

UTILITY REPORTER

OFFICIAL VOICE OF IBEW LOCAL UNION 1245 AFL-CIO

FOLLOWS RATE BOOST

PUC announces discount probe

Two weeks before granting a multi-million dollar rate increase to PG&E, the California Public Utilities Commission set into motion an official investigation into utility employee discounts.

IBEW Local 1245 got the word just as 25 utilities and all other unions which represent utility workers throughout the state simultaneously were notified of the PUC order instituting an investigation.

All the utilities have been ordered to submit detailed reports to the PUC on all phases of information surrounding employee discounts by February 15. A date for a public hearing on the matter is expected to be determined in mid-March.

"Upon notification we immediately called the members of the California Coalition of Utility Workers to set a meeting to develop tactics to keep the PUC out of collective bargaining issues," Business Manager Jack McNally stated.

"We'd hoped that the Commissioners had gotten our message last year when the Coalition members met with Governor Jerry Brown asking for the PUC to stay out of the employee benefits arena," he added. "One thing is for sure — if the PUC ever proved successful in eliminating these earned discounts, IBEW Local 1245 would take the battle into the courts while demanding benefits of equal value," McNally said.

Ironically assuring an employee a dollar amount equal to the discount would cost the company more money, since employee income, after taxes, would be used as a base

factor to determine an acceptable equivalent.

Simply put — dollars cost more than discounts.

The PUC Commissioners, and Commissioner Richard Gravelle in particular, indicated that they're going to be looking into the "reasonableness" of the discounts under PUC codes which among other things state "no public utility shall as to rates, charges, service, facilities, or in any other respect, make or grant any preference or advantage to any corporation or person . . ."

The PUC wants to make sure that because utilities cost our employees less that employees haven't been abusing the discount by consuming more than their fair share of power in an energy-conscious

See back page



OLGA ESTRELLA . . . Certified Welder, works with crew at Moss Landing Power Plant — See pages 8-9.

SMUD members ok 3-year pact; 9.6% hike

Local 1245 members employed by the Sacramento Municipal Utility District recently ratified a three-year agreement with the District providing for a first-year general wage increase of 9.6 percent, which brings the journeyman lineman rate at SMUD to \$14.02 per hour.

The IBEW Bargaining Committee, led by Business Representative Hank Lucas and including Rueben Ware, Ken Meyer, Gary Hanson, Bob Harper, John Callahan, Jim Loy, and Mack Wilson, was extremely pleased with the settlement and recommended its acceptance at the

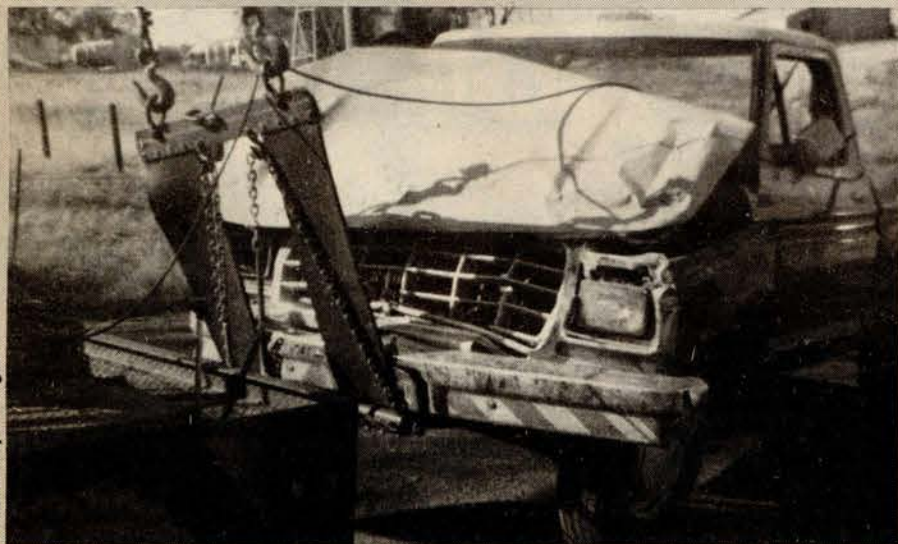
three ratifications meetings held during the first week in January. Features of the agreement with Local 1245's largest public sector employer include the following:

- A general wage increase of 9.6 percent for 1982
- COLA increases in both 1983 and 1984
- 1 1/2 percent equity adjustments for approximately 100 employees before the 1982 wage increase
- Agreement by the district to pay an additional 1 percent of the em-

ployees' retirement contribution to PERS, bringing the employee total down to 4 percent

- Increased shift differentials each year of the Agreement
- Increased nuclear operator's license bonuses
- Improved vacation schedule
- Improved meal allowances each year of the Agreement
- Improved medical benefits, including drug care plans (effective September 1, 1982)
- A nuclear premium for Rancho Seco employees assigned to work in-

See back page



Shop Steward Bill Fish, 46, lost his life when this truck plunged down a steep 175-foot gulley.

Accidents claim 3 lives

Tragically three workers in Local 1245 jurisdiction died in separate accidents all involving vehicles in less than one week in early December.

The victims were Dan Johansen, 39, General Construction Electrical Technician, PG&E; Dennis Jackson, 37, a Lineman for Sierra Pacific; and Bill Fish, 46, Electrical Machinist, PG&E.

Johansen, who worked at the Geysers, died December 9 when his truck went off the road approximately eight miles out of Cloverdale. The accident site was not discovered until the following day.

On December 11 Jackson was in

an aerial lift truck in South Lake Tahoe installing a service when the truck rolled 500 feet downhill and over an embankment. Jackson was ejected from the bucket. A co-worker summoned medical assistance and Jackson was rushed to a local hospital. However, he died later that evening.

The truck was subsequently impounded for investigation.

Jackson had been a member of Local 1245 for five years having been initiated in December 1976. He is survived by his wife Brenda and three sons, Brody 9; Austin, 5; John Paul, 1, and his parents who reside

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North Bay Area

Utility Reporter

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Flood clean-up goes on

The North Bay area was hard hit during the recent devastating storm.

At the height of the storm it looked dangerously close that power would be cut off to all of Marin County and some East Bay areas which receive power from the Ignacio Substation situated north of Sausalito on landfill near San Pablo Bay.

The Substation was in peril as waters crested covering most of the 230 kv control boxes which

continued to transmit power, but were hazardous to operate.

"If water had risen another 6 inches there would've been extensive outages," Shop Steward Dave Delk reported.

The usual crew of four was expanded to 20, and members worked around the clock in the midst of the crises. Delk said that he logged in 100 hours in a matter of days.

Pumps were set up inside the station when water started



Road washed out near substation.

coming in from manholes throughout the yard.

When the water subsided work got underway to examine the wiring and breaker boxes for necessary repairs.

Gas crews were also kept busy throughout the deluge with some crews working around-the-clock in the hardest hit, storm-struck areas.



Handling some repair work at Ignacio Substation are members Tony Miller, Apprentice Electrician, Substation Maintenance, I, and Gary Houck, Electrician, Substation Maintenance, r.

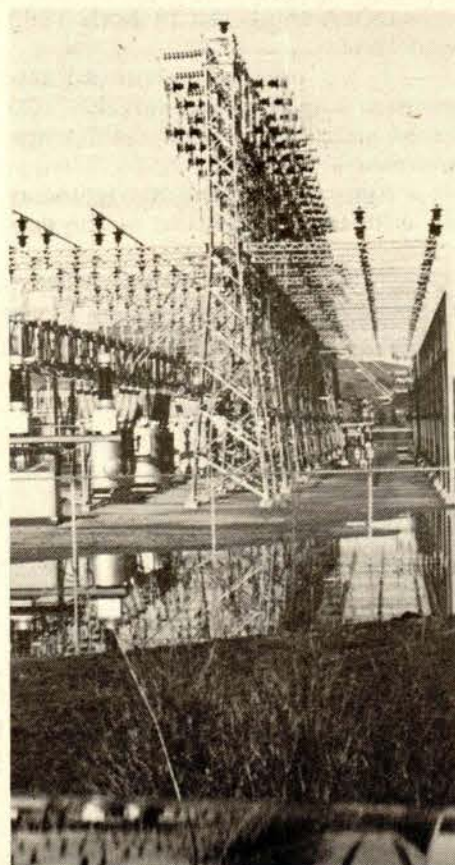
Photos by Jean Fudem and Carol Bedsole



Dave Delk, Ignacio Substation Operator, interviewed by ABC TV newscaster.



Shop Steward Delk, left, shows Business Representative Ernie Jones where the water crested during the flood.



Ignacio Substation, day after the flood subsided.



Northeast of Marin County's Ignacio Substation, Sonoma gas crew members are pictured repairing flood damaged lines. Mike Radloff, left, has been with Local 1245 for 12 years, and Glen Poulter, right, is a 22-year Local 1245 member.

LETTERS OF AGREEMENT

PG&E Letter of Agreement activity updated:

- 81-45 Guideline update (Title 104 — Meals). (Physical)
- 81-54 Establishes application of Relief Agreement, Building Services Department; General Office. (Physical)
- 81-65 Pending — Amendment to 600.13; Line Construction Department, General Construction. (Physical)
- 81-71 Seasonal hours change — Oakdale, Newman, Stockton Division. (Physical)
- 81-72 Hours change, Service Operator, Merced, San Joaquin Division. (Physical)
- 81-73 Exhibit VI, Section 600.1 Division Gas Measurement and Control Lines of Progression and Job Definition.
- 81-74 Withdrawn
- 81-75 Withdrawn
- 81-76 Hours change, Manteca, Stockton Division. (Physical)
- 81-77 Pending — Change of training headquarters, General Construction Apprentice Equipment Mechanics.
- 81-78 Return LTD employee to active duty, Parts Clerk, Hayward, East Bay Division. (Physical)
- 81-79 Hours change, Oakland, East Bay Division. (Physical)
- 81-80 Return LTD employee to active duty, Assistant Foreman's Clerk, Concord, East Bay Division. (Physical)
- 81-81 Seasonal hours change, Corcoran and Lemoore, San Joaquin Division.
- 81-82 Hours change, Concord, East Bay Division. (Clerical)
- 81-83 Exemption from test requirements to enter classification of Service Representative for the Antioch Clerical employees, East Bay Division.
- 81-84 Establish aptitude test for entry to 0641 Light Crew Foreman. (Physical)
- 81-85 Offer of settlement Arbitration Case No. 95.
- 81-86 Seasonal hours change, Chico, De Sabla Division. (Physical)
- 81-87 Seasonal hours change, Sacramento, Sacramento Division. (Physical)
- 81-88 Placement of employee in position of Operating Clerk, Walnut Creek, East Bay Division. (Clerical)
- 81-89 Establishment of new General Construction classifications of Drilling Working Foreman and Driller, including new Line of Progression and wage rates. (Physical)
- 81-90 Pending — Establishes Foreman requirement for joint trench work.
- 81-91 Pending — Testing procedure for Chemical and Radiation Protection Technician, Diablo Canyon Power Plant. (Physical)

Jackhammer hazard? Report it!

A problem with jackhammers has recently been brought to the attention of the Local 1245 Safety Committee by members in PG&E's Coast Valley's Division.

The locking handle tip has broken off several of the jackhammers, with enough force to shatter a pair of safety glasses.

Local 1245 members are asked to report any similar instances of jackhammer problems to Local 1245 Safety Committee, IBEW Local 1245, P.O. Box 4790, Walnut Creek, Ca., 94596. Please supply the Safety Committee with the manufacturer's name and the model number of the jackhammer, along with a brief note explaining how it was being used when it failed.

Another equipment failure was

brought to the attention of the Safety Committee by IBEW Local 68 in Alaska.

A safety line snap released causing a member to fall 32 feet, creating permanent injuries.

The snap is Miller 2990 Snap, 5,000 pound test Round Nose Snap with 5/8 inch throat opening. When there is slack in the line or belt, the snap turns upside down and releases when force is exerted on it.

Local 68 is looking for any member who has had problems with this type of snap. Please contact Dick Wyland, No. 40 St. Morritz Terrace, Summit Park, Utah, 84060.

It is a concern of the Safety Committee that if this is in service by employers the use of this snap should be discontinued.

Scholarship deadline extended

Deadline for receiving applications for the Al Sandoval Memorial Competitive Scholarship Contest sponsored by IBEW Local 1245 for graduating high school seniors has been extended to April. Material must be postmarked and mailed registered or certified by April 2 to Local Union headquarters.

POINT OF VIEW

By Jack McNally

IBEW 1245 Business Manager



1981 activities recapped; achievements highlighted

With the year 1981 now behind us, we look back at the activity of Local 1245 and see that it has been a busy year. During 1981 we have negotiated 33 new agreements with both our public and private employers, with a large number of these agreements coming in the last two months of the year.

Provisions were negotiated on Sierra Pacific Power Company's acquisition of C. P. National, Elko Power and Winnemucca, in Nevada. On the P.G.&E. scene, we are working on many items that were to be negotiated in the interim from 1979-80 General Negotiations and before. General Construction apprenticeship and training programs for several classifications are currently under discussion with P.G.&E. and hopefully will be completed in the near future. Training programs in Pipe Line Operations and in the Water Department will soon begin.

Early in 1981 negotiations on the P.G.&E. Pension, Health and Dental Plans were concluded along with negotiations with Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant N.R.C. requirements. As a result of the 1979-80 changes in the clerical classifications, the lines of progression all had to be revised, and they should be complete as we go to press. The Clerical Job Evaluation negotiations have been going on for most of 1981, and as provided in the 1979-80 negotiations, the issue not being resolved, has been filed for arbitration.

In the area of safety, there is constant ongoing activity by the Local Union. We have worked on many noise, chemical, and toxic substance problems. We spent considerable time and effort supporting the adoption of a state standard for handling PCBs, and hopefully a standard will be adopted soon. Local 1245 participated on Cal/OSHA Advisory Committees on the subjects of cabs, confined spaces, PCBs, and telecommunications. We were also involved in building construction standards concerning high and low electric voltage. The Local Union Safety Committee has been hard at work reviewing accidents and developing communications with all the Unit Safety Committees. They are currently working on developing a manual and reference book for use by the Units and Stewards.

On the legislative front, we have been active in Sacramento working with the California Labor Federation on various bills, most notably the agency shop amendment to the public employee labor relations law which was signed into law in 1981.

Grievance activity, the Business Representative's biggest load, was heavy in 1981, with over 1,300 formal written grievances filed. The processing of these grievances required much time and effort by the Business Representatives and many Shop Stewards.

In 1981, Local 1245 was instrumental in forming the California Coalition of Utility Workers in an effort to combat what utility unions feel is an intrusion in the collective bargaining process by the California Public Utilities Commission. This Coalition has been active in filing briefs in various utilities' rate increase requests.

In 1981, the economic ills of this country have begun to take their toll on many members employed by our employers. We have seen hiring freezes in one form or another with several of our employers and over 1,000 layoffs in all departments in the General Construction Division of P.G.&E.

1982 will be another busy and tough year. The employee discount has become an issue with the California Public Utilities Commission again, and they have ordered an investigation on discounts provided by all of the California utilities (see story on front page). We are trying to complete items that were left for the interim on P.G.&E., as we will be open for negotiations on the total agreement toward the end of the year. In addition, we will be in negotiations on 33 of our employers in 1982.

There were a large number of active members from all of our employers who participated in the negotiation process and grievance handling who deserve a lot of credit and thanks for their efforts to improve the wages and conditions for the members of Local 1245.

In Unity—

Jack McNally

Local 1245 calls for new OSHA head to stop takeaways, reversals

Business Manager Jack McNally recently wrote Thorne Auchter, Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA, to express the Union's views on the new OSHA policies which are jeopardizing worker health and safety, and called for Auchter "to remedy the damage done so far." Printed here are McNally's letter; Auchter's response; and comments on the Local's letter by three California Congressmen.

Printed here are McNally's letter; Auchter's response; and comments on the Local's letter by a California Congressman.

Thorne G. Auchter
Assistant Secretary of Labor
for OSHA
200 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20210

Dear Mr. Auchter:

As a labor union representing more than 20,000 employees in California, Nevada, Washington, Oregon, and Idaho, we wish to express to you our opinions and concerns regarding recent changes and proposals by OSHA in standards setting, enforcement, and worker health and safety education.

First of all, we would like to make clear the positive impact OSHA has had for our members since its inception in 1970. The guidelines provided by OSHA standards and regulations have greatly aided Local 1245 in establishing safer practices with employers, while the possibility of enforcement by Federal and State inspectors has served to emphasize workplace health and safety as a major priority for supervisors.

Rather than retracting these standards and delaying further standards setting, the current standards and regulations must be retained and expanded to help promote health and safety in the workplace. Specific criteria for what constitutes achievement and maintenance of health and safety conditions, rather than vague performance-type standards, must be included in standards as guidelines for employers, employees, and inspectors.

Without specific OSHA standards to use as guidelines and without threats of enforcement by OSHA inspectors to provide incentive for compliance, your plans to sponsor cooperative labor-management health and safety committees will not work.

Your retraction of walkaround pay, the OSHA requirement that employees accompanying compliance officers on inspections be paid on company time, has greatly weakened the effectiveness of enforcement. We feel this regulation should be re-instated to encourage more

effective enforcement.

A reduction in Federal monitoring of state occupational safety and health programs would also greatly weaken the effectiveness of enforcement. We urge you to maintain the Federal monitoring system that we have been relying on for effective enforcement by various state programs.

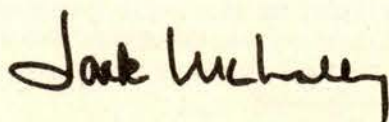
In the area of standards setting, we particularly disapprove of the delays by your administration in issuing a labeling standard and urge you to move as quickly as possible on this much needed standard.

Also, proposals by your administration to allow employers to use respirators and other personal protective clothing and equipment, rather than engineering controls, would fall far short of assuring protection "to the greatest extent possible" which was required of OSHA by the U.S. Supreme Court in its June 17, 1981, decision on the cotton dust standard.

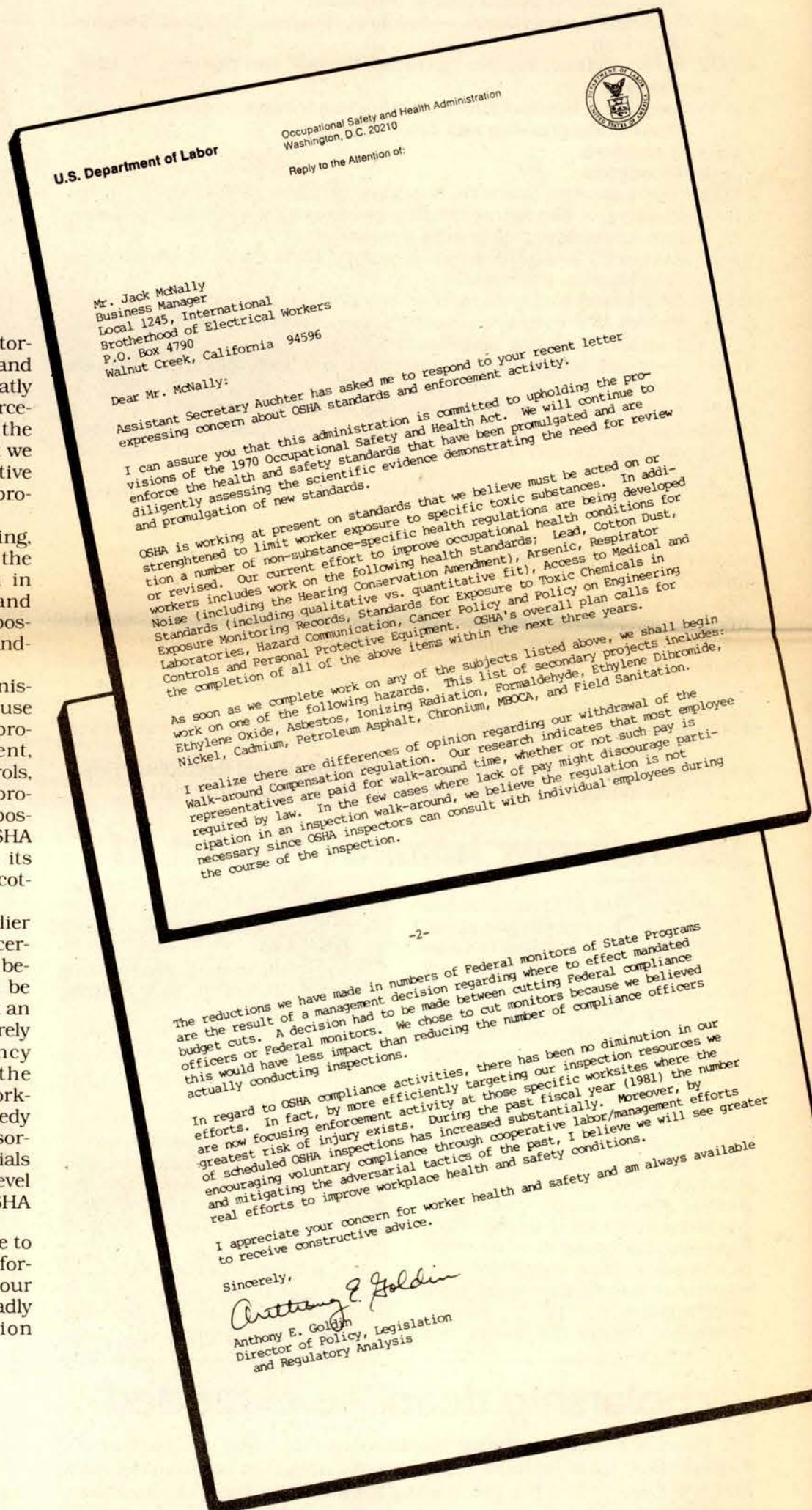
Finally, your instructions earlier this year to recall and destroy certain OSHA films and booklets, because you considered them to be too pro-worker, strongly suggest an anti-worker attitude that is entirely inappropriate for the agency charged with safeguarding the health and safety of American workers. We recommend that you remedy the damage done so far by sponsoring new worker education materials and programs to at least the level and quality of the previous OSHA administration.

Thank you for taking the time to receive our comments. We look forward to hearing from you on our recommendations and would gladly provide additional information supporting our positions.

Sincerely,



Jack McNally
Business Manager, IBEW Local 1245



Miller responds

Dear Mr. McNally:

Congressman Pashayan has sent me your letter to him of November 16, 1981 concerning the implementation and enforcement of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, and a copy of your letter to Assistant Secretary of Labor Thorne G. Auchter.

First of all, I certainly agree with you about the importance of a strong effort to enforce the Occupational Safety and Health Act, and I share your concerns about the current Administration's reduced commitment to enforcement of OSHA. I have raised those concerns generally with Secretary of Labor Donovan and Assistant Secretary Auchter at hearings before this Committee.

In addition, I have specifically questioned the current Administration's policy of reducing funding for the New Directions grants, and when I receive a response to my inquiry from Assistant Secretary Auchter, I will inform you of what his intentions are.

Finally, while OSHA is not within the jurisdiction of this Subcommittee, I have had hearings on the effect of workers' compensation costs of inadequately regulating workplace health standards. I believe that costs of compensation, which are largely borne by the taxpayers, are not adequately reflected in OSHA's decisions with respect to health and safety standards. I'm enclosing a copy of these hearings for your information.

I intend to keep the pressure on to the extent that I can do so. I believe that the Administration's reduced workplace standards and reduced enforcement of those standards are not only inhumane, but are short-sighted in terms of the economic impact. I am pleased that I have your support in this matter.

Your letter to Mr. Auchter certainly raises these concerns which we share most forcefully. I would appreciate knowing how he responds to your inquiry. I am pleased that workers and their unions are starting to make clear to the Reagan Administration, their views about the importance of a strong workplace safety and health program. I strongly believe that workers and the public generally recognize the importance of strong workplace and environmental regulations.

Sincerely,

George Miller
Chairman,
Committee on Education
and Labor
Member of Congress
District 7

GC crew works fast to save trapped horse



Photos: Don McKinley, Dave Bower

Pictured above left to right are Dave Bower, PG&E General Construction Line Truck Driver; Gervin Bonilla, Climber and Rick Ramelow, Foreman, Davey Tree, and Don McKinley, General Construction Lineman.



A PG&E General Construction Line crew, along with a Davey Tree crew were heroes for a day when they recently rescued a horse from possible destruction in Morgan Hill.

The crews were working in the area, where the PG&E crew was installing a new line on a ranch.

While eating lunch, they spotted a young woman attempting to lead her horse across a foot bridge. The horse

suddenly slipped, fell through a guard rail and tumbled 15 feet into a narrow gulley, and landed belly up, lodged against a tree.

The crews worked together, using a fibre sling and the line truck to pull the horse up to safety.

A quick response by PG&E crew members: Don McKinley, Lineman; Dave Bower, Line Truck Driver; and

Bob Dickson, Lineman; and Davey Tree members Rick Ramelow, Foreman, and Gervin Bonilla, Climber, brought the frightened uninjured animal to safety, much to the relief of the horse's owner.

The owner of the horse contacted PG&E and Davey Tree supervisors, commending the crews on their effort to save the animal.

BASEBALL TOURNEY

Good old days of summer remembered



Milo's Heros, 1st Place A Division.



The Outlaws, 1st Place B Division.

Last August Pleasant Hill Park's four softball fields echoed with cheers and groans as the 12 teams participating in Jim McCauley's Outlaws Softball Tournament met in intense but friendly competition.

As the thermometer passed the 90 degree mark, the free beer flowed quenching thirsts, softening defeats, and washing down the free hot dogs and the potato chips.

The tournament, which was put

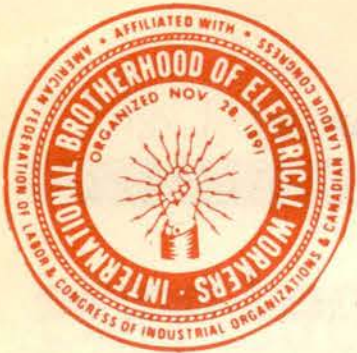
on by members of Local Union 1245 featured paid umpires, 'A' and 'B' division players, and five sets of individual trophies.

At the tournament's end 75 trophies were awarded. Participants concluded that the spirit of sportsmanship and the principles of Union brotherhood were given new meaning by all who had participated in this event.

The winning teams were: 'A' Divi-

sion, 1st Place — Milo's Heros (Oakland); 2nd Place — Garcia Backhoe (San Jose). 'B' Division, 1st Place — the Outlaws (Oakland); 2nd Place — Belmont Cubs (Belmont), and Consolation Winner — the A&J Stars (Richmond).

Other participating teams included: 'A' Division — Ballena Liquors and the Gas Rats; 'B' Division — S. F. Substation, 12 Pak, the Wreckers, Navato and the Artisans.



IBEW Local 1245

JANUARY

UTILITY REPORTER
OFFICIAL VOICE OF IBEW LOCAL UNION 1245 AFL-CIO

FEBRUARY

POINT OF VIEW

IBEW 1245 Business Manager

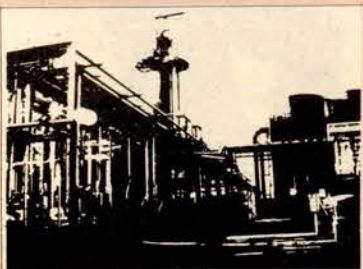


Crew jumps as brakes fail; two injured, truck totalled



AFTER: Brad Fransen with remains of cab following accident.

Health and safety survey at Geysers



Howard Stiefer, center, gets solid congratulations from Business Manager Jack Michelly just after Stiefer was sworn in as new president by Vern Bretz, left, IBEW 9th District International Representative.



Overhead Lineman Mike Hook, shown, who had not installed or removed capacitors were included in the study group.

Howard Stiefer
New 1245 president sworn in

MAY

NEVADA NEWS

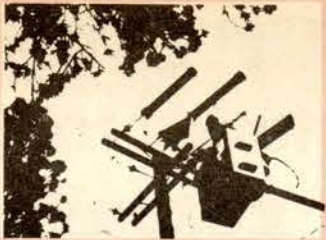
JUNE

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS

40 YEARS PROUD IBEW 1245



His Latest in Male Attire?



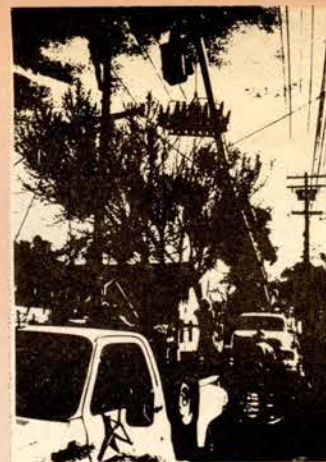
Accident claims one life; survivor severely burned



Slowpitch Softball Tourney

Union safety group gets results at Lynch

Local participates in PCB protection policies for members



Local on cli

'SPIRIT OF UNIONISM' Brother

SEPTEMBER

ON THE JOB

OCTOBER



Karen Johnson, center, accepts award for her sister's winning essay in Local 1245 competition from California Labor Federation's president Alton Gruhn. At right, Assembly Council presentation. Mr. and Mrs. Mar Johnson, left, parents of the winning essayist, Marie Johnson—proudly took along with IBEW 1245's Business Manager, Jack Michelly, far right.



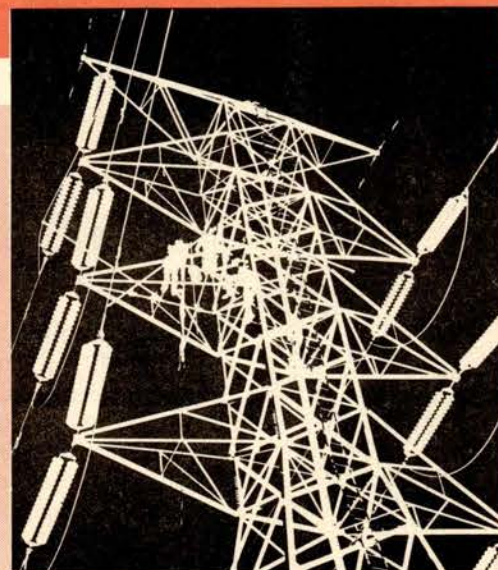
Big turnouts for Solidarity Day as workers protest Reagan's policies



PATCO's supporters protest at airport



Stewards call for PSEA to honor Union's boycott



'Reagan's cutbacks hit women hardest'



Alton Gruhn, California Federation AFL-CIO President, and Joe Vice President and President of Coalition of Labor Union Women speak on Women in the Workforce.

Local 1245 - Year In Review

FEBRUARY

2 injured, truck totalled



Overhead Lineman Sam Miao (left) above, who had not installed or removed capacitors were included in the safety group.

Howard Stiefer
New 1245 president sworn in

MARCH

Advisory Council members attend quarterly meeting in Concord



Fitzsimmons opens meeting

100 years of labor

From CIO, Committee on Political Education, AFL-CIO



APRIL

BARGAINING REPORT PUBLIC AGENCIES



Fire in the streets

This picture shows of 1889 Local 1245 member Matt Shultz as a security guard on the front page of the San Jose Mercury-News. A PG&E Gas Department San Jose Division conducted inspection when reported to be a faulty customer. Surrounding area homes were evacuated when a leaking gas main erupted, sending jets of flame through the pavement before it was brought under control. Shultz will mark two years with Local 1245 this May. His brother, Victor, also works for the PG&E Gas Department and their father, Dan, now deceased, was a Gas Crew Foreman in San Jose, having worked there 25 years.

MAY

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS

JULY

15



Football Tournney

Local participates in PCB protection policies for members



Local 1245 members in the Modesto-Tringham District were recently involved in this photo in the Modesto-Tringham District when they removed the last of 1266 capacitors containing toxic PCBs from the area. Overhead are Journeyman Bob Chapman, on the pole, and Randy Underhill in the bucket. On back of truck is Editor Dave Love, Truck Driver, and Jerry Gardner, Working Foreman, on the ground.

Local 1245 calls for ban on climbing pine poles



Photo shows graphic reality of unexplained pole break in San Luis Obispo area where a hazard alert has been issued. No injury was related to the incident.

'SPIRIT OF UNIONISM' HAILED
Brother helping brother... \$14,000 raised

Board votes to back Disabled Vets



East Bay sculpture publicizing Disabled Vets

Senior members honored at award dinner



35 years Senior member George Henderson and wife Norma



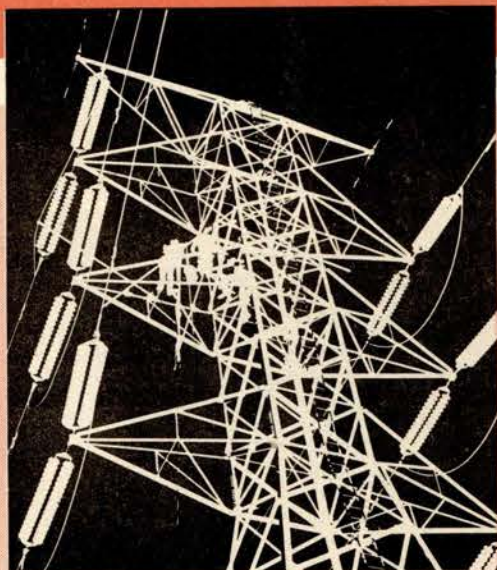
Health threat uncovered

OCTOBER

Day
ices



PSEA
s boycott



'Reagan's cutbacks hit women hardest'

NOVEMBER



Alton Gruhn, California Federation AFL-CIO President, and Joyce D. Miller, AFL-CIO Vice President and President of Coalition of Labor Union Women, at the recent hearing on Women in the Workforce.



Business Manager Jack McNally testifying at the evening PCB public hearing in San Francisco

MEMBERS TESTIFY AT S.F. HEARING
Local awaits word on PCB standard

LIFELINE HEALTH AND SAFETY

DECEMBER



Giving, sensitive,
Al Sandoval will

ARBITRATION

Members testify at



Going over important points prior to hearing are Local 1245's witnesses Richard Orter, Dan Neal, Bill Fimbres, Bush and Local 1245's Staff Counsel Tom Deaton.

- Year In Review, 1981

MARCH

BARGAINING REPORT PUBLIC AGENCIES

APRIL

OUTSIDE LINE

Advisory Council members attend quarterly meeting in Concord



Fitzsimmons opens meeting

100 years of labor

From CIO's Committee on Political Education, AFL-CIO



Fire in the streets

This unique photo of IBEW Local 1245 member Matt Masato, who is only 16 years old, was taken on the night of the fire in San Jose, California. Masato is a member of the IBEW Local 1245 Gas Department and their father, Don, now deceased, was a Gas Crew Foreman in San Jose, having worked there 25 years.

homes were evacuated when a leaking gas main ignited, sending jets of flame through the pavement before it was brought under control. Masato will work two years with Local 1245 this May. His brother, Victor, also works for the IBEW Gas Department and their father, Don, now deceased, was a Gas Crew Foreman in San Jose, having worked there 25 years.

Members OK package in ratification vote



an evening to remember



BOB BURCHFIELD, IBEW Local 1245 member, standing foreground, oversees ratification check-off with Ron Skramore, member of the Ratification Committee, IBEW Local 1245. In the background are Oscar, and right, Ben Valenzuela.

JULY

AUGUST

PEOPLE

1245 calls for ban on burning pine poles



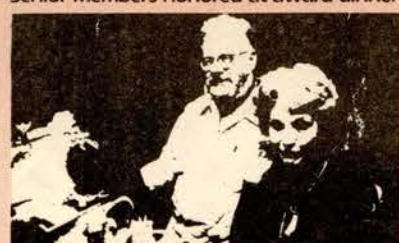
burned pine break in San Luis Obispo area where a hazard alert has been issued. No story.

Board votes to back Disabled Vets



East Bay sculpture publicizing Disabled Vets Rally.

Senior members honored at award dinner



35 years Senior member George Henderson and wife Norma.



Meets with Brown

Local 1245 heads up Coalition to tackle P.U.C. interference



L.R. Governor Jerry Brown, Leonard Gimes, Public Utilities Commissioner, and IBEW Local 1245's Staff Counsel Tom Dazett at recent Coalition meeting.



WORKING HARD: Shop Steward Dave Pittman, Modesto Irrigation District Line-man, replaces wire.

Health threat uncovered

IBEW Local 1245 at work

NOVEMBER

LIFELINE HEALTH AND SAFETY

DECEMBER



Business Manager Jack McNulty testifying at the evening PCB public hearing in San Francisco.



Al Sandoval

Giving, sensitive, dedicated, Al Sandoval will be missed

Members testify at hearing



Going over important points prior to hearing are Local 1245's witnesses Richard Orta, Don Neal, Bill Fimbres, Business Representative Bob Thomson, Paul Quillon, and Local 1245's Staff Counsel Tom Dazett.

High voltage effects still open to question



Local 1245 member Joe Skalen, wearing hard hat signs in white HOSH team, Lt. Dr. Molly Coye, M.D., Pierre Beanger and Paul Pryor get set to take medical interviews.

Members testify at S.F. hearing

Local awaits word on PCB standard

Olga Estrella, Certified Welder

Trailblazing member Olga Estrella has become the first woman to pass certification requirements for Certified Welder in Local 1245's PG&E jurisdiction while completing a rigorous welding apprenticeship at Moss Landing Power Plant.

The Apprenticeship Program is a 36-month program. She passed her certification requirements in a little over two years, and recently after completing 30 months as an Apprentice Welder submitted a bid for Certified Welder.

Prior to entering the apprenticeship program she worked four years as a Mechanical Maintenance Helper before her bid for Apprentice Welder was approved.

Salinas born and reared, Estrella recalls, "I first went to PG&E because I was sick of making lousy pay — and I told them I wasn't afraid to work hard."

"After my interview and general testing I was called back in, and offered a job in mechanical maintenance at Moss Landing, and was informed that it would be heavy, hard work. And it was. I'm athletic," she added, "but it was

hard work with a lot of walking and lifting, and it was a new experience learning to work with tools."

Estrella was one of two women to first work at the plant in a non-clerical position.

Reactions to a woman first working at the power plant were varied.

Seven years later, after some rough moments wondering why she'd chosen such a path, her perseverance has paid off. She's proud of her skills and her job, and proud that she earns a substantial salary to support herself and her five-year-old daughter, Danielle.

Estrella, 28, was aided in her apprenticeship training by Harold Walker, Sr., a Certified Welder, who's also a Shop Steward. The time allotted for training was made possible by Maintenance Supervisor at Moss Landing.

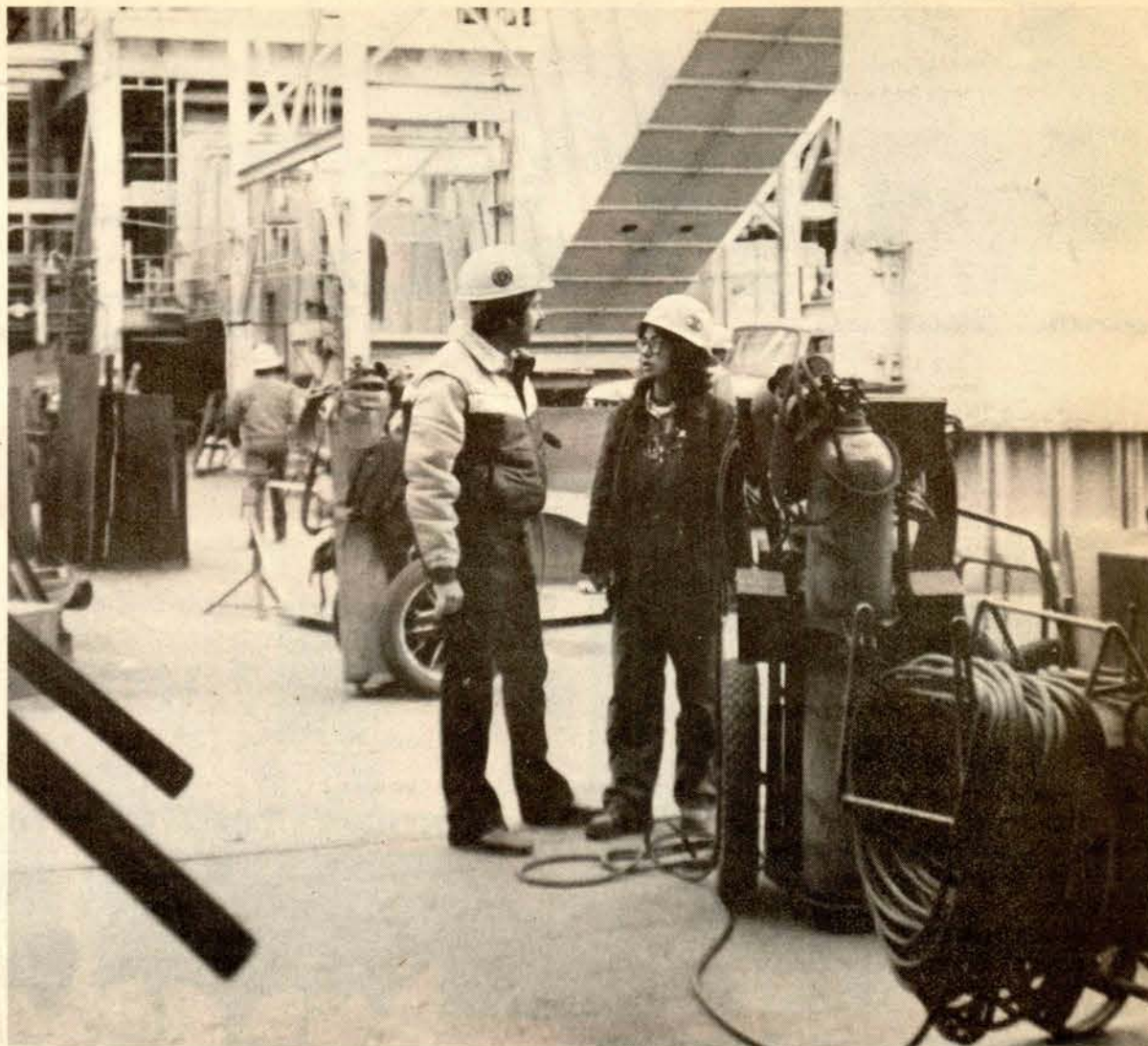
The road to certification was rocky in some spots and it was during those times that Estrella says she began learning about the benefits of Union involvement. She has subsequently become a Shop Steward and is an active member of the Union Health and Safety Committee.



First job of the day is getting daughter Danielle ready for school.



Olga, an Apprentice Welder with Certified Welder Harold Walker, Sr., who plays a significant part in working with apprentice welders at Moss Landing.

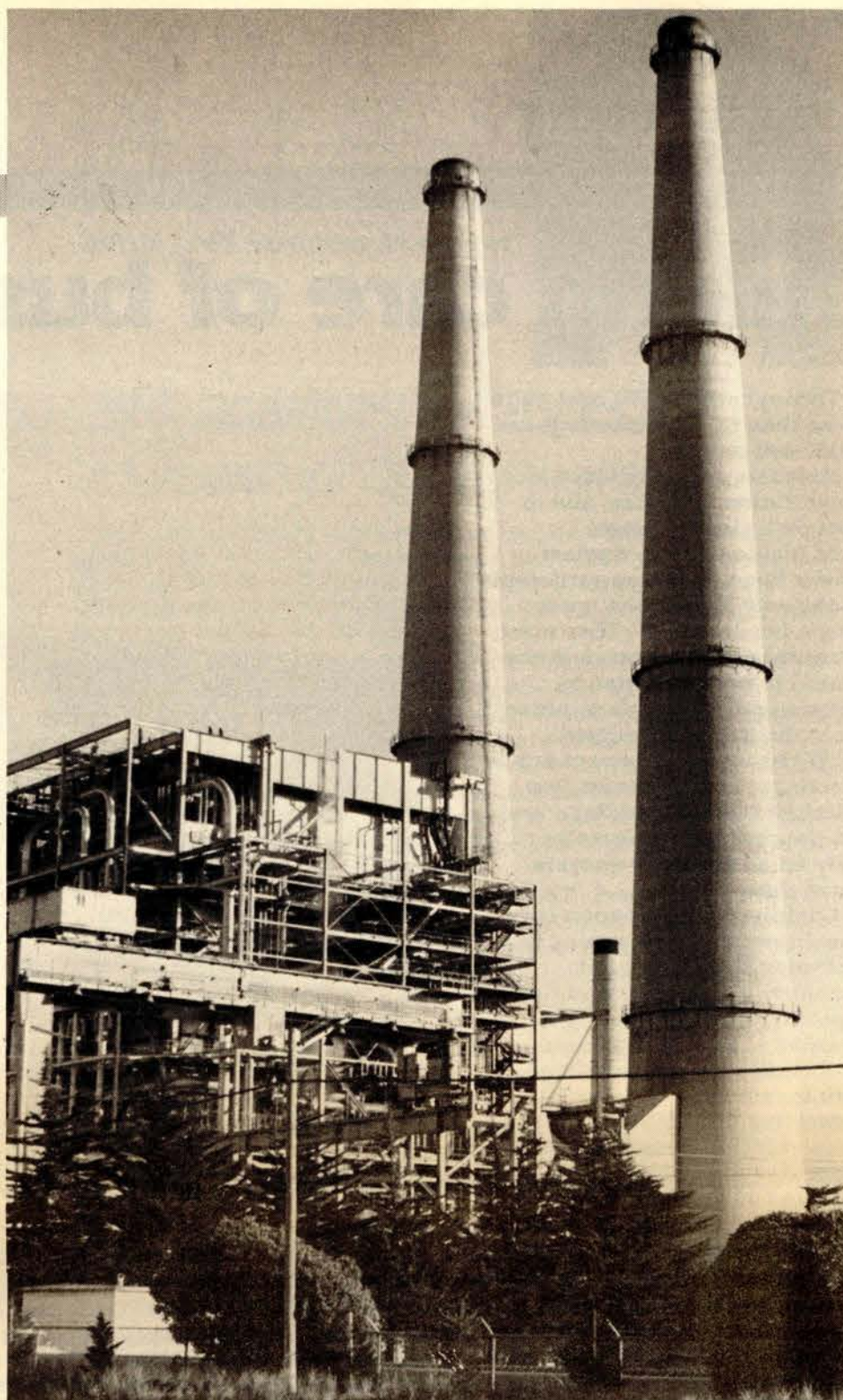


Olga, who's also a Shop Steward at Moss Landing, meets with Business Representative Ken Ball.

Photos by Carol Bedsole



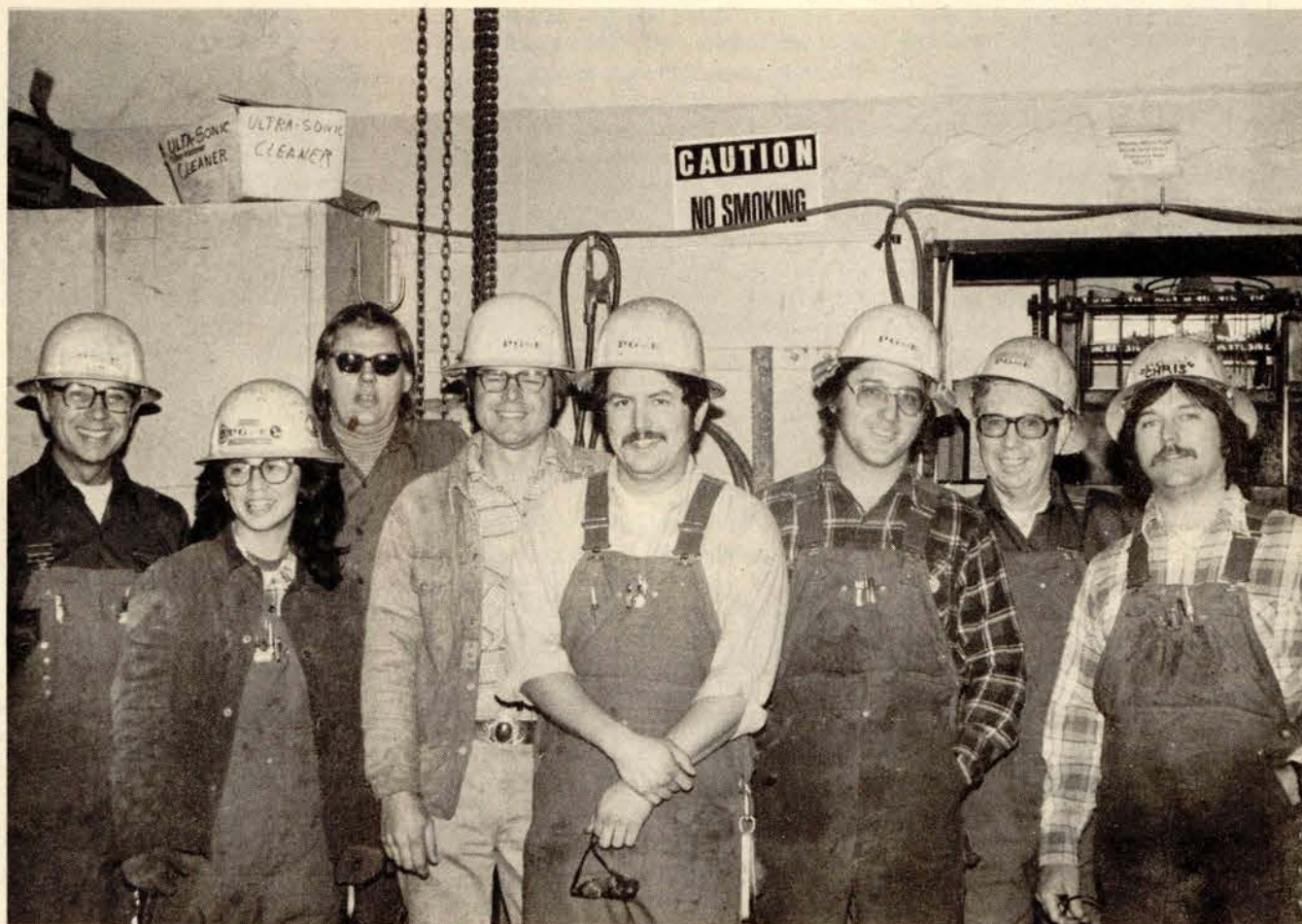
Olga setting up welding equipment.



Moss Landing Power Plant, some 10 miles northwest of Salinas.



Here Olga cuts a bracket.



Crew members with Olga, left to right are: Nate Coulter, Lew Holst, Kim Miner, Ralph Dominguez, Brad Jones,

Harold Walker, Sr., and Chris Hall.

Unit Meeting

Taking care of business

Throughout IBEW Local 1245 more than 80 unit meetings are held each month.

Members gather to learn more about Union activities, and to vote on Union business.

At Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant members participate in the only Unit which has a single headquarters. They meet monthly right after work at the San Luis Bay Inn which is situated only a couple minutes from the Power Plant gate.

"We had 31 members at our last meeting," Unit Recorder Dan Mitchell reported, adding, "and for the past two years we've only failed to have a quorum three times."

Chairman Dave Cannon says that interest is high among the 150-plus Bargaining Unit members at the plant and that a portion of each meeting is devoted to explaining Union procedures for the benefit of new members.

Meeting activity increased last year with the threat of possible work stoppage when the Abalone Alliance nuclear protestors set out to blockade the plant.

As it turned out work went on as usual with our members being bussed through the blockade attempt, and inside word indicated that there may have been more media people on site than blockaders.

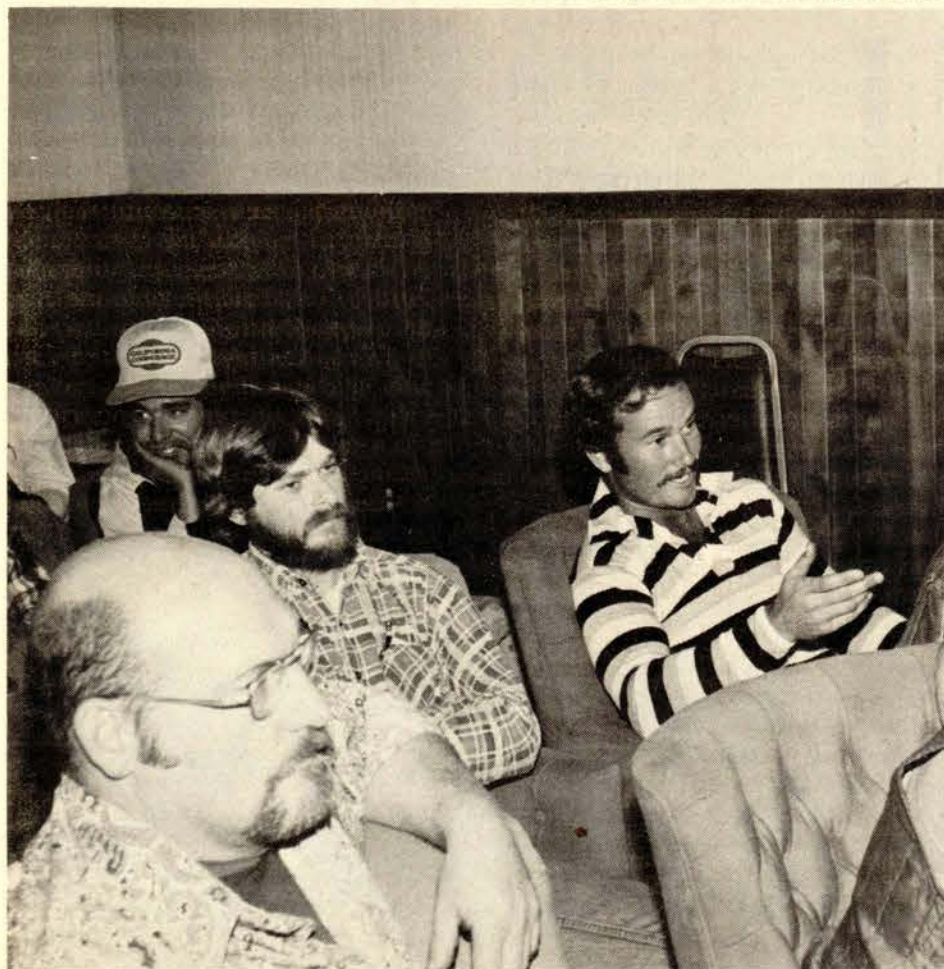


Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant entrance.



Group shot of members voting on current business at recent monthly Unit meeting included, front row, l-r, Mayo McCracken, Bob Hurless, Reggie Bazerra, and Mike Ginn; second row, l-r, Bud Murphy, Mike Armstrong, Dennis Jaehnig; third row, l-r,

Art Moore, Curt Rohne, Michael Johns, and Greg Smith; fourth row, l-r, Rich Chadband, Larry McKinnon, Bill Goodes, and Howard Ferguson. Pictured below are Unit members obscured in the group photo.



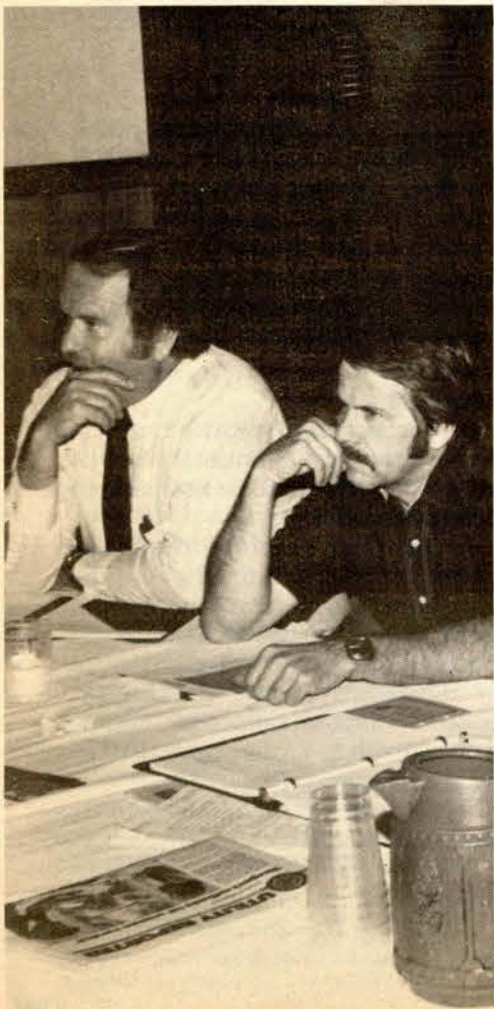
Steve Benson, far right, discusses job-related concerns with Unit members and officers.



Other participants included Wes Hardisty, and Ernie Salazar.

BARGAINING REPORT PUBLIC AGENCIES

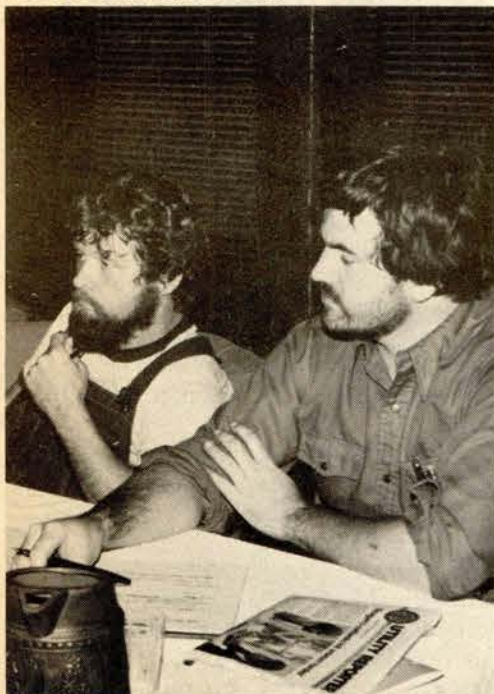
By Tom Dalzell, IBEW 1245 Staff Counsel



Business Representative Dave Reese, l, and Unit Vice Chairperson Pete Broadnick, r.



Information Center is off Hwy 101 on the road to the Power Plant.



Unit Chairperson Dave Cannon, l, and Unit Recorder Dan Mitchell.

United States Bureau of Reclamation

The pinch of "Reaganomics" has recently been felt by Local 1245 members employed by the United States Bureau of Reclamation, who have been handed a 4.8 percent wage increase for 1982. Business Representative Pete Dutton, aided by Bargaining Committee members Al Wright, Bill Chambers, Don Day, Rick Knehans, Dan Wayand, and Marshal Duarte in late December completed bargaining with the Bureau for 1982, severely hampered by President Reagan's restrictions on federal employees.

In addition to the 4.8 percent wage increase, the Bargaining Committee made certain gains in contract language and working conditions, including an increased shift premium. IBEW attorneys are currently reviewing the legislation which limited our members' 1982 wage increase to 4.8 percent and analyzing possible legal attacks.

Nevada Irrigation District

Local 1245 members employed by the Nevada Irrigation District recently ratified a new one-year Memorandum of Agreement with the District. According to Business Representative Gary Hall, the Bargaining Committee, consisting of NID employees Bill Baum, Paul Blocker, Tom Santos, and Terry Mayfield, won a 9.5 percent general wage increase, wage parity with PG&E for employees at the District's generating facility (Yuba-Bear Project), language improvements in the area of promotions, improved retirement benefits, and medical insurance for employees' first dependents.

City of Alameda

Business Representative Veodis Stamps reports having reached agreement with the City of Alameda for a new one-year Memorandum of Agreement for the City's Electric Department employees. Highlights of the agreement include a 9.7 percent

general wage increase, which brings the journeyman lineman rate to \$14.40 per hour, and doubletime for call-outs.

Thermalito Irrigation District

Local 1245 members at the Thermalito Irrigation District received an 8.5 percent general wage increase effective January 1, 1982, as the result of a new Memorandum of Agreement negotiated by Business Representative Ed Fortier and Bargaining Committee member Dale Loomis. Fortier further reports that Local 1245 won Vision Care as part of the new one-year agreement.

Yuba County Water Agency

Business Representative Ed Fortier also has just completed 1982 negotiations with the Yuba County Water Agency. As a result of these negotiations, Agency employees will receive wages in parity with PG&E, as well as improvements in the retirement plans. The equipment mechanic has also been upgraded as a result of the recent bargaining.

Oroville-Wyandote Irrigation District

Negotiations on a wage-reopener have recently concluded at Oroville-Wyandote Irrigation District. Under the terms of the new agreement, negotiated by Business Representative Ed Fortier, Electric Department employees will continue with PG&E parity for wages. Water Department employees will receive a 7 percent general wage increase with the District picking up the increased FICA contributions, and life insurance benefits for all employees have been tripled.

Other Ongoing Negotiations

Business Representative Darrel Mitchell is still in bargaining with the Truckee-Donner Public Utility District, where Local 1245 members recently rejected the District's offer of an 8 percent general wage increase.

Representative Pete Dutton is presently in bargaining with both the Merced Irrigation District (wage-reopener only) and the Tri-Dam Project, and expects to have settlements at both properties before the end of February.

Representatives of the Sacramento Regional Transit District and IBEW Local 1245 (Business Representative Gary Hall and employee Bargaining Committee members Wes Duvall, L. Guthrie, Dave Skogg, and Ned Fox) have met twice and are still just beginning bargaining. Citing cut-backs by President Reagan, the District has offered substantial take-backs, including a wage roll-back of approximately 20 percent.

The State Mediation and Conciliation Service had been called in to mediate negotiations between IBEW and the Shasta Dam Area Public Utility District, with the first mediated meeting between Business Representative Rich Hafner and the District expected as this issue of the *Utility Reporter* went to press.

Pre-negotiated Wage Increases Implemented January 1, 1982

Pursuant to existing agreements, wage increases for IBEW members at several public sector properties were implemented on January 1, 1982, including the following:

City of Santa Clara Electric Department: Using a pre-negotiated formula, Local 1245 members received increases of between 11.08 and 12.46 percent.

Orange-Cove Irrigation District: A pre-negotiated COLA clause gave IBEW members an across-the-board increase of 9.5 percent on the first of the year.

Richvale Irrigation District: A negotiated increase of \$34 per week for all employees (ranging from 9.1 to 10.7 percent) was received by all IBEW Local 1245 members.

City of Roseville Electric Department: Under the terms of a COLA clause, employees received a 7.8 percent wage increase.



Members of the 1981 USBR Negotiating Committee included, l-r: Dan Wyand, Marshal Duarte, Rick Knehans, Al Wright, Don Day, Bill Chambers, and Business Representative Pete Dutton.



Attending a recent Cable TV Shop Stewards meeting were, l-r: Mike Considine, Marvin Darnell, Dean Gates, Clifford Cordella, Scott Wilcox and Don Ambracht. The meeting covered a variety of information useful for Stewards on the job.



Others attending the recent Cable TV Shop Stewards meeting were l-r: George Gilkison, Mike Carter, Jay Schaffer, Al Ramirez, Dwayne JoJola, Terry Willis, Mark Fakhouri, Craig Moyers, Robert Reid, and Donna Whetstone.

Vietnam Memorial funds sought

More than \$46,000 has been contributed by AFL-CIO affiliates to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, spokespersons for the Fund recently announced.

IBEW Local 1245 contributed \$500 to the Fund which was established to design and develop a memorial in Washington, D.C. to honor and recognize all Americans who served in Vietnam, and those who died in the war. The organizers have set a goal of \$7 million, all of which will come in the form of donations.

The memorial will make no political statement on the war — and is proposed as a means for all Americans, regardless of differing opinions on the war, to unite in acknowledging the sacrifice of those who served.

Fund raising is still underway for the project. Congress in July 1980 authorized a two-acre site in Constitution Garden near the Lincoln Memorial for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. A design was chosen in a national contest sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and it is hoped the memorial will be completed by November 1982.

Inscription of the names of the more than 57,000 Americans who died in Vietnam is planned on the 200-foot black granite walls of the

Accidents claim 3 lives

From page one in Oregon.

On December 15 Fish was killed and passenger Jim Perry, Electrical Machinist, suffered an injury to his right leg when the pickup truck Fish was driving back to their headquarters at Angels Camp Hydro Yard went off the road on Highway 49 near San Andreas. The truck went out of control and plunged end over end down a 175-foot gulley.

Fish was a Shop Steward for many years, and active member of Unit 2512, Angels Camp. In addition, he had served as a member of the Unit

Safety Committee and the Angels Camp Annual Picnic Committee. He joined Local 1245 in 1961 and had been a member for 20 years.

He is survived by his wife Laurie, daughters Coleen, 19, Katy, 18, and son Michael, 14, his sister Carolyn Blake, his mother Eleanor Walters, and grandchildren Kevin and Jessica.

Following this series of fatal mishaps Union representatives were in contact with the victims' families to express the grief shared in the loss of these men.



Mangled truck recovered following Johansen fatality.

memorial.

Donations and pledges received through February 1982 are needed to obtain approval for the ground breaking, which is tentatively slated

for Memorial Day 1982.

Contributions should be sent to VVMF, P.O. Box 37240, Washington, D.C. 20013. Contributions are tax deductible.

PUC probe

From page one environment.

The PUC Commissioners have pointedly stated that they're going to consider a wide variety of options for discounts including "consideration of the retention, reduction, elimination or adjustment for rate making purposes" for utility workers.

Among the questions they'll be addressing are:

a. whether employee discounts are appropriate and consistent with sound or equitable ratemaking principles; and

b. whether employee discounts promote or undermine the Commission's conservation and/or load management goals in this state; and

c. whether reduction, elimination, or adjustment for ratemaking purposes of employee discount benefits would result in higher rates to utility ratepayers; and

d. if the evidence adduced in this investigation indicates that reduction, elimination or ratemaking adjustment of employee discount benefits is warranted, the best mode for implementation of said reduction, elimination, or ratemaking adjustment; and

e. whether any other order or orders should be issued by the Commission in the exercise of its jurisdiction.

Joined with IBEW Local 1245 in the Coalition of Utility Workers to combat PUC interference in bargaining issues are Communications Workers of America (CWA); Engineers and Scientists of California (ESC-MEBA); International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Locals 47, 465, 543; International Chemical Workers Union (ICWU), five Local Unions; and 13 Locals of the Utility Workers Union of America (UWUA).

SMUD members ratify pact

From page one

side the restricted area (effective January 1, 1983)

— An additional floating holiday (effective January 1, 1983)

Business Manager Jack McNally praised the agreement as "one of the finest public sector settlements in California in 1981, especially given the present poor state of the economy."

"Local 1245 members at SMUD," McNally said, "are to be commended for the unity which they showed throughout the negotiations and for the backing which they gave Hank Lucas and their Bargaining Committee, who deserve special commendation for their long and often frustrating hours of formulating the Union proposals and bargaining with the District."