos algún problema lo denunciemos (“see something, say something”). ¡Todos tenemos el derecho y la responsabilidad de DETENER todo el trabajo! La seguridad es nuestra prioridad #1.

La Compañía comenzó a hacer despidos en enero de este año, y hemos presentado una queja en nombre de todos los miembros afectados por este despido, ya que no cumplieron las cláusulas de antigüedad de la compañía que forman parte del acuerdo. Esta queja está programada para su discusión en el comité de resolución de quejas pronto. La asistencia a la Reunión Sindical ha sido buena, ¡y sigue mejorado ahora que se avecinan las negociaciones!

AERI (North Sonoma): Todas las cuadrillas han estado trabajando turnos de ocho horas. Hubo una queja de que faltaban horas en sus talones de pago. Estamos haciendo seguimiento a estos problemas. Recientemente nos informaron de una cuadrilla de 3 personas que fue despedida por causar daños a una puerta eléctrica. Esta era una primera infracción. Estamos estudiando este asunto actualmente, ya que no estamos de acuerdo con las medidas adoptadas por la Compañía. ¡Se espera más información!

Core Tree Care (Condado de Napa): Las cuadrillas han estado trabajando 10 horas divididos en turnos de lunes a jueves, y martes a viernes, y actualmente nadie trabaja horas extraordinarias. Estamos investigando un problema en torno a que la compañía no está entregando teléfonos de la compañía. Una cuadrilla de tres personas fue disciplinada por varias infracciones de seguridad, que resultó en una suspensión de cinco días. Como resultado de esta suspensión, un miembro de la cuadrilla hizo un comentario amenazador a otros dos empleados, lo que llevó a su despido por violación de la política de la compañía en torno a su política de violencia en el lugar de trabajo. Actualmente estamos investigando este incidente. También tuvimos un problema con un Capataz General que denunció a un miembro por no llamar a tiempo para informar su ausencia. La regla es que se debe avisar al

menos una hora antes de su turno programado cuando no se puede asistir por enfermedad. La asistencia a las reuniones sindicales ha estado mejorando cada mes.

DRG (VMI): La compañía nos contactó por un asunto con un miembro de una cuadrilla en la División Silverado, en relación con el rastreo por GPS de vehículos y las horas del miembro mientras estaba en el trabajo. Todos los miembros de cuadrillas han sido instruidos para que no regresen a casa durante el día, y todos los vehículos de la Compañía están equipados con dispositivos GPS. Un miembro no siguió esas instrucciones y fue suspendido. Tras la revisión de los datos GPS del vehículo con el sindicato y el miembro, la medida disciplinaria fue confirmada. Es importante que todos sepan que el GPS no miente sobre el paradero del vehículo de la compañía o de los dispositivos móviles entregados por la compañía. En ese grupo de trabajo, todos los trabajadores suelen trabajar solos, y los datos de GPS se utilizan principalmente por motivos de seguridad para localizar a los trabajadores si no aparecen donde se supone que deben estar, o en caso de que necesiten asistencia. Sin embargo, también puede conducir a problemas si el vehículo o el equipo se encuentran en un lugar donde no deberían estar. Tengan esto en cuenta, ya que la información proporcionada por estos dispositivos es difícil de impugnar. Todos necesitamos comunicarnos con nuestros supervisores. Lleven un registro de sus actividades de trabajo y de todas sus horas trabajadas. Estas se revisan minuciosamente.

El Condado de Sonoma estaba preocupado por sus cuadrillas itinerantes en relación con el alojamiento por días no trabajados, ya que todas las cuadrillas en North Bay son trabajadores que vienen de otros lugares. Nos reunimos con la compañía y nos explicaron que tenían la intención de cumplir con el acuerdo y cubrir los costos de alojamiento, si las cuadrillas estaban trabajando. El acuerdo es claro y aborda el alojamiento razonable y la subsistencia aplicable que se debe pagar por los días trabajados. Los fines de semana ya no serían parte del paquete, ya que PG&E ya ha comenzado a no pagar por los días no trabajados, y no reembolsará a los empleadores por esos días. En una reunión de seguimiento con la compañía, hicieron la pregunta sobre el cambio de residencia de un empleado (que siempre es prerrogativa del empleado, pero no tenemos la intención de convertirlo en un requisito), pero el contrato es claro en que se requiere que la compañía brinde un alojamiento razonable si el empleado trabaja a más de 50 millas de su residencia. La asistencia a las reuniones sindicales ha sido robusta en el Condado de Sonoma.

Mario's Tree Service (Condados de Solano/Yolo): Todas las cuadrillas han estado trabajando turnos de ocho horas. La compañía comenzó los despidos cuando PG&E anunció que no iba a pagar por el tercer hombre en una

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Jose Jimenez, (right) and Prospero Salazar pull trees.

Photo by John Storey

Árboles, from page 31

cuadrilla de trepadores. La compañía también intentó obligar a los empleados a cambiarse a VM Tree Service, una compañía hermana, para eludir la cláusula de antigüedad del acuerdo. Debido a los despidos y a no cumplir con la cláusula de antigüedad del acuerdo, el sindicato se vio obligado a presentar una queja a nivel de todo el sistema.

Mowbray's Tree Service (East Bay y Península): Todos han estado trabajando turnos de diez horas en East Bay y Península. La compañía envió a un grupo selecto de miembros a una capacitación en Visalia, sin ninguna explicación sobre por qué no se ofreció esta capacitación a todos. La compañía estuvo suspendida por la empresa de servicios públicos durante varios días, y todas las operaciones de Mowbray en las instalaciones PG&E se detuvieron. Al momento de preparar este informe, tenemos muy pocos detalles en cuanto a por qué. Hemos seguido presionando a la compañía sobre los problemas de ascensos de clasificación, ya que no están ascendiendo a los trabajadores según el acuerdo, y parece ser un prob-

lema continuo. Tenemos una queja de despido injustificado que está programada para el próximo comité de resolución de quejas, que debe ser pronto. La asistencia sindical ha sido baja en East Bay, pero robusta en Península.

ACRT (Golden Gate y South Bay VMI): Tuvimos varios problemas de cumplimiento relacionados con que no todos los árboles que se discutieron con la compañía están listados. Todos tienen que asegurarse de que los árboles se listan correctamente y según se requiere. Tomen notas de sus actividades, ya que todos sabemos que se está usando el GPS de los vehículos y se puede revisar en cualquier momento. En cuanto a los turnos de 10 horas, hemos mantenido varias conversaciones con RR. HH. sobre el cambio de las horas de trabajo. El problema principal se refiere a tener presencia de la gerencia, así como a la aprobación de la empresa de servicios públicos.

Davey Tree (Divisiones De Anza y Mision): Anteriormente, habíamos informado que la compañía había hecho un cambio en la nómina y ahora era totalmente electrónica y utilizan depósito directo, sin proporcionar copias impresas de los talones de pago.

Muchos empleados no entendieron lo que estaba ocurriendo con el cambio, y hemos estado trabajando con la compañía y su equipo de RR. HH. para obtener todos los talones de pago de principios de año proporcionados a los empleados, enviar por correo postal sus talones de pago a los que lo deseen, y electrónicamente a los que así lo prefieran. RR. HH. también nos proporcionó una copia de la lista utilizada para optar por no participar en la versión electrónica. Seguimos teniendo problemas con el pago regular del viático diario y estamos trabajando con la gerencia para corregir esto.

Tenemos una queja activa para un miembro que fue obligado a trabajar fuera de la ciudad cuando nunca debería haber sido obligado a ir, de conformidad con el acuerdo, hasta que todos los demás hubieran sido enviados. Esto se convirtió en un problema cuando el miembro informó a su Capataz General que se quedaba en su puesto y que no lo iban a enviar fuera de la ciudad de nuevo, y posteriormente fue despedido. Este caso está programado para ser presentado en el próximo comité de resolución de quejas (GRC). Todas las cuadrillas han estado

trabajando días de ocho horas y la asistencia a las reuniones ha sido buena en ambas zonas.

Rapid Response (División de San Jose): Todas las cuadrillas han estado trabajando turnos de 10 horas. Nos preocupa que no se está ascendiendo de clasificación a las personas en el campo, y vamos a abordar estas preocupaciones de conformidad con el acuerdo. La reposición del equipo sigue siendo un tema de debate, siendo una preocupación clave las reclamaciones por el uso de sillas caducadas. Las reuniones sindicales han tenido buena asistencia

Wright Tree Service (Península y East Bay – Transmisión): Todas las cuadrillas han continuado trabajando un horario de 4-10, de lunes a jueves, con tres días libres consecutivos. La asistencia a reuniones sindicales ha repuntado en Península.

— Junior Ornelas, IBEW 1245
Representate de Negocios

Zona Central Este

Este último trimestre ha estado bastante ocupado, con un montón de llamadas de nuestros miembros, especial-
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Trees, from page 30

Crews are working 5-8s with some crews in the hills working 5-10s or more.

Contractors on both sides have either had or are installing cameras in their company vehicles, which has created some challenges. It appears, based on what I'm being told, that companies use these cameras for more than just safety, as there have been disciplinary actions as a result of the footage. Many members feel uncomfortable with the cameras and their usage.

TSU continues to work its normal 40 hours weekly; crews are in good spirit, not too many issues have come up. The communication between employees and GFs/managers has been great so far. Unit meeting attendance has been strong and continues to grow. One of the TSU members had the idea of making our tree safety team part of our union contract, and a motion was made to make all non-union safety employees union and covered under the bargaining agreement.

All the prime contractors continue to incorporate subs into their specific areas. These subs have been a challenge in a few areas. Most of the subs felt the effects of PG&E's decision to remove both the three-man rule as well as the billing for hotels. Smaller contractors are unable to survive with the added unbillable cost and lower rates.

Overall, our contractors and members have shown they are able to adapt and adjust to the ever-changing industry. In the Central East, our IBEW 1245 members have their eyes set on the future, with more opportunities for people who have not benefited from the blessing it is to be part of the biggest local across the country, IBEW 1245. Our members have motioned to make all General Foremen in the tree industry union, in addition to the motion to make

all nonunion safety members union. Our Line Clearance Tree Trimmers have grown to more than just your traditional climber. Our Line Clearance members have advanced to a higher level over the years with the advantage of powerful and precise machinery, and they are now changing the industry in California. With the usage of Jiraffes, Sennebogens, Fallbach etc. our operators have set themselves apart from the rest. The tremendous risk associated with the removal of most trees around powerlines is more than enough reason to set themselves on a scale of their own. Last but not least, mechanics in the tree industry are vital to our success, and our tree members know this, so a motion was made to make all mechanics in the tree field, union.

— Francisco Ferreyra,
IBEW 1245 Business Rep

Southern Area

This past quarter has been nonstop with calls from members, tree contractors and VMI contractors. We are getting many questions about the Contract negotiations that are coming up, and I am explaining that any raise is tied to the wage rates of the line construction agreement, and that our Senior Assistant Business Manager, Ralph Armstrong and our Business Manager Bob Dean are working hard to get them the best deal possible for our members.

Armstrong and Senior Advisor Eileen Purcell came to the Watsonville Unit meeting. Armstrong explained what he and Business Manager Bob Dean were negotiating with all the contractors, and that it depended on what the outside line contract contains to establish the minimum. The VMI members are new to the Union and are asking many questions about the agreement and benefits. Given that there are two agreements, (one with benefits and one with the in-

lieu option) we have a lot of explaining and educating to do. They are a smart group and ask a lot of good questions.

Davey Tree: I am grieving a termination on behalf of a member, and expect a meeting with them soon to discuss and resolve this matter. Davey employees are complaining about their pay stubs and wages not being right. This will also be addressed in our Labor management meeting.

Arborworks: I have met with their management team to resolve some issues. They have had two harassment terminations within two months. They are taking these incidents very seriously and are standing strong in their position that this conduct by any employee will not be tolerated. They have been very supportive in giving their safety stewards time off to attend our KTC Safety Summit and KTC Safety video filming.

Mario's Tree Service: Working 10-hour days Monday thru Friday, voluntary Saturdays. I met with the area manager to discuss progressions and back pay issues, and they have been good at fixing the issues. They have been hiring lots of new employees, seeing lots of new faces. We are having some issues with employees that were laid off and have requested an employee list of all people affected. They have been slow on our request for all employee list, classifications, and rate of pay. We are scheduling a labor management meeting.

Community Tree: The company has reached out to me for help with hiring qualified tree trimmers, particularly people that have Class B licenses. I have told them that our new JATC certification program is working on ways to reimburse members on the successful completion of certified school program for a Class A, and I provided them with Daniel Kallai's contact information at the JATC.



Juventino Hernandez trims a tree.

Photo by John Storey

National Waste Management: Performing EVM work in the Fresno Division, working 6/10-hour days. The company has reached out to me for help as they need to hire qualified tree trimmers. These members are starting to come to my Fresno Unit meeting. Covid issues continue.

We have lots of exciting times ahead of us. I am looking forward to the challenges and appreciate the help that our leaders, Ralph, Eileen, and Bob Dean, are providing our team.

— Abel Sanchez,
IBEW 1245 Business Rep

April – June 2022

Árboles, from page 32

mente nuestro grupo VMI. Muchas de nuestras cuadrillas trabajaron bastantes horas extras, sin embargo, el volumen de trabajo se redujo y ahora está aumentando de nuevo. Ha aumentado la asistencia a las reuniones de la unidad pues nuestros miembros quieren estar más involucrados con el sindicato y entender mejor lo que es ser miembro de IBEW. Muchos de nuestros miembros han mostrado interés en convertirse en delegados sindicales y delegados de seguridad. Nuestros miembros están reconociendo que su voz tiene el poder y el potencial para marcar la diferencia.

Mountain Fire Enterprise continúa siendo líder en llamadas y quejas para la zona Central Este. Muchos de nuestros miembros en varios condados han informado tener problemas con Capataces Generales y gerentes en relación con discriminación, favoritismo e intimidación. Estos temas se han abordado y siguen abordándose hoy en día, ya que la alta gerencia está trabajando diligentemente con el 1245 para solucionar estos problemas. Me parece que el problema reside principalmente en los gerentes en el campo, así como en una o dos personas de rangos más altos. Los miembros de nuestro grupo MFE han asistido a reuniones de la unidad del 1245 con visiones de un futuro mejor. Los miembros del MFE han presentado mociones en nuestras reuniones de la unidad y están creando peticiones para posiciones y clasificaciones. MFE está trabajando 40 horas en algunas zonas, sin embargo el trabajo está volviendo a aumentar, y parece que habrá más horas extra a la vuelta de la esquina.

Nuestro grupo VMI ha estado ansioso por aprender más sobre lo que significa ser miembro de IBEW. He recibido una serie de llamadas sobre cómo pueden obtener más conocimiento y comprensión de lo que es ser miembro del 1245. He designado muchos delegados sindicales en mi zona lo cual ha funcionado muy bien. Nuestro grupo VMI tiene un profundo conocimiento de la gestión de la vegetación; sin embargo, ser miembro de un sindicato es nuevo para muchos de ellos, pero esto ha estado cambiando rápidamente. Nuestros miembros VMI del 1245 son un grupo altamente educado, consultan su contrato, y no tienen miedo de hacer preguntas si no entienden el texto del acuerdo. A principios de año, los trabajos de EVM estaba en plena vigencia, pero de repente el trabajo se detuvo, lo que llevó a una reducción de la fuerza laboral en algunas zonas, y muchos de nuestros miembros se vieron afectados. Nuestras quejas con el grupo VMI han sido rápidas, con comunicaciones de alto nivel tanto con los miembros como con nuestro equipo de gerencia VMI.

Mario's Tree Service ha sido un reto este trimestre. El proceso de nuestras quejas ha sido lento, ya que seguimos luchando contra despidos injustificados en toda la compañía. Mario's Tree Service fue el primero en liderar los despidos, ya que la regla de los tres hombres fue anulada para todos los trabajos que requieren trepar árboles. Con el

aumento del trabajo, nuevamente esperamos que se abran las puertas para que nuestros miembros vuelvan a trabajar. Las reuniones de la unidad con Mario's han sido excelentes, y los miembros están deseosos de participar más en el sindicato. Designé dos nuevos delegados sindicales y tengo planes para añadir algunos más. Las cuadrillas están trabajando 5-8 con algunas cuadrillas en las colinas trabajando 5-10 o más.

Los contratistas de ambos lados han instalado o están instalando cámaras en los vehículos de sus compañías, lo que ha creado algunos retos. Según lo que se me ha dicho, parece que las compañías utilizan estas cámaras para algo más que para la seguridad, ya que ha habido medidas disciplinarias como resultado de las grabaciones. Muchos miembros se sienten incómodos con las cámaras y su uso.

TSU sigue trabajando sus 40 horas semanales normales; las cuadrillas están de buen ánimo, no han surgido muchos problemas. La comunicación entre los empleados y Capataces Generales/gerentes ha sido excelente hasta ahora. La asistencia a las reuniones de la unidad ha sido robusta y continúa creciendo. A uno de los miembros de TSU se le ocurrió que nuestro equipo de seguridad de árboles formara parte de nuestro contrato sindical, y se presentó una moción para que todos los miembros de seguridad no sindicalizados se unieran al sindicato y formaran parte del acuerdo de negociación.

Todos los contratistas principales siguen incorporando subcontratistas en sus zonas específicas. Estos subcontratistas han sido un desafío en algunas zonas. La mayoría de los subcontratistas sufrieron los efectos de la decisión de PG&E de eliminar tanto la regla de los tres hombres como la facturación por uso de hoteles. Los contratistas más pequeños no pueden sobrevivir con el costo adicional que no pueden facturar y con tarifas más bajas.

En general, nuestros contratistas y miembros han demostrado que son capaces de adaptarse y ajustarse a una industria en constante cambio. En el Centro Este, nuestros miembros de IBEW 1245 tienen la mirada puesta en el futuro, con más oportunidades para las personas que no se han beneficiado de la bendición que significa formar parte del mayor local sindical en todo el país, IBEW 1245. Nuestros miembros han presentado una moción para que todos los Capataces Generales en la industria de árboles se sindicalicen, además de una moción para sindicalizar a todos los miembros de seguridad que no pertenecen al sindicato. Nuestros podadores de árboles para el despeje de líneas han crecido a ser algo más que un escalador tradicional. Nuestros miembros de despeje de líneas han avanzado a niveles más altos a través de los años con la ventaja de una maquinaria potente y precisa, y ahora están cambiando la industria en California. Con el uso de Jiraffes, Sennebogens, Fallbach, etc., nuestros operadores se distinguen del resto, tener en cuenta el enorme riesgo asociado con la remoción de la mayoría de los árboles alrededor de las líneas eléctricas es más que suficiente

razón para establecerse en una escala propia. Por último, pero no menos importante, los mecánicos en la industria de los árboles son vitales para nuestro éxito, y nuestros miembros podadores de árboles lo saben, así que se presentó una moción para sindicalizar a todos los mecánicos en la industria de la poda de árboles.

— Francisco Ferreyra, IBEW 1245
Representante de Negocios

Zona Sur

Este último trimestre hemos recibido sin parar llamadas de miembros, contratistas de árboles y contratistas de VMI. Estamos recibiendo muchas preguntas acerca de las negociaciones del Acuerdo de Contrato que están por venir, y he estado explicando que cualquier aumento está vinculado a las tasas salariales prevaecientes en el acuerdo de construcción de líneas eléctricas, y que nuestro Gerente Asistente de Negocios Senior, Ralph Armstrong, y nuestro Gerente de Negocios, Bob Dean, está trabajando arduamente para lograr que sea el mejor acuerdo posible para nuestros miembros.

Armstrong y la Asesora Principal Eileen Purcell asistieron a mi reunión de la Unidad en Watsonville. Armstrong explicó lo que él y el Gerente de Negocios Bob Dean estaban negociando con todos los contratistas, y el mínimo salario dependerá de lo que contenga el contrato externo de líneas eléctricas. Los miembros VMI son nuevos en el Sindicato y están haciendo muchas preguntas sobre el acuerdo de contrato y los beneficios. Dado que hay dos acuerdos (uno con beneficios y otro con la opción “en lugar de beneficios”), tenemos que dar muchas explicaciones y educar a nuestros miembros en este tema. Son un grupo inteligente y hacen muchas buenas preguntas.

Davey Tree: Estoy presentando una queja de despido a nombre de un miembro, y espero tener una reunión con ellos pronto para discutir y resolver este asunto. Los empleados de Davey se están quejando de que sus talones de pago y sus salarios no están correctos. Esto también se abordará en nuestra reunión del sindicato y la gerencia.

Arborworks: Me he reunido con su equipo de gerencia para resolver algunos problemas. Han tenido dos

despidos por acoso en el plazo de dos meses. Están tomando estos incidentes muy en serio y se mantienen firmes en su posición de que esta conducta en cualquier empleado no será tolerada. Han sido muy colaboradores al dar a sus delegados de seguridad tiempo libre para asistir a nuestra Cumbre de Seguridad de KTC y a la grabación de video de Seguridad de KTC.

Mario's Tree Service: Están trabajando días de 10 horas de lunes a viernes, sábados voluntarios. Me reuní con el gerente de la zona para discutir los ascensos de clasificación y problemas de pagos retrasados, y han logrado arreglar los problemas. Han estado contratando a muchos empleados nuevos, estamos viendo muchas caras nuevas. Estamos teniendo algunos problemas con los empleados que fueron despedidos y hemos solicitado una lista de empleados de todas las personas afectadas. Han sido lentos para responder a nuestra petición de toda la lista de empleados, clasificaciones, y tarifas de pago. Estamos programando una reunión del sindicato y la gerencia.

Community Tree: La compañía se comunicó conmigo para obtener ayuda con la contratación de podadores de árboles cualificados, específicamente personas con licencias Clase B. Les he dicho que nuestro nuevo programa de certificación JATC está trabajando para lograr reembolsar a los miembros al finalizar exitosamente el programa de certificación para obtener una licencia Clase A, y les proporcioné la información de contacto de Daniel Kallai en el JATC.

National Waste Management: Están ejecutando trabajos de EVM en la División Fresno, trabajando 6 días de 10 horas. La compañía se comunicó conmigo para obtener ayuda ya que necesitan contratar podadores de árboles cualificados. Estos miembros están comenzando a asistir a mi reunión de la Unidad en Fresno. Los problemas de COVID continúan.

Nos esperan muchos momentos emocionantes en el futuro. Espero con interés los desafíos y aprecio la ayuda que Ralph, Eileen y Bob Dean están brindando a nuestro equipo.

— Abel Sanchez, IBEW 1245
Representante de Negocios



Prospero Salazar pulls tree branches.

Photo by John Storey



SERVICE AWARDS

East Bay January 28, 2022



50 Years From left: Business Rep. Mike Saner, David Vieira and Business Manager Bob Dean
Photos by John Storey



15 Years
From left:
Laura
Martinez
with (Dean)



35 Years From left: Kyle Clemons with Business Rep. Jody Castro



20 Years From left: Philip Carlton with (Dean)



5 Years From left: David Trigueros with (Dean)



25 Years Front row, from left: Thomas Blum, Randy Ordonez and Peter Ancheta. Back row, from left: Lington Gordon Sr. and (Dean)

Congratulations on your service!



10 Years Front row, from left: Robert Krieger, Dylan Turner and Tyrone Rowe. Back row Business Rep. JV Macor and (Dean)

HONOREES

55 years

Fischer, Donald

50 years

Figueroa, Avelino
Rease, Layton
Thompson, Dennis
Vieira, David

45 years

Dialogo, Saniata
Hansen, Wyatt
Hurtado, Antonio Jr.
Stovall, Percy
Waterhouse, Philip

40 years

Bowers, Michael
Ratto, Larry

35 years

Almacen, Vincent
Baker, Mathew
Clemons, Kyle
Collins, Lisa
Cullins, Raymond
Fox, Thomas
Galvin, Mary
Grahman, Stephen
Guruwaya, Joseph
Hagler, Lenoris
Jenkins, Lorraine
Knowlton, John
Nash, Darren
Palladino, Mike
Pavana, Philip
Tamblyn, Andrea
Tsang, Daniel
Vancil, Kane

30 years

Arroyo, Jaime
Brewer, George
Cain, Moses
Cox, Michael
Creer, Kyle
Creer, Sharon
Cross, Andrew
Culbreath, Heath
Dominguez, Joseph

Fernandez, Fred
Flores, David
Freeman, Kellie
Griffin, Charlene
Gutierrez, Felix
Hadley, Quinten
Hansen, Robert
Ironside, Chalice
Lujan, Raymond
Matabang, Josefina
Morales, Fernando
Pacheco, Ronald
Peeters, Sheldon
Rodriguez, Alfonso Jr.
Sanchez, Eugene
Santini, Lindsey
Snyder, Douglas
Thomas, Philip
Thomas, Tim
Ulloa, Saul
Valencia, Edward
Villalobos, Karen
Williams, Zanya

25 years

Aars, Rick
Adams, Sharon
Ancheta, Peter
Augustin, Mark II
Blum, Thomas
Breda, Joseph
Brown, Lauren
Bura, Julius
Edman, Eileen
Fabrique, Jim
Garcia, Arturo
Gordon, Lington Sr.
Griffith, Frank
Hartman, Thomas
Hernandez, Ruben
Jackson, Tilton II
Jackson, Cheryl
Kovacs, Anthony
Lafon, Anthony
Long, Andre
Luboviski, Milton
Madera, Jesse
Madura, Danielle
Mayer, Gene
McCullough, Patrick

Miles, Anthony
Montano, Simon
Obenchain, John
O'Connor, Kevin
Olson, Scott
Ordonez, Randy
Overen, Christopher
Payne, Steven Jr.
Perkins, Terri
Perry, Richard Jr.
Rose, Leslie
Sherman, Mike
Silva, Brian
Smith, Shalona
Solano, Guillermo Sr.
Vallejo, David
Washington, Jessie

20 years

Ahranjani, Jeffrey
Antoine, Carlo
Apacible, Francis
Aung, Maung
Banares, Jose
Bax, David
Brown, Anthony
Campbell, Justin
Carlton, Philip
Castro, Vincent
Cherry, Monique
Clavelle-Freeman, Rosie
Cook, Laura
Cornell, Jared
Costa, Frank
Darby, Andrew
Desrosier, Aaron
Diaz, Jorge
Dongallo, Anthony
Erbe, Michael
Fernandes, Danielle
Garcia, David
Garrett, Damon
Gilmer, Anthony
Goldston, Jeffery
Goldston, Joe
Goree, Victor
Green, Aaron
Helms, Charles
King, Pamela

Klotchman, Wayne
Kuo, John
Lee, Antonio
Liljedahl, Chad
Lo, Louis
Logwood, Harold Jr.
Lucas, Patrick
Marty, Henry
McCarty, Kenneth
Mombeni, Siamak
Munoz, Fermin Jr.
Mutulo, Dennis
Nalam, Vince
Nuno, Jose
Palominos-Contreras, Miguel Sr.
Perkins, Christopher
Peterson, Krista
Pollard, Aaron
Poulsen, Scott
Ramirez, Miguel
Reyes, Ramiro
Rodriguez, Abraham
Rodriguez, Norma
Rosas, Tommy
Salminen, Eric
Santos, Rocky
Saruwatari, Thomas
Shiver, Gary
Silva, James
Silva, Robert
Smith, Nathan
Souza, Steven
Steeley, Heather
Tamayo, Wilfredo
Trujillo, Jacob
Twarowski, Chris
Unsworth, George
Vasquez, Alberto
Vignola, Gary
West, Carl
Whitney, Dwight
Zamora, Anthony

15 years

Ama, Mario
Ayres, Martin
Beauclair, Dane
Bluford, Brian
Cleaver, Steven
Comages, Kory
Compton, Jamar
Cook, Rodney Sr.
Coy, Juan

Daw, Jeffrey
Dimaggio, Brenda
Dizon, Don
Duran, Jherrie
Elacio, Eric
Gerhardt-Thompson, Jeffrey
Hart, Jessica
Hill, Robert
Hughes, Victor
Hunt, Ryan
Johnson, Tayari
Kasparian, Jacob
Kennedy, Simeon
Knackstedt, Elizabeth
Laffond, Darren
Laxamana, Melissa
Leitz, Frederick
Macaluso, Charles
Maranan, Marlo
Martinez, Laura
Marwick, Gregory
Mays, Michael
McKenzie-Borge, Elina
Meza, Stephen
Morfin, Orlando
Nguyen, Khang
Ojo, Justice
Ortiz, Joseph
Pitner, David
Prasad, Narash
Price, Mercury
Pryor, Ranald
Rak, Jacek
Rebollar, David
Reyes, Cristino
Rojas, Jose
Roldan, Virgilio
Rubio, Robert
Sandoval, Mitchell
Shaikh, Nuria
Silvas, David
Small, Stephen
Sornia, Jorge
Staffelbach, Cole
Stringfellow, Joseph
Studebaker, Noah
Sutherland, Michael
Tafaoa, Salilomanatu
Taylor, Richard
Thach, Minduc
To, Darren
Trompas, Von
Turner, Maria

Ursini, Daniel
Valdez, Darrell
Valdez, Oscar
Valdez, Ricardo
Villa, Stephen
Viray, Angelito
Welter, Mark
West, David
West, Gregory
Wiltz, Angel
Wong, Randall
Zhao, Wenjie

10 years

Abundis, Joel
Albuquerque, Diogo
Andrade, Tony
Arreola, Oliver
Arriaga Jaquez, Jose
Belarde, Troy
Belcsak, Alexander
Boyd, Steven
Boyd, Tannis
Branch, Jason
Bricker, James
Carpenter, Steven
Castro, Carlos Jr.
Chan, Anthony
Cristo, Cecilia
Davis, Matthew
Davis, Michael
Dean, Michael
Delmundo, Benjamin
Dunham, Chris
Dunn, Angela
Faupula, Elias
Felipe, Arthur
Fenton, Laura
Forige, Michael Jr.
Fregulia, Thomas
Gamez, Jose
Garcia, Jesus Sr.
Gates, Zachary
Gehrt, Constance
Geneza, Katrina
Gonzales, Christina
Gonzales, Joseph
Guzman, Roque
Hamrick, Cory
Harris, Daneal Jr.
Hindsman, Roland
Howard, Rahsaan
Jimenez, Beracho
Johnson, Hulen Jr.

Katric, Ryan
Krieger, Robert
Lizarraga, Arnaldo
Ljuba, Robert
Lopez, Rigoberto Sr.
Lynch, Darryl
McDaniel, Aron
Morgan, Breanna
Musielak, Blake
Neufeld, Derek
Newman, Jeremiah
Olsen, Tyler
Osivwemu, Jonathan
Patterson, Wilford
Pena, Mitchell
Perales-Alcazar, Dena
Perez, Jesus
Perez, Mario
Portis, Robert
Quintanilla, Santos
Ramirez, Alfredo
Rash, Pernell
Reddicks-Luckett, Dolores
Resuleo, Edwin
Revelo, Jose Jr.
Rodriguez, Ryan
Roth, James
Rowe, Tyrone
Santos, Michael
Shaw, Toniqua
Sheets, Matthew
Sizemore, Devron
Slavik, Brian
Soares, Daniel
Stancil, Prophet
Stephens, Michael Sr.
Steve, Dante
Stimac, Dennis
Stout, Michael
Torres-Delgado, Ashley
Tran, Johnny
Tran, Phuong
Turner, Dylan
Voong, Cong
Walton, Dwight
Waples, William Jr.
West, Michael
Wright, Anthony Jr.
Wright, Ivory
Wright, Leroy
Yanez, Angelico
Zamora, Jesus
Zighera, Eric

Zuniga, Gary
5 years
Agbabiaka, Risi
Aguilera Perez, Rafael
De Jesus
Alegre, Christopher
Allen, Kaireece
Andrade, Felix
Augustin, Joseph
Ayyad, Rami
Backens, Nicholas
Bankston, Charles III
Barron-Carrillo, Adolfo
Bautista, Raymond
Berg, Kyle
Bone, Kyle
Bosworth, Marcus
Bravo, Julian
Campbell, Collin
Cannon, Jeffrey
Cesario, Don
Chang, Hannah
Chavez Medina, Victor
Childs-Crayton, Latia
Cisneros, Ofelia
Cole, Richard
Coronel, Javier
Coronel, Manuel
Dalmacio, Dean
Davis, Rhoda
Dixon, Luke
Drake, Matthew
Duenas, Abel Jr.
Duncan, Jeffrey
Farmer, Charles Jr.
Friend, David
Garcia, Jose
Garcia, Pedro
Gonzalez, Erick
Gonzalez, Ricardo
Gonzalez-Zaragoza, Juan
Gross, Jeremiah Lee
Harrison, Darcell Jr.
Henderson, Sheldon
Hernandez, Jorge
Hrepcshak, Charles
Hung, David
Jackson, Christopher
Jackson, Durrel
Khan, Muhammad
Khounsamnane, Vilaysack

Kukkonen, Michael Sr.
Kutchera, Mike Jr.
Lannoo, Joseph
Latchman, Francis
Leahy, Colm
Leblanc, James Jr.
Lees, Robert
Lewis, Michael
Liu, Wayne
Lonis, Julian
Magbitang, Antonio
Marion, Jordan
Martinez, Jacob
Medina, Sergio
Melgoza, Jose
Moreno, Alexandro
Mori, Enzo
Moses, Kimberly
Murry, Dawn
Ontiveros-Lara, Sergio
Ortega, Francisco Jr.
Ortega, Marcelo
Padilla, Pablo
Peluso, Michael
Perez, Osvaldo
Peterson, Lisa
Ramos, Carlos
Reynolds, Isaiah
Rivas, Enrique
Rocha, Orlando
Rodrigues, Quinn
Salas Mata, Patricio
Sigua, Abrealynn
Silva, Tony
Sires, Kevin
Smith, Alfreda
Smith, Greg
Smith, Greg
Temores, Jason
Tennies, Steven
Trigueros, David
Tuck, Christopher
Vergara, David
Wagner, John
Watson, Jeremiah
Wheeler, Stella
Wilson, Randolph Jr.
Ybarra, Jennifer
Young, Tyler
Zahn, Tyler
Zelaya, Kaela



SERVICE AWARDS

Merced

February 11, 2022



20 Years Front row, from left: Brian Turpin and Michael Medinas. Back row, from left: Lee Wilson and (Dean)



10 Years Front row, from left: Edward Martinez, Greg Tritthart and Nathan Dutra. Back row, from left: Antonio Cardenas and Jeffrey Swanson



5 Years From left: Gary Bothun, Caden Williams and Mark Fillebrown



25 Years From left: (Dean), Business Rep Sheila Lawton and Jerrid Fletcher



30 Years From left: Business Rep Ryan Skelton, Frank Vierra and Business Manager Bob Dean

Congratulations on your service!



15 Years Front row, from left: Darren Driscoll, Enoch Green and Joshua Turner. Back row, from left: Jose Sigala, William Veyl, Lamonte Tumbling and (Dean)

Photos by John Storey

HONOREES

45 years

Urena, Jose
Wheeler, Brian

25 years

Castaneda, Raudel
Fletcher, Jerrid
Gonzalez, Jesus
Hirtzel, Joshua
Horal, Warren
Vierra, Frank
Whatley, Cleve II

20 years

Berlanga, Domingue
Luquin, Ramon Jr.

Medinas, Michael
Morales, Higinio
Parker, Marie
Ramsey, Ryan
Turpin, Brian
Williams, Joseph
Wilson, Lee

15 years

Accardo, Anthony
Arnold, Eric
Cacabelos, Ronnie Jr.
Casillas, Frank
Dismuke, William
Driscoll, Darren
Evans, Aaron

Gauthier, Joshua
Green, Enoch
Guzman, Artemisa
Heberline, Joseph
Letuligasenoa, Faava
McDonald, Josh
Perez, Edward
Regert, David
Sanchez, Robbie
Sigala, Jose
Simon, Kenneth
Strickland, Wes
Szuggar, Brian
Tate, Christopher
Tumbling, Lamonte
Turner, Joshua

Veyl, William
Walker, Brian
Zumstein, Chad

10 years

Arvizu-Olvera, Juan
Bray, John
Cardenas, Antonio
Dutra, Bill Jr.
Garcia, Aaron
Gomez, Samantha
Jimenez, Angelina
Martinez, Edward
Martinez, Ronnie
Rosales, Francisco
Rushing, Jacob
Saechao, Cheng
Spinelli, Kirk
Swanson, Jeffrey
Tritthart, Greg

Wynn, Anthony
Yepez-Oregel, Pedro

5 years

Betancourt, Dominick
Bothun, Gary
Calderon, Fernando
Calderon, Fortino
Cortez, Salvador Jr.
Dockendorf, Steven
Fillebrown, Mark
Flores, Jose
Ford, Mark
Glovier, Jonathon
Guzman, Miguel
Hein, Jared
Ibarra, Lorenzo
Larios-Munez, Uriel
Lopez, Rafael
Lynch, Lucas

Marcus, Christopher
McNally, Michael
Munoz, Christopher
Munoz-Ramirez, Valentin
Perez, Leonard III
Prado Gamboa, Beatriz
Revuelta-Prado, Emmanuel
Rios Rubalcaba, Omar
Roberson, Marcus
Rodriguez, Jose Jr.
Schoonhoven, Zachary
Standlee, Bobby
Verduzco Guizar, Hector
Vereschagin, Daniel
Williams, Caden
Young, Michael

HONOREES

60 years

Harkins, Neil Jr.

45 years

Hawk, Robert
Johnson, Richard
Raiford, Jay

35 years

Payne, Ronald
Gracia, Daniel
Kasha, Jeffrey

30 years

Bennett, Jeffrey
Ferguson, Majorie
Klus, Steven

25 years

Buntin, Carlos
Campana, Anthony
Dagenais, Christopher
Davila, Armando

Dickson, Dean
Fletcher, Steven
Francis, William Jr.

Hightower, Trevor
Huckins, Michael
Loya, Mike
Mallard, Brian II
Mills, Daniel
Moore, Ray
Morrow, Brent
Nosker, Dennis
Ortiz, Alfredo

Parker, Craig
Rawlings, William
Spinning, Shane

20 years

Barker, Chris Jr.
Bryan, Russell
Deatherage, Herman
Jr.
Giocomo, Brett

Hager, Jeff
Kessel, William
Leal, Pedro

Rasso, Jesse
Regner, John
Roer, William
Sare, David
Smith, Wayne
Torres, Jorge
Trowbridge, Deborah
Vieyra, Gerardo

15 years

Cruz, Richard
Culp, Derek
Davis, Eric
Eaton, Steven
Hinrikus, James
Kleinbach, Jacob
Koreiva, Stuart
Lorang, Jarod
McCain, James III

McKillop, Scott
Parker, Robert
Perna, Darin
Persefield, Matt
Robertson, Travis
Salcedo, Joe
Sanders, Josiah
Shanks, Christopher
Soto, Alfredo
Stolfus, Kenneth
Tyree, Bobby
West, Dewey

10 years

Bergine, Ryan
Bostrom, Greg
Charlton, Jason
Crafts, Brendan
Craker, Bradley
Cruz, Christopher Sr.
Evans, Gary
Gorman, Todd
Grable, Ken
Hannah, Justin
Hernandez, Gabriel
Hickman, Ira

Kolbly, Kenneth
Kotlarz, Michael
Leanos, Daniel
Marsh, Eric
McGuire, Sean
Montgomery, Joshua
Myint, Tin
Ochoa, Fernando
Ojeda, George
Peelee, Joe
Rocha, Sergio
Roper, David
Ruiz, Jose
Schneider, Del
Solorio, Mario
Solorio, Victor
Talaski, Eric
Taylor, Travis
Thompson, Jeffrey
Tolfree, Edward Jr.
Vancamp, Douglas
Vazquez-Lopez, Ronny
Vazquez, Ruddy
Worrell, Mark

5 years

Ayerdis, Lester
Banda, Pascual
Bones, Donald
Bouchard, Michael Jr.
Braun, Cody
Bravo Reyes, Ubaldo
Camilli, Eric
Cano-Marroquin, Julio
Cantrell, Raymond
Castanon, Juan
Childress, John
Diaz, Nahum
Dillon, Yusef
Drotenko, Aleksey
Felker, Joseph Jr.
Flood, Jared
Flores, Jacinto
Garcia, Marvyn
Gibson, Robert
Goforth, Elijah
Gonzalez, Elder
Gregory, Danny
Guevara, Victor Jr.
Gutierrez, Antonio
Hamner, Brant



SERVICE AWARDS

Out of Area

Harutunyan, Hrach
Hawkins, Richard
Hernandez, Alexi
Hernandez, Andrew
Heyne, Jacob
Hooker-Foy, Chason
House, Eric
Jensen, Charles
Kuns, Craig
Lawson, Richard
Lovelis, Jonathan
Luna, Jose
Malone, Christopher

Murguia, Oscar
Murillo, Miguel
Osmundson, Douglas
Pitre, Adam
Plonski, Lance
Porraz, Frank
Rodgers, William Jr.
Romo-Martin, Jaime
Rowley, Rhonda
Rubash, Mitchell
Salazar, Antonio
Saldivar, Hector
Sanford, John

Silva, Martin
Smith, Brandon
Stevens, Casey
Thompson, Dakota
Torres, Jose
Tovar, Mauro
Trana, Kirt
Trost, Kyle
Tull, Tyler
Vizcaino, Omar
Weiss, Jon
Werner, Ben
Willits, Christopher

“IBEW Has Given Me Everything”

Business Rep Mark McCrea retires from the union

After seven years on staff and 38 years as an IBEW 1245 member, Business Rep Mark McCrea is retiring from the union this spring.

“Mark has been a stalwart union man for nearly four decades. He’s served IBEW 1245 and our members extremely well as a Business Rep, and our union is stronger because of the work that he’s done,” said Business Manager Bob Dean. “Mark, my heartfelt congratulations to you on reaching this momentous milestone. Wishing you many joy-

ful years ahead in retirement.”

Brother McCrea started his career at PG&E in the early 80s fresh out of Napa Junior College. He was initiated into the IBEW in 1983 as a cartman, assisting underground troublemen. He got into the line apprenticeship program shortly thereafter, and journeyed out a few years later. He worked for PG&E as a journeyman lineman, foreman and troubleman out of San Francisco, San Rafael, Petaluma, Healdsburg, Geyersville, St. Helena, and Clear Lake for

more than 30 years. During that time, he also served the union as an IBEW 1245 shop steward, and he sat as a member of what is now known as the EC Committee (back when the company was first developing its original “FACTS” system for documenting, assessing, and writing up work tags).

McCrea joined the staff of IBEW 1245 as a Business Rep in 2015, supporting members at PG&E yards throughout the North Coast area, from Lake County all the way up to Humboldt.

“IBEW has given me everything. My family, my job, the success I’ve had throughout my life. I have absolutely zero complaints, and I’m very appreciative. I’ve been blessed, for sure,” said McCrea. “My fondest memories are the times when I was at the union hall with everybody. I love staff meetings. I loved just being around everybody. It’s a great group. Going to miss all the smiling faces and wonderful friendships. That’s what I’ll miss most.”

McCrea’s Business Rep assignment kept him on the road frequently. In retirement, McCrea is looking forward



Mark McCrea

to spending more time with his wife (who is also retiring) and visiting with his adult children.

“I have kids that are in Texas and Florida. So we’ll be traveling. Not a lot, but when the weather’s cold here, I’ll be in Florida,” McCrea said.

“Mark, our careers have mirrored each other’s. We both went from apprentice to jour-

neyman in the Bay Area, salmon run out, and then working for 1245,” said Senior Assistant Business Manager Bob Gerstle. “I wish you a long and healthy retirement, and I look forward to buying you dinner in El Dorado County.”



In 1987, McCrea participated in the Memorial Beach Pentathlon, known as “The River of No Return,” in Healdsburg. The event included a half-mile swim, 13 mile canoe, quarter mile canoe portage, 10 mile run, and 26 mile bike ride. He’s pictured here with some high school friends that he’s still in touch with.



40th Annual Retirement Seminars – 2022

I.B.E.W. Local 1245 and Gallo Group of Merrill Lynch



The Gallo Group

The collaboration of IBEW and The Gallo Group in 1982 led to a creation of retirement seminars which are open to IBEW, PG&E, Frontier Communications, and SMUD employees age 45+ and those on LTD. Family members or friends that will benefit from this presentation are also welcome

to attend. These seminars are provided to you free of charge, and a meal will be served at each seminar for attendees’ enjoyment. Please contact The Gallo Group of Merrill Lynch in Walnut Creek, CA at 925-945-4838 and ask for Kindy Mann or Trent Larsen if you have any questions.

RSVP:

- Matt Gallo, Kindy Mann, Trent Larsen or Kevin Bryant
- EMAIL: dg.gallogroup@ml.com
- TEXT: 707-205-0715
- PHONE: 925-945-4838
- WEBSITE: www.ibew1245.com/retirementseminars

TOPICS:

- Medical Cost/Medicare
- Optimize Social Security
- Investing for Retirement
- Pre-Retirement Preparations
- Building your Retirement Plan

Fresno

Sat., May 21
9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
Double Tree
2233 Ventura St

Bakersfield

Sat., May 21
1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
Padre Hotel
1702 18th St.

San Luis Obispo

Sat., June 4
9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
Madonna Inn
100 Madonna Rd

Monterey

Sat., June 4
1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
Tarp’s
2999 Monterey
Salinas Hwy

Milpitas

Sat., June 5
1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
Embassy Suites
by Hilton
901 E Calaveras
Blvd.

Sacramento

Sat., June 11
9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
Holiday Inn
300 J St.

Stockton

Sat., June 11
1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Hilton Stockton
2323 Grand Canal
Blvd.



MATT GALLO
Recognized by:



BARRON'S
Financial Advisors
2022



“This informative program has helped many of our members over the years as they think about how to prepare for retirement. We are pleased to offer this service, which is absolutely free to members and their spouses.” — **Bob Dean, IBEW 1245 Business Manager**

Congratulations newly-retired members

The Local 1245 Retirees Club congratulates these recently-retired members of the union. We invite you to participate in a Retiree Club chapter in the East Bay, the North Bay, Merced, Sacramento/Vacaville, Reno/Sparks, Yerington, Carson City and Winnemucca. If you don't have a chapter nearby, call the union at 707-452-2718 and find out how you can help start one!

Andrade, Juanita 33 years Santa Maria, CA	Cuellar, Daniel 38 years Redding, CA	Guterres, David 39 years Vallejo, CA	Lawrence, John 37 years Bay Point, CA	Ong, Kevin 42 years Fremont, CA	Rodriguez, Alfonso Jr. 30 years Concord, CA	Salazar, Angel 19 years Elk Grove, CA	Silva, Scott 40 years Santa Rosa, CA	Tremper, Scott 32 years Nipomo, CA	Warner, Richard 44 years Placerville, CA
Archer, Margaret 35 years Salida, CA	Davis, Cheryl 44 years Oakland, CA	Halvorson, Alton 44 years San Francisco, CA	Lo, Charles 41 years San Francisco, CA	Overen, Christopher 25 years Lafayette, CA	Rupprecht, Dean 18 years San Luis Obispo, CA	Saldivar, Eloy 39 years Yuba City, CA	Simerly, James Jr. 38 years Placerville, CA	Valdez, Stephen 44 years Grover Beach, CA	Washington, Melvin 42 years Vallejo, CA
Arias, Edward 39 years Davis, CA	Dearing, Roger 31 years Elk Grove, CA	Harbert, Bruce 37 years Chico, CA	Lundahl, Thomas 21 years Chico, CA	Palmer, Ted 31 years Roseville, CA	Russell, Brian 34 years Yuba City, CA	Salinas, Ruperto 39 years Bakersfield, CA	Strupp, Joseph Jr. 44 years Roseburg, OR	Velez, Frank 36 years Pacifica, CA	Weist, Toby 30 years Lodi, CA
Barthman, Brian 13 years Eureka, CA	Dickinson, John 38 years Auburn, CA	Harold, Terry 9 years Goodyear, AZ	Mackey, Charles 38 years Paso Robles, CA	Peasley, Larry 26 years Caldwell, ID	Rutherford, Brian 25 years Plumas Lake, CA	San Juan, Jorge 36 years San Bruno, CA	Sullivan, Kenneth 39 years Petaluma, CA	Viray, Arthur 45 years Sacramento, CA	White, Alfred 41 years San Ramon, CA
Beck, Peter 41 years Stockton, CA	Dizney, Jeffrey 37 years Madera, CA	Helzer, Richard Jr. 38 years Tracy, CA	Maier, Ronald 38 years Nevada City, CA	Peeters, Sheldon 30 years Fremont, CA	Ryan, Kevin 37 years Oakdale, CA	Secrease, Sherman 36 years Lemoore, CA	Thomas, Tim 30 years Antioch, CA	Vitigo, Lonnie 49 years Lower Lake, CA	Worley, Daniel 38 years Escalon, CA
Bellar, Daniel 44 years Jamestown, CA	Dullum, Jeffrey 37 years Davis, CA	Hernandez, Daniel 43 years Roseville, CA	Marquez, Tanya 31 years Merced, CA	Peterson, Aric 14 years Fresno, CA		Sickler, John 38 years Vacaville, CA	Torres, Susan 48 years Los Banos, CA		
Binger, Donald 16 years Burney, CA	Fackler, Jeffrey 37 years Bakersfield, CA	James, Steven 28 years Brentwood, CA	Marshall, Yona 34 years Stockton, CA	Peterson, Daniel 27 years Pittsburg, CA					
Block, Charles 15 years Clovis, CA	Ferguson, Marjorie 30 years Topock, AZ	Jarschke, Carl 37 years Watsonville, CA	Martinez, Anthony 48 years Antioch, CA	Polk, Sylvia 28 years Brentwood, CA					
Boyd, Toni 35 years Citrus Heights, CA	Ferri, Leonardo 31 years Nicasio, CA	Johnson, Keith 44 years Princeton, TX	McAfee-Evans, Clara 31 years Oakland, CA	Ramil, Liwayway 42 years Fairfield, CA					
Boykin, Bruce 43 years Vallejo, CA	Fivella, Dennis 42 years Paso Robles, CA	Jones, Steven 44 years Hercules, CA	McCallister, Jeff 26 years Kelseyville, CA	Reed, Kevin 33 years Martinez, CA					
Brodie, Thomas 11 years Chico, CA	Fletcher, Michael 21 years Lincoln, CA	Kane, Mark 12 years Coquille, OR	Mechals, Hugh 37 years Folsom, CA	Reginato, Steve 25 years Mt. Shasta, CA					
Brown, Daniel 17 years Emigrant Gap, CA	Fort, Mark 42 years Tracy, CA	Katsura, John 31 years Fresno, CA	Medlin, Stephen 35 years Yuba City, CA	Reyes, Richard 33 years Templeton, CA					
Brown, David 40 years Berkeley, CA	Fort, Mark 42 years Tracy, CA	Kelley, Gary 49 years Oakland, CA	Myers, Sidney III 43 years Ukiah, CA						
Cabrera, Phyllis 41 years Marina, CA	Fort, Ronald 39 years Manteca, CA	Lachina, Michael 44 years Pleasanton, CA	Nagy, George 37 years Benicia, CA	Richardson, Valencia 41 years Fresno, CA					
Carpenter, Gary 44 years Star, ID	Fox, Thomas 35 years Livermore, CA	Lallian, Balbir 37 years Hayward, CA	Olsen, Marn 42 years Rohnert Park, CA	Rios, Peter 34 years Vacaville, CA					
Carscadden, Todd 37 years Fremont, CA	Garcia, Diane 27 years Fresno, CA	Landeros, Mario 42 years Nipomo, CA	Olson, Paul 41 years Pittsburg, CA	Robbins, Lance 39 years Hanford, CA					
Chu, Agnes 37 years San Francisco, CA	Gazzoli, Linda 42 years Petaluma, CA								
Churchill, Thomas 34 years Redwood City, CA	Gerlach, David 35 years Chico, CA								
Clark, Mark 39 years Cornville, AZ	Givens, Clint 31 years OR House, CA								
Criswell, Richard 36 years Atascadero, CA	Gumataotao, Francisco Jr. 44 years Fairfield, CA								

Congratulations Retirees! We want you to
STAY CONNECTED



to IBEW 1245.

1245 Yerington Retirees Club Supports Mason Valley Fire Dept

Yerington IBEW 1245 Retirees' Club President Tom "T" Bird presented a donation to Mason Valley Fire Department Fire Captain Amy Dodge, to purchase volunteer equipment.



Pictured, from left: IBEW Local 1245 retiree and retired Firefighter Jim Hill, EMS Captain Patrick Watson, Yerington High School exchange student Filip Rajpert, EMS Fire Fighter Ron Durst, MVFD Captain Amy Dodge, MVFD Treasurer Bridget Hill, and Retirees Club President Tom Bird

Utility Reporter

To Elect Lawmakers That Reflect Our Values, We Must Listen

Welcome to Spring, and the start of another election cycle.

Elections are a lot like a sports draft. We won't really know what we've got until they are in the game. If a bad draft choice is made, it is an unhappy situation for the fans — but if a bad choice is made in an election, it can be devastating to our livelihood and our retirement. The freedom to determine our financial security should be foremost in our voting decisions.

As union members, we should not forget the many struggles we have had over the years, or the callousness of those that would leave us financially destitute. The outcome of these battles depended on the ferocity of working people as they defended their right to employment with dignity.

Foremost in the process, we have to know who we are putting into elected office. This applies to every elected office, from the President of the United States right down to local school board races. The battlefield is in our own neighborhood. It is imperative that we each work locally to elect quality representatives for city, county, state and federal positions. By electing those with values reflective of our own, we can make a tremendous difference in the big picture. Every election is important, but the most important decisions are made in our neighborhood.

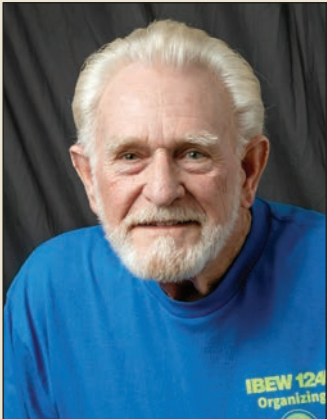
We need to listen to the candidates. Let them tell us what they believe in, and what they intend to do politically. If they talk about providing a public service, what is their idea of a public service? This is where we have to listen carefully. Make them speak it out. Do they genuinely want to improve our lives, or is their true motive something more sinister? We may hear promises to "reduce costs," but here's where close listening matters most, because their plans may include doing it on the backs of workers. We must also be wary of an elected official who will talk the talk, but ends up creating a comfortable environment for non-elected shadow politicians to operate under the radar.

The evidence of the success of anti-worker politicians is reflected in the reduction of the financial security for all workers. Many years ago, a larger percentage of retirees had an income that met their financial needs. But today, for many reasons, the vast majority of retirees do not have true financial security. Over this same period, the incomes of working people has lagged behind inflation, while the wealth of those that hobble workers, has exploded.

Our retirement security is predicated on our income during our working years. An insufficient income will not allow us to save for our retirement. While the gap between the 'haves' and the 'have nots' is growing wider, the true facts illustrate that sufficient wealth exists within our economy to support a living wage and a living pension for all Americans. We cannot allow wealthy elites to glutinously suck up the wealth of the middle class while screaming that a living wage ruins business and that pensions are not sustainable.

We need to pay attention and listen very carefully. If each of us concentrates on the rhetoric within our own neighborhood, we can ensure that we elect those with values similar to ours. How well we prosper throughout our life, the comfort of our retirement years, and the prosperity of our children and grandchildren, depends upon how well we listen.

— Bill Wallace, IBEW 1245 Retirees Club



Bill Wallace



SERVICE AWARDS

Sacramento February 25, 2022



30 Years Front row, from left: Tim Smith and Danny Mercado. Back row, from left: Larry Bussey and (Dean)



25 Years Front row, from left: Tim Cunnane and William Coffey. Back row, from left: (De La Torre), Dan Bruzenak and Julie Lunstend



20 Years Front row, from left: Wendy Johnson, Kellie Patterson and Elisa Stone. Back row, from left: Jason Jurgensen, Rudy Maldonado and Manuel Guzman

Photos by John Storey

*Congratulations
on your service!*



40 Years Front row, from left: Bradford Chambers, Tange Reddit and Danny Boshee. Back row, from left: (De La Torre), Business Manager Bob Dean and Pamela Ramirez



35 Years Front row, from left: David Armstrong and Toni Boyd. Back row, from left: (De La Torre), Barry MacLauchlan and (Dean)



20 Years Front row, from left: Saronn Som and Troy Markiewitz. Back row, from left: Emiliano Llamas and Ryan Stewart



15 Years Front row, from left: Timothy Wildman, Daniel Gaffney and Kenneth Lawson. Back row, from left: Dean Faller, Charles Forbes and Emilio Cisneros



45 Years Front row, from left: Cheryl Meitzenheimer, Theresa Clary and President Cecelia De La Torre



25 Years Front row, from left: Steve Towle, (De La Torre) and Steve Speak. Back row, from left: Nick Rodabaugh, Jacob Kincade and Scott Hudelson



15 Years From left: Derek Erthal, (Dean), John Smith Jr. and Danny St. Clair



15 Years Front row, from left: Darla West, Lori Bragg and Danielle Robbins. Back row, from left: Jolene Forrestdavis Matthew Wade and Darrick Alexander



10 Years

Front row, from left: Sonya Wynne, Sandi Bussey and Alicia Alibrando. Back row, from left: Jesse Self, Denny Holmes Jr. and Antonio San Nicolas



10 Years

Front row, from left: Ladena Gunn-Swagin, Audrey Ruf, Dana Hood, and Rachel Dugan. Back row, from left: (Dean), Kayla Campos, Jasmine Strickland, Lacy Gray and Lhondin Tyra



10 Years

From left: (Dean), Blake Burnett, Jerry Flores and (De La Tore)



10 Years

Front row, from left: Cody Huggans and Matthew Ramey. Back row, from left: Rick Dayton Jr., Hector Salinas and Jonathan Watzig



5 Years

Front row, from left: Kristopher Wright and Patrick McCarl. Back row, from left: Emilio Sanchez and Muhammad Aamir



5 Years

Front row, from left: Steven Oliveira, Liza Wong and Vicente Velazquez. Back row, from left: Mohanad Alomar, John Craddock and Philip Bump



5 Years

Front row, from left: Norris Flenniken-Rockwell, Ricky Meunreua and Erik Nelson. Back row, from left: Paul Reid, Jose Montano and Rick Anderson

HONOREES

45 years

Guice, Eric
Mauchley, Josh
Meitzenheimer, Cheryl
Williams, Kenneth

40 years

Cosgrove-Garcia, Julie
Redditt, Tange
Sawyer, Chris

35 years

Ambrose, Cynthia
Armstrong, David
Boyd, Toni
Edwards, Donald
Gay, Donald
Krummes, Kevin
Olson, Joshua
Talamantes, Daniel
Yee, Alicia

30 years

Brown, Julius
Campbell, Shannon
Cardin, Dennis
Carrillo, Joel
Dean, Robert Jr.
Fujii, Craig
Hall, Scott
Jorgensen, Craig
Lecompte, Patrick
Lyons, Walt Jr.
Martinez, Ramon
Mercado, Daniel
Moon, James Jr.
Moon, Paul Jr.
Naputi, Maria

Nevalasca, Errol
Simon, Annette
Smith, Ben
Smith, George
Valentin, Stacy
Velasco, Armando
Villarreal, Guadalupe
Welch, Brian
Williams, John

25 years

Allen, Bill
Alpine, Joshua
Angel, Sergio
Bigley, Myron
Bruzenak, Dan
Coffey, William
Crouson, Michael
Downen, Mike
Farr, Cynthia
Ha, Kiet
Harris, Steven
Hicks, Timothy
Holm, Gregory
Hyland, Travis
Kincade, Jacob
Krugman, Cindy
Langley, Aaron
Leung, John
Luna, Marcos
Lunsted, Julie
Ma, Micky
Madigan, Diane
Matthews, Tricia
McKinney, Jason
Montgomery, Troy
Norris, Steven
Pagan, Victor
Pickering, Austin

Plunkett, David
Rawlins, Barry
Rodabaugh, Nick
Ruiz, Johnny
Silva, Bob
Speak, Steve
Stanich, John
Stinson, Gerald
Towle, Steve
Woodford, Sabrina
Zanders, Tyrone
Zorn, John

20 years

Abril, Jon
Aguillera, Jaime
Alvarado, Jesus
Alvarado, Juan
Archibeque, Sherri
Arnold, Ryan
Ashley, Thomas
Aurelio, Nicolai
Bagg, Jared
Bains-Sohal, Raj
Bandy, Danny
Bath, Travis
Begley, Darren
Bellestri, Ana
Bringino, Frank
Brown, Michael
Brown, Read
Busch, Thomas
Camarena, Elias
Cason, Mike
Chaudhry, Tanveer
Chavez, Dina
Cole, Adam
Corbett, Josh
Cutts, Jennifer

Davidson, Alvina
Davidson, Tyler
Davis, Kevin
Delucchi, Steve
Dillard, Stephen
Doerflinger, David
Dorais, Michael
Douras, Paul
Ellis, Michael
Espinola, Dustin
Farley, Peggi
Finsterbusch, Steve
Fortner, Adrien
Francis, Raoul
Galindez, Martin
Galvan, Alesha
Garcia, Debbie
Garcia, Isaac
Gastelum, Jorge
Gollob, Jeffrey
Grandchamp, Terry
Greer, Jay
Hale, Travis
Hernandez, Serafin
Hopson, Mark
Horn, Jason
Hutchison, Israel
Istvanick, Brian
Johnson, Douglas
Johnson, Wendy
Jurgensen, Jason
Kennedy, Donald
Kulhavy-Garcia, Rhiannon
Landis, Bill
Le, David
Lenardo, Michael
Linz, Glenn
Llamas, Emiliano
Lopez-Diaz, Jesus
Luna, James
Maldonado, Jennifer
Maldonado, Ramon

Maldonado, Rudy
Mancuso, Stephen
Mariscal, Angel
Markiewitz, Troy
Marquez-Lupien, Lynnette
Martinez, Ana
Mathews, David
McEwen, Jason
McKinnis, Steven
Medina, Bulfrano
Melendrez, Gwendolyn
Mendoza, Edward
Montoya, Federico
Moreno, Lisa
Moreno, Mark
Nelson, Shayne
Nguyen, Hoa
O'Loughlin, Michael
O'Quelly, Joseph
Padilla, Samuel
Parks, Keith
Pellish, Tracy
Petrilla, Ralph
Portillo, Hugo
Pratt, Eric
Reid, Paul
Renn, Richard
Reyes, Jose
Rhodes, Anthony
Roberts, Jennifer
Romero, Daniel
Ruvalcaba, Alfonso
Sanderson, Andrew
Savoy, Trina
Schanmier, James
Shade, Brian
Showalter, Kevin
Smith, Scott
Som, Saronn
Sorrels, Michael
Southworth, Zachary
Steemers, Nicholas

Stockton, Janelle
Stone, Elisa
Thomas, Uri
Vera Porras, Alberto
Viale, Jason
Zambrano, Jose

15 years

Adams, Alexander
Albarran, Monique
Alexander, Darrick
Alonso, Lucila
Barr, Jeffrey
Barragan, Katie
Beach, Anthony
Black, Brent
Blomquist, Neil
Boudreaux, Monique
Bragg, Lori
Breda, Dasheena
Brown, Tyler
Carrington, Johnny Jr.
Carter, Robert
Cisneros, Emilio
Connelly, James
Contreras, Karen
Cooley, Kristen
Corah, Ronald
Cortright, Lynda
Daily, Shane
Davis, Jocelyn
De Leon, Jeffery
De Los Cabos, Ricardo
Del Valle, William
Dodson, Gary
Dray, Joe
Drouillard, Jonathan
Ene, Emanuel
Erthal, Derek
Escalada, Paulo Waldo
Esparza, Hercules
Faller, Dean
Farnsworth, Gregory

Fish, Gregory Sr.
Fitting, Nicholas
Fleming, Micheal
Forbes, Charles
Forrestdavis, Jolene
Forrette, Nicholas
Foster, Kevin
Foster, Lv
Fraga, Carmen
Freitag, Christopher
Gaffney, Daniel
Garcia, Benjamin
Garner, Susan
Gladden, Charles
Goelz, John
Gonzales, Nicholas
Grammer, Mason
Gutierrez, Miguel
Harrington, Albert
Hayashida, Louie Jr.
Haymore, Dennis
Hernandez, Ruben
Herrera, Peter
Hicks, Samocki
Holbert, Kelley
Hooton, Nicole
Hopkins, Zachary
Horton, Amber
Howton, Lance
Huson, Randy
Kaupanger, Jordan
Kraft, Jessica
Kumar, Mukesh
Lee, David
Lilley, Janisha
Lincoln, Brian
Maciejewski, Nicholas
Maffei, Brian
Marable, Jason
Martinez, Pete
Mathews, William
Mays, Shakira
McDonald, Joshua

McGuinness, J'mar
McIntyre, Gary
Miller, Robert
Montoya, Richard
Moran, David
Morris, Andrew
Mitshali, Xochitl
Munoz, Veronica
Odom, Sterling
O'Neal, Shawna
Ortiz, Ricardo
Parish, Danise
Peterson, Shannon
Pompei, Stephanie
Popp, Kyle
Portugal, Mark
Preciado, David
Pulsifer, Jackson
Reijonen, Chris
Riddle, Brandon
Roa, Armando
Robbins, Danielle
Rodrigues, Mark
Rodrigues, Veronica
Romero, Iram
Romero, Toby
Sanders, Shawn
Sanders, Travis
Saragosa, Steven
Schick, Christopher
Shaw, Kikuyu
Simmons, Wesley
Smith, John Jr.
Smith, Casey
St Clair, Brett
St Clair, Danny
Steltz, Travis
Sullivan, Shane
Sutton, Chad
Switzer, Brian
Thompson, James
Tom, Edwin
Trach, Teri

Trach, Thanh
Truong, Hanh-Nhan
Twigg, Harold
Van Matre, Judson
Vassey, Dante
Velasquez, Michelle
Wade, Matthew
Walker, Jacob
Wamunga, Bryan
Weaver, Justin
Webster, Jon
West, Darla
Whitcomb, Patrick
Wildman, Timothy
Wing, Chad
Winter, Peter
Wolfe, Haley
Wright, Evan
Zellner, Kenneth

10 years

Adams, Mark
Aguilar, Johnna
Alfaro, Carlos
Alibrando, Alicia
Allen, Carter
Alonzo, Cheryl
Alvarado, Fermin
Arnoult, Brian
Arvizio, Kristopher
Atkins, Matthew
Axvig, Carney
Benton, Amy
Bernardasci, Gina
Bettencourt, Ryan
Bottoni, Vincent
Briasco, Christopher
Brock, Justin
Bryant, Kevin
Buchholz, Daniel
Burch, James II
Burnett, Blake

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North Bay

March 25, 2022



20/25 Years Front row, from left: Executive Board Member Steve Segale, Bernice Garcia and Michael Dion (20 years). Back row, from left: Todd Hearn, Business Representative J.V. Macor, (Dean)



40 Years From left: Business Representative Garrett Markwood, Scott Silva and Business Manager Bob Dean



30 Years From left: (Markwood), Business Representative Mark Wilson and (Dean)



15 Years Front row, from left: Rosa Gutierrez, David Hambly and Valerie Macor. Back row, from left: Andrew Young, Daniel Morrison and Victor Lameyse



5 Years From left: Zachery Correia with (Markwood)

Photos by John Storey

Congratulations
on your service!

HONOREES

50 years

Fassio, Kenneth

45 years

Jacka, Chris

40 years

Silva, Scott

35 years

Burnett, Michael
Johnson, Kenneth Jr.
Kem, Pheap
Lindemann, Timothy

30 years

Hubbard, Mark
Montoya, David
Rugg, Lori
Wilson, Mark

25 years

Carlson, Teresa
Carrington, Johnny
Contreras, Andrew
Cooper, Rhonda
Dalby, Cody
Donnelly, Carolyn
Hearn, Todd

20 years

Macor, Janval
Minudri, Ron
Olson, Leonard
Rowe, Nathan
Ruoff, Matt
Selsor, Daniel
Sharp, Jeffrey
Woodruff, Jeremy
Capell, James
Dion, Michael
Doeding, Dusty
Dougherty, Michael
Esqueda, Victor

Flores, Summer
Freiwald, Paul
Goodwin, Robert
Lieu, Willie
Modan, Ebrahim
Pedlar, Robert
Piedra, Javier
Portlock, Pete
Prinze, Joshua
Teagarden, Bryan
Thorpe, Tim
Valentine, Justin
Vargas, Jennifer

15 years

Burgess, Markus
Cena, David
Chavez, Marisol
Dremann, Garritt

Garibay, Juan
Gutierrez, Rosa
Holguin, Anthony
Kunimune, Noah
Lameyse, Victor
Macor, Valeria
Mariette, Brian
Modan, Hashim
Morrison, Daniel
Mullins, Michael
Pearson, Christopher
Rains, Armand
Rasonsky, Daniel
Santos, Rick
Smithers, Nicholas
Trettin, Tina
Young, Andrew

10 years

Arata, Garon
Baldrige, Stephen
Bordessa, Ryan
Boydston, Jacob
Brown, Casey
Chelini, Daniel
Davis, Denise
Devilbiss, Jason
Downs, Carly
Eaton, Joshua
Enochs, Dylan
Fisher, Jeffrey
Holguin, Michelle
Hudson, Leslie Jr.
Hug Iv, Joseph
Ibach, Audrey
Keenan, Sean

Lutzenberg, Joshua
Martin, Paul
McQuaid, Paul
Merkner, Andrew
Outland, Kristi
Parmeter, Brittany
Parmeter, Coleman
Parmeter, Jeffrey
Parmeter, Todd
Pullman, Austin
Radov, Cory
Radtkey, Charles
Salgado, Jose Jr.
Shields, Roger
Simon, Tibor
Stephens, Chris
Vargas, Jorge
Vazquez, Jose
Villarreal, Martha

5 years

Arteaga Estrada, Jose
Luis
Arteaga-Estrada,
Francisco
Barraza, Steve
Bianchi, Tim
Boitano, Kenneth
Casey, Kelly
Cheatham, Stacey
Correia, Zachaery
Cortez, Daniel
Crozier, John
Easton, Payton
Franceschi, Olivia
Hook, Alan
Hurst, Willard

Jones, Gerald
Keen, Michael
Lambert, Kimberley
Madrigal, Bianey
Matzen, Diane
Mauricio, Jose
Medrano, Antonio
Miles, Madera
Reid, Ott
Schwarz, Rich
Seaton, Evan
Sickler, Todd
Stevens, Josh
Sullivan, Michael
Turmel, Joel
Zirbel, Scott

Sacramento Honorees from page 39

Burns, Adrienne
Busalacchi, Brian
Cai, Fu Fui
Campos, Kayla
Cardoza, Brandon
Carlsen, Christopher
Carlson, Matthew
Carr, Chad
Cooper, Thomas
Corpus, Arlene
Crawford, Albert III
Crawford, Andrew
Curry, Brandon
Cuthbert, Nicholas
Dalbianco, Kierstin
Dang, Kham
Danuser, Paul
Dariosa, Daniel
Dayton, Rick Jr.
Dow, Rowan
Doyle, Jimmy
Du Pont, Brent
Duggan, Robert Sr.
Espinoza, Jose Jr.
Facht, Joshua
Figueroa, Jorge
Figueroa, Ramon
Fletes, Gustavo
Flores, Jerry
Foyd, Janie
Fraunhoffer, Rick
Fusaro, Michael
Galaviz, Gabriel
Garcia, Jose
Garcia, Samuel
Garcia, Sara
Gazaway, Charles
Geller, Gary

Germescheid, Jason
Giesser, Kyle
Gonzales, Zachery
Good, Charles II
Goodwin, Corbett
Gray, Lacy
Griffin, Jauquanza
Guintu, Edwin
Gunn-Swangin,
Ladrena
Haines, Robert
Hamilton, Melissa
Holmes, Denny Jr.
Hood, Dana
Howard, Mandiko
Hudson, Jim
Huggans, Cody
Ivie, Pancho Sr.
Jack, Lucas
Jauregui, Diana
Jennings, Sidney
Jensen, Heather
Jordan, William
Knox, Tracy
Langham, Norman III
Lattof, Theodore
Le, Van
Lemons, Christopher
Lenz, Timothy
Lima, Louis
Lovett, Gene Jr.
Ludy, Matthew
Malmberg, Ryan
Martin, Jacob
Maxey, Jennifer
Mazzone, Ron Jr.
McAvoy, Tiffany
McDougall, Robert

McIntosh, Lisa
McLinden, Sean
Merlonghi, Anthony
Miller, Jay
Mitchell, Gregory
Mochel, Glenn III
Morales, Eduardo
Nagore, Marisa
Nelson, Conrad
Niedzwiedz, John
Nurse, Theodore
Okoegwale, Evelyn
Pham, Tam
Phu, Hoi
Ponce, Julia
Potter, Michael
Raines, Christine
Raines, Jason
Ramey, Matthew
Rodriguez, Michael
Romero, Roberto
Rorabaugh, Pamela
Ruf, Audrey
Russell, Christopher
Saelee, Fam
Salinas, Hector
San Nicolas, Antonio
Sanchez, Daniel
Sanchez, Jose
Sanchez, Zachary
Schneider, Kevin
Schoennauer, Levi
Self, Jesse
Sidie, David
Slusher, Ricky Jr.
Smith, Anthony
Sneed, William
Stocking, Chris

Stockton, Jim
Stoker, Michael
Terry, Wesley
Thomason, Andrew
Thompson, Joel
Trujillo, Jabyne
Tyler-Carley, Janelle
Tyra, Lhondin
Valenzuela, Garrett
Vang, Daniel
Vanhaaster, Corey
Vega, Jose
Vera, Renato
Vollman, Joshua
Walker, Clayton
Watzig, Jonathan
Williams, Jasmine
Willis, Charles
Winslow, Jared
Wirth, Steven
Woolridge, Aisna
Wooster, Trent
Worthey, Timothy
Wynne, Sonya

5 years

Adkins, Jonathan
Alomar, Mohanad
Alquicira, Alfredo
Anderson, Rick
Andrade, Carlos
Andreotti, Michael
Angel, Luis
Ayala, Jaime
Baez, David
Bailey, Stan Jr.
Baltazar-Aguilar, Oliver
Barnhart, Cobi
Beal, Lucius Jr.
Beames, Riley

Beard, Scott
Bernal, Ryan
Bigras, Yannick
Blevins, Jeremy
Bohanan, Christopher
Bolsover, Amber
Boyd, Christopher Jr.
Brancca, Josh
Buckmaster, Christopher
Bump, Philip
Burkhalter, Robert
Burridge, Levi
Cannoles, Steven
Cantu, Telesforo
Cardinale, John Jr.
Carr, Christopher
Castellanos, Isaac
Ceja, Salvador Jr.
Ceja, Pedro
Chavarria, Anthony
Chumo, Charles
Claypoole, Joseph
Cochrane, Kevin
Cogan, Shane
Cole, Roy
Collier, Brian
Cooper, Dallas
Coulson, Travis
Craddock, John
Crumley, Jeremy
Dacres, Jeron
Damico, Matthew
Davis, Derek
Davis, Matthew
Detwiler, Gary
Dhuyvetter, Patrick
Dixon, Nichole
Dugan, Rachel
Duran, Angel

Dye, Richard II
Esparza, Ramon
Fagalnifin, Jacob
Flenniken-Rockwell,
Norris
Foreman-Van Vliet,
Michael
Fowler, Blake
Franks, Eric
Fulford, Leo
Gallegos, Filadelfio
Garcia, Librado
Garner, Andrea
Garrett, Gregory
Gomenyuk, Dmitry
Gordillo, Deborah
Grajeda, Rafael
Grandinetti, Anthony
Graves, Cameron
Gudino, Luciano
Gudino, Ruben
Gutierrez, Jose Jr.
Haas, Joe
Han, Myung
Hart, Drake
Hastings, Mason
Hattrup, Joshua
Hedden, Kyle
Heimberg, Landen
Hernandez, Aaron Jr.
Hernandez, Marvin
Hickman, Daniel
Hinojosa, Santos
Hitchko, Kevin
Holbrook, Donald III
Hoskin, Drew
Jiles, Byron
Johnson, Chante
Johnson, Matthew
Kast, Zachary

Kendall, Carter
Kindt, Jeff
Kinnebrew, Anessa
Kitchen, Terry
Kotz, Andrew
Lamb, Shane
Lapointe, Jeremy
Lara-Ventura, Sergio
Latzen, Sean
Lewis-Moe, Jacob
Lor, Pheng
Lutter, Roxanne
Malgieri, Richard Jr.
Marasigan, Enrico
Mariscal, Anthony
Marquez, Nicolas
Martin, Philip
Martinez Rodriguez,
David
Martinez, Derrick
Matias, Robert Jr.
Matthews, Brady
McCarl, Patrick
McGinity, Lanny
McKay, Kenneth
Mendoza, Luis
Meunreua, Ricky
Miles, Chris
Miner, Jeffrey
Mirazo, Zuyimi
Montano, Jose
Moon, Matthew
Moore, Demar
Mora Pambid, Julia
Moreno, David
Nappen, Ryan
Navarro, Eileen
Nelson, Erik
Nolasco, Javier
O'Guin, Michael

Olivar, Daniel
Oliveira, Steven
Oliver, Jade
Ordonez, George
Oros, Ashten
Papalias, Chris
Peden, Will
Penny, Carson
Perez, Guillermo III
Peters, Aaron
Prasad, Rajneel
Prieto Cabrera, Franco
Prieto, Franco Jr.
Prieto, Jose
Ramos, Rodrigo
Regalado, Jose
Retana, Roy
Reyes, Juan
Rios, Abel
Rios-Ventura, Isidro
Ritarita, Floro
Rivas, Nicolas
Robertson, James
Roderick, Terrell
Rodriguez Hernandez,
Octaviano
Rodriguez, Jaime
Rosas, Mario
Rowe, Kevin
Salas, Frederick
Salgado, Aaron
Sattelberg, Daryl
Scarborough, Jeff
Scott, Evan
Seumanu, Lototele
Sharp, Jacob
Shepherd, Jason
Sierra, Jose
Silva, Jessica
Solis, Efrain

Solis, Pedro
Sosa, Gabriel
Souza, Canaan
St John, Michael
Stark, Bradley
Stoneburner, Jason
Sutow, Jaclyn
Tate, Lennis Sr.
Temple, Arnold
Thomas, Benjamin
Thomas, Dustin
Thomason, Tanner
Thomson, Christopher
Uribe Rodriguez,
Aaron
Varner, Allen
Vasquez, Jessie
Velazquez, Vicente
Venegas, Randy
Ventura, Hilario
Vickers, Shasta
Vital, Jose
Vue, Steven
Vuittonet, Nefi
Walker, Dave
Warren, Brittani
White, Donald
White, Mark
Wilson, Scott
Wolter, James
Wong, Liza
Wriden, Arthur III
Wright, Kristopher
Wunschel, Louis
Yepez, Saul Sr.
Zamora, Anthony
Zamudio, Edgar



North Bay Retirees Present Donation to Local Food Bank

IBEW 1245 North Bay Retirees Club members Mike Scafani, Dean “Red” Ohlen, and Ken Rawles with IBEW 1245 Business Reps JV Macor, Mark Wilson and Kim Camatti, presenting 2020-21 donations in the amount of \$1850 to Redwood Empire Food Bank. Accepting the donation for the food bank was Chief Executive Officer David Goodman.



Support for Lineman Involved in Near-Fatal Train Collision

On March 10, longtime IBEW member and journeyman lineman Phil Merlino and his crew were involved in a near fatal, train/equipment collision in San Bruno, CA while working on the “The Peninsula Corridor Electrification Project (PCEP)” — upgrading and electrifying Caltrain’s 51-mile doubletrack commuter rail system from the 4th and King Caltrain Station in San Francisco to the Tamien Station in San Jose.

Brother Merlino jumped from a crane to the right of way at the moment of impact, and suffered third-degree burns from the initial explosion on the back of his hands, head and neck. He is currently recovering, and he and his family could use our support during this time. Donations can be made using <https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-our-brother-phil-with-his-recovery>



Units lend a helping hand

All of the following unit donations to various charitable organizations from January through March 2022 were approved by the IBEW 1245 Executive Board.

Auburn Unit #3511 donated \$500 to the Mountain F. Enterprises Men’s Softball team.

Elko Unit #3318 donated \$250 to Elko Archery Club and \$250 to Elko Big Horns Unlimited.

Pismo Beach Unit #1215 donated \$500 to the Creston 4-H in San Luis Obispo (2021 funds).

City of Vallejo Unit #2376 donated \$500 to the Alternative Family Services in Vallejo (2021 funds).

Carson City Retirees donated \$500 to the Back Pack Buddies program.

Frontier Unit #4011 donated \$500 to American Legion Post 214 (2020 funds) and \$500.00 to VFW 9640 (2021 funds).

Santa Rosa Unit #3712 donated \$250 to the Redwood Gospel Mission’s Food Bank (2021 funds).

Yerington Retirees donated \$500 to the Helping Hands for Seniors.

Modesto Irrigation District Unit #2518 donated \$500 to the Stealth Boys Basketball league (2021 funds).

NCPA Unit #3710 donated \$500 to the Lake County Hunger Task Force (2021 funds).

Carson City Unit #3312 donated \$250 to the Carson High School Girls Basketball team.

Modesto Irrigation District Unit #2518 donated \$500 to Manuel DeSilveira’s Meal Train Fund.

Santa Maria Unit #1216 donated \$250 to Arroyo Grande Little League and \$250 to Nipomo Little League.

North Bay/Santa Rosa Retirees donated \$1,000 to the Redwood Food Bank in Santa Rosa (2020 and 2021 Community Funds, along with matching funds of \$350).

City of Healdsburg Unit #3731 donated \$500 to the NAMI program of Sonoma County (2021 funds).

IBEW 1245 Member’s Teen Daughter Killed in Car Accident

Five-year IBEW 1245 member Rocky Cardona’s life changed in an instant when a car crash took the life of his 14-year-old daughter and put his wife into the hospital.

Cardona’s late daughter Marissa was a talented softball player, and Brother Cardona was a regular fixture at all of her games, even when work took him away from their home near Hanford.

Brother Cardona, who works as a line equipment operator for Outsource Utility Contractor Corp, could use our support during this difficult time. Marissa’s softball coach, Marco Vazquez, is assisting in organizing donations.

Donations can be sent by Venmo to @Rocky-Cardona or via Cashapp using the code pictured here.



Rocky Cardona’s late daughter, Marissa



DirtDogs Vazquez
Scan to pay \$DirtDogsVazquez

IN MEMORIAM

Enid Bidou

Former IBEW 1245 staffer Enid Bidou has passed away, according to the PG&E Retiree Newsletter.

Sister Bidou was initiated into Local 1245 in 1964. She worked on the clerical side of PG&E all over the Bay Area for 30 years, and served as an Local 1245 shop steward for over 26 years. She also held several unit offices and served on numerous committees, including the joint grievance committee and the bargaining committee. She was also part of the 1979 clerical subcommittee that eventually succeeded in eliminating the Company's clerical cross-hatch grading system.

Sister Bidou joined the staff of IBEW 1245 in May 1988, and worked for the union for more than seven years. As a Business Rep, her assignments included South Bay Clerical and Physical (PG&E), Pipeline Operations (PLO), and Davey Tree. She represented 1245 as a delegate to numerous labor councils and conference, and she also served of the Local Investigating Committee at PG&E for many years.

"Enid Bidou took no s**t from anyone," remarked former 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell.



IN MEMORIAM

Christopher Sunderland

We regret to announce the sudden passing of IBEW 1245 member Christopher Sunderland. Brother Sunderland was initiated into the IBEW in 2012, and was a 6th step apprentice lineman working for Par West in Clearlake at the time of his passing.

The obituary reads: Christopher Michael Sunderland was born to Jennifer R Shaw and Jim D Sunderland Jr on March 30, 1990 at Tulare District Hospital in Tulare, CA. He tragically lost his life on March 13, 2022



just 2 weeks from his 32nd birthday. He was preceeded in death by grandfather Jim D. Sunderland Sr and grandfather Monty Montgomery. He leaves behind his wife Alli Paggi Sunderland, his two children Kayden J Sunderland (13) and Addilyn R Sunderland (6), mother Jennifer R Starr and step father Michael J Stan; his father Jim D Sunderland Jr and stepmother Tina Sunderland, his sister Emilee Stan; step sister Vanidee Quinonez, brothers Joshua M Stan; Adam M Stan; James M Starr and his wife Dahlia Starr, three grandmothers Racki Sunderland, Carrie Smith Mendonca and Virginia Montgomery, one nephew James W Starr, two nieces Jayla Starr and Jazmyne Lilley, four uncles and two aunts.

Chris was an amazing son, father, husband and friend, as well as a questionable golfer. He loved riding dirt bikes, wake boarding and spending time with his children. He was great at sports and achieved everything he put his mind to, including climbing half dome.

He was lineman apprentice for the IBEW Local 1245. He will be greatly missed by everyone who knew and loved him. His time here was cut way too short.

His services were held on Saturday April 2, 2022 with a gathering afterwards. Memorial Tributes and condolences may be offered by logging onto www.salseranddillard.com.

Donations to the family can be made via <https://www.gofundme.com/f/christopher-sunderland-apprentice-lineman-fund>.



IN MEMORIAM

John Silva

On March 31, 2022, Brother John Silva was taken from us all too soon. Silva was a Senior Building Inspector for the City of Vallejo and a dedicated A member of IBEW Local 1245.

"Ever since he was a toddler he loved to fix everything," his sister, Amber Clemons, told the Vallejo Times-Herald. "He'd go out and get Dad's toolbox and say, 'It's OK mom, I got this.'"



Even at the age of 12 he took great pride in building a fence for our dad. So the job with Vallejo was perfect for him."

Read his full obituary at <https://www.timesheraldonline.com/2022/04/04/vallejo-building-inspector-john-silva-dies-at-36>.

Brother Silva had been diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia just three weeks prior to his passing at age 36. He was undergoing chemotherapy, but seemed to be maintaining a positive outlook during his treatment.

We will all miss him very much and our hearts, and support go out to his young family, including his wife Stacy, daughter Abigail, and son Grant.

Services for Brother Silva were held on Thursday, April 7 at Northgate Christian Fellowship at 2201 Lake Herman Road in Benicia. Please consider making a donation for Stacy and the kids at <https://www.gofundme.com/f/johnny-silva-family-memorial-fund>.



— JV Macor, IBEW 1245 Senior Business Rep

IN MEMORIAM

Joedon McMasters

It is with a heavy heart that IBEW Local 1245 shares the news that one of our dearest brothers, Joedon McMasters, passed away transitioning to the next realm of his being. For those of you who knew him, worked with him, and laughed with him, you know how sad and happy we can all feel at this moment all wrapped into one. That was Joedon, the beautiful nature of making you laugh and light in the face of the most tragic events life could throw at you.

For those employed by the City of Healdsburg who never met Joedon, his presence is everywhere thanks to his legacy of work, dedication to Local 1245 and the spirit of happiness he left on everything and everyone he met, worked with, and made happy.



One of the original Healdsburg Linemen at the start of the IBEW era there (along with his partner in trade, Larry Giovanoni), Joedon was fundamental in laying the foundation of the agreement our members there work under today. For those of us who came on board with the City and wondered what we were getting ourselves into, he was the person who made you go home on the first day telling yourself you made the right decision.

Our hearts are saddened for his loss, and I know our love and support goes out to the beautiful love of his life, Dixie, along with their entire family.

As each of you goes to work today, doing what you do so well for the City of Healdsburg or any of our other signatory employers, whether you knew this wonderful human or not, let us all be mindful to do our tasks peacefully, safely and with the infectious smile of Joedon present in all our actions. Let's never lose sight of his continuation in us.

— JV Macor, IBEW 1245 Senior Business Rep

IN MEMORIAM

Joseph Favalora

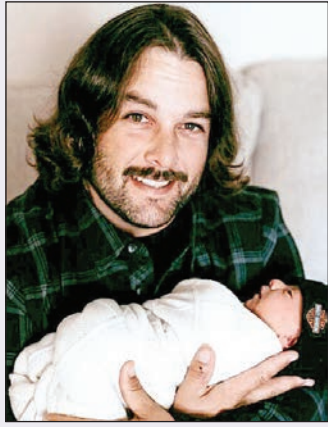
We deeply regret to announce the passing of six-year IBEW 1245 member Joseph Favalora, who was involved in a motorcycle accident and passed away at the hospital from his injuries. Brother Favalora, who worked for PG&E as an M&C Fitter out of the Concord Yard, was just 34 years old at the time of his passing.

"He was known by his colleagues for always speaking his mind, having great work ethic, and for his talents as a welder," said Jeff Janvier of PG&E. "Joseph is survived by his three children (Ryleigh, Giovanni, and Frank Favalora), his parents (Carol and John Favalora), and his Fiancé (Ashley Gonzales). Joseph loved his family deeply and always put others before himself."

Read the obituary <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/east-baytimes/name/joseph-favalora-obituary?id=33617800>.

Memorial services took place on March 19. Burial was at at Holy Cross Cemetery and an after Ceremony held at 111 Fulton Shipyard in Antioch.

Brother Favalora's family could use our support during this difficult time. Donations can be made using <https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-for-ashley-and-the-kids>.



Joe Favalora



IN MEMORIAM

Arlene Edwards

We deeply regret to announce that longtime IBEW 1245 staffer Arlene Edwards passed away at the age of 70.

Sister Edwards was initiated into the IBEW in 1984 and worked for PG&E for 16 years. As a rank-and-file union member, Edwards served as a shop steward, Advisory Council member, and sat on numerous committees, from clerical consolidation to bargaining. She joined the IBEW 1245 staff in the fall of 2000, and worked for the union for 17 years before retiring in 2017.

"Arlene was one of the hardest-working staffers that Local 1245 has ever seen — She never hesitated to go the extra mile when it came to serving our members," said 1245 Business Manager Bob Dean. "She was tough as nails, she knew the contract inside and out, and she always seemed to know exactly what to say to get management to see things from her perspective. But what impressed me most was her innate ability to identify and cultivate future leaders; many of our former and current staffers started off as stewards that Arlene recruited. She served this union well for many years. She will be missed, but not forgotten."

"Arlene was a tiny five-foot force to be reckoned with. She was the person that exposed me to the power of the Brotherhood and gave me a taste of what it's like to be a 'union thug.' When I was her Shop Steward, committee member, and unit chair, we battled PG&E arm-in-arm," said Jammi Ouellette, a former 1245 steward-turned-organizer who now works for the IBEW International Office in Washington DC. "She always had my back. She never gave up on me, it was her persistence that got me involved and changed my life. I loved her and respected her deeply."

"Arlene Edwards was my introduction to IBEW 1245," recalled Assistant Business Manager Rene Cruz Martinez. "I attended a unit meeting and she encouraged me to get involved. She pushed me to be a shop steward and then recommended me to be an organizing steward. She truly cared about the members she represented. Her courage made an impact in me, and motivated me to be outspoken at the worksite."

"When I got to the Sacramento Call Center in April of 1995, it became apparent that Arlene Edwards was the go-to shop steward in that building. Anytime I had a what I thought was a contractual question, I reached out to Arlene," said Senior Assistant Business Manager Bryan Carroll. "Arlene was my advisor, sounding board and basically an encyclopedia on the CCO issues and the Clerical CBA. She never once rolled her eyes or let me know my question was stupid or she had already answered it 10 times that week. She taught me what a shop steward could be — and soon after, what a business rep should be. I wish I could thank her personally for what she taught me. But thinking of how she fought for members back in my career at Sac CCO still brings a smile to my face."

"I met this wonderful woman in the late 1990's while working for PG&E at the Sacramento Call Center. She replaced Wayne Greer as the IBEW Local 1245 Business Representative and encouraged me to become a Shop Steward. Her method for selection was not easy, and I worried that I would not meet her high standard," recalled long-time steward Ruth Bailey, who is now retired. "She was a great mentor and followed the Union contract to the letter. She was fearless in the meetings we had with management. She took no crap from any of them, and could call them out when needed. She taught me well. I am very proud of this wonderful union woman and will miss her dearly."

"These thoughts come to mind when I remember Arlene," said retired Assistant Business Manager Dorothy Fortier. "Warrior. Reliable. Talented. Honest. Organized. Knowledgeable. Fair Minded. Dedicated. Compassionate. Hard Worker. Fun Lover. Contract Enforcer. High Principles. Mentor. Family Oriented. Considerate. Diplomatic. Team Player. And she always commanded the respect of members and management."



Arlene Edwards, circa 2004



Arlene (right) with Ruth Bailey at the Sacramento Call Center



photos via IBEW 1245 archive Robert Murphy with Arlene Edwards

View 1245 obituaries and death notices at <https://ibew1245.com/news/obituaries/>.

To submit an obituary, email info@ibew1245.com



Eli Owen's winning photo

Eli Owen wins quarterly photo contest

Two-year IBEW 1245 member Eli Owen is the winner of IBEW 1245's quarterly photo contest! Brother Owen, who works as a Safety & Infrastructure Protection Tech (SIPT) for PG&E, captured this photo on a safety standby assignment with gas crews while they performed gas line cleaning and

inspection (which requires burning off excess gas). Brother Owen recently welcomed a new baby into his family, making him unable to attend the 1245 Advisory Council meeting in April, so his \$500 prize check was issued to him by mail.

All IBEW 1245 members in good standing

are eligible to enter up to five original, high-resolution photos into the contest each quarter. Submissions should be sent to RGB1@ibew1245.com. Please put "photo contest" in the subject of the email, and include your full name and member number or date of birth to confirm eligibility.



IBEW 1245 2022 Union Election



PAGES 21-24

Your vote is your voice!

The IBEW 1245 union leadership election is your chance to elect the member-leaders that represent your interests. The Executive Board, Advisory Council and Examining Board members play a big role in the union's decision-making processes, and this election is your opportunity to support the candidates that you believe in. Learn more about the candidates on page 21.

Participating in the IBEW 1245 union election is your right as a union member. The way you choose to vote is entirely up to you, but our union strongly encourages all members to fill out their ballots and return them early. Mailing your ballot as soon as possible is the best way to ensure your vote is counted.

Questions? Email the election committee at elections@ibew1245.com.