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**Meet the  
Candidates**  
for IBEW 1245 Union  
Leadership Election

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Michels Pacific Energy demos a 520 foot transmission tower in Rio Vista, Calif. on March 19, 2025. See story on page 27. Photo by John Storey





**Bob Dean**  
Business Manager

## Your Voice, Your Union, Your Vote

As we approach a critical moment in the history of our union and contract negotiations at two of our largest employers, I want to extend my deepest appreciation to each and every IBEW Local 1245 member working for Pacific Gas & Electric and SMUD. Whether you're a lineworker, gas service representative, materials handler, electric crew foreman, call center representative, meter reader, or one of the many other dedicated professionals who make

up our PG&E and SMUD membership—your involvement and commitment are the foundation of our union's strength.

Your unprecedented participation in this year's proposal process is nothing short of extraordinary. With more than 13,000 proposals submitted to our PG&E Bargaining Committee and 1,042 proposals submitted to our SMUD Bargaining Committee, our members made their voices heard in record numbers. This incredible show of engagement and solidarity gives our bargaining team the insight and direction needed to enter negotiations with strength and clarity. It's a powerful demonstration of the pride and passion our members have for shaping not only their workplace—but also their future.

Make no mistake—these negotiations will have long-term impacts on wages, benefits, working conditions, and job security. Our ability to succeed at the bargaining table depends in large

part on how unified and involved our membership is back home. When we speak with one voice, management listens. When we stand together, we win.

Over the past several months, the staff and I have had the privilege of connecting with many of you at shop steward meetings, pin dinners, and yard visits across the state. Whether in rural or urban areas, in the mountains or along the coast, these face-to-face conversations reaffirm what I already know to be true: our members are skilled, hard-working, and deeply committed to building a stronger union—together. Your professionalism, dedication, and pride in your craft are second to none.

We are now entering a pivotal phase. The upcoming union election is not just about selecting leadership for Local 1245—it's about choosing the individuals who will represent you at the bargaining table, on job sites, and in the fight for your labor rights. Ballots will be mailed via first-class mail starting May 19, and the ballot count will take place on June 25. I encourage every eligible member to participate in this important

democratic process. Let your voice be heard. Select the people you believe best represent you, your work, and your future.

Every vote is a statement—whether it's a general election in our country, a union officer election, or a vote to ratify a tentative agreement. Voting is how we show that we care, that we're paying attention, and that we are committed to standing together. It's a reflection of our collective strength and a powerful tool for shaping the future we want to see—on the job, in our communities, and across the labor movement. Solidarity and participation are key.

Lastly, to the membership—thank you. Thank you for doing the hard work, day in and day out. Thank you for submitting proposals, showing up to meetings, and staying informed. And thank you in advance for casting your votes in the upcoming election and on our next contract.

Let's keep this momentum going. Let's stay engaged, stay informed, stay united—and stay safe.

*In Unity, Bob Dean*

## Staff Changes

**Eleven-year IBEW member Ethan Stonecipher has been promoted to IBEW 1245 Assistant Business Manager and will lead IBEW 1245's Outside Line and Vegetation Management/Line Clearance Tree Trimming groups.** A Journeyman Lineman with extensive experience working in Outside Construction as well as in the Line Clearance Tree Trimming industry, he has also served as a parttime instructor at the CA-Nevada JATC. Asked about his promotion. Asked about his reaction to his promotion, Stonecipher said, "I am honored to serve the membership of Local 1245."



**Ethan Stonecipher**



**Sheila Lawton**

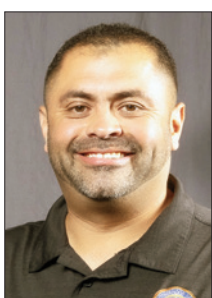
**Sheila Lawton, a twenty-seven year IBEW 1245 member, has been promoted to IBEW 1245 Assistant Business Manager for the Public Sector/Private Sector.** Originally a Customer Service Representative out of Frontier, Sister Lawton came on staff as a Business Rep in 2008 representing Irrigation Districts and Regional Transit agencies. Over the last sixteen years, she has honed her negotiating skills winning strong contracts and the respect of the membership and her co-workers.

**Thirteen-year IBEW 1245-member, Jessica Stillwell has joined the staff of IBEW 1245 as a Business Representative.** In her new role, Sister Stillwell will represent 1245 members at Sacramento Regional Transit, the City of Lodi, Merced Irrigation District, Modesto Irrigation District, South San Joaquin Irrigation District, Turlock Irrigation District and the Tri Dam Project. Prior to coming on staff, Sister Stillwell worked at Modesto Irrigation District, (MID) as a Water Quality Supervisor at the Domestic Water Treatment plant. She has served on multiple Bargaining Committees at MID and has served as a Shop Steward and Organizing Steward.



**Jessica Stillwell**

Sheila Lawton who was recently promoted to Assistant Business Manager and who has worked side by side Stillwell as her Rep stated, "Jessica is incredibly smart and dedicated. I believe she'll do a fantastic job for the members." When asked about joining the staff, Stillwell said, "I'm really excited. I've seen so much at MID, both highs and lows. And even though progress comes in small steps, each step motivates me to push further for the entire membership."



**Francisco Ferreyra**

**Twenty-year IBEW 1245 member Francisco Ferreyra has been promoted to Senior Business Representative.** Ferreyra joined the IBEW 1245 Staff in 2021 as a Business Representative, supporting 1245 Vegetation Management members (including Line Clearance Tree Trimmers, VM Inspectors and Pole, Test and Treat) following seventeen years in the field. "In my 19 years of working in vegetation management, I have personally seen IBEW 1245 fight for those who can't fight for themselves, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to be a part of that!" Ferreyra said.

**Congratulations to all!**

## Find Your Unit Meeting

Visit [ibew1245.com/unit-meetings/](http://ibew1245.com/unit-meetings/) to find the most up-to-date information for your unit. You can also enter your zip code to find the meeting closest to you. Please note: All Local 1245 unit meetings are open to all Local 1245 members regardless of employer.

## UPDATE CONTACT INFO NOW!

### Changed your address, email or phone number?

Update your info now so that you can get updates about negotiations, elections your union ballot in the mail.

To update your information, call the Union Hall at 707-452-2702 or go to your "member portal."

For PG&E members, you are required to update your current MAILING ADDRESS by going to the PG&E "My Portal" link.



## Utility Reporter

April– June 2025  
Volume 74 No. 2  
Circulation: 28,000



**Publisher:** Bob Dean

**Communications Liaison/Managing Editors:**  
Eileen Purcell and Bergen Kenny (BrightLine)

**Design and Lay Out:** Kathy Kifer (Kifer Graphics)

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Periodical postage paid at Vacaville and at additional mailing offices. USPS No. 654640, ISSN No. 0190-4965.

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

Single copies \$1.

Subscription by arrangement.  
Have you moved recently?

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Published quarterly at  
30 Orange Tree Circle, Vacaville, CA 95687.

Official publication of Local Union 1245,  
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers,  
AFL-CIO, P.O. Box 2547, Vacaville, CA 95696.

Our phone number is (707) 452-2700.



# MOVIN' ON – The Next Chapter Begins

## Assistant Business Manager Mark Maumau

After three fruitful years heading up IBEW 1245's Vegetation Management and Line Clearance Tree Trimming group, Assistant Business Manager Mark Maumau has retired. In addition to leading the Tree side of the house, Brother Maumau stood up the IBEW 1245 Veterans' Committee.

A twenty-four year member of IBEW, brother Maumau brought unrivaled energy to every task he undertook.

IBEW 1245 Business Manager Bob Dean shared the news saying, "Mark has not only been a dedicated member of our team but also a wonderful friend to us all. His contributions to the tree group and the veterans committee have left a lasting impact on our organization; his presence will be greatly missed both professionally and personally."

Statements from his work group reaffirmed the tight team he built.

Business Representative Francisco Ferreyra wrote, "You've directed the path of the Vegetation Management group to become the well-oiled machine that it is now....Your genuine willingness to help was always done in love and unconditionally....You were more than just a Boss; you were our brother and friend!"

Business Representative Ray Banfill added, "You have been a great leader and inspiration to us reps and to the membership. You will be greatly missed."

Business Representative, Junior Ornelas stated, "The energy and the passion you brought to the table was on display. The Team is strong and has a solid organizational foundation. We wish you

nothing but the best life has to offer!"

Bob Dean summed up the sentiment of the day, saying, "I know I speak for everyone when I say that we are incredibly grateful for the hard work, passion, and positive energy Mark has brought to Local 1245. We have been through a lot together, and it won't be the same without him."

Wishing you only the best going forward, Mau!

## Business Rep. Todd Wooten

After a forty-year career at IBEW 1245 and PG&E, Business Representative Todd Wooten is retiring. "Todd joined the staff ten and half years ago and took the North Valley job to new level. He's a good friend, a hard worker, and an awesome guy. Todd Wooten, thank you brother!" said IBEW Business Manager Bob Dean.

Wooten, who is fondly known as "Rep of the Decade" by his peers, shared, "I started on Ad Council back in the nineties, and worked the line department for thirty years before coming on staff."

"I met Todd in 2002, when we were both on crews in Sierra Division," said Senior Assistant Business Manager Bob Gerstle. "Wooten was a driver and also played a key role in developing the M&C Coordinator classification when he was still at PG&E," he added. "Todd was IBEW through and through. I played a role in convincing him to come on board as a Business Rep for 1245. He was my favorite rep, I cannot lie. He had the perfect personality for his assignment in North Valley. I miss redneck Bill already!" declared Gerstle.

For his part, Wooten shared, "It was a great ten plus years at 1245. Thanks to



Mark Maumau



Todd Wooten



Lou Mennel

Tom D. and Bob D. for giving me the opportunity. Thanks to those I worked for and those I worked with at 1245 for all the help and support they all gave me. Being a nine-time ROTY (LOL) would not have been possible without everyone's support. 1245 is a great place with a great staff and members. Do all you can to keep that going. I still enjoyed the job, but after 45 years of working, I'm ready to be on Todd's schedule."

Wooten's family joined the IBEW 1245 family at the Hall to celebrate.

Congratulations, Todd! Wishing you the best as you embark on the next chapter.

## Business Rep. Lou Mennel

Lou Mennel has capped a 39 year career in the field and is retiring.

Before joining the IBEW 1245 staff as a Business Representative, Lou worked as a Gas Service Representative at PG&E for twenty-seven years. Brother Mennel served members at PG&E before switching to the Public Sector where he represented members at SMUD. In his final act at the Union, he joined the Organizing Team, bringing his energy and experience to the task in a labor intensive new organizing fight at Siemens Mobility.

Senior Assistant Business Manager Anthony Brown stated, "Lou was one of a kind. He was my Business Rep in the East Bay before I came on staff. He paved the way for me. Getting to know him on the PG&E negotiating committee opened my eyes to the opportunities. We had lots of conversations about representation of the PG&E Gas group which enabled me to picture what was possible."

Assistant Business Representative Mike Adayan first met Lou when they served on a committee together. Eight years ago when Adayan joined the IBEW 1245 staff, "Lou became my partner. Without having to ask, he took me under his wing and taught me how to be a rep," he said. Adayan added, "Lou was a fantastic Rep. I couldn't have asked for a better mentor. He's a good friend, and an outstanding person."

Dannika Bynum described Lou as a "hoot!" She said, Lou was very pleasant to work with."

Reflecting on what he loved best as a Business Rep, Mennel shared, "I loved that every day was different, and events where I got to know the members off the job. My co-workers were my lifeline."

When asked for words of wisdom, Mennel said, "Not much! I feel lucky to have worked for so many years and to still have my parents, sisters, my three kids, and the love of my life, Kathy. Time to make new memories with my seven grandchildren. I literally could not be happier!"

Thanks for the years of service and comaraderie, Lou. Congratulations on your well earned retirement.

## Business Rep. and Assistant Business Manager Ralph Kenyon

After ten years serving as an IBEW 1245 Business Representative and Assistant Business Manager, Ralph Kenyon is retiring.

Initiated as a journeyman lineman in January 1990, Brother Kenyon announced his retirement in mid-April 2025. In his most recent assignment, he led the group of Outside Line Business Representatives, serving upwards of 4,000 members.

IBEW 1245 Business Manager Bob Dean thanked Kenyon for his years of dedicated service, both as a longstanding union member and as a staff member. "Ralph has been instrumental in helping us grow IBEW 1245, especially in our Outside Line side of the house," said Dean. "He brought his thirty-five years of experience as a journeyman lineman to bear, representing and growing our membership with integrity, building our Hiring Hall and Dispatch, and making IBEW 1245 the union it is today. He has been unwavering in his commitment to do whatever is necessary to get the job done."

Senior Assistant Business Manager Ralph Armstrong added, "Ralph has been a steady hand, a trusted leader, and a true asset to this union. His work ethic, knowledge, and support for our members have made a lasting impact. We thank him sincerely for his contributions and wish him nothing but the best."

Best wishes to you, Ralph, as you pursue the next chapter!



Ralph Kenyon



Wooten Family



Retiring Business Rep Todd Wooten with IBEW 1245 Business Manager Bob Dean and Business Rep Mark Wilson enjoyed the farewell party.

Portraits by  
John Storey





# MEET YOUR 2025 PG&E BARGAINING COMMITTEE



BRINGING MORE THAN **675** YEARS OF EXPERIENCE TO THE TABLE!



IBEW 1245 Bus Manager Bob Dean  
CHIEF NEGOTIATOR  
36 Yrs

**IBEW 1245 SENIOR STAFF** bring decades of experience, having participated in four General Negotiation Cycles at PG&E, (2008-2022), securing some of the strongest Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs)/ contracts in the country for IBEW 1245 members, including during Bankruptcy.



SABM Anthony Brown LEAD NEGOTIATOR 23 yrs    SABM Ralph Armstrong 36 Yrs    SABM Bryan Carroll 32 Yrs



Bus Rep Pat Duffy 33 Yrs    SABM Bob Gerstle 45 Yrs    SABM Doug Girouard 30 Yrs

**IBEW 1245 RANK & FILE MEMBERS** bring their subject matter expertise and a commitment to represent our 14,000 PG&E members at the table.

Your participation is critical! Stay informed by going to [www.ibew1245.com](http://www.ibew1245.com)



Bill Hunt, SR Operating Clerk 1-11, 40 yrs    Kevin Krummes, Retiree 38 yrs    Steve Pettigrew, System Operator 35 yrs    Gerald Stinson, ECF 27 yrs    Robert Mohler, GSR 24 yrs



Amber Cordeiro, Utility Clerk, 23 yrs    Stephen Dale, Subforeman A 22 yrs    Daniel Ahern, Telecom Tech, 19 yrs    Chris Risley, Protection Technician, 18 yrs    Victor Hughes, Electrician 18 yrs



Jake Ward, Lead System Operator 17 yrs    Patrick Stark, T-man 16 yrs    Tiffany Bradley, CSR 15 yrs    Tim Healy, Cable Splicer 14 yrs    Jason Duran, Maintenance Switchman, 14 yrs



David Holtz, Working Foreman B 13 yrs    Daniel Mora, Welder 13 yrs    Dylan Rose, T-man 13 yrs    Jason Frink, Gas Crew Foreman 12 yrs    Gabe Rhodes, Meter Technician Crew Leader, 12 years



Wendell Brown, Gas Compliance Rep, 11 yrs    Tim Dean, Backhoe Operator, 11 yrs    Cameron Graves, SSR 8 yrs    Juan Montoya, SSR 6 yrs    Kathleen DeMaria, Vegetation Management Inspector, 3 years



## IBEW 1245 Members' Shatter Prior Record — Submit 13,000+ Proposals to the PG&E Bargaining Committee

### Member engagement brings strength to the table

**Vacaville** — From March 1 to March 31, 2025, IBEW 1245 PG&E members submitted proposals for upcoming PG&E General Negotiations.

Proposals poured in right up until the deadline for submission. The last week of March a mountain of proposals submitted on paper arrived at the Hall along with all of those submitted electronically. The electronic submissions alone eclipsed any known total from past negotiating cycles with PG&E weeks ago. The previous record number was 4,500 from 2016. As of this writing, the counter registers over 13,000 proposals submissions with large piles of paper in the process of being digitized for examination and consideration by the Bargaining Committee members.

The unprecedented number of proposals submitted are a credit to the engagement and participation of all of our PG&E brothers and sisters from across the system. This level of engagement will be critical to what we can achieve at the bargaining table with the company. It will be vital through every step. Every informational meeting, Unit Meeting, Town Hall calls, and most vitally, every ratification vote. Thank you to everyone that submitted a proposal or endorsed one at a Unit Meeting. We are off to a tremendous start. Now the proposal baton is passed to the Bargaining Committee.

— Anthony Brown, Sr. Assistant Business Manager

## STATEMENT FROM BUSINESS MANAGER BOB DEAN

### Standing with IBEW 1245's Federal Workers

**Vacaville** — The recent Executive Order stripping federal employees of their collective bargaining rights is one of several that directly impacts the men and women of IBEW 1245.

Under the guise of "national security," some federal agencies have been instructed to cease honoring their bargaining obligations, to stop deducting union dues and to cease grievance proceedings. Unfortunately, IBEW 1245 members at the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) are included within the Order, and they have been put on notice that their collective bargaining rights are consequently null and void.

Why WAPA? What does it do? Who are 1245's members there? And why does it matter?

Established in 1977 under the Department of Energy, WAPA was created to market and distribute power generated by U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) projects. WAPA's Sierra Nevada Region operates California's federally owned high-voltage transmission system, delivering low cost and reliable hydroelectric power to public utilities across California. WAPA plays a critical role in delivering low-cost, renewable energy, reinforcing the benefits of not-for-profit energy distribution over private, investor-driven models.

On a nuts-and-bolts level, WAPA delivers power from hydro power plants like Shasta, Folsom, Trinity and New Melones dams to SMUD, the City of Redding, and countless other public utilities and municipalities. Without WAPA, that power could not be transmitted.

IBEW 1245 members at WAPA are Lineman, Electricians, Protection and Communication Craftsmen, and Electronic Equipment Craftsmen who maintain WAPA's facilities and infrastructure. The work they do meets the equivalent annual electrical needs of 650,000 Californians and helps ensure the reliability of this essential energy system.

In sum, their work is fundamental to the sustainability and efficiency of the grid.

And they are also part of the core mission of IBEW, which includes ensuring (1) the accessibility and reliability of electrical power, (2) the safety of our communities and

members, and (3) the just compensation and fair treatment of our members in their employment.

Why does all of this matter?

The attack on the collective bargaining rights of our sisters and brothers at WAPA threatens the entire house of labor. This assault is likely the first step of a larger project aimed at crippling the labor movement and stripping millions of unionized employees in both the public and private sectors of their rights.

We all know that absent a collective bargaining agreement, workers are at heightened risk of unfair treatment, and being subject to decisions that are made arbitrarily, with no recourse or due process. The record shows that those who are "at will" (non-union) employees suffer lower wages, poorer benefits, weaker retirement benefits and lower safety standards. Workers are more easily fired without cause.

IBEW 1245 is collaborating with our local, state and national labor allies, both political and legal, to challenge this Executive Order, which we believe is blatantly illegal. We are examining any and all options for recourse. To be sure, other International unions have already stepped into the breach and filed their own lawsuits. And just this week, two Congressmen introduced legislation which would reverse the nullification of federal workers' rights to collectively bargain. But if there's an opportunity for IBEW 1245 to join the fight, we will not stand idly by. We will act.

Our ancestors fought (and died) for the right to form a Union—a group of working men and women standing together to negotiate fair wages, safe working conditions, benefits and a dignified retirement with those in power. They laid the foundation upon which we have grown the various crafts that we represent along with the Union and the collective pride that comes with supporting ourselves and our loved ones and being part of something bigger than ourselves.

Despite these unprecedented times, IBEW 1245 will continue to fight for the rights of our members at WAPA, and for all of our members.

— Bob Dean, IBEW 1245 Business Manager

## PG&E Shop Stewards Trainings

"You are the shock troops. Without you none of the work we do could get done."

**Vacaville** — Seventy-two PG&E Shop Stewards from Sacramento and Sierra Division packed the Union Hall for the annual Shop Steward Training. The meeting was one of ten annual trainings being held this year, and coincide with preparations for upcoming 2025 contract negotiations at the company.

IBEW 1245 Business Manager Bob Dean kicked off the meeting saying, "Thank you for being here. Thanks for all the work you do. You are the shock troops. Without you none of the work we do could get done."

IBEW 1245 Shop Stewards are dedicated members who volunteer to uphold and defend the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) or Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) at the work site.

When members have a question about the contract, Shop Stewards are often the first contact they make. When members face disciplinary action, Shop Stewards accompany them, educate them about their rights and make sure due process is followed. When there is an emergency, Shop Stewards relay the message to the broader membership. When there are contract negotiations, Shop Stewards spread the word and turn out the vote.

IBEW 1245 Business Representative Mike Tilden added, "Our Shop Stewards are the backbone of our movement. Our ability to provide training is one of the most valuable components of our jobs as Business Reps."

This year's IBEW 1245 Shop Steward trainings are packed, coming at a time of unprecedented activity.

Negotiations are a major discussion point at every training. Additional themes include Union elections for officers, Advisory Council and delegates to the International Convention, and the many challenges and opportunities facing IBEW 1245.

Dean provides a detailed overview while Senior Assistant Business Managers drill down into specific lines of progression. Business Representatives provide additional training on the nuts and bolts of being a Steward.

Organizers invite stewards to sign up for Emergency Response Teams to be at the ready to mobilize to press for better contracts at the Table or for better legislation in the Halls of the Legislature and in Board rooms.

At every session, Brother Dean has emphasized two points, saying, "We are pre-



IBEW 1245 Business Manager Bob Dean at PG&E Sacramento — Sierra Division Shop Steward Training

pared like never before. But the source of our power at the Table is our unity and full participation of an informed and engaged membership. If you like the Table Agreement, vote. If you hate it, vote. This is your time for your voice to be heard."

#### 2025 IBEW 1245 PG&E Shop Steward Trainings

Stockton  
Fresno  
San Luis Obispo/DCPP  
Bakersfield  
Chico

North Bay  
Sacramento —  
Sierra  
East Bay  
San Francisco  
San Jose

Public & Private Sector Shop Steward Trainings are scheduled for April and May, 2025.

— Eileen Purcell, Sr. Advisor



San Francisco Shop Steward Training



San Luis Obispo PG&E Shop Steward Training



# Building The Brotherhood and Building Power One Story, One Campaign at a Time

## DAY 1 — IBEW 9th District Annual Organizing Training

**Vacaville, CA** — In a first, the annual IBEW 9th District Organizing Training was hosted by IBEW 1245 at the Union Hall in Vacaville!

The two-day event showcased IBEW 1245's extraordinary organizing program that has been the envy of the labor movement. Forty organizers from twenty-two IBEW Locals attended the event.

IBEW International Vice President for the 9th District, Dave Reaves, recognized the IBEW 1245 work that has propelled growth and member engagement, and thanked IBEW 1245 Business Manager Bob Dean and the Organizing Team for hosting this year's event and sharing their organizing approach.

Brother Dean and the IBEW 1245 Executive Board welcomed the group. After acknowledging the Executive Board's commitment to investing in organizing and leadership development, Dean declared, "This is a huge, member driven exercise. It helps us by getting our members engaged. We are in the middle of a contract battle with our largest employers, and I already have an army mobilized for that fight."

Senior Assistant Business Manager Al Fortier joined Assistant Business Manager Rene Cruz Martinez and his dynamic team of organizers to lead the training, introducing the attendees to the nuts and bolts of the Organizing Steward program, which has won accolades from sister locals, other affiliates, central labor councils, state labor federations and the International.

The program, a multi-generational, hands-on leadership development initiative, is entering its twelfth year.

Formalized in 2013, the first class was comprised of twenty-eight stewards. Today, more than 125 stewards are active.

### Sharing Our Stories

Cruz Martinez kicked off the training saying, "Stories are a crucial way to engage members and invite them to get



involved." Cruz Martinez, a twelve-year IBEW 1245 member who came out of the rank and file and was part of the first class of Organizing Stewards, shared his own story.

"My mother was a garment maker, working 7-to-7 and making less than minimum wage...my dad was a farm worker. I didn't know much about politics or organizing. But I wanted to help people. I started working for PG&E when a co-worker invited me to help knock doors for the "No on Prop 32," an effort to limit unions' ability to participate in politics. My first organizing campaign was Sunoptics, a manufacturing plant. I witnessed how nonunion workers were treated. We won. And I never turned back." Cruz Martinez has been on staff for seven years and leads the organizing team.

"Stories are crucial as we try to engage members and invite them to get involved," he said.

### Inviting Members Over and Over — Never Giving Up

Organizer Charlotte Stevens reviewed the structure and roots of the program, emphasizing the importance of building relationships and creating opportunities for members to participate.

"I knew nothing about the union, and I definitely didn't want to go to a meeting. But a co-worker kept asking. I said, 'No.' But she kept asking... I was out of excuses when she invited me to an action instead of a meeting, saying

'Charlotte, Diablo Canyon Power Plant (DCPP) is being shut down...members are going to lose their jobs.' I didn't know what DCPP was, but being laid off resonated with me, so I agreed to attend the action at the state capitol fighting the closure of DCPP in San Luis Obispo. There were so many people standing in solidarity. 1245 and other unions were standing with brothers and sisters losing their jobs. That hit me. I'd been laid off so many times. After eight years of being in the US Airforce, this was a solidarity I'd not seen since my military service. It brought back that sense of purpose — we are our brothers' keeper. ... I wouldn't be here had someone not asked me and didn't give up asking me!" said Stevens.

### Building an Organizing Culture

Conventional wisdom used to maintain that a union could excel either at representing the contract or excel as an organizing power. IBEW 1245's organizing program sought to do both. The genesis of the IBEW 1245 Organizing Steward program is rooted in two contract fights, NV Energy and PG&E Clerical, during the aftermath of the 2009 recession. Those two successful organizing drives, and a long-term commitment by IBEW 1245's leadership to invest in the next generation of younger members, planted the seeds of the Organizing Steward program.

Self-interest met solidarity, and a passion for making a difference and sharing the union difference was born, one campaign, one contract, one 1:1

conversation, one opportunity at a time.

Local successes provided convincing evidence of the dividends that an engaged and enthusiastic membership provides. IBEW 1245 member organizers developed the reputation of the "first to arrive and the last to leave" across labor councils, state labor federations, and other campaign stops.

After five years of tilling the soil through hands-on fights and formal training, the IBEW 1245 Executive Board institutionalized the program and named it the Organizing Steward program.

"Passion fuels this program and the relationships we have with one another. Tomorrow ninety Organizing Stewards will be coming to the Hall on their day off," said Cruz Martinez.

### Organizing, Politics and Solidarity

Organizer Rick Thompson shared, "Just as Shop Stewards defend the contract, Organizing Stewards defend the principles of the Union." The three areas are: organizing, politics, and solidarity.

**Politics** — While sometimes controversial, politics are a critical part of the work. "What we can't get at the bargaining table, we get at a different arena," said Thompson. In the public sector, elected officials sign off on the CBA/MOU. When we go to the capitol, legislators see us and recognize us," said Thompson.

As a case in point, when PG&E entered bankruptcy, political support was crucial to strengthening and extending our CBA, providing for Gen-



IBEW 1245 Business Manager Bob Dean and the Executive Board greet 9th District organizers.



From left: IBEW 617 Membership Development Representative Francisco Castano, IBEW 46 Member/Intern Michael Lebeis, Membership Development Representative Ryan Smith, and IBEW 952 Organizer Evan Marrufo

View all event photos at <https://bit.ly/Training-Day-One> and <https://bit.ly/Training-Day-Two>



eral Wage Increases (GWIs), preserving medical/benefits, and adding a “no voluntary lay off” clause. In another example of IBEW 1245 using legislative strength to gain collective bargaining improvements for our members, IBEW 1245 successfully lobbied to amend SB 247, a wildland fire prevention and vegetation management bill, inserting language in the bill that nearly doubled line clearance tree trimmer’s wages. Organizing Stewards, in a dramatic show of strength, were instrumental in lobbying for the adoption of this legislation.

**Organizing** — Organizing Stewards support organizing drives, both internal and external. Thompson stressed that Organizing Stewards are among the best evangelists for non-union members. Recently, at the City of Vallejo, where union density had dipped to nearly 50% due to dissatisfaction with contract gains in the aftermath of bankruptcy, the Organizing Team worked with the IBEW 1245’s Business Rep, Kim Camatti, and built a strategy to increase union density a year before going to the negotiating table.

“We formed and trained a VOC to hold one-on-one conversations. Union density increased from 50% to nearly 90%. When we got to negotiations, we mobilized the strength of the Union: mobilizing members at the City of Vallejo and Organizing Stewards from other properties. With support from labor, political and religious allies, and the community, we packed City Hall meetings, and won a landmark MOU,” said Senior Assistant Business Manager Al Fortier.

“It sounds like the internal organizing moved the needle at the negotiating table,” said Michael Schreck, an Organizer from Local 191 in Everett, Washington. “Absolutely,” said Fortier.

Fortier offered another example of the impact of Organizing Stewards. “Two years ago, a California Senate Bill (SB 284) sought to take away work from a vast swath of IBEW’s membership in California. Under Business Manager Bob Dean’s leadership, Organizing Stewards led a union-wide phone bank to mobilize targeted calls to legislators supporting the bill and successfully crushed it,” said Fortier. Members who had never participated before got involved.

### And a spark was lit.

**Solidarity** — Solidarity is the heart of the labor movement. Dispatching Organizing Stewards to support other locals and affiliates during their fights, not only provides an opportunity to exercise leadership, but also provides opportunities to learn and upgrade skills that stewards can then reinvest in their home local. Solidarity builds relationships that strengthen the entire labor movement.

Local 47 Organizer Andrew McKercher shared the experience of IBEW 1245 Organizing Stewards helping his local organize a contact center on the second round.

Cruz Martinez noted that multiple IBEW Locals from the 9th District and

State Federation affiliates stood with Siemens workers seeking to join our union. “The solidarity we received at the Siemens Campaign — over 155 volunteers — was something I’d never seen before,” he added.

Solidarity campaigns created a repository of goodwill that translated into support for IBEW 1245’s own fights.

**Training** — IBEW 1245 holds three trainings per year for Organizing Stewards, typically on their own time, to reinforce the hands-on training. Stewards learn about the history of IBEW, our local, the labor movement and current events. They meet elected officials, national leaders, their local union leadership, and subject matter experts, then report back to their co-workers.

Organizing Stewards participate in Central Labor Councils as delegates, and attend conferences where they see the bigger picture. They establish regional Organizing Steward gatherings to convene and meet co-workers as part of a “relational organizing” approach.

## Leadership Development and Membership Engagement

The Organizing Steward program generates multiple opportunities to engage members at the worksite, at home, at Unit meetings, and in special mobilizations. Each conversation, campaign or fight becomes a training ground to hone leadership skills. Staff organizer Melissa Echevarria invited three Organizing Steward Leads — Danielle Bonds, Brenda Balcazar, and Kaeyla Jones — to share their leadership trajectories as Organizing Stewards.

## Tracking Success

Finally, Cruz Martinez shared the tracking mechanisms, the lists, and the ways we measure success. To date, more than four hundred members have participated in the program. Nineteen Organizing Stewards have been appointed to the Staff. Countless others have been involved in Union committees, Central Labor Councils, and more.

At the end of every year, Staff meets with Organizing Stewards to evaluate the program and their role. Some eagerly ask to renew the appointment. A few opt out due to a host of reasons.

Fortier ended the day, thanking the brothers and sisters for their participation.

“We really appreciate your time today and look forward to seeing you tomorrow when you will see our Organizing Stewards in action. This organizing program is continuing to grow. We have changed from a union that only serviced contracts to one that engages our membership so that they understand everything we are doing and why!” he said.

The day was capped by a reception at the Hall, celebrating the Brotherhood and Sisterhood and the work. The next day, the forty guests joined ninety IBEW 1245 Organizing Stewards for a full day celebrating victories, identifying challenges, and renewing the commitment to the struggle for working families.

## DAY 2 — IBEW 9th District Annual Organizing Training



***Solidarity is not just a word we use. It is an action we take every single day!***

**Vacaville, CA** — On a gorgeous Saturday morning, ninety IBEW 1245 organizing stewards gathered at the IBEW 1245 Union Hall to meet forty sisters and brothers from twenty-two Locals from across the IBEW’s 9th District to demonstrate the IBEW 1245 Organizing program at work!

“Thank you for coming to the 9th district,” declared IBEW 1245 Business Manager Bob Dean. “What you see here, is one hundred people who donated their time to help their brothers and sisters,” referring to the stewards who volunteered their time to join their counterparts from across the 9th District for the training.

Sharing his story, Dean said, “I was

born and raised by the law of the Union. My father was 1245. My mother was a communication worker. I’ve been here for 35 years, on staff for 20.

We are the biggest local in the IBEW. We are the second biggest construction union of any union in the nation. But none of that means anything without the men and women who stand up. When we go to Sacramento, they listen to me because we have 28,000 members behind us. When we go to the negotiating table, they know we are strong.”

He emphasized, “Our tent is big, but it only works if we are strong and united.”

Dean gave a special shout out to International Vice President Dave Reaves. Reaves, a 31-year organizer, journeyman lineman and proud third-generation member of IBEW 1547 came up in Alaska in construction and utili-

ties. Reaves currently heads up the IBEW 9th District, supporting IBEW Locals across California, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, N. Idaho, Alaska, and Hawaii. It was his idea to hold the annual 9th District Organizing Training at IBEW 1245 to learn about 1245’s Organizing Program that has gained national recognition.

Brother Reaves thanked Bob Dean and 1245. “Thank you for allowing the 9th District to come into your training and for rolling out the red carpet,” he said, adding, “Thank you for everything you do. Bob and Rene [Cruz Martinez] have been pretty modest. Any time I pick up the phone and ask, 1245 is there, financially, workforce, and beyond.”

Reaves referenced the hard-fought Siemens campaign in which workers suffered a defeat, noting, “Siemens was

continued on next page



**Local 659 Assistant Business Managers Terra Clevenger and Cody Stafford**



**IBEW 1245 Organizing Team shares their stories**

Photos by Chris Hardy



## Building the Brotherhood, from page 7

round one. During the campaign, Siemens broke the International Framework Agreement we had.” But they did not break our spirit.

He ticked off campaigns around the country to which 1245 has dispatched teams of Organizing Stewards, including Baltimore Gas & Electric, Electrolux, and Alaska.

He noted that when IBEW 1245 needed help to defeat Q3 — legislation that threatened 1245’s Nevada members — Locals across the country reciprocated, sending in troops to successfully defeat the anti-union bill and protect



**Business Manager Bob Dean addressing Organizing Stewards and organizers from the 9th District** Photos by Chris Hardy

members and the community.

1245 Business Manager Dean next welcomed Leroy Chincio. Brother Chincio is the Business Manager/Financial Secretary for IBEW Local 1260 in Hawaii, and a member of the IBEW International Executive Council. He shepherded his local through the devastating fires that ravaged Lahaina, Hawaii in August of 2023.

“It’s great to be here!” declared Chincio. “Make no mistake, I’m here to steal ideas. In Hawaii, we had Lahaina burn down. Bob [Dean] reached out to us and shared, ‘This is what you do in a fire.’ We were worried about our guys and putting out the fire. Bob gave us the roadmap. That’s the kind of help we got from 1245. ... My proudest moment was when we got unsolicited donations from the IBEW without even asking. We had 12 members who lost homes... restoration is ongoing. It’s going to be a long road.”

The one hundred thirty organizers in the room engaged each other, shared campaign victories and challenges, and the methodology of building an organizing program, one conversation, one story, one campaign, win or lose, at a time.

Solidarity was a recurring theme.

Special guest speaker Volma Volcy,



**Organizing Stewards Danielle Bonds, Brenda Balcazar, Kayela Jones sharing their stories**

the Chief of Staff at the Sacramento Central Labor Council hailed IBEW 1245 for the years of campaign work and leadership development.

“Solidarity is not just a word we use. It’s an action we take every single day,” stressed Volcy.

He added, “This program allows you to be strong in your union and in your community, because your community is going to need you more than ever. ... I don’t know if you’ve been paying attention to the news ... We now live in a new world. And in this new world, the only thing that matters is how strong you are as a Union. They are coming for you. They are coming for the Union. They’re coming for your ability to organize. They’re coming for your ability to feed your family. They are coming for your ability to take care of yourself.”

Organizer Charlotte Stevens led the room in a call to action — “List five names, co-workers, you will reach out to

and invite to get involved.”

Assistant Business Manager Rene Cruz Martinez reinforced the message, saying it’s never been more important to participate and to build relationships grounded in the brotherhood and in solidarity. “As Bob Dean said this morning, if you remember one thing, remember we must come together and vote, participate and fight.”

Stewards broke into regional groups to map out activities to engage their co-workers and build participation, made more important than ever given that the Local has twenty sets of upcoming negotiations this year, including at IBEW 1245’s two largest signatory employers.

Senior Assistant Business Manager Al Fortier closed the session thanking the Stewards and our brothers and sisters from the 9th District.

Congratulations to all who participated.

— Eileen Purcell, Sr. Advisor

## California State Association of Electrical Workers (CSAEW) Conference 2025: A Call for Legislative Action

**Sacramento** — This year’s California State Association of Electrical Workers (CSAEW) Conference provided an important platform for advocacy and education on critical issues affecting IBEW members and the communities they serve.

More than a hundred delegates gathered in Sacramento to discuss key legislative priorities and engage in direct lobbying efforts.

Business Manager Bob Dean led IBEW Local 1245’s delegation which included Senior Assistant Business Managers Al Fortier and Ralph Armstrong, Assistant Business Manager Hunter Stern, Staff Organizers Melissa Echeverria and Charlotte Stevens, and Organizing Steward Lead Alvin Dayoan.

Former labor leader and Assemblymember Liz Ortega kicked off the conference with a passionate speech, emphasizing the importance of organized labor in shaping policy. Her words resonated

deeply with the crowd, fueling their drive to advocate for legislation that strengthens protections for workers.

Senate President Pro Temp Mike McGuire, Senator Dave Cortese, and Assemblymember Chris Rogers, also spoke. These influential political leaders reaffirmed their commitment to labor and pledged to continue supporting IBEW’s legislative goals.

On the second day, Lobbyist Scott Wetch delivered a detailed briefing on the current slate of legislative bills, breaking down their potential impact on IBEW members before delegates began door knocking and meeting with Senators and Assemblymembers to push for support (or opposition) on key bills that affect IBEW members.

The legislative priorities presented by the CSAEW included permit streamlining, securing the viability of wildfire funds, enhancing penalties for assault or battery committed against public utility

employees, and the pressing need for Net Energy Metering (NEM) reform to alleviate cost burdens on non-solar customers.

“Our lobbying efforts really made a difference in the future of labor. We’re not just fighting for our members, we’re fighting for fairness for all Californians,” said Dayoan. “These bills are about creating a safer, more equitable environment for working people across the state.”

Ninth District International Vice President Dave Reeves, capped the conference at the final plenary, emphasizing IBEW’s unwavering commitment to upholding worker rights. Reeves’ address was a powerful reminder of the collective strength of the IBEW and the ongoing efforts to ensure a secure future for working families.

As the conference concluded, the collective resolve of the CSAEW delegation was clear. With their legislative priorities in motion and a renewed sense of solidarity, IBEW members left Sacramento with a clear mission: to continue fighting for a better, safer future for the workers of the IBEW, their families, and the communities they serve.

— Melissa Echeverria, IBEW 1245 Staff Organizer



**Staff Organizer Charlotte Stevens with Senate President Pro Temp Mike McGuire and fellow IBEW delegates**



**Organizing Steward Lead Alvin Dayoan with Assemblymember Liz Ortega and fellow IBEW delegates**



**Sr. Assistant Business Manager Al Fortier and Organizing Steward Lead Alvin Dayoan with fellow IBEW delegates having a discussion with Assemblymember Mia Bonta.**



# IBEW 1245 Fight for Utility Worker Safety Bill — SB 431

## At the Senate Public Safety Committee

**Sacramento** — IBEW 1245 Organizing Stewards joined Staff to testify in favor of 1245's-sponsored Utility Worker Safety bill before the California Senate's Public Safety Committee.

IBEW 1245 Political Director Hunter Stern served as the lead for IBEW locals, while SDG&E has been leading the Investor-Owned Utilities on the bill.

Like PG&E, their workers have experienced several very serious assaults, one of whom shared their testimony.

The bill — authored by newly elected Senator Jesse Arreguin, the former mayor of Berkeley — passed unanimously out of the Senate Public Safety Committee by a 6-0 vote.

**Next Steps:** The bill now goes to Appropriations before hitting the Senate floor.

**Stay tuned!**



Alvin Dayoan, Iyasha Davis, Al Fortier, Tim Neal, Nate Fairman (IBEW 465), Rick Thompson, Senator Jesse Arreguin, Luis Loredó-Sánchez (IBEW 465), Rene Cruz Martinez

## Siemens Workers United Lose Hard Fought Election, Pledge to Keep Fighting

**Sacramento** — IBEW 1245 made significant inroads towards organizing Siemens Mobility in Sacramento despite coming up short in a union election on March 13, 2025.

Sixteen hundred workers in a production unit consisting of assemblers, equipment operators, painters, material handlers, maintenance technicians, and welders fought valiantly, even as they faced a brutal anti-union campaign waged by Siemens Mobility management.

Siemens Mobility is a division of Siemens AG, a global technology company focused on industry, infrastructure, transport, and healthcare, headquartered in Germany. The Siemens

Mobility's manufacturing facility in South Sacramento is a major fabrication site for the company's locomotive, coach, light rail, and high-speed train products.

Local 1245 and the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Local 549 (IBB) joined forces to lead the organizing drive, calling the initiative, "Siemens Worker United." The Union and Company adopted an "International Framework Agreement," defining rules of engagement. A Volunteer Organizing Committee (VOC) was formed and worked diligently to reach out to co-workers and build support for the unionizing drive over an eighteen-month period.

Substandard wages, serious safety concerns, and inadequate training were among the issues propelling workers to organize.

IBEW 1245 Assistant Business Manager Rene Cruz Martinez stated, "The VOC and Union organizers mounted an impressive, comprehensive campaign. We did the research, held weekly meetings and trained VOC members to hold countless one-on-one conversations. Once we filed authorization cards, we went into high gear, mobilizing one hundred fifty-five volunteers to door knock, phone bank, and leaflet in between every shift."

"Our staff worked around the clock. We mobilized Organizing Stewards. IBEW International Vice President for the 9th District, Dave Reaves, joined us on the line. Organizers from other IBEW locals in the IBEW's 9th District along

with affiliates from the California Federation of Labor and the Sacramento and NVLF labor councils dedicated days to stand with us. State and Local elected leaders joined workers on the line! We worked in English, Vietnamese, Dari, Spanish, Hmong, Russian, Ukrainian and Tagalog to meet the workers in the language in which they were most comfortable," Cruz Martinez added.

Though tremendous gains were made educating the work force and signing up members, high turnover rates and a classic anti-union campaign worked against the pro-union side. The Union was also handicapped by not having access to workers inside the plant, and the violation of the International Framework Agreement by the company.

In the end, fear and intimidation won the day.

IBEW 1245 Business Manager Bob Dean, stated, "Out of 1,444 ballots cast, 833 voted no; 538 voted yes. No loss is easy, and this one is no exception. The company conducted a vicious anti-union campaign and broke many of the rules up to and including on election day."

He added, "I want to thank everyone for their hard work. I especially want to single out 1245's Assistant Business Manager Rene Cruz Martinez, Organizer Rick Thompson and the entire



IBEW 1245 Business Reps Casey Salkauskas and Mark Wilson with IBEW 1245 lawyer Alex Pacheco, Business Manager Bob Dean and others

organizing team and organizing stewards who worked tirelessly on this campaign. They left no stone unturned. They came up against a myriad challenges and never gave up. They recruited and mobilized allies from many sister locals, from Central Labor Councils, from the CA Labor Federation and local and state politicians, making us all proud. Lessons have been learned, seeds have been planted. We are stronger as we face the next fight."

On Thursday, March 20th, IBEW 1245 and Boilermakers 549 filed a joint objection to the company's actions during the election, listing sixteen allegations of misconduct.

Senior Assistant Business Manager Al Fortier declared, "Despite the results of the election, I am extremely proud of the effort of our organizing team. We fought hard, demonstrated unwavering commitment to this campaign, and put our energy and expertise on full display. Our friends and allies answered the call. We owe a great deal of gratitude to so many people. I cannot thank them all, but I would like to thank our Business Manager, Bob Dean, and our Executive Board for their unwavering support, our organizing team and organizing stewards, and our administrative and field staff. We will continue to set the standard for IBEW and the labor movement, and we will continue to FIGHT until we WIN."



Front to Back: IBEW 1245 Organizing Stewards Kaeyla Jones, Q Thompson, Business Representative Lou Mennel, Organizing Steward Steve Ross, and Business Representative Mike Tilden



The IBEW 1245 Team at Siemens Mobility

View all event photos at <https://bit.ly/siemens-workers>



# EMPOWERING THE FUTURE

## IBEW 1245 Launches Union Training for PG&E Traffic Control Workers

**Vacaville** — Since its formal creation in 2020, PG&E's Traffic Control department has experienced remarkable growth.

What began as a shift to move work in-house, expanding from approximately 50 employees to 200, has now surged to nearly 450 good union-represented career jobs. This rapid expansion, in partnership with PG&E, has provided a critical entry point into the utility industry, where such opportunities have become increasingly rare.

Unlike many other departments within PG&E that have long-standing traditions and established cultures, the majority of Traffic Control members are relatively new, with less than two to three years at the company.

With this in mind, these relatively new IBEW 1245 members expressed a strong interest to learn more about the Union and how to get involved. To meet this demand, IBEW 1245 recently hosted its first-ever union training for Traffic Control members. Thirty-five participants from across PG&E's service territory participated. The training covered a wide range of topics, including the history and structure of IBEW and IBEW 1245 and leadership opportunities such as steward roles, unit meetings, and committees. We dove into a discussion about the union difference. We reviewed the gains made for Traffic Control/Flagging workers and upcoming PG&E negotiations. Political Director Hunter Stern presented on the importance of politics and their impact on work.

The response of our members was overwhelmingly positive.

Nikki Eddy, a Traffic Control Utility

Worker from the Hayward Yard, expressed gratitude for the opportunity to learn from those who paved the way, stating, "I'm really excited to be a part of such a strong Union. The training was very informative, and it's great to learn from those who came before us and led the way. Their hard-won experience has opened doors for the rest of us, and for that, I am grateful."

Jermaine Eti, a Traffic Control Flagger from the Sacramento Yard, described the training as an eye-opening experience, reinforcing the importance of strong representation, workplace safety, and the power of solidarity, declaring, "The training provided valuable insight into how the union fights for workers' rights, ensuring fair wages, benefits, and job security. ...The energy in the room, the shared sense of purpose, and the experienced leaders passing down knowledge made it clear that being a part of the Union is more than just a job—it's about protecting the future of our workforce. I walked away with a deeper appreciation for the work our Union does and a stronger commitment to contributing to that mission. If you



IBEW Members/PG&E Traffic Controllers on the job

ever get the chance to attend, I highly recommend it. It's a great experience that equips you with the knowledge and confidence to make a real impact."

For me, it was refreshing to see so many new members energized and eager to learn more about their Union, to get involved, and deepen their understanding of the union difference. I'm excited to see how this group continues to grow, develop, and become future leaders of our union.

With this successful first training in the books, IBEW 1245 looks forward to continuing to educate and empower

Traffic Control members. More trainings will be scheduled in the future to ensure all members have the opportunity to strengthen their union knowledge and leadership skills. As the department continues to grow, so too will the commitment to fostering a strong, engaged, and well-informed workforce.

Special thanks to Rene Cruz Martinez and Charlotte Stevens for assisting in putting this training together—it would not have been possible without them.

— Gerald Williams,  
IBEW 1245 Business Representative



IBEW 1245 Political Director Hunter Stern discusses why politics matter.



Break Out Sessions



Thirty-five PG&E Traffic Controllers meet at the Union Hall for training.

## WESTERN LAMPAC Tackles Challenges Facing Industry

IBEW 1245 leadership participated in the Western LAMPAC (Labor and Management Public Affairs Committee) Conference in San Diego, California this Spring.

Founded more than fifty years ago, Western LAMPAC is an association of Electric Utilities, signatory contractors and IBEW Locals from across the 7th, 8th and 9th IBEW Districts, covering seventeen western states. It includes not only IBEW locals, but many of our major employers, including PG&E, NV Energy, San Diego Gas & Electric, and So CA Edison.

Meeting twice a year, attendees discuss trends, issues, and the ever-changing landscape of the utility business. Over recent years, wildfire dangers and mitigation, electrification, and the urgent need to address the grid have been constant topics. In addition to informing and educating its members on public affairs matters and exploring strategies to influence legislation, it provides an opportunity to "promote positive labor management relations through cooperative efforts."



Western LAMPAC (Labor and Management Public Affairs Committee)



# IBEW 1245 Peer-to-Peer Safety Committees Stand Out at NV Energy Safety Kick Off

## Spreading the Word About Safety

**RENO** — On January 28, 2025, representatives from IBEW 1245's Peer-to-Peer Safety Groups attended the annual NV Energy Safety Summit. More than five hundred attendees participated in the event at the Atlantis Casino & Resort in Reno, Nevada.

As they entered the venue, participants visited tables manned by 1245 leaders of the Regulate the Voltage (RTV) peer group, Hold the Pull (HTP) peer group, and Control the Pressure (CTP) peer group.

Safety Committee representatives talked with employees about the Union's commitment to building a safety culture on the ground and answered a myriad of questions. They

distributed flyers and union stickers and recruited two employees who expressed interest in joining the RTV peer group.

Representing IBEW 1245's safety committees were RTV peer group members Neil Norris and Mike Tafoya; HTP peer group members Pete Sandoval, and Jesse Morelos; and CTP peer group members Ernie Peña and Kevin Foster. They were joined by IBEW 1245 Business Representative Fred Aboud who coordinates the peer-to-peer safety program.

During the conference, IBEW 1245 Business Representative Adam Weber presented numerous awards in recognition of continuous safety streaks—some as high as 30+years—during which time there were no OSHA recordables.

Brother Weber also dove into the history of the IBEW, emphasizing that the



Participants visiting tables manned by 1245 leaders of the Hold the Pull (HTP) peer group

union was founded on safety at a time when one out of two linemen died on the job.

"Nothing is more important than working safely and going home to our loved ones at the end of the day," declared Aboud, coordinator of the peer-to-peer safety program.

Peer-to-peer safety leaders Neil Norris, Ernie Peña and Jesse Morelos addressed the conference, sharing the work of their respective safety committees and how to get involved.

On the side, Committee members networked with each other, sharing ideas about how to encourage people to get involved to advance safety at the workplace.

Getting to represent the safety peer groups in front of a crowd of over five hundred was an enormous opportunity to spread the word about safety.

Overall, the trip was a huge success.

— By Neil Norris, IBEW 1245  
Regulate the Pressure  
Peer-to-Peer Safety Committee



More than 500 attendees participated in this year's NV Energy Safety Summit.



Everyone in the room stood to honor our fallen Brothers.

## SF GC Gas Crew Survives Cross Fire

### A true example of being your brother's keeper

**Sunnydale, San Francisco** — On Wednesday, February 12, 2025, our IBEW 1245 GC gas crew was involved in a serious safety incident, challenging our members beyond their wildest imaginations.

It started like any normal working day for the GC gas crew headquartered out of the PG&E Potrero substation in San Francisco.

The crew's job for the day was to replace and re-run underground gas lines in the Sunnydale neighborhood. The neighborhood was known to be a tough area. On many occasions, crews have been accompanied by a police escort while working in the area.

Unfortunately, on this particular day, a police escort was not available to accompany the crew as they worked.

Around 1pm that day, while IBEW 1245 members were working at the job-site, two separate third parties opened fire on each other from vehicles. In the blink of an eye, the gas crew was caught in the crossfire. Members took cover wherever they could while bullets flew. More than 40 gunshots were fired.

"It was a scary situation, when the shots rang out. I just reacted by getting out of my backhoe and jumping from it into the trench I was digging below for

cover," said Backhoe Operator Jeff Gallagher.

"We yelled out for everyone to get down. It was a crazy situation," added Gas Street Fitter Roger Nguyen.

Regrettably, one of PG&E's traffic control flagging contractors suffered a gunshot wound to the lower leg. One of IBEW 1245 members, Toamalama "Lama" Tufono was next to the flagger who was shot.

"We were in the direct crossfire of the shooting. I got down when the gunshots started. I could see that he was shot, and my thoughts were flying in my head. I didn't know if I should just stay down because they were still shooting. But something in me told me I had to try to do something, or I could not live with myself, so I just reacted," said Gas Utility Worker Toamalama Tufono.

Brother Tufono, who has only been working at PG&E for four months, got up

and dragged the injured PG&E contractor to safety behind a car while the shooting continued. When both third party vehicles stopped shooting and left the jobsite, EMS and police arrived on scene, and treated the traffic control flagger who was shot. The injured contractor was taken to the hospital, was treated for the gunshot wound and released.

The next day after the shooting, IBEW 1245 Safety Director Jody Castro and I met with the workgroup in San Francisco, to listen, show support and help the crew process what had happened.

Drawing on the experience of police and fire who have developed peer support programs for co-workers following traumatic safety incidents, IBEW 1245 is developing a "Critical Incident Stress Management" (CISM) to support our members following serious traumatic events like the one our GC Gas Crew

crew experienced. The program provides training and therapeutic support for members directly involved, their co-workers and families.

Thanks to quick action of everyone on the crew, especially brother Tufono who risked his life for another, the incident on Sunnydale Street did not end with anyone losing their life.

The entire IBEW Local 1245 is proud and grateful for our members' actions that day.

It is a true example of being your brother's keeper. It is not easy to show up every day in San Francisco and perform gas and electrical work for the public, and no one expects to be involved in such a scary incident like our crew just went through. I am deeply proud to represent the IBEW 1245 members in San Francisco who service their community."

— *Phuong Tran, IBEW 1245 Business Representative*



IBEW 1245 Business Representative Phuong Tran with GC Gas Crew Members (l-r) Jeff Gallagher, Felix Navarro, Roger Nguyen, Jose "Ivan" Murillo, and Toamalama "Lama" Tufono



# 1245 Member Freddie Hewitt, II and the CTP Committee: *Profiles in Courage*

***“I want to help others avoid what happened to me.”***

Two and a half years ago, IBEW 1245 member, Freddie Hewitt, II, a PG&E Gas Compliance Representative (GCR) from San Carlos, California defied the odds and lived.

Less than one and a half months into his new job at PG&E, Brother Hewitt was attacked at work by a random, knife wielding passer-by on the street who stabbed him in the neck, hitting his jugular.

According to Hewitt, thanks to quick action from his crew, the police, and medical team, he survived the attack. It was no small task, requiring a six-hour surgery and a long, painful recuperation.

Today, after two years of recovery and hard work, Brother Hewitt is back on the job. “I’m doing much better, though I’ve lost function in some of my limbs and have permanent facial nerve damage; I have to take care when I’m eating,” he shared. He also deals with the emotional scars of the assault and the stress that goes along with facing his assailant in a court of law. Court proceedings are in process as of this writing.

But his spirit is indomitable, according to IBEW 1245’s GSR Ernie Peña.

Peña, himself, an IBEW 1245 GSR who survived a shooting while at work, reached out to Hewitt, sharing, “I just wanted to support him. I’ve gone

through the same thing,” said Peña. “The first emotion is fear that this could happen again, then anger, because the company isn’t providing adequate support, and then action.”

For Peña, action translated into becoming Chairperson of the IBEW 1245’s peer-to-peer Control the Pressure (CTP) safety group.

The CTP peer-to-peer program is dedicated to educating the membership about the importance of safety on the job. The motto is, “If you see something, say something.” It is one of IBEW 1245’s four peer-to-peer safety Committees.

Led by Peña, IBEW 1245’s CTP program successfully pressured PG&E to adopt enhanced communication systems to alert all PG&E employees if there’s been an assault or other hazards in real time and to provide dedicated armed security for crews working night shifts and day shifts as needed. They played a key role developing a working relationship with the Oakland Police Department. Peña also set up a monthly meeting for survivors to meet and check in with one another. “It heals you when you talk about it. PTSD is real,” he said.

Peña recruited Hewitt to join CTP, and enlisted him to share his story at trainings, safety summits and yards.

In late January, 2025, Brother Hewitt told his story at the PG&E Leak Survey/Corrosion Safety Summit, the first

in a series. Joining members of the CTP Advisory Committee, he emphasized the importance of situational awareness.

“Brother Hewitt is selfless in his sharing of his story on what occurred when he was violently attacked and suffered a life-threatening injury. But, instead of ‘why me’ he has chosen to take this experience and use it as a tool to provide a teachable moment for his brothers and sisters in situational awareness and that hazards can come in an unconventional manner,” stated IBEW 1245 Business Representative Kadota who was hearing Hewitt’s story for the first time.

Kadota added, “In the short time that I listened to him, he set the example to me of what it truly means to be a Brother’s Keeper. To not only overcome a potential negative life changing event and use it as a tool to reach out and help others become safer not just on the job but, in life, is true admirable.”

IBEW 1245 Safety Director Jody Castro stated, “It is incredibly courageous for Freddie to go back to work in the field where he was assaulted. Hopefully, by sharing his story he will help prevent others from suffering the same.”

CTP Advisory Council member Nilda Garcia, a Traffic Control Utility Worker stated, “Freddie’s story had me in tears.” She praised the work of the CTP peer-to-peer group saying, “CTP is instrumental in our day-to-day work life. We promote safety in every aspect of our work...making sure our brothers and sisters work safely so they go home to their families



**Freddie Hewitt II hospitalized following knife attack at work in 2022.**

at the end of their shifts.”

Meanwhile, IBEW 1245 is exploring the development of a “Critical Incident Stress Management” initiative modeled on programs fire and police departments use to support their employees. The program provides training and therapeutic support for members, their co-workers and families following a traumatic event such as the one Hewitt suffered.

Brother Hewitt shared, “I want to help others avoid what happened to me, and if something happens, I want all the pieces to be in place to help.”

He went on to thank his family, his co-workers, the police, corporate security, the medical team, and the union for their unflinching support. “Thank you for all the support; you helped me through the dark times; thank you for worrying about each other,” he said.

— Eileen Purcell, Sr. Advisor



**Freddie Hewitt II pictured with Kelly Monroy, PG&E Corporate Security and CTP Chair/GSR Ernie Peña.**

***“CTP is instrumental in our day-to-day work life. We promote safety in every aspect of our work...making sure our brothers and sisters work safely so they go home to their families at the end of their shifts.”***

**Nilda Garcia, CTP Advisory Council Member**

## SETTING A HIGH SAFETY BAR *1245 Members at GC Bakersfield Set the Example*

**Bakersfield** — In late March, 2025, IBEW 1245 Members out of the Bakersfield GC Line Department (PG&E), were celebrated for going 3,602 days without a lost time accident.

The extraordinary feat was recognized by PG&E Management after IBEW 1245 Senior Assistant Business Manager Bob Gerstle brought it to their attention.

Gerstle said, “On a recent yard visit

with Bako GC I noticed a signboard that showed a very large number of days worked without a safety related incident. I was positive it was a mistake and decided to reach out to PGE leadership. They were not aware of this amazing performance and agreed these members deserved special recognition.”

At a time when the industry is searching for ways to build a safety culture and

reduce serious injuries or fatalities, the crew’s safety record is a source of pride.

Long time members, Subforemen A Blair Zimmerman and Gavin Salcido, captured the ethos of the group saying, “Safety is at its best when rooted in a positive culture. The foundations of a positive safety culture are made through clear rolls, responsibilities, and a mutual understanding of expectations. These foundations can be fortified by the understanding that as you progress through your career and acquire new roles, the expectation is you are still responsible for what you already bring to the work group as well as your new responsibilities. This helps create a space for coaching and mentoring to pass down a legacy. When you pass down a legacy it makes the work and the people personal to you. When it’s personal you take care of your tools, you

take care of your equipment, and if you can take care of those things, you can take care of the Brother working next to you. Be your Brother’s keeper.”

IBEW 1245 Business Representative Mark Rolow, declared, “These men have pride in the work they do and how they do it. It shows by their safety record. I am honored to call them brothers.”

IBEW 1245 Business Manager Bob Dean who served as the Union’s Business Representative in Bakersfield from 2006–2011 before joining the Administrative Staff stated, “The linemen in Bakersfield have always been an example of what we can do if we work together.”

Congratulations to the entire crew for setting a high bar when it comes to safety. You are an inspiration to us all.

— Eileen Purcell, Sr. Advisor  
to the Business Manager





# PG&E Electric Work and Resource Dispatchers: *Keeping Us Safe and the Power Flowing*

***“Like Riding a Roller Coaster  
as they Juggle a Dozen Eggs”***

On any given day, PG&E telephone lines are buzzing with customers’ calls from across its vast territory.

Serving nearly 16 million Californians from Bakersfield to Eureka, incoming calls include requests for services, help with customer billing, and sometimes, reports of downed wires, outages, or other emergencies.

Enter Electric Work and Resource dispatchers, who play an indispensable role keeping the power flowing and keeping communities and crews safe.

These IBEW 1245 members monitor, analyze and assess situations (both emergencies and non-emergencies), dispatch crews and resources in real time, and maintain clear lines of communication with first responders, crews and customers.

## Origins

The Electric Dispatch Department was established in 2012 as part of the response to the deadly explosion in San Bruno, CA two years prior. The inaugural cohort consisted of twenty dispatchers, thirteen of whom hailed from the gas side of PG&E. The seven others were Assistant System Operators (ASO). Today, there are thirty-nine Electric Work and Resource Dispatchers. Nick



**PG&E Electric Work and Resource Dispatchers and IBEW 1245 Members Nick Allgood and Mike Arizaga-Lopez**

Allgood, a 26-year IBEW 1245 member and Dispatcher, described the work, saying, “Our primary purpose is to ensure the safety of customers and crews as they perform emergency and non-emergency work by effectively and efficiently dispatching electric emergency work as well as non-emergency work.”

## Emergency and Non-Emergency Work of Dispatchers

Emergency electric work includes downed wires, broken poles, trees on lines, structure fires, electrical dig-ins, and other electrical hazards that pose a threat to life or property. Allgood’s focus is on dispatching personnel when 911 emergency personnel are on site or en route to a hazard. He dispatches crews during EPSS outages and Gridware notifications.

He also handles numerous calls from Contact Center personnel, advising of immediate response field orders or requesting an override for a same day non-emergency customer field visit, typically a disconnect or reconnect of service.

In emergencies, Dispatchers coordinate with 911 and route T-men to mitigate hazards quickly. They are responsible for guaranteeing clear, quick communication during EPSS outages based on CPUC and company requirements and engage with field crews on location at all times to ensure they are safe while on jobs through hourly check-ins.

Non-emergency electric work such as installing electric service, disconnecting/reconnecting service, streetlights, inspections (capacitors, regulators, SCADA) and other work that does not pose an immediate hazard to life or property is also part of Electric Dispatchers core responsibilities.

The job is nonstop and requires a comprehensive working knowledge of PG&E systems, work groups, and fluency with computer programs and apps, and requires intensive training.

## Dispatch Training

New Dispatchers enter the department as Dispatchers-in-Training (DITs). As DITs, they must successfully complete a strenuous 6-month training that constantly challenges their ability to remain cool, calm and composed.

Upon completion of the training, they are required to pass a proficiency assessment in order to become a qualified W&R Dispatcher. This intense training provides an in-depth understanding of the Electric Distribution system with an emphasis on Human Performance Tools to communicate effectively with all customers, 911 and public agencies. A portion of the training is dedicated to conducting a thorough analysis of Dispatch and Mapping applications to safely and accurately monitor the fleet. Dispatchers master the geographical diversities of the service territory to identify potential impacts to response and travel time and provide an accurate Estimated Time of Arrival (ETA) to 911 agencies.

## Safety: the Number 1 Priority

“Ensuring the safety of customers and field partners is my number one priority!” Dispatcher Tommy Keys.

“I prioritize all work that poses a threat to life or property and make sure I get a resource as quickly as possible to the hazard,” said Keys.

Just as important as safeguarding the safety of customers and crews is keeping the electricity flowing.

“The customer is the reason I have my job, and I make every effort to keep their lights on,” said Allgood.



**PG&E Electric Work & Resource Dispatcher/IBEW 1245 Member Tommy Keys**

Both Allgood and Keys stressed the importance of clear and timely communication with field partners, first responders, and customers for emergency and non-emergency situations.

IBEW 1245 Business Representative Eddie Moreno summed up the character of Electric Dispatchers, saying, “Electric Dispatchers possess an unmatched tenacity and dedication for providing safe and reliable service. Their commitment to ensuring the safety of our brothers and sisters in the field is inspiring. This group truly embodies the meaning of brotherhood. Having worked in a fast-paced, high-stress environment myself, I admire their persistent effort and perseverance when they are faced with challenges caused by procedural discrepancies, mismanagement of resources or the constant badgering of calls coming in. It’s like watching someone ride a roller-coaster as they juggle a dozen eggs while trying not to break one.”

— Contributions by Dispatchers/  
IBEW 1245 Members Mike Arizaga-Lopez, Nick Allgood, Tommy Keys and  
IBEW 1245 Business Representative  
Eddie Moreno

## Community Funds in Action in Santa Cruz

***“Wrestling is the vessel I use  
to teach kids about life.”***

**Santa Cruz, CA** — When Vegetation Management Inspector Edgar Moreno asked his IBEW 1245 Unit to support the Live Oak Wrestling Club in Santa Cruz, his fellow members were pleased to oblige.

The Unit submitted a motion to the IBEW 1245 Executive Board, and the Board approved a \$500 donation to the club.

The Live Oak Wrestling Club provides year-round opportunities for elementary and middle school-aged kids and teenagers to hone their wrestling skills. Sports in general and wrestling in particular build strength and endurance. Wrestling requires tremendous discipline and courage. Equally important, it cultivates life skills, including a strong work ethic, confidence, and resilience.

Utility Reporter

Moreno first learned about the group in 2023 after his 7th grade son, Mateo, met Coach Jay Reyes at a wrestling tournament. Coach Reyes was impressed and offered to help Mateo improve his wrestling skills and conditioning for his 8th grade season. Mateo was fully committed and went on to be undefeated. As a high school freshman, he continues competing on the Varsity team at his high school and continues working with Coach Reyes.

“Wrestling is the vessel I use to teach kids about life! Waking up every day and trying to be a little bit better than they were the day before, in every aspect of their lives,” says Reyes. He adds, “It’s not about wanting life to be easy, but loving the process of getting good at what’s hard. Being the best they can be both on and off the mat.”

With over 100 IBEW 1245 Units that

meet regularly in locations across California and Nevada, dozens of Units have supported community service projects since the program began in 2013. Groups are nominated by a majority vote at local Unit meetings. They receive funds once the requests are reviewed and approved by the IBEW 1245 Executive Board.

Congratulations to Brother Moreno, the IBEW 1245 Santa Cruz Unit, the IBEW 1245 Executive Board, and the Live Oak Wrestling Club for supporting the Santa Cruz community.

— Casey Barker, IBEW 1245  
Business Representative



**IBEW 1245 Business Representative Casey Barker presenting Community Funds Check to VMI Edgar Moreno for the Santa Cruz Live Oak Wrestling Club**

**2025 pin dinners are nearly concluded.  
Check out the anniversary group pictures at  
[www.IBEW1245.com](http://www.IBEW1245.com) and insert “Pin Dinners”  
in the search box.**



# IBEW 1245 Member Spotlight

## GERALDINE BRADLEY — A Bad Ass Journeyman Lineman Gets Ready to Retire

**Emeryville, CA** — Growing up in Monterey, with a parent stationed at Fort Ord, Geraldine Bradley never had dreams of college. She was hoping to get on with the Forest Service, but as a backup she enrolled in a local welding class that was designed to help veterans find a job when their service time was up.

One day, she spotted a flyer on a bulletin board that talked about an opportunity at PG&E. There was a new program to change regulators at gas meters, and the chance to start an actual career outweighed the uncertainty of what welding would bring. Geraldine got a letter of recommendation from her instructor and applied to PG&E.

A few months later, the call came. The position was with GC Gas replacing K regs. It was a foot in the door to what would become a long career with PG&E. She appreciated the chance to have a

union to represent her, having been subjected to incidents with past employers where sexual harassment and favoritism had become problematic.

While working with GC Gas in Monterey, a nineteen-year-old Geraldine migrated towards a work group that at the time she called “the cool kids.” That was the electric line crews, and she asked questions about getting into that trade. Soon thereafter she got a bid as a groundman in Monterey.

It was sometime in the mid-90s where our paths first crossed at a basic climbing class in Kettleman, CA (yes kids, there was a training school for PG&E apprentice linemen before Livermore.). Our paths have crossed a lot since then, and we’ve remained friends over the years.

Geraldine left PG&E as a 5th step apprentice in 1989, moving up to Helms



**PG&E Lineman Geraldine Bradley checks out equipment before it is put in service.**

Photos by John Storey

Power Plant where her then husband worked and lived as a PG&E comm tech. She missed her apprentice job, and got hired back by Fresno GC as a 3rd step. When the IBEW 1245 rep heard about this, he fought to get Geraldine reinstated as a 5th step apprentice, being that she was gone less than 12 months. She topped out as a journeyman in 1991.

One point Geraldine made over and over in our conversation was, “I’m a lineman—don’t you dare call me a line worker. I worked my tail off my whole career to be just that, a lineman. Not a female lineman, I’m a lineman who happens to be a female.”

We don’t have the time to list every yard Geraldine has worked in since topping out. She was absolutely the first female Troublemaker at PG&E (sorry Geraldine). If you’ve been around, you’ve likely at least seen Geraldine during a storm, if not headquartered in the yard you work in. First as a Troublemaker (no Troubleshooter for her), then over recent years as a Distribution Line Technician (DLT), this woman has been all over the PG&E system.

Geraldine is currently in East Bay as a DLT, working toward the 24-month requirement to make her Bay Area premium pensionable. She helps out as an instructor with new DLTs and the ever-changing technologies that are introduced to the grid.

As we wrapped up our lively discussion, she looked back on the Covid years. She was appreciative that IBEW1245 fought for member’s rights to decide on whether they wanted to get a vaccine shot. “If my ability to make my own decision had been taken away, I was prepared to leave the company.” It would have been a loss if she had been forced to make that decision.

Geraldine will retire later in 2025. She’s purchased a home in Florida, and is looking forward to taking up golf and playing more pickleball. I sense it won’t be an easy transition for a person who’s been a dedicated employee and 1245 member for over 35 years. We wish you the best Friend, you’ve earned this ride.

— Bob Gerstle, Sr. Assistant Business Manager

**Journeyman Lineman Geraldine Bradley and Senior Assistant Business Manager Bob Gerstle at the PG&E Transmission Shop in Emeryville, CA. Bradley is retiring in six months.**



## Celebrating Mike Eaves: 26 Years of Service, Brotherhood, and Commitment

**Vacaville** — As longtime Vacaville Lead GSR and 26-year IBEW 1245 member Mike Eaves approaches his retirement in February, 2025, he graciously sat down with me to reflect on his career at PG&E, his deep involvement with our Union, and to share advice for the next generation of workers who will carry the torch.

Mike began his PG&E journey in 1998 as a Hiring Hall Meter Reader in San Rafael. A few years later, he moved to Concord, where he had the good fortune of meeting IBEW 1245 Business Rep Darryl Norris. Darryl encouraged Mike to apply for a Gas Service Representative position—a suggestion Mike took to heart. In 2007, he secured a GSR role in Vacaville, marking the beginning of a long and dedicated career in Field Services. Over the years, he has served as a GSR, Service Mechanic, and Lead GSR, ultimately becoming the longest-tenured Field Services employee in Vacaville.

Mike’s Union involvement began

when he started attending local Unit Meetings in Vacaville, where he gained insight into union matters and eagerly shared his knowledge with fellow members. His desire to support his IBEW Brothers and Sisters led him to volunteer as a Unit Recorder and later, in 2008, as a Shop Steward.

When asked what advice he has for up-and-coming employees on the Gas side, Mike emphasized the importance of building a strong reputation and supporting coworkers. “The sky is the limit if you get involved. There are many projects and committees to participate in—this job is about more than just running a route every day.” He also highlighted the value of dependability, consistency, and integrity. “You have to take the good with the bad. This is a great job if you keep everything in perspective.” Above all, Mike stressed the importance of safety. “Take one job at a time, don’t rush, focus on the task at hand, and ensure your coworkers are doing the same.”

For young or prospective Shop Stewards, Mike underscored the importance of understanding our contracts and never hesitating to ask for help. “As a Shop Steward, you learn something new every day. Our union has great resources,” he said, mentioning Senior Assistant Business Managers Bryan Carroll and Anthony Brown, as well as retired Business Rep Keith Hopp, as valuable sources of guidance. “It’s reassuring to know that a whole group of working people always has your back and never leaves you hanging.”

Mike expressed gratitude to both the Union and the company for making his retirement process smooth and straightforward. Initially apprehensive, he was pleasantly surprised by how efficiently everything was handled.

So what’s next for Brother Mike Eaves? First, he plans to head back east for a while to take care of some personal matters. Then, he’ll return home to Vacaville to focus on his passion for music. An avid drummer, Mike plays in



**Mike Eaves**

a couple of local bands, including the Charlie Wade Blues Band, and looks forward to having more time to devote to his craft while also enjoying some well-earned relaxation.

Thank you for everything, Mike. We are all deeply grateful for your years of stewardship, mentorship, and friendship. IBEW 1245 wishes you the best in your future endeavors!

— Mike Tilden, Business Representative



# Sister Pauline Walker Retires After 40 Years

***“Pauline’s commitment and passion have always been inspiring.”*** — Vanessa Ricci

After an incredible 40 years of dedicated service, IBEW 1245 Member Pauline Walker officially retired from PG&E on March 1, 2025. Her journey with the company has been one of resilience, adaptability, and unwavering commitment, leaving a lasting impact on her colleagues and the organization as a whole.

Pauline began her career with PG&E on February 7, 1985, as a Meter Reader. When an injury prevented her from continuing in that role, she faced a crossroads that would ultimately define her career. Willing to embrace change, she moved from Santa Maria to Oroville in 1997, taking on a new position as a utility clerk. Though it was a significant move for her and her family, it turned out to be a positive transition.

In 2000, Pauline transferred to the Sacramento Call Center as a Service Representative, before bidding into the Auburn office in 2001 and later moving to Grass Valley, an ideal location for her after purchasing a home in Penn Valley. However, an unexpected opportunity in 2002 altered her path once more. She had unknowingly placed a bid for a position in the North Valley Materials Department as a Materials Handler and

was encouraged by a coworker to accept the role. That decision became one of the best she ever made, opening doors to invaluable experiences and skill development.

As a Materials Handler, Pauline mastered the operation of forklifts, trucks, and the intricate process of ensuring crews had essential materials, especially during storms when urgency was paramount. Her hard work and leadership skills led to her eventual promotion to Materials Lead, a position in which she thrived.

Pauline’s leadership extended beyond operations and into safety, one of her greatest passions. She began leading safety meetings during her time as a Meter Reader and remained a steadfast advocate for safety throughout her career. She was a member of the Warehouse Safety Team until her final day and served on the Materials Safety Action Team multiple times. Often stepping up as a safety leader, Pauline used the knowledge she gained not just at work but in her personal life as well, and she remains grateful for the safety education she received.

Beyond her official duties, Pauline was a strong advocate for workplace unity and professional growth. Her involvement with our Union began early in her career when she attended her first Unit Meeting as a Meter Reader. Over

time, she took on the role of Unit Recorder, gaining insights into the bidding process and the diverse career opportunities available at PG&E. She encourages new employees to attend Unit Meetings, where they can find support, explore career paths, and have their voices heard.

Reflecting on her career, Pauline recognizes the vital role our Union played in securing the wages and benefits that now allow her to enjoy a well-earned and comfortable retirement. Though the retirement process itself was more challenging than expected, she offers valuable advice to future retirees: request the necessary paperwork at least four months in advance and anticipate delays in the process.

Pauline’s legacy at PG&E is one of perseverance, leadership, and dedication. Her co-worker Bryce Melani shared, “I would simply say how much she will be missed and how she’s leaving pretty large shoes to fill after putting so much time in at the warehouse. She always kept on task at work but every now and then she would have the wildest stories that would make everyone around her laugh hysterically.”

Vanessa Ricci, another colleague, added, “Pauline’s commitment and passion have always been inspiring and while we will miss her leadership, we are excited for the new chapter ahead.



**IBEW 1245 member/PG&E Materials Handler Pauline Walker Retires after 40 Years.**

Retirement may mark the end of an era here, but it’s just the beginning of a well-deserved new adventure for Pauline. Wishing her all the best in this exciting next phase of life.”

As Pauline embarks on this exciting new chapter of her life, we celebrate her many accomplishments and thank her for her years of service. When asked what’s next, Pauline shared, “My husband and I look forward to continuing to travel in our RV across the United States, as well as travel to other countries. Australia in January to see our son and his family, then some European and Caribbean countries. In between traveling, we look forward to spending time with our grandson.” Congratulations, Pauline — wishing you a joyful and fulfilling retirement!

— Mike Tilden, Business Representative

## Celebrating the Legacy of Cesar Chavez Day 2025 — April 4



**Organizing Stewards Kayela Jones and Gabriella Butler leading the march**

From Delano to Sacramento to Reno, IBEW 1245 members participated in marches and celebratory dinners marking the life and legacy of civil rights and labor leader Cesar

Chavez on what would have been his ninety-eighth birthday.

Chavez, the co-founder of the United Farmworkers Union, was instrumental in exposing the abysmal working conditions suffered by farmworkers and built a movement that led to major gains for farmworkers. One of the greatest accomplishments was the successful passage of the California Agricultural Labor Relations Act

(ALRA), enacted in 1975. The landmark legislation established the right to collective bargaining for farmworkers in California, a first in U.S. history. It was also a training ground for a gen-

eration of committed labor organizers, including former IBEW 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell and the late Fred Ross Jr.

Thousands gathered in Delano – long viewed as the cradle of the farmworker movement. A central theme of the day was the assault on unions and immigrants, especially immigrant workers.

IBEW 1245 member and Organizing Steward Lead Rodrigo Flores represented 1245 and the North Valley Labor Federation. Speaking to the crowd, Flores said, “I’m here today because I believe it’s important to support immigrant workers. At the end of the day we are all workers trying to build better lives for our families. Right now immigrant workers are being unfairly criticized by our government. Hard-working, law-abiding families just like mine are simply trying to make a better

future. It’s not right to bash the very people who are feeding our country and doing some of the hardest jobs out there,” said Flores.

In Sacramento, Organizing Stewards led the 23rd annual Cesar Chavez march and manned a booth. They engaged young and old alike, sharing the mission of the Union and information about how to join, including our scholarship programs.

Organizing Steward Lead Alvin Dayoan reported, “It was an incredible event, and we were delighted to see new members participating in our labor celebrations.”

In Reno, Business Representative Marty Kumle was joined by active and retired 1245 members at a dinner sponsored by the Northern Nevada Central Labor Council.

Thanks to all who represented!



**From left: Organizing Steward Prospects Ashley Spinetti and Deandre Thomas; Organizing Stewards Gabriella Butler, Tim Neal, and Kayela Jones**



**From left: Rick Pickworth, Dana Moler and his plus one Susanne, Chance Henderson, Andrew Fritter, Kyle Cambell, and Bryce Twichell**

Photo by Business Rep Marty Kumle



**IBEW 1245 Organizing Steward Rodrigo Flores at the Cesar Chavez march**



# IBEW1245

THE POWER IS IN OUR HANDS

## 2025 Union Election Information

# MEET the CANDIDATES

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND FAQs, PLEASE VISIT  
[IBEW1245.COM/UNION-ELECTION-FAQS/](http://IBEW1245.COM/UNION-ELECTION-FAQS/)

## CANDIDATES FOR EXECUTIVE BOARD

### President

#### Cecelia De La Torre

Initiated into IBEW  
1245: 09/30/1987

Classification: Leaders'  
Clerk

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, Unit Recording Secretary #2511 2000 to 2002,

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: IBEW 1245 Pension Trustee Committee 2019 to Present, Benefits Committee 2003 to Present, Trial Board Chairperson, Labor Management Committee Clerical, 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, Safety Walk Around Committee

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Western LAMPAC, 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) Member 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 & 2022, IBEW 9th District Progress Meetings, IBEW Utility Conference Delegate, IBEW International Gas Conference 2009, IBEW National Women's Conferences, California Labor Federation Bi-Annual Convention, 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, Rallies & Phone banking, Leadership Conferences, Shop Steward Trainings



mento, Organizing Steward Prospect

Local Union Offices Held: Unit Chairman Sacramento Unit 3811, Advisory Council

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Veterans Committee

Activities on Behalf of Local Union: Electrical Workers Minority Caucus Member, Organizing for Siemens Union Vote

#### William "Willy" Garriss

Initiated into IBEW  
1245: 10/01/1999

Classification: Electrician

Steward Positions:  
Shop Steward 2012 - Present. DCPD/Moss Landing/Pismo Beach

Local Union Offices Held: Vice President - Current 2025 - 2021. Executive Board - Southern Area Rep 2021 - 2019

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: 2023-2025 Current San Luis Obispo & Santa Maria Central Coast Labor Council Delegate. 2021 IBEW 77 General Contract Negotiations & Partisan Arbitrator. 2019 IBEW 1245 Benefits Negotiating Committee. 2016-2018 Base Retention Program (BRP) Oversight Committee DCPD LOA R1-16-22-PGE. 2017-2018 Decommissioning Committee DCPD. 2016 Keep Diablo Canyon Open Committee. 2015-2018 Labor Management Committee DCPD. 2016-2018 Electrical Maintenance Shift Agreement Committee. 2014-2016 PGE-R1-16-20. 2012-2018 Outage Review Committee LOA R1-07-54-PGE. 2012-2016 Lines of Progression Update and Consolidation Committee DCPD LOA 16-55-PGE.

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: 2024 IBEW/PGE Sick Leave Bonus Clarification MOD 26657. 2024 California State Association of Electrical Workers. 2019 Qualified Electricians LOA 19-28-PGE. 2015, 2016, 2017, 2019, 2023 and 2025 IBEW Nuclear Utilities Conference. 2018 testified to the California State Senate Appropriations Committee for Senate Bill SB 1090 Retention Program. 2016 testified to the California State Lands Commission for the Keep Diablo Canyon Open Campaign



### Recording Secretary

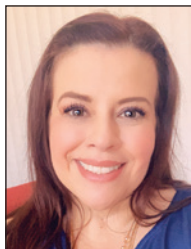
#### Rachel Segale (Ramirez)

Initiated into IBEW  
1245: 11/20/2008

Classification: Senior  
Operating Clerk

Steward Positions:  
Shop Steward 2011 - Present, Organizing Steward 2012-present, Lead Organizing Steward 2016 to 2021

Local Union Offices Held: Executive Board Recording Secretary 2015 to Present, Ex-



ecutive 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 Management Committee 2011 to 2013, CSO Labor Management Committee 2013 to Present, 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, San Joaquin Calaveras County Central Labor Council Delegate, North Valley Labor Federation Delegate, California Labor Federation Delegate, EWMC Member and Conference IBEW 9th District Progress Meeting Delegate, multiple years, 39th and 40th International Convention Delegate

Activities on Behalf of the Local 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, Union New Member Experience Co-facilitator 2015 to 2019, Various North Valley Labor Federation Campaigns throughout the Central Valley, 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

### Treasurer

#### Gary Maschio

Initiated into IBEW  
1245: 11/30/1980

Steward Positions:  
Shop Steward 1986-2024, Organizing Steward 2016 - Present, Safety Steward 2022 -2024

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 2024, 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, technically training program, critical facility technician training program, work order management systems for building department



Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: IBEW utility conference 2017 and 2013, IBEW 9th district progress meetings 2017, 2018, 2019 & 2024, EWMC conference for IBEW in 2023, LAMPAC conference in 2018, gas conference in 2024, San Francisco labor council 2019 and 2024 to present, California state labor board hearing 2019, local 1245 delegate to IBEW International Convention 2022, emergency response team for IBEW local 1245, worked on "no on 32" campaign precinct walking and phone banking, precinct walking and phone banking to support labor friendly candidates for local 1245 in 2024 elections

#### Britney Morris

Initiated into IBEW  
1245: 06/30/2019

Steward Positions:  
Organizing Steward 2022-Present, Shop Steward 2022-Present

Local Union Offices Held: Reno Unit 3311 Recorder 2021 to present

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Joint Safety Oversight Committee 2020 to present; Labor Management Committee 2022 to present; Joint Benefits Committee 2022 to present; Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee 2023-2024; NV Energy/1245 Negotiations Committee 2022

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: RENEW Delegate to the 2022 IBEW International Convention; Delegate for Nevada AFL-CIO (2022, 2023, 2024, 2025); Clerical Delegate to The Inter-Union Gas Conference (2022, 2023 and 2024); Delegate to the 9th District Progress Meeting 2023; Delegate to Nevada Central Labor Council 2023 to present; Represented IBEW 1245 at Reno LaborFest 2023 and 2024. Panelist at the 2024 IBEW Women's Conference. Participate in NV Energy new hire member recruitment. Trustee on the board of the Northern Nevada Central Labor Council 2025 to present. Participated in 2024 political campaigning with Nevada AFL-CIO representing IBEW 1245 Organizing Stewards. Actively founding the first Nevada Chapter of the Coalition of Labor Union Women



#### Steve Segale

Initiated into IBEW  
1245: 06/30/1984

Classification: Retiree

Steward Positions:  
Shop Steward 1998-2023

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 1998-2023-retirement, Gas LOP Core Committee 2013-16, Gas LOP Oversight Com-



### Vice President

#### Travis Carlson

Initiated into IBEW  
1245: 04/30/2003

Classification: Gas Service Representative

Steward Positions:  
Shop Steward Sacra-





mittee 2015-2017, 40th International Convention Delegate, Delegate to North Bay Labor Council 2005-09

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Inter Union Gas Conferences 2014-19, West Coast Gas Conference 2016-18, Utility Conference, multiple years. 9th District Progress Meeting, multiple years

Business Manager

Bob Dean

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 01/31/1992

Classification: Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Committees served on behalf of the Union: Several committees; apprenticeship training committee

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: negotiated some of the Union's most notable contracts, 1245's first agreement for solar and wind technicians, Board of Americans for a Clean Energy Grid, Vice President of the California Labor Federation



Executive Board - Southern Area

Jeremy T. Winn

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 09/30/1999

Classification: Work Control Lead

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

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Executive Board Southern Area Rep (2022 - Present); Committee to keep Diablo Canyon open - KDCO (2014); Training Oversight Committee (2012 - Present); Committee for Diablo Canyon Retention (2015); Decommissioning committee (2019 - 2023); P25 committee (2019 - 2023)

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Nuclear conference 2009, 2011, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2019, 2024; Young Union Workers convention 2011, March on the State Capitol -KDCO (2016, 2023); CA Congress Blitz (2016, 2022); Testified before State Senate Utility Committee for SB-1090 (2018); Nuclear RIC conference 2023; IBEW utility conference (2023, 2024)



Executive Board - Central Area

Cloudell Douglas

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 07/31/2008

Classification: Electric

Steward Positions: Shop Steward 2015-2018

Local Union Offices Held: Advisory Council East Bay

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Al Sandoval scholarship committee 2015

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: EWMC convention delegate 2014, 2015, 2016, CBTU convention delegate 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, APRI convention delegate 2017, 39th IBEW convention delegate 2016, Renew convention delegate 2015, Suriname Linemen Without Borders delegate 2016, labor management East Bay 2015-2016, new employee orientation 2014-



2016, future negotiators training 2015, distribution energy futures delegate 2015

Executive Board - Northern Area

Alvin Dayoan

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 03/31/2016

Classification: Service Representative II

Steward Positions: Shop Steward, Lead Organizing Steward

Local Union Offices Held: Advisory Council for Clerical PG&E Northern Area 2019 -Present, Sacramento Clerical 3801 Unit Chair 2019-2024 and Vice Chair 2016-2019

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

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: IBEW Registrar 2020-present, IBEW 1245 Trustee 2023-present, Sacramento Central Labor Council Delegate, APALA Sacramento Chapter Treasurer and Secretary, Delegate for CA Biennial State Fed Labor Convention, Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (EWMC) Annual Leadership Conference, IBEW RENEW/NextGen Conference, APALA Biennial National Convention, IBEW Legislative Conference, IBEW Membership Development Conference, Lobbying at the State Capitol: Keep Diablo Canyon Open, SB 901, AB 1054, SB 431, AB 1373, Utility Worker Day, CLC Campaigns: Darrell Steinberg for Mayor, Brandon Rose & Rosanna Herber for SMUD Board, Scott Alford for City Council, Brian Dahle for State Senate, Gregg Fishman for City Supervisor, No on Prop 22, Liz Ortega for Assembly, Siemens Campaign, Member to Member Welcome Calls



Bryan Mazza

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 08/01/2012

Eric Wright Jr.

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 05/31/2019

Classification: PG&E Construction Foreman

Steward Positions: Shop Steward 2021 to present

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Electrical Workers Minority Caucus, Renew/Nextgen Conference, Coalition of Black Trade Unionists Convention, 9th District Progress meeting, Inter-Union Gas Conference



Executive Board - Northeastern Area

Ryan Morris

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 05/31/2004

Classification: Substation Construction Facilitator

Steward Positions: Shop Steward 2010-present

Local Union Offices Held: Executive Board - Northeastern Area - 2019 to present, Unit Chair for Unit 3311 - 2019 to present.

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Joint Safety Oversight Committee 2017 to present, Labor Management Committee 2018 to present, Joint Benefits Committee 2021 to present, NV Energy/1245 Negotiations Committee 2022.



Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Delegate to the following Conferences - Inaugural Renew/Next Up Conference 2010, National Gas Conference 2010, Nevada AFL-CIO Conference 2019, EWMC 2020, Utility Conference 2023 and 9th District Progress Meeting 2024. Involved with Shame on NV Energy Campaign 2010, Attended Leadership Training in Berkeley Ca 2011, 1 of the 10 Founding Members of the Peer to Peer Gas Safety Campaign - Control the Pressure 2011, Attended Rocky Mountain Labor School 2017

Zachary Romeo

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 11/01/2002

Executive Board - General Construction of PG&E At-Large

Steven Ramirez

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 03/24/1999

Classification: Cable Splicer-GC

Steward Positions: IBEW 1245 Shop Steward 2017-present

Local Union Offices Held: IBEW 1245 Executive Board (GC At Large) 2024-Present, IBEW 1245 Advisory Council (GC At Large) 2022-2024

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union & other activities: IBEW 1245 Veterans Committee 2024-Present, San Francisco Labor Council IBEW 1245 Delegate 2024-Present

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Grid of the Future Conference 2024, IBEW 1245 Utility Worker Rally (Trade Representative and Presenter) State Capitol Bldg,



Sacramento, Ca 2024, IBEW National Utility Conference Austin, TX 2023

Executive Board - Outside Construction

Scott "Hud" Hudelson

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 11/30/1996

Classification: Journeyman Lineman

Steward Positions: Shop Steward: Par Electrical 2000-,2002. Power Providers 2001. International Line Builders 2003-2004. Allday Electric 2010. Black & Veatch 2012.

Local Union Offices Held: Executive Board Member representing Outside Line Construction & Tree Trimmers 2019-Present, Outside Line Unit Chairman 2011-Present, Outside Line Unit Recorder 2000-2011

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Outside Line Collective Bargaining Committee & Contract Negotiations Team 2003, 2006, 2009, 2012, 2017, 2022. Injured Workers Fund Trustee 01/2014-Present. Policy 22 Examining Committee 01/2008-2019. Contractor Safety Committee 10/2019-2020. NECA/IBEW Quarterly Safety Committee 3/2022-Present. California/Nevada JATC Alternate 2002, Utility Conference Delegate 04/2024, 9th District Progress Committee 7/2024, Delegate to Sacramento and Solano Labor Councils 2004, 2006

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Union Field Rep for Outside Line & Tree Trimmers June-Dec 2011, International Lineman's Rodeo Event Judge 2017 & 2022, Lead Salt for Organizing Campaign of All-Power Electrical April-June 2007, COMET Participant 2004.



CANDIDATES FOR EXAMINING BOARD

Adam Beebe

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 07/17/19

Matthew Korpi

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 09/29/2011

Michael Raper

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 03/15/2013

Classification: General Foreman



CANDIDATES FOR ADVISORY COUNCIL

San Joaquin Division of PG&E-Physical

Kurene Lovelace-Turner

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 02/28/2014

Steward Positions: Shop Steward

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Lead organizer for several campaigns in and out of state; managed grievance filing for bypass on over time



Coast Valleys Division of PG&E-Physical

NO NOMINATIONS

Diablo Canyon Nuclear Generating Station

Chris Risley

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 10/31/2007

Steward Positions: Union Steward 2010 to present

Local Union Offices Held: Ad Council 2019 to present



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

NO NOMINATIONS

Continued on next page

Save this section of the paper and watch for your ballot in the mail.



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

Robert Aaron Graves  
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 10/12/2012

Piotr Majewski  
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 09/30/2002

Alameda/Contra Costa Transit District and East Bay Municipalities

Michael Patterson  
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 03/31/2002

East Bay Division of PG&E-Physical

Foster Goree  
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 03/31/2011  
Classification: GSR  
Steward Positions: Shop Steward, Organizing Steward & Safety Steward  
Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Alameda Labor council Delegate

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

Oleg Zaretski  
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 07/31/2018  
Classification: T&D Technician  
Local Union Offices Held: Vice Unit Chair for unit 2415



Stockton Division of PG&E-Physical

NO NOMINATIONS

Sacramento Regional Transit District

Kenneth Williams  
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 09/30/2019  
Classification: Light Rail Vehicle Technician



Steward Positions: Shop Steward since 2021(3 years, 6 months)  
Local Union Offices Held: Serving as unit recorder since July 2021 (3 years, 9 months), Serving as an alternate advisory council member since October 2022 (2 years, 6 months), Serving as alternate for unit meeting chair since June 2024 (10 months)  
Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Light Rail Training Committee (2 years), Ballot Committee (2021 CBA), Retirement Board (1 month)  
Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: IBEW subject matter expert (SME) for Sacramento Regional Transit Rail Car Consortium (1 month)

TransCanada  
NO NOMINATIONS

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

Jed Cruz  
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 09/30/2007

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

David Williams  
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 04/30/2012

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

Shannon Hoyt  
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 06/30/2006  
Classification: Journeyman Lineman  
Steward Positions: Shop Steward  
Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Contract Negotiation Committee



Jonathan McCue  
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 10/31/2005  
Classification: Inspector  
Steward Positions: Shop Steward, Hold the Pull Safety Steward  
Local Union Offices Held: Advisory Council, Liberty North Lake Tahoe Unit Chair  
Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Liberty Utilities bargaining committee 2024, 2021, 2017, 2014  
Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: 2024 9th district conference



De Sabla Division of PG&E-Physical

NO NOMINATIONS

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

NO NOMINATIONS

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

NO NOMINATIONS

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

Douglas Sanders  
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 09/30/2017

Andrew “Gordon” Young  
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 07/31/2007

Classification: Lead Gas Service Representative  
Steward Positions: Shop Steward 2012 – present, Organizing Steward 2019 – present, Safety Steward 2022 - present  
Local Union Offices Held: North Bay Labor Council Delegate - 2023 – present,  
Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Alameda Labor Council - Multiple campaigns since 2020; Napa Solano - Campaigns 2023 – present; IBEW International Convention and Organizing Training - San Antonio TX - 2023



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

NO NOMINATIONS

Sacramento Municipal Utility District and City of Lodi

Rafael Burgos  
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 06/30/01

John Lancaster  
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 02/29/2000



USBR, Western Area Power Administration

NO NOMINATIONS

Frontier Communications

NO NOMINATIONS

General Construction of PG&E – At Large

Roberto Arredondo  
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 01/18/2022

Classification: Vegetation Management Inspector



General Construction of PG&E – At Large

Aubrey Carr  
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 12/31/2021

Classification: Vegetation Management Inspector

Steward Positions: Shop steward since 2024



General Construction of PG&E – At Large

Samone Liggins  
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 06/30/2020

Tree Trimmer Companies

Tiffany Clemons  
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 09/30/2018

Classification: Journeyman Tree Trimmer  
Steward Positions: Safety Steward

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Women’s Committee



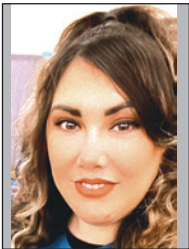
Clerical PG&E – Northern Area

Ramona “Mona” Garcia  
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 7/31/2020  
Classification: SSR Sac CCO

Steward Positions: Shop Steward & Organizing Steward, Sacramento Clerical 3801 Unit Recording Secretary 2024-Present

Local Union Offices Held: Advisory Council for Clerical PG&E Northern Area Alternate (2021-present)

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: (2024-Present) EWMC Solano County Chapter member (2023-present), Grid of the Future conference, IBEW international Membership Development Conference, EWMC Renew Annual Leadership Conference, Lobbying at the Capitol: Climate Action for Diablo Canyon, SB 284, SB410, ACR 153. Sacramento CLC election kick off, GOTV Nevada CLC, GOTV Alameda CLC. CLSB Hearing Rancho Cordova, City of Vallejo Council Meeting & Solidarity Mobilization, Southern CA Edison ENA unit meetings. Volunteering at: NV Energy lineman/gas rodeo, Vallejo Waterfront Weekend, IBEW Golf Tournament, IBEW Car show, Ticket to Dream, Charity Bowl, Loaves & Fishes, St. John’s Women’s Shelter



Clerical PG&E – Central Area

Iyasha (Eye-A-sha) Davis  
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 06/30/2021

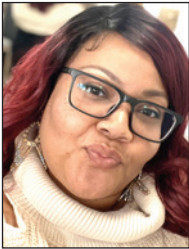
Classification: Service Representative CSO

Steward Positions: Organizing Steward and Shop Steward

Local Union Offices Held: Unit Chair for Clerical PG&E Unit 3801

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Women’s Committee (2024-Current), Sacramento Central Labor Council Delegate

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: contributed to several campaigns and Senate Bill mobilizing attendee



Clerical PG&E – Southern Area

NO NOMINATIONS

Irrigation District (Merced ID, Turlock ID, Lindmore ID, Paradise ID, South Feather Power & Water



Agency, Modesto ID & South San Joaquin ID)

Rodrigo Flores

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 09/30/1999

Classification: Power-house Technician (Hydroelectric Operator)

Steward Positions: Organizing Steward & Shop Steward

Local Union Offices Held: Merced ID Unit Chairperson, Ad Council Irrigation Districts

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Merced ID Bargaining Committee 2016, 2025, North Valley Labor Federation (NVLF) Delegate, VOC Committee Merced ID (Janus) 2018

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: 2023 Chicago IBEW Organizing Convention, 2013 IBEW 9th District Progress Meet-



ing, 2015 Washington DC Organizing Convention, 2012 No on Prop 32, 2012 Merced ID Board Member Campaign, and 2 Lobbying Days at the Capital in Sacramento, 2016 Sonoma County Supervisor - Noreen Evans (Campaign)

Outside Construction

Albert Muetterties

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 11/16/2015

City of Lompoc

Leo Ramirez

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 02/28/2014

Steward Positions: Shop Steward, Organizing Steward

Local Union Offices Held: Unit Chair

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Negotiations Committee 2018, 2020, 2022

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Lo-

cal Mayor campaign, City Council and City Representative's campaign

Manufacturing

Arnaldo Lizarraga

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 10/01/2012

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

NO NOMINATIONS

Materials Distribution Department of PG&E

NO NOMINATIONS

City of Vallejo and Greater Vallejo Recreation District

Joshua Davidson

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 05/31/2009

Classification: Utility Supervisor

Steward Positions: Shop Steward and Organizing Steward

Local Union Offices Held: Advisory council 07/2023-present

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Sergeant at arms for local union.

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Vallejo VOC organizing. Vallejo waterfront weekend community outreach organizing. State Capitol 2 Days for Utility workers day organizing. Worked with the Napa Solano Central labor council phone banking and dropping lit for the recent Harris election organizing. 2024 9th district conference delegate



CANDIDATES FOR INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATE

Daniel Ahern

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 09/30/2006

Jason Amoss

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 05/18/2018

Bryan Anderson

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 02/28/1997

Classification: Troublemán Journeyman Lineman



Ralph Armstrong

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 05/31/1987

Classification: Senior Assistant Business Manager, IBEW Local 1245



Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Outside Task Team Member, IBEW International Office (2023-Present), Joint Safety Chairman, IBEW/NECA

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Assistant Business Manager (2011-2014), Joint Safety Chairman (IBEW/NECA), Trustee (CA JATC), Outside Task Team Member 2023-Present (IBEW International Office)

Pedro Bautista

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 05/31/2011

Adam Beebe

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 07/17/2019

Wendell Brown

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 08/31/2015

Brady Brunson

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 02/28/2005

Classification: Electric Troublemán

Steward Positions: Shop Steward 2018-Present, Hold the Pull Safety Steward 2020-2022

Local Union Offices Held: Unit 3318 Chairman; Unit 3318 Recorder

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Hold the Pull Advisory Committee 2022-present, Hold the Pull Advisory Committee Chairman 2024-Present

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: 2025 Nevada AFL-CIO Legislative Conference, Temporary Business Rep. November 2023-2024

Rafael Burgos

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 06/30/2001

Montana Burns

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 12/01/2013

Jed Cruz

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 09/30/2007

Stephen Dale

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 03/31/2004

Iyasha Davis

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 06/30/2021

Classification: Service Representative for CSO

Steward Positions: Organizing Steward and Shop Steward

Local Union Offices Held: Sacramento Clerical PG&E Unit Chair 3801

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Women's Committee Member 2024-current; Sacramento Central Labor Council Delegate



Jeremiah Desart

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 05/31/2006

William Dockery

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 06/28/2013

Cloudell Douglas

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 07/31/2008

Classification: Electric

Steward Positions: Shop Steward 2015-2018

Local Union Offices Held: Advisory Council East Bay

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Al Sandoval scholarship committee 2015

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: EWMC convention delegate 2014, 2015, 2016, CBTU convention delegate 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, APRI convention dele-



gate 2017, 39th IBEW convention delegate 2016, Renew convention delegate 2015, Suriname Linemen Without Borders delegate 2016, labor management East Bay 2015-2016, new employee orientation 2014-2016, future negotiators training 2015, distribution energy futures delegate 2015

Daryl Dudley

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 12/06/2004

Classification: Gas Service Mechanic

Activities on Behalf of Local Union: Oakland's Safety Lead, FR clothing committee



Vinh Duong

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 09/30/2001

Classification: Gas Service Representative

Steward Positions: Shop Steward and Safety Steward

Phillip Farris

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 03/31/2003

Christopher Feyling

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 05/31/2013

Bryan Fox

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 08/31/2018

Adrian Garcia

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 11/01/2014

Ramona "Mona" Garcia

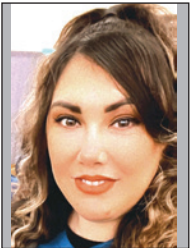
Initiated into IBEW 1245: 07/31/2020

Classification: SSR Sac CCO

Steward Positions: Shop Steward & Organizing Steward

Local Union Offices Held: Advisory Council for Clerical PG&E Northern Area Alternate (2021-present)

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: (2024-Present) EWMC Solano County Chapter member (2023-present), Grid of the Future conference, IBEW international Membership Development Conference, EWMC Renew Annual Leadership Conference, Lobbying at the Capitol: Climate



Action for Diablo Canyon, SB 284, SB410, ACR 153. Sacramento CLC election kick off, GOTV Nevada CLC, GOTV Alameda CLC. CLSB Hearing Rancho Cordova, City of Vallejo Council Meeting & Solidarity Mobilization, Southern CA Edison ENA unit meetings. Volunteering at: NV Energy lineman/gas rodeo, Vallejo Waterfront Weekend, IBEW Golf Tournament, IBEW Car show, Ticket to Dream, Charity Bowl, Loaves & Fishes, St. John's Women's Shelter

William "Willy" Garris

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 10/01/1999

Classification: Electrician

Steward Positions: Shop Steward 2012 - Present. DCP/ Moss Landing/Pismo Beach

Local Union Offices Held: Vice President - Current 2025 - 2021. Executive Board - Southern Area Rep 2021 - 2019

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: 2023-2025 Current San Luis Obispo & Santa Maria Central Coast Labor Council Delegate. 2021 IBEW 77 General Contract Negotiations & Partisan Arbitrator. 2019 IBEW 1245 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/ 2016-2018 Electrical Maintenance Shift Agreement Committee. 2014-2016 PGE-R1-16-20. 2012-2018 Outage Review Committee LOA R1-07-54-PGE. 2012-2016 Lines of Progression Update and Consolidation Committee DCP/ LOA 16-55-PGE

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: 2024 IBEW/PGE Sick Leave Bonus Clarification MOD 26657. 2024 California State Association of Electrical Workers. 2019 Qualified Electricians LOA 19-28-PGE. 2015, 2016, 2017, 2019, 2023 and 2025 IBEW Nuclear Utilities Conference. 2018 testified to the California State Senate Appropriations Committee for Senate Bill SB 1090 Retention Program. 2016 testified to the California State Lands Commission for the Keep Diablo Canyon Open Campaign



Michael Gauci

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 12/31/1995



**Candidates for International Convention Delegate,**  
*continued from previous page*

**Brian Hall**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 04/30/2002

**Gregory Havard**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 01/31/2020

Classification: Shift Control Tech

Steward Positions: DCPD Shop Steward

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: DCPD base retention payment agreement 1 committee (2017), SCT agreement committee (Dec 2019 - Jul 2020), DCPD base retention payment agreement 2 committee (Feb-May 2023)

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Diablo Canyon power plant maintenance representative to California State Energy Commission, to speak in support of 2018 - SB 1090 to raise Retention Bonus from 15% to 25%, April 2018 (Sacramento, California), Delegate to NRC Regulatory Information Conference March, 2023 (Washington, D.C.), Delegate to IBEW Nuclear Convention 2023 (Las Vegas, Nevada), Delegate to IBEW Nuclear Convention 2024 (Chicago, Illinois)

**Ashleigh Hodoh**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 09/30/2013

**Scott “Hud” Hudelson**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 11/30/1996

Classification: Journeyman Lineman

Steward Positions: Shop Steward: Par Electrical 2000-,2002. Power Providers 2001. International Line Builders 2003-2004. Allday Electric 2010. Black & Veatch 2012.

Local Union Offices Held: Executive Board Member representing Outside Line Construction & Tree Trimmers 2019-Present, Outside Line Unit Chairman 2011-Present, Outside Line Unit Recorder 2000-2011

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Outside Line Collective Bargaining Committee & Contract Negotiations Team 2003, 2006, 2009, 2012, 2017, 2022. Injured Workers Fund Trustee 01/2014-Present. Policy 22 Examining Committee 01/2008-2019. Contractor Safety Committee 10/2019-2020. NECA/IBEW Quarterly Safety Committee 3/2022-Present. California/Nevada JATC Alternate 2002, Utility Conference Delegate 04/2024, 9th District Progress Committee 7/2024, Delegate to Sacramento and Solano Labor Councils 2004, 2006

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Union Field Rep for Outside Line & Tree Trimmers June-Dec 2011, International Lineman’s Rodeo Event Judge 2017 & 2022, Lead Salt for Organizing Campaign of All-Power Electrical April-June 2007, COMET Participant 2004.

**Bill Hunt**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 05/31/1984

Classification: SR Operating Clerk I-II

Steward Positions: Shop Steward 1985 - present

Local Union Offices Held: Unit 3712 Recorder 2003 - present

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Unit 3712 Recorder since 2003, Health & Safety Committee: 1985-1995, Clerical Improvement Initiative: 2014-2016, PG&E:

General Bargaining Committee: 2000; 2003 Clerical Bargaining Committee: 2009; 2012; 2016; Union Election Board member 2013; 2016; 2019

**Murray Janisse**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 03/31/2010

Steward Positions: Shop Steward, Organizing Steward

Local Union Offices Held: Unit Recorder, Unit Chairman

Committees served on behalf of the Union: Negotiations Committee 2012 - 2025

**Luther Jessie**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 12/31/2020

**Albert A. Jimenez Sr.**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 07/31/2008

Classification: Gas Service Representative

Steward Positions: Shop Steward

Local Union Offices Held: Advisory Council - Stockton Division of PG&E; Stockton Unit # 2511 Chairman

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Bargaining Committee

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Delegate to IBEW 40th International Convention (Chicago 22’); Delegate to Utility Workers Conference (New Orleans 24’); Delegate to 80th Annual 9th District progress meeting (Hawaii 24’); Safety Culture Village Lead, Central Valley (Current)

**Danny Kalender**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 08/31/1996

Classification: Fitter Arc

Steward Positions: Shop Steward 2015 to present

Activities on Behalf of Local Union: Participated in the effort to keep Yolo County from being taken over by SMUD including phone banking; current member of the Safety Culture team

**Michael Kincheloe**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 10/31/2019

**Matthew Korpi**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 09/29/2011

**Aaron Lewis**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 04/30/2005

Classification: Worker Leader A

**Siarra Lopez**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 04/30/2020

**Romantic Martinez**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 09/30/2003

Classification: Electric Crew Foreman

**Gary Maschio**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 11/30/1980

Steward Positions: Shop Steward 1986-2024, Organizing Steward 2016 - Present, Safety Steward 2022 -2024

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 2024, 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, technically training program, critical facility technician training program, work order management systems for building department

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: : IBEW utility conference 2017 and 2013, IBEW 9th district progress meetings 2017, 2018, 2019 & 2024, EWMC conference for IBEW in 2023, LAMPAC conference in 2018, gas conference in 2024, San Francisco labor council 2019 and 2024 to present, California state labor board hearing 2019, local 1245 delegate to IBEW International Convention 2022, emergency response team for IBEW local 1245, worked on “no on 32” campaign precinct walking and phone banking, precinct walking and phone banking to support labor friendly candidates for local 1245 in 2024 elections

**Bryan Mazza**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 08/01/2012

**Robert McKenzie**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 07/31/2019

Classification: SIPT Crew Lead

Steward Positions: Shop Steward Redding Yard

Local Union Offices Held: Redding Unit Chair

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: SIPT Labor Management Committee

**Jose Melgoza**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 03/31/2017

**Michael Melloni**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 09/30/2016

**Rey Mendoza**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 10/31/2007

Classification: IBEW Business Representative June 2014 - Present

Steward Positions: Shop Steward March 2011 - June 2014

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Clerical Bargaining Committee 2014, PG&E Contact Center Operations Rewards & Recognition Committee 2013 Fresno Central Labor Council Executive Board Member and Delegate, Delegate to the IBEW Electric Workers Minority Caucus Conference 2015, 2025, Delegate to the California Labor Federation COPE Convention 4/2014



**Daniel Mercado**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 02/29/1992

**Britney Morris**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 06/30/2019

Steward Positions: Organizing Steward 2022-Present, Shop Steward 2022-Present

Local Union Offices Held: Reno Unit 3311 Recorder 2021 to present

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Joint Safety Oversight Committee 2020 to present; Labor Management Committee 2022 to present; Joint Benefits Committee 2022 to present; Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee 2023-2024; NV Energy/1245 Negotiations Committee 2022

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: RENEW Delegate to the 2022 IBEW International Convention; Delegate for Nevada AFL-CIO (2022, 2023, 2024, 2025); Clerical Delegate to The Inter-Union Gas Conference (2022, 2023 and 2024); Delegate to the 9th District Progress Meeting 2023; Delegate to Nevada Central Labor Council 2023 to present; Represented IBEW 1245 at Reno LaborFest 2023 and 2024. Panelist at the 2024 IBEW Women’s Conference. Participate in NV Energy new hire member recruitment. Trustee on the board of the Northern Nevada Central Labor Council 2025 to present. Participated in 2024 political campaigning with Nevada AFL-CIO representing IBEW 1245 Organizing Stewards. Actively founding the first Nevada Chapter of the Coalition of Labor Union Women

**Ryan Morris**

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 05/31/2004

Classification: Substation Construction Facilitator

Steward Positions: Shop Steward 2010-Present

Local Union Offices Held: Executive Board - Northeastern Area - 2019 to present, Unit Chair for Unit 3311 - 2019 to present

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Joint Safety Oversight Committee 2017 to present, Labor Management Committee 2018 to present, Joint Benefits Committee 2021 to present, NV Energy/1245 Negotiations Committee 2022

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Delegate to the following Conferences - Inaugural Renew/Next Up Conference 2010, National Gas Conference 2010, Nevada AFL-CIO Conference 2019, EWMC 2020, Utility Conference 2023 and 9th District Progress Meeting 2024. Involved with Shame on NV Energy Campaign 2010, At-





tended Leadership Training in Berkeley Ca 2011, 1 of the 10 Founding Members of the Peer to Peer Gas Safety Campaign – Control the Pressure 2011, Attended Rocky Mountain Labor School 2017

Serena Moss

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 02/02/2005

Tim Neal

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 07/31/2020

Classification: Service Representative II

Steward Positions: Shop Steward and Organizing Steward

Local Union Offices Held: Sacramento Clerical 3801 Unit Sergeant at Arms (2024-Present)

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: EWMC-Electrical Workers Minority Caucus 35th Conference Delegate, Delegate for Sacramento Labor Council

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Grid of the Future conference, 2024 Joint Legislative Conference, St. John’s Women’s Shelter Volunteer Coordinator, IBEW 1245 new member calls. Lobbying at the Capitol: Climate Action for Diablo Canyon, SB 284, SB410, ACR 153. Sacramento CLC election kick-off, GOTV Nevada CLC, GOTV Alameda CLC. CLSB Hearing Rancho Cordova, City of Vallejo Council Meeting & Solidarity Mobilization, Southern CA Edison ENA unit meetings., Vallejo Waterfront Weekend, Ticket to Dream, Charity Bowl

Tony Ngo

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 12/31/2019

Wyatt Nichols

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 10/20/2015

Peter Osivwemu

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 04/08/2019

Alexander Perez

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 02/28/2013

Lorenzo Perez

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 10/31/2014

Classification: Gas Compliance Representative

Steward Positions: Shop Steward 2022 - Present

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Damage Prevention Labor relations committee (2024 -present)

Steve Ramirez

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 03/24/1999

Classification: Cable Splicer-GC

Steward Positions: IBEW 1245 Shop Steward 2017-present

Local Union Offices Held: IBEW 1245 Executive Board (GC At Large) 2024-Present, IBEW 1245 Advisory Council (GC At Large) 2022-2024

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: IBEW 1245 Veterans Committee 2024-Present, San Francisco Labor Council IBEW 1245 Delegate 2024-Present

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Grid of the Future Conference 2024, IBEW

Utility Reporter

1245 Utility Worker Rally (Trade Representative and Presenter) State Capitol Bldg, Sacramento, Ca 2024, IBEW National Utility Conference Austin, TX 2023

John Randall

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 08/31/2014

Chris Risley

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 10/31/2007

Steward Positions: Union Steward 2010 to present

Local Union Offices Held: Ad Council 2019 to present

Zachary Romeo

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 11/01/2002

Brittney Santana

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 06/30/2008

Classification: First field clerk

Steward Positions: Shop steward 2016-current

Local Union Offices Held: Fresno Unit Chair 2019-2021

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Election Committee Feb 2016, Fresno Unit Chair 2019-2021, Lead Organizer Aug 2018, Election Committee Feb 2019, EWMC Board- Delegate 2019, Labor Management Team - Fleet May 2019, National Convention Delegates Election Committee- Mar 2022, EWMC Board- Secretary 2022

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Baza Arpaio – 2016, Kate Harrison -2016, San Diego Gas & Electric organizing call center employees-2017, EWMC conference 2018, Nelson Esparza -2018, No on Prop A – 2018, SB901 – 2018, No on Prop 3 – 2018, Andrew Janz -2018, EWMC conference- 2019, RENew conference- 2019, EWMC conference-2020, Jim Costa- 2020, Jackie Fielder – 2020, Jon Ossoff -2020, SB617- 2021, AB1139 – 2021, EWMC conference-2021, VMI screener - 2022

Rachel Segale (Ramirez)

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 11/20/2008

Classification: Senior Operating Clerk

Steward Positions: Shop Steward 2011 – Present, Organizing Steward 2012-present, Lead Organizing Steward 2016 to 2021

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 Management Committee 2011 to 2013, CSO Labor Management Committee 2013 to Present, 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; San Joaquin Calaveras County Central Labor

Council Delegate, North Valley Labor Federation Delegate, California Labor Federation Delegate, EWMC Member and Conference IBEW 9th District Progress Meeting Delegate, multiple years, 39th and 40th International Convention Delegate

Activities on Behalf of the Local 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, Union New Member Experience Co-facilitator 2015 to 2019, Various North Valley Labor Federation Campaigns throughout the Central Valley, 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

Steve Segale

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 06/30/1984

Classification: Retiree

Steward Positions: Shop Steward 1998-2023

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 1998-2023-retirement, Gas LOP Core Committee 2013-16, Gas LOP Oversight Committee 2015-2017, 40th International Convention Delegate, Delegate to North Bay Labor Council 2005-09

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Inter Union Gas Conferences 2014-19, West Coast Gas Conference 2016-18, Utility Conference, multiple years. 9th District Progress Meeting, multiple years

Kevin Simpson

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 09/30/2015

Ryan Sutherland

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 12/10/2014

Laquania “Q” Thompson

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 02/28/2014

Classification: Operating Clerk

Steward Positions: Shop Steward, Lead Organizing Steward

Local Union Offices Held: Local 1245 Advisory Council 2019

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Delegate to the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (EWMC) Leadership Conference 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Trustee for the Fresno Madera Tulare Kings Central Labor Council. Siemens United Campaign 2024 and 2025. Worked with the Nevada Labor Federation 2022 and 2024. “No on Question 3” campaign in Las Vegas. “No on Prop A” campaign in Missouri. Member of the National Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW). Delegate to the CLUW Conference 2018. Delegate to the IBEW Women’s Conference 2022. Delegate to the Utility Conference. Attended the Shop Steward Conference and Organizing Steward Conference. Various campaigns with the Fresno Madera Tulare Kings Cen-

tral Labor Council, North Valley Labor Federation, and Kern Central Labor Council. Served as a Rotational Staff Organizer 2024 and Certified Trainer for the Organizing Institute 2024

Larry Unsworth

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 12/31/2018

Local Union Offices Held: Unit Chair for Healdsburg

Luis Vega

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 06/30/2019

Classification: Gas Service Representative

Steward Positions: Lead Organizing Steward, Safety Steward with Control the Pressure

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Current member of EWMC (Electrical Workers Minority Caucus) for 2.5yrs, Delegate to Contra Costa Labor Council, 2yrs, LAEWA member Bay Area Chapter, 2025

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Volunteer Outreach Coordinator (Oakland/Richmond/Eastbay), Siemens Mobility Campaign in Sacramento, Organizing during General Election in the Bay Area

Courtney Williams

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 01/31/1991

Jeremy T. Winn

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 09/30/1999

Classification: Work Control Lead

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

Committees Served on Behalf of the Union: Executive Board Southern Area Rep (2022 – Present); Committee to keep Diablo Canyon open – KDCO (2014); Training Oversight Committee (2012 – Present); Committee for Diablo Canyon Retention (2015); Decommissioning committee (2019 – 2023); P25 committee (2019 – 2023)

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Nuclear conference 2009, 2011, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2019, 2024; Young Union Workers convention 2011, March on the State Capitol -KDCO (2016, 2023); CA Congress Blitz (2016, 2022); Testified before State Senate Utility Committee for SB-1090 (2018); Nuclear RIC conference 2023; IBEW utility conference (2023, 2024)

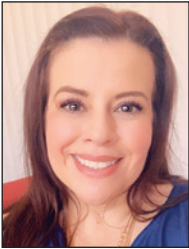
Eric Wright Jr.

Initiated into IBEW 1245: 05/31/2019

Classification: PG&E Construction Foreman

Steward Positions: Shop Steward 2021 to present

Activities on Behalf of the Local Union: Electrical Workers Minority Caucus, Renew/Nextgen Conference, Coalition of Black Trade Unionists Convention, 9th District Progress meeting, Inter-Union Gas Conference





# UNION WOMEN STRONGER TOGETHER 2025

**Los Angeles, CA** — From Friday, March 28 through Sunday, March 30, six members of the fourteen-member IBEW 1245 Women's Committee joined hundreds of their sisters from across the Union movement at the annual "Union Women Stronger Together 2025" conference in Los Angeles, CA.

Themes of the conference ranged from increasing women in the Construction Trades to how legislation and politics impact women in the workplace, how to build a mentorship program and how to survive and thrive through apprenticeships.

In one of the workshops, IBEW 1245 members Tiffany Clemons, Nicole Caldwell, and Karyn Newmark shared the vision of the IBEW 1245 Women's

Committee, saying, "Our goal is to support women in the trades and to reach out to women wanting to join the trade. We are: Tiffany Clemons, seven-year IBEW member, Line Clearance Tree Trimmer, Safety Steward, Ad Council member and certified arborist; Nicole Caldwell, City of Willits, fifteen years Waste Water Treatment Operator, IBEW 1245 Shop Steward; Karyn Newmark, High Voltage Substation Electrician, SMUD, IBEW member seventeen years, Safety Steward and Regulate the Voltage Safety Committee."

IBEW 1245 Business Representative and Women's Committee Chairperson, Nicole Brooks, anchored the team.



L-R IBEW 1245 Women's Committee Members Lauren Trout, Nicole Caldwell, Tiffany Clemons, Nicole Brooks, Karyn Newmark, Iyasha Davis



L-R: IBEW 1245 Women's Committee Members Iyasha Davis, Lauren Trout, Karyn Newmark, Nicole Brooks, Tiffany Clemons, Nicole Caldwell



IBEW 1245 Women's Committee Members, Front: Lauren Trout and Iyasha Davis; Back: Nicole Brooks, Tiffany Clemons, Karyn Newmark, and Nicole Caldwell



IBEW 1245 Women's Committee members and CA Federation of Labor Federation President Lorena Gonzalez



Right: Susie Martinez, President, NV AFL-CIO

## Reflections from the 2025 Union Women Stronger Together Conference

"Attending the conference with my fellow members of the IBEW Women's Committee was an incredible experience. It was not only an opportunity to learn and grow but also a chance to strengthen our bond as a team. ... This experience reinforced the importance of sisterhood in the labor movement, and I'm grateful for the friendships and shared commitment that continue to grow among us. ... {it was} a powerful reminder of the strength, resilience, and determination of women in the labor movement. As we move forward, it's essential to continue these conversations, support one another, and push for greater representation and equity in the workplace. I feel more empowered to take on leadership roles, advocate for workplace rights, and mentor the next generation of women in anyway that I can."

— Iyasha Davis, Customer Service Representative, PG&E

"Attending the Union Women Conference reinforced the importance of actively working to bring more women into the trade. I plan to take what I learned and apply it in several ways. First, I want to be more involved in outreach efforts—whether that's talking to women who are considering the trade, sharing resources, or mentoring apprentices. The stories I heard from other union sisters showed me the power of visibility and support, and I want to be part of that network for others."

Additionally, the public speaking workshop gave me tools to confidently share my experiences and advocate for change. I aim to use these skills in union meetings, on job sites, and in conversations about increasing diversity in our workforce. If we want to see more women in the trades, we need to make sure their voices are heard and their presence is supported."

— Karyn Newmark, High Voltage Substation Electrician, SMUD

"This was my first ever conference with the Union, and I really didn't know what to expect. ... I quickly realized why we are doing what we do: from the way "we" welcome each other, from the stories "we" hear and tell each other, from the way "we" reach out and lend a helping hand ... It was a pleasure and an honor to spend these last 3 days with all these incredible, strong Women. I have learned so much about us, the bonds we build and myself. The ones that started this movement, can never be thanked enough. I am blessed to be a part of a group of Women, who will continue to do their best to keep their dreams alive. Thank you for this amazing opportunity to bond within our committee and the other great attendees. I am looking forward to continuing representing our Women's Committee and IBEW 1245."

— Nicole Caldwell, Interim CPO Wastewater Treatment Plant, City of Willits



IBEW 1245 Women’s Committee Inspires Students at Ripon High School Career Fair

Ripon, CA — On Wednesday, March 19th, IBEW 1245 Women’s Committee members participated in the Ripon High School Career Fair.

More than 200 students — mostly juniors and seniors — filled the gym to learn about career opportunities as they imagine their next steps after high school. Most participate in the school’s Career Technical Education (CTE) Pathway program which seeks to give students exposure to opportunities beyond the traditional college route.

Cassandra Gamez, an Environmental Compliance Analyst at Modesto Irrigation District (MID) and member of the IBEW 1245 Women’s Committee, spearheaded the participation of the Women’s Committee at the job fair to reach young people,



especially girls and women. She was joined by Women’s Committee members, Julie Brousseau, an Outside Line Traffic Control Technician and IBEW 1245 Business Representative Nicole Brooks, the chair of the Women’s Committee. “We handed out forty IBEW 1245 tote

bags and hundreds of flyers packed with quality information, from training opportunities and scholarship opportunities,” declared Brousseau. Gamez described the enthusiasm of the students eager to learn about IBEW 1245 and the trades. “I especially enjoyed sharing the many benefits of being an IBEW 1245 member, from job security to financial independence. Many students were interested in learning about the JATC apprenticeship program, and they were eager to hear our personal stories of how we became Union members,” she added. Founded in late 2024, the IBEW 1245 Women’s Committee has taken off. Brooks noted that its core function is to provide a space for IBEW 1245 women to be seen, heard, supported and celebrated. It also

aims to grow the numbers of girls and young women in the trades. Brooks has brought her extensive experience representing IBEW 1245 in the field as well as at job fairs and community events to the committee. “Any time we can expose young people to the array of opportunities in the trades, including entry level positions and the nuts and bolts of how to apply, it’s a good day!” said Brooks. The day ended with a presentation of Thank You notes from the students, expressing their gratitude for the time and information shared. The Women’s Committee’s next stop will be supporting “2025 Virginia City High School College/Career Fair” on Wednesday, April 16th in Virginia City, Nevada. — Eileen Purcell, Sr. Advisor

IBEW Local 6 Celebrates International Women’s History Month

San Francisco, CA - The IBEW 1245 Women’s Committee broke bread with the brothers and sisters of IBEW Local 6 at their second annual Celebration of International Women’s History month. Close to one hundred fifty members gathered for the celebratory dinner which was held at Local 6’s Union Hall in San Francisco. IBEW Local 6 Business Manager John J. Doherty welcomed the crowd which included Local 6 members and guests from Local 1245, Local 617 and Local 302 as well as Dave Reaves, 2nd Vice President Ninth District of the IBEW and IBEW Interna-

tional Representative Marcie Obremski out of the 9th District. Representatives of the Building Trades, three electrical Contractors, and Sisters with Tools, a free apprenticeship program sponsored by the San Francisco Building Trades, also participated. Brother Reaves commended the women and men gathered and reiterated IBEW’s commitment to increasing the number of women in the trades. He noted that the number of women entering apprenticeship programs has risen by 90% since 2016, while acknowledging that the number of women in the

trades remains 9.5%. “A percentage we will increase,” said Reaves. How? By exposing girls and young women to the trades, tutoring them, mentoring them, organizing them, including them in promotional materials, recruiting them, and providing scholarships. He encouraged brothers in the trade, saying, “Be mentors at the job site...be an ally, be an upstander, not a bystander, and ensure they are treated with dignity and respect.” Sister Obremski, a first-generation union member in her family, shared her story, saying, “It took me four attempts over four years to get into an apprenticeship program at MTA.” She credited a shop steward — a mentor — who pressed her to keep trying. “They told me not to give up.” On the 4th interview, “I told the committee ‘I don’t know what it’s going to take to get in, but I’m coming back every year, even if it takes doing a cartwheel,’” she said. That was the year she was accepted. Today she serves on the International’s Women’s Committee and is the liaison with registered and informal Women’s Committees across the 9th District. “What kind of mentor do you want to be?” asked Obremski, inviting locals to participate in an emerging mentorship program, Small Connections that the International has piloted. Her advice to young women considering the trades: “Never give up....keep going, keep shattering the glass ceiling, let them know you are in the room.” She added, “You can’t spell Brotherhood without her.”

“You can’t spell Brot(her)hood without ‘Her’!”

Brother Doherty then recognized two outstanding sisters from Local 6 — Frances Rios, an inside electrical foreman and Ana Valdillez, the recently appointed Safety Officer for Local 6 to a rousing ovation. IBEW Local 6 Assistant Business Manager Osha Ashworth closed the event saying, “Women are capable. Don’t ever let your gender define you...Whatever you choose to do, put your best foot forward. I’ve been fortunate to work with many great mentors, many women and many men.” She called upon everyone in the room to teach our children. Show our “boys and girls they are capable, from building sandcastles to building skyscrapers.” — Eileen Purcell, Sr. Advisor



Back: Local 6 Assistant Business Manager Osha Ashworth, 1245 Sub Station Electrician Diana Dooley; 1245 Electrical Sub Station Apprentice Lauren Trout, 1245 Business Representative Nicole Brooks, Local 6 Business Manager John Doherty, IBEW International Representative Marcie Obremski, Dave Reaves, 2nd Vice President Ninth District of the IBEW. Front: 1245 Waste Water Treatment Plant Operator Nicole Caldwell and 1245 Sr. Advisor Eileen Purcell.



IBEW 1245 members. Back: Sub Station Electrician Diana Dooley, Sr. Advisor Eileen Purcell, Business Rep. Nicole Brooks. Front: Sub Apprentice Electrical Apprentice Lauren Trout and Waste Water Treatment Plant Operator Nicole Caldwell.

“For me it says it all in the name. Union Women Stronger Together was exactly what the name suggests. It was so uplifting and powerful to be in the same room with hundreds of women from all different trades for a common cause. I loved hearing everyone’s stories and was impressed by the caliber of women who were speaking at the plenaries. To see the Mayor of Los Angeles, women organizers, women that represent us at the state level and those that have formerly served as advisors in the White House and hear what they had to say about the issues that are currently facing organized labor was especially impactful.” — Lauren Trout, GC Apprentice Electrician, PG&E

“As a woman in construction for 30+ years, I would rarely see other women in the field. I now have the ability to see more women through my role as a Business Representative: on job-sites and in yards, at various meetings, on committees, at social events/venues, conventions, and more. This exposure allows me to connect, lift up, and support more women. I am able to zoom up and out. The silos are removed. I’m afforded the ability to grow, build, and motivate this movement by increasing the numbers of women in construction industries through attraction, recruitment, mentoring and retention. Our work is cut out for us, and I’m down for the Job!” — Nicole Brooks, IBEW 1245 Business Representative & Chair of the Women’s Committee

“Attending the Women Stronger Together conference was a privilege. I enjoyed learning about the history of women in the trade, how they laid the path for us, and we continue to lay the path for future women. We need to know how powerful we are and the abilities we have to be leaders and mentors. I learned how important it is to have the right mindset and connections and support with other women in the trade. It won’t always be easy or seem possible but it will always be worth it. It was an amazing feeling of support and energy with great speakers and workshops.” — Tiffany Clemens, Line Clearance Tree Trimmer



# ADVISORY COUNCIL

## 2nd Qtr Advisory Council Meeting

The IBEW 1245 Executive Board, Advisory Council, Staff and special guests met for the second quarter Advisory Council meeting at the Union Hall on Saturday, April 26, 2025.

### New Advisory Members Sworn In

IBEW 1245 President Cecelia de la Torre swore in new Advisory Council members Iyasha Davis (Central Area Clerical) and Jed Cruz (Humboldt Division).

### Photo Contest Winner

Vince Guitron, Gas Crew Foreman out of PG&E's San Jose Yard, won this quarter's photo contest. Brother Guiton described the phenomenal work taking place as part of the BART extension to San Jose.

### State of the 9th District Report

IBEW District 9 International Vice President Dave Reaves commended IBEW 1245 for the successful Grid of the Future conference and the consistent leadership role 1245 has played building effective working partnerships with employers, growing the union, and



IBEW Vice President Dave Reaves delivering the State of the 9th District Report to the IBEW 1245 Ad Council

leading initiatives to meet rapid changes taking place in the energy space.

"We are in the middle of the second industrial revolution. New technologies, new energy sources, AI, data centers, robotics will require new skill sets across our fields."

The volume of work is on the rise. To keep pace with demand, he stressed the importance of recruitment and training the next generation of every classification. Case in point: 85,000 trained and qualified electricians per year over the next five years are needed in order to meet projected demand.

In anticipation of more manufacturing jobs, the International is standing up a New Clean Transportation and Electrical Training Trust that will work with all eleven IBEW districts. Reaves thanked Bob Dean and 1245 for the instrumental role IBEW 1245 has played conceptualizing and setting up the Trust.

Organizing is critical. As of late April, IBEW membership hit 856,000 members. Of those members, 157,299 are in the 9th District.

Bottom line: "We've got to embrace change. You are the future. We're the ones doing the jobs, getting the training, ...IBEW will lead the way. It's in our wheelhouse. It's an exciting time. I've never seen anything like it," said Reaves.

### Business Manager Report

Bob Dean concurred. "The Grid of



Business Manager Bob Dean



2nd Quarter Photo Contest Winner Vince Guitron with Business Manager Bob Dean and President Cecelia De La Torre

Future conference was about change. Most of the change is an opportunity. As we move forward —no matter where you look—there is a generation of work coming. How do we staff it? How to survive the technological changes? We're doing everything we can to keep and defend our work."

PG&E's pilot program, PROPEL, a new version of SAP, aims to "modernize its technology infrastructure," and, if successful, could have a detrimental impact on our clerical members. The introduction of more AI could have an impact on many of our other members as well. We need to be prepared for all of it.

In 2025, no fewer than 20 sets of negotiations are taking place, including PG&E and SMUD, two of our largest employers. Dean thanked members who submitted more than 13,300 pro-

posals to the PG&E Bargaining Committee and 1,141 proposals to the SMUD Bargaining Committee.

In response to questions about the future of gas, Dean stated that gas is in a good position. "Every day, the system has grown. We also have hydrogen hubs, experimental plants in Lodi, and clean natural gas projects. Every gas plant lease has been extended. California cannot meet its electrification goals without gas. In northern Nevada we believe we will building new gas plants."

In addition to major negotiations, IBEW 1245 is in the middle of election season. Union officers, the Advisory Council, and delegates to the International Convention that will take place in San Diego in 2026 are on the ballot.

### Reports

Advisory Council Members delivered reports. Many thanked the Local for hosting the Grid of the Future Conference as well as for making safety and mental health a priority. They shared concerns, including the impact of 1) recent Executive Orders terminating union contracts for some federal employees, including IBEW 1245 represented members at WAPA, 2) PG&E assessments of line clearance tree trimmers and 3) violence in the field.

The next Advisory Council meeting is Saturday, July 26, 2025.

— Eileen Purcell, Sr. Advisor



President Cecelia De La Torre



IBEW Vice President Dave Reaves with IBEW 1245 Women's Committee Members Eileen Purcell, Nicole Brooks, Tiffany Clemons, Iyasha Davis



New Advisory Council Members Iyasha Davis (Central Area Clerical) and Jed Cruz (Humboldt Division) are sworn in.

Photos by John Storey



# Winters High School Students Test Their Skills

**March 21, 2025** — Nearly twenty teams of high school students from across the region came together on March 21 to test their skills and determination at the Winters FFA Fabrication Contest, held at the PG&E Gas Safety Facility in Winters, California. This dynamic, hands-on competition gave students a rare opportunity to apply classroom learning in a real-world setting, reinforcing local schools' commitment to personalized education and career-readiness programs.

IBEW 1245 proudly participated in the event, with Member Kaycee King and Business Representatives Phuong Tran and Mike Tilden hosting a booth to engage with the young competitors. They distributed informational materials and shared insights about career opportunities within IBEW 1245, sparking interest among students eager to see how their current skills could lead to future careers in the trades.

The contest itself was designed to be a rigorous, fast-paced challenge. Each team was tasked with building a metal-framed bench and footstool with wooden slats—within a strict six-hour time limit. Contestants received their project designs and blueprints the morning of the competition, ensuring the experience was authentic, spontaneous, and focused on adaptability.



IBEW 1245 Member Kaycee King and IBEW Business Representatives Phuong Tran and Mike Tilden staff the IBEW 1245 table at Winters High School Fabrication Contest.

Beyond the fabrication challenge, students gained hands-on experience in problem-solving, collaboration,



Winters High School Students at work

and technical execution. Many participants left with a renewed passion for welding and fabrication, along with a sense of accomplishment. Some teams even completed their projects using PG&E welding trucks, and students also had the opportunity to tour PG&E's on-site training facilities.

While not all teams were able to complete their builds within the time frame, the contest allowed them to bring their partially completed projects back to their schools to finish them in class—an extension of the learning experience that exemplifies the contest's educational value.

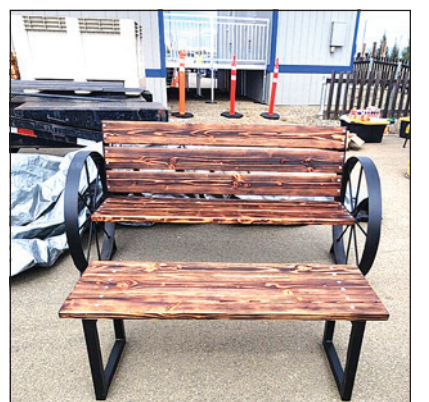
This year's event was organized as a senior project by Winters High School student Daniel Tejeda, who aimed to create a challenge that pushed participants to think critically while honing their technical skills. Teams were judged on precision, craftsmanship, and teamwork, reflecting the importance of applied learning in today's career technical education programs.

IBEW 1245 Business Representative Phuong Tran was inspired by the energy of the students, stating, "The interaction with the high school students participating in the welding competition was outstanding. Their energy and enthusiasm for the welding trade gave me hope that the future of our pipeline is in great hands. Hopefully, some of these kids will consider a career working at some of Local 1245's represented properties."

Kaycee King echoed that sentiment, adding, "Attending the WHS FFA Fabrication Contest was such a great experience—watching local youth come together and showcase their amazing talent and skills in welding and fabrication. It was also compelling to see the diversity of the teams, with boys and girls competing side by side. You could truly see the pride each student had in their work. Being there to represent IBEW 1245 and talk to them about potential career paths was exciting for them and meaningful for me. Representation is one of the best ways we can bridge the gap for women and young girls entering this industry and show that with drive and determination, anything is possible."

The Winters FFA Fabrication Contest not only highlighted the technical capabilities of the next generation of welders and fabricators, but also served as a powerful reminder of the importance of industry partnerships in supporting youth development. IBEW 1245 was honored to be part of this impactful event and looks forward to participating again in the years to come.

— Mike Tilden,  
IBEW 1245  
Business  
Representative



Finished product

IBEW 1245 PG&E SHOP STEWARDS

# EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM



## Sign Up Today!



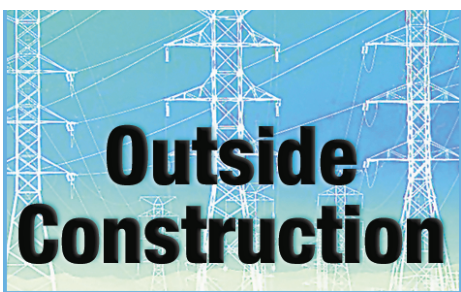
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AS WE PREPARE FOR PG&E  
NEGOTIATIONS, BE AT THE READY TO:

- Share critical information info with your co-workers in real time
- Support emergency mobilizations, if needed
- Help GET OUT THE VOTE (GOTV) when the time comes to vote on a Table Agreement

UNITY AND PARTICIPATION  
ARE OUR STRENGTH!





## California

As we come to the end of the first quarter of 2025, Outside Line saw very little job growth, which is consistent with our historical norms. However, the second quarter should bring a significant call volume to 1245.

PG&E's target for 2025 consists of 330 miles for underground hardening, 200 miles of overhead hardening, 20 megabundles and a large budget for new business work. There will also be an increase of New Business work with the funding from SB-410.

In the Sierra division we have both Alvah and Intren filling in the void for H&M. Intren is currently running with 12 crews and will be looking to add eight more when the fire hardening and mega-bundle work drops between mid-April and the first part of May. Alvah has just started two crews in the Sierra Auburn yard and plans to add four more when the work gets released. Dars Cox was awarded another 30 miles of underground on the Apple Hill circuit in Camino. They have hired 20 new members and look to add 20 more in the next

couple of weeks. C&C will be providing the line side of this project. In the Humboldt division, Basin is coming in to replace H&M on the transmission work in Eureka. Currently, Basin has two crews working and anticipates the need for two more crews by mid-April. Outback will support Basin with civil work with 10 to 15 people. Wilson currently has five crews in the Humboldt division: two crews working in Clear Lake, two crews working in Willits, and one crew working in Eureka. They expect to maintain this workforce throughout the year.

Summit has added two new transmission crews this last month in their Redwood Valley yard. The south area has 2-line crews at the yard in Coarsegold, 3-line crews out of the Mariposa yard, and one heavy line crew in the Los Banos area.

In the North Valley, Par West is looking to add two more transmission crews to their Anderson yard. On the distribution side, they are currently staffing six crews and may possibly add four more when the mega-bundle starts. C&C currently has bids out in the North Valley on 50 miles of underground hardening. The hope is to have that secured in the first part of April. MGE Underground has an undergrounding project in the Lebec area, down south by the Grapevine, with one heavy line crew and 3 civil crews. This is a 3-year project with three phases and an end date of 2027. This project started in the beginning of

2024. Outsource continues to be the steady force in the Central Valley and in the Templeton area, performing tag work, reconductors as well as new business projects, currently with 12-line crews and 9 civil crews in the Central Valley, and 3-line crews and 4 civil crews working out of the Templeton yard.

With this hopeful outlook for the upcoming quarter and in anticipation of possible long hours away from home spent providing for our families, it is important that we maintain and promote the values of the IBEW membership. As IBEW members we take pride in the job being built right the first time. We take pride in our craftsmanship, and we leave a lasting impression of quality work with the customer. We arrive on time, ready and willing to work. We maintain a healthy and safe work environment free from drugs and alcohol. It is paramount that we prove to our customers the value of using IBEW members.

Let's stay safe, maintain our situational awareness, and be our brother's keeper.

The Fresno bi-monthly informational meetings continue to take place on the second Tuesday of every other month from 6pm to 8pm at Round Table Pizza at 5702 N. First St. The remaining meetings for this year will take place on May 13th, July 8th, Sept 9th and Nov 11. A mass text will be sent out the Monday before each meeting to all OSL members

as a reminder. Please make time to attend the meeting if you're in the area.

## Nevada

T&D Power at the Walker River project outside of Yerington NV is moving forward with pads, foundations and the dog houses on the 120 KV sub. The steel for the switchgear will be installed when the crews return from the holiday break. There are approximately 90 members on the project at this point. There's been a delay ramping up on manpower due to environmental permitting issues.

Wilson Construction has been awarded SWIP north project, though there is still no word on the start date for this project. Wasatch continues to support NVE and Liberty Utilities on numerous projects, as well as supporting the utilities with supplemental dock work. Sturgeon has completed the fuse tamer project that spanned across NVE property in the northern part of the state in this quarter. Summit is still supporting the USA parkway project and the Switch Data Center project with Sub-Techs and Journeyman Lineman. Mountain Engineering is working on NVE property in Virginia City and is in the process of doing a line rebuild. They've also been doing numerous helicopter sets.

## Accidents/Focus Items

The beginning of this year has seen a variety of incidents occur. The common factor, in a large majority of the inci-

# IBEW 1245 Line Clearance Tree Trimmers

## Setting Industry Standards

**Pine Grove** — 26-year IBEW 1245 member Juan Cervantes knows trees. A line clearance tree trimmer, he currently works as a Foreman for Arbor Works. Cervantes and his crew were downing a 105-foot Ponderosa Pine near Pine Grove that had grown within 15 feet of power lines.

"It has to be taken down," said Cervantes. "They're very concerned about it coming down," he said.

While Cervantes' traffic control crew managed oncoming vehicles, another crew helped pull brush.

Then his crew began the painstaking work of climbing and assessing strategies to remove the tree safely.

"My climber is going to be doing all the work above," said Cervantes. "He is going to begin from the ground up. Once he gets into the higher part, he's going to cut small tops. We might be using a little bit of rigging on it just because of the power lines, but we'll see once he gets up there whether or not he's going to need some rigging. Then we will get our rigging equipment."

Business Representative and former Line Clearance Tree Trimmer Francisco "Cisco" Ferreyra accompanied the crew. "Pine Grove, California has a special place in my heart. It's

where I first became a Foreman in the Line Clearance industry. Foreman William "Billy" Underhill and Foreman Juan Cervantes were both my Foremen at one point in my career eighteen to nineteen years ago. I learned a lot from them," said Ferreyra.

He added, "This crew displayed their knowledge and expertise using various methods and climbing styles along with specialized equipment to get the job done safely. Back in the day, there weren't as many skilled, Journeymen Tree Arborists like Kaleb Fillmore and John Church. Most of the tree yards only had a few employees who could remove hazardous trees. Now, IBEW 1245 along with the JATC

is producing the most highly skilled and educated Journeymen Line Clearance Tree Trimmers in the industry, setting some of the highest standards the industry has ever seen!"

Asked if this is an unusual assign-



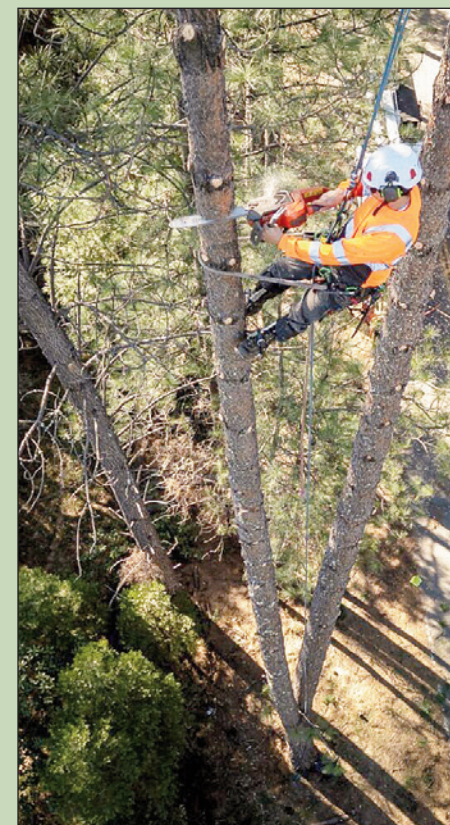
Foreman Juan Cervantes



From left:  
Journeyman  
Tree Trimmer  
Kaleb Fillmore,  
Foreman Juan  
Cervantes,  
Journeyman  
Tree Trimmer  
John Church,  
and Foreman  
William  
Underhill

ment, Cervantes said it was a normal job, though he's seen an uptick in tree removals.

As for the Union, Cervantes said, "It's great. The Union helps a lot. It has helped us not just getting us more benefits, but I mean, a retirement plan, better insurance. They've been there for us. I can't lie."



Journeyman Tree Trimmer Kaleb Fillmore



dents, was a vehicle. We are very fortunate, as an industry, that these shortcomings did not result in more serious consequences. As much as we have all improved our driving safety and habits, we still have plenty to do to get better.

### Industry Notes

California Nevada JATC open applications will have closed at the time of printing. The Lineman Apprenticeship was open from March 3 to March 14.

Additionally, the Jairus Ayeta Line School Scholarship will have closed March 31. This scholarship provides full tuition, fees, tools, lodging and meals to VOLTA Line School in Oregon.

Applications will be accepted again in the month of October if you miss the March 31 deadline.

### Traffic Control

We have seen signs of growth on the horizon. It appears the coming weeks will see an increase in labor needs at all

of our contract vendors. We are confident that, year over year, we will continue to grow opportunities for our members and the future of this industry.

As our work group continues to grow, please ensure that we are talking to each other. In our industry, we come from many backgrounds, and navigating benefits and contracts can be intimidating. If you are a new member, ask questions. The Staff at LU 1245 and our experienced members are an invaluable resource for you!

### Dispatch

IBEW 1245 dispatch office hours are 7am to 4pm; the last application goes out at 3:30pm. The dispatchers have returned to the Dispatch Office now that the remodel project is near completion. The improved dispatch lobby will aid in faster signing and processing of paperwork. A few additional items will be completed over the next couple of

months. We will be adding monitors to show open calls and a kiosk to fill out applications. When arriving at the union hall to sign or re-sign the books, members will be prompted to fill out a half-sheet of paper that includes name, email address and phone number. Please write clearly, as that is the only way to get your application to you. Information that is incorrect or illegible will delay the process. When uploading documents, please make sure you are sending us the most current and valid information. Please do not re-enter the Dispatch Office until you receive an email to do so. If you have any questions, please call our main office number 707-452-2700.

### 1st Quarter 2025 Dispatch Numbers:

- 475 Journeyman Lineman calls
- 288 Line EQ Man calls
- 353 Groundman Lineman calls

Total year-to-date calls for 2025 = 1545

### CPR & First Aid

CPR and First Aid classes are scheduled for the second Friday of every month at the Woodland and Riverside facilities. If you are interested and want to sign up for this class, visit [www.calnevjatc.org](http://www.calnevjatc.org). Click on the Web Services tab, then Class Schedule. If you do not already have a web account with the JATC, you will need to create one. Class availability is based on first-come, first-served basis. [www.calnevjatc.org](http://www.calnevjatc.org).

### Injured Workers Fund

As of February 28, 2025, the balance of the Fund was \$618,114.87. Since January 1, 2025, the Fund has paid out \$301,400 in disability and parental leave claims.

The Summary Plan Description (SPD) and Application can be found on the union's website at [ibew1245.com/outside-line-injured-workers-fund/](http://ibew1245.com/outside-line-injured-workers-fund/)

## Building Record-Setting Towers in the Delta

**Birds Landing Area, Rio Vista, CA —** Foreman Pete Tibbertsma — a 47-year IBEW 1245 member — had seen it all. That is until he was called out on a job by Michels Pacific Energy to demolish one of the tallest transmission towers in the United States and replace it with two brand new towers in the California Delta in Rio Vista.

"We've pulled a lot of towers, but this is our first demolition," said Tibbertsma.

A seasoned Outside Line journeyman lineman, Tibbertsma and his crew were charged with replacing the 520-foot transmission tower in Rio Vista with two new towers — 565 feet and 545 feet respectively. The enormous steel towers stand three quarters of a mile apart and

are some of the tallest ET towers in the United States.

"The replacement became necessary when the bottom conductor got hit by a ship out in the middle of the Delta, so they needed to raise them up," said Tibbertsma. The work began in mid-July, 2024, and is expected to be completed in the next month or two. "All we have to do is pull new wire in, get it dead ended, and made up," he said.

Tibbertsma described his crew as the "shake down crew, saying, "We laid out all the steel for [the new towers]. There's a little under a million pounds of steel on the new tower and 336,000 bolts per tower."

According to Tibbertsma, the greatest challenges facing the crew were the soft ground and the wind. "Our 300-ton crane was 600 feet high; the water level was down 3½ feet. We had to mat it, put steel on top of mats, and deal with it sinking by moving back and forth," he said. "And the wind messed with us the whole job. Over 15-mile an hour winds. We use man baskets. With 15-mile hour winds, we'd have to stop."

But the crews are well trained and prepared.

Equipment Operator Bob Fields — with thirty-eight years' experience, twenty-eight of which are with the Union — described his hands-on training. "There's lots of training...cranes are kind of my specialty, but I run everything...and now they have crane

schools, and everybody's got to have a crane license," he said.

Tibbertsma stressed the importance of the knowledge passed down from the generations of linemen who came before him. "I've been doing this for forty-seven years, and I learned from old Linemen. I'm still talking to old Lineman. A friend of mine, Jake Snake, Salt Lake, he's eighty years old, and he taught me a lot about line work. I just learned from the old guys, and hopefully I've taught a lot of the younger guys how to do it," offered Tibbertsma.

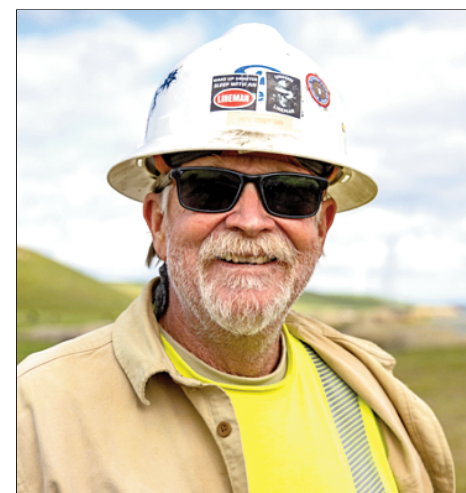
As for safety protocols, "When I started in this business, there were no safety meetings. And then there were safety meetings every month, and then every week, and then every day, and then every tower," said Fields.

Journeyman Lineman Scott Huddleston declared, "Our members building these two record setting towers gives us bragging rights over the rest of the country."

IBEW 1245 Senior Assistant Business Manager Ralph Armstrong, who oversees the Outside Line Department and is a seasoned journeyman lineman himself, added, "I've driven by the old towers hundreds of times, and they aren't easy to miss due to their size. This work is not easy, and good rigging is a priority. The skills these members must possess to perform this work safely is second to none and goes to show the kind of training they had to go through."

As for the Union, Fields was matter of fact. "It's made me a lot of money and given me good benefits, and I've worked on both sides," he said. "I wish more people would start on the other side (nonunion); then they'd know [the value of the union]."

— Eileen Purcell,  
IBEW 1245 Sr. Advisor



**Forty-seven year IBEW 1245 member Foreman Pete Tibbertsma heading up crew building two new ET Transmission Towers and demolishing a third in Rio Vista**

Photos by John Storey



**Equipment Operator Bob Field**



View all event photos at <https://bit.ly/Delta-Towers>





**Roseville** — On Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025, hundreds of journeymen linemen and apprentices from around the country descended on Roseville, California to participate in the American Public Power Association's twenty-third annual Public Power Lineworkers' Rodeo.

The host City of Roseville hailed the event as "the ultimate venue" for public power lineworkers to demonstrate their skills and safety knowledge, while competing for professional recognition. The City also invited vendors to display the latest tools of the trade, sponsored food trucks to supply nourishment, and provided a host of family events to keep the kids entertained. The two-day event went well into Saturday evening, finishing with a live concert.

Journeymen and apprentice line workers attended optional training courses on Friday, and on Saturday showcased their

skills in front of their families, friends, co-workers, and the community. The Apprentice Competition included such events as Sidewalk Guy Installation, Obstacle Course, Hurtman Rescue, Lightning Arrester Jumper Replacement, and a Written Test. The Journeyman Lineman events were 4kV Crossarm Change Out, 12kV Riser Pole Arrester Replacement, 12kV Three-Phase Conductor Tie-In, Hurtman Rescue, 4kV Double Dead-End Bell Change Out.

The atmosphere was tense all day for the competitors and onlookers. Many teams had been training for months and it showed, as they competed in the events, shooting for fast times and perfect scores. Any point deductions, and you were out of the running for top honors in that event and the overall title.

There is a great sense of pride in the Lineworker community. Bragging rights were at stake for the competitors, the Util-

ities and the Local Unions that represent them. The event is a celebration of the craft and the brotherhood and is a favorite of 1245 members and their families. "It was a lot of fun, hanging out, watching the competition, and swapping line stories from days long past with fellow linemen," said Al Fortier, Senior Assistant Business Manager and Journey Lineman.

Local 1245 represents lineman at twenty signatory Public Agencies, and this year many of those Agencies sent teams, including the City of Roseville, Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), Truckee Donner Public Utility District, Turlock Irrigation District, the City of Lodi, the City of Redding and Modesto Irrigation District (MID).

First time rodeo participant Apprentice Lineman Danny Myles, said, "We're trying to be as fast as we can and represent SMUD. Be good, be fast, safe, and have a good time."

Veteran rodeo participant Dustin Krieger, a Foreman from Turlock Irrigation District, stated, "You've got to come prepared, and invest a lot of practice hours." Preparation and experience paid off, with Krieger's TID team placing 5th and taking home a prize for their performance in the Overall Journeyman Team competition.

IBEW 1245 Business Representative Kim Camatti who represents SMUD employees remarked, "I am so proud of my brothers at SMUD and from all of our properties. They demonstrated extraordinary skill, teamwork, and passion for the trade and for the brotherhood."

Electric Line Troubleshooter Kyle Giesser representing the Roseville Electric team summed up the spirit of the day saying, "It's great to see the camaraderie between the teams from all over the country in one place."

Many thanks to all who participated.



Turlock Irrigation District team of Josh Kllkna, Steve Johnson and Dustin Krieger



The City of Roseville team of Phillip Hartnett, Kyle Giesser and James Wolter



SMUD Apprentice Danny Myle

Photos by John Storey

## Rodeo Winners from IBEW 1245 Represented Agencies:

### APPRENTICES

1st Place, Hurtman Rescue — SMUD Apprentice **Sean Myles**

1st Place, Written Test — MID Apprentice **Justin Smith**

4th Overall SMUD Apprentice **Donovan Leardini**

### JOURNEYMAN LINEMEN TEAMS



1st place overall Journeyman, SMUD's team of **Richard J. Cancilla, III, Aaron Rudi and Dwight Johnson**

5th Place Overall Journeyman Team: Turlock Irrigation District Team: **Dustin Krieger, Josh Klikna, and Steve Johnson**

1st Place, Journeyman Crossarm Change Out Event:  
SMUD Team: **Richard J. Cancilla, III, Aaron Rudi, and Dwight Johnson**

3rd Place, Journeyman Crossarm Change Out Event:  
SMUD's Team: **Garrett McGhehey, Kevin Cranford, Justin Kyle Hirschi**

1st Place, Journeyman 12KV Riser Pole Arrester Replacement Event:  
SMUD's Team: **Tanner Barnes, Walt Lyons, and Justin Estes**

2nd Place, Journeyman 12KV Riser Pole Arrester Replacement Event:  
SMUD's Team: **Matt Wilson, Todd Prangley, and Caleb Bowman**

1st Place, Journeyman 12KV Three-Phase Conductor Tie-In:  
SMUD's Team: **Tanner Barnes, Walt Lyons, and Justin Estes**

2nd Place, Journeyman 12KV Three-Phase Conductor Tie-In:  
SMUD's Team: **Richard J. Cancilla, III, Aaron Rudi, and Dwight Johnson**

3rd Place, Journeyman 12KV Three-Phase Conductor Tie-In:  
SMUD's Team: **Shane Bazil, Drew Wigington, and Matt Ramey**

2nd Place Journeyman 4KV Double Dead-End Change Out:  
SMUD's Team: **Matt Wilson, Todd Prangley, and Caleb Bowman**

1st Place Journeyman Hurtman Rescue:  
SMUD's Team: **Tanner Barnes, Walt Lyons, and Justin Estes**

2nd Place Journeyman Hurtman Rescue:  
SMUD's Team: **Garrett McGhehey, Kevin Cranford, and Justin Kyle Hirschi**





The MGE Underground Team, L-R; Jeremy Gearhart, Sam Jackson, Stephen Hollister, Max Conley



Utility Reporter



Photos by John Storey

**I**BEW 1245's South Valley Open (SVO) Golf Tournament was held on Saturday, April 12 at the Dragonfly Golf Course in Madera, California. Thirty-six teams played, including teams comprised of IBEW 1245 members, friends and family. They were joined by Signatory Contractors and Utilities. The MGE Underground Team took home first place. But everyone was a winner, building camaraderie and raising funds for the Injured Worker Fund. Thanks to all who participated to make the day a success!

Mark your calendars April 11, 2026 for the next year's IBEW1245 "SVO" golf tournament.



Business Rep and Chairman of the Tournament Planning Committee Ryan "Skelly" Skelton and family





# 11TH IBEW ANNUAL CLAY SHOOT

In sharp contrast to last year's gray day, the 11th annual IBEW Clay Shoot took place under crystal clear skies. Two hundred fifty IBEW members gathered for a day of brotherhood with fellow IBEW members, family and friends at Quail Point Hunters' Club in Esparta, California with their sharp shooting skills on display. IBEW Local Unions 1245, 340, and 180 sponsored the event, along with several signatory contractors and Kittle's Sporting Goods store. A record forty-five young people registered and participated in the competition.

Thanks to everyone who made the day a success!



L-R: Anders Hinton, Thomas Hinton, John Fornaciari, Dan Fornaciari, Will Hinton, Joe Fornaciari



Sr. Assistant Business Manager and Co-Chair of the Planning Committee Anthony Brown addressing the gathering

Photos by John Storey





# GRID OF THE FUTURE: Embracing Change

**Vacaville**—On Friday, April 25, 2025 labor, business and political leaders met for IBEW 1245's Grid of the Future conference at the Sunrise Center in Vacaville, California.

Three hundred sixty IBEW 1245 members, leaders, corporate partners and lobbyists participated, including three hundred IBEW 1245 rank and file members. Members met sisters and brothers from different properties and classifications; many had the opportunity to speak with the CEO's of their companies for the first time.

IBEW 1245 Business Manager Bob Dean welcomed the packed room, saying, "We built the grid. Our forefathers built it. We have to adapt and learn what we have to be in the future. You'll hear many perspectives today. Learn something you don't know and take it back to your yards."

IBEW 1245 senior leaders moderated panels of industry leaders, operations experts, and lobbyists.

PG&E CEO Patti Poppe, SMUD CEO & General Manager Paul Lau, and NV Energy's Senior Vice President Jesse Murray spoke to the challenges and threats faced by the energy sector. New technology, Artificial Intelligence (AI), data service centers, regionalization, the existential risks posed by wildfires, and cyber security were all discussed. Tariffs, supply chains, attacks on the Investor-Owned Utility (IOU) model and political and economic volatility were also addressed.

"The very foundations of tomorrow's energy are being laid right here," said IBEW 9th District Vice President Dave Reaves in his opening remarks.

"This is the most exciting time for our industry that any of us have ever experienced. There was a time when I thought we wouldn't be part of AI growth strategy in CA due to prices. What I've learned over last year is that we are in the mix. ... We're going to build transmission, generation resources to serve that load. The grid is working. {Though} wild fire risk is an existential threat, my forecast for the next 5 years is bright," said Poppe.

Lau noted, "The grid is going to transform, and CA is leading the nation." He posed key questions, including, "How do you work with the community and customers to transition from a one-way power flow to a two-way power flow and work with {emerging} technology and AI for the first time in utility history? ... CA will have six million EVs. ... The market

is changing. Customers are bringing change. How do we partner so that the grid works for the customer, the utility and the consumer?"

Murray described NV Energy's Greenlink Nevada

project, a large-scale transmission infrastructure initiative designed to transport renewable energy across the state. "We're setting steel right now in northern Nevada, and building a Substation for two 500 KV transmission lines, stretching approximately 750 miles; Greenlink West—from Las Vegas to Reno and Greenlink North—connect points east all the way to southern Nevada and Utah."

Rachel Koss, a partner at Adams Broadwell Joseph & Cardozo, stated, "There's tons of work to be done. Grid hardening to prevent wildfires; capacity upgrades for new business coming online; but it's expensive. There is tremendous political pressure to slow down the investment/spending. The PUC {in California} has slashed more than any other time, including for undergrounding and capacity upgrades." At the same time, heightened animosity toward Utilities from rate payers and in state legislatures is on the rise. It remains to be seen whether or not federal funds will flow.

Recruitment and training of the workforce with the skill set to meet demand and adapt to new technologies were recurring themes.



IBEW Vice President Dave Reaves, 9th District



L-R NV Energy Sr. VP, Energy and Delivery Jesse Murray; SMUD CEO and General Manager Paul Lau; and PG&E CEO Patti Poppe

Panelists identified the biggest threats as the risk of wildfires, cyber security, and a series of legislative initiatives.

But, as Scott Wetch, a Partner at Actum and longtime lobbyist for IBEW declared, "The Good news is that you are members of best union in CA; one of the hardest working workforces; and you provide vital services." He thanked the Organizing Stewards in the room for being a force at the Capitol to push back against some of the legislative initiatives that threaten members' work and livelihoods.

Earl C. Duke Austin, Jr, the President and CEO of Quanta Services emphasized safety and embracing change. A 4th generation journeyman lineman, Austin leads Quanta Services, the single largest contracting firm in the United States with 65,000 employees.

Austin's advice to the IBEW workforce, "Don't sit on your hands and don't wait for things to change. Change it yourself. Don't look back. Prepare yourself for tomorrow. The more you prepare, the more you train, the smarter you get, the less issues you'll have on the other side. This state and this union are as innovative as any. Are you going to embrace it or not?"

There's no question that IBEW 1245 has been exercising leadership.

In 2023, after three separate attempts to regionalize energy had threatened to gut standards and safeguards for IBEW 124's membership, Dean spearheaded an effort to craft a new proposal for regionalization.

"Regionalization is about operations of the

grid," said Marc Joseph, Of counsel to Adams Broadwell Joseph & Cardozo. "The idea is to coordinate efforts in order to save money, improve reliability and reduce emissions. The challenge: getting utilities across the West with different perspectives together." At the request of Dean, Joseph delayed his retirement to convene a group of forty stakeholders from eleven states and two Canadian provinces and the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) to craft a proposal that safeguards the interests of IBEW's members. In 2024 the committee completed a one-hundred-page proposal. They've written a bill that must be adopted by the legislature. "Just last week, we won a 17-0 vote in favor. We have another committee vote next week," he said.

Dean closed the conference by thanking all who participated and worked to put it together. He punctuated the day saying, "There are many perspectives at IBEW. We bring them together. The most important takeaway: the world is changing. Our job is to keep doing the work. We built the grid. We're going to keep building the grid."

— Eileen Purcell, Sr. Advisor  
Photos by John Storey



L-R PG&E CEO Patti Poppe, President and CEO of Quanta Services Earl C. "Duke" Austin Jr., and IBEW 1245 Business Manager Bob Dean



SMUD CEO and General Manager Paul Lau meeting with IBEW 1245 Members from SMUD; L-R: Garrett Gross, Ryan Malmberg, Josh Ehrhardt, Rafael Burgos and IBEW 1245 Business Representative Dylan Gottfried



Panel on *The Grid, She's A-Changin'* L-R: IBEW 1245 Sr. Assistant Business Manager Bob Gerstle, Shawn Cooper, Edison Electric Institute (EEI), Mark Quinlan, Sr. VP, PG&E, and Heather Rock, PG&E Sr. Director of Strategy



IBEW 1245 Business Manager Bob Dean, PG&E CEO Patti Poppe and IBEW 1245 Organizing Team and Stewards





## Vince Guitron wins second-quarter photo contest

Congratulations to IBEW 1245 member Vince Guitron, a GC Gas Foreman at PG&E in San Jose, CA for winning this quarter’s photo contest. The photo features a co-worker tacking the plate of a 12” steel gas job at

the end of the day. All IBEW 1245 members in good standing are eligible to enter up to five original, high-resolution, safety-compliant photos into the contest each quarter. **Submissions should be sent to:**

**[membermedia@ibew1245.com](mailto:membermedia@ibew1245.com). \*Note, this is a new email address.** 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.

