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Some News briefs

200 Wal-Mart workers in Hialeah Garen, Fla. walked off the job in October to protest new store policies requiring that all workers be available for shifts at all times, cutting the hours of all full-time workers from 40 to 32 hours per week, and having shift assignments determined by a computer at the company's Arkansas headquarters, rather than by local managers, Labor Notes reported.

Childcare services are available to IBEW members working for PG&E in downtown San Francisco through an admissions lottery. Call Bright Horizons Family Solutions at company extension 223-5535 for an application form to register your child for the lottery.

Billionaire investor Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway firm is looking to acquire utilities. It is the latest indication that the utility industry could become a financial playground for wealthy investors in search of profit opportunities. "We have the money to do it and we have the willingness to do it," Buffett told a conference of utility regulators and industry executives.

Income for the typical working family has fallen farther behind rising prices each year for the past five years, according to a new report by the Economic Policy Institute. Since 2000, despite a rising stock market and strong corporate profits, the median family headed by someone of working age (65 or less) has seen its income drop 5.4% after adjusting for inflation. This represents a loss of \$3,000 in annual income.

Over 10,000 former Coca-Cola employees in Venezuela are blockading the company's bottling plants and depots, demanding millions of dollars of unpaid benefits such as pension and severance packages, Labor Notes reported.

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

Forging unity in a time of change

Eric Wolfe

"How many people in this room are over 50?"

In the bull room at PG&E's Vacaville yard, arms go up. A lot of them.

It's the same story wherever you go, says Tom Dalzell. The workforce has aged, and the consequences are coming home to roost.

Since becoming IBEW Local 1245's new business manager in August, Dalzell has logged hundreds of hours on the road, visiting union members throughout PG&E's far-flung service territory, asking about their work, listening to their concerns.

"We only have Al and myself during days and we're not going to be able to keep up," a mechanic tells Dalzell in Concord.

"There are days when we have just 2 two-man crews handling two counties, and we're getting older," says Tony Araya, a gas crew foreman in Vacaville. "When an emergency comes up I don't want to

Dalzell hits the road



work another minute—I'm beat."

To the union and its members, the solution to these problems is obvious: "It's staffing," Dalzell tells the Vacaville group.

Staffing is an issue the union has raised repeatedly since PG&E embarked on a major downsizing in the early 1990s. At times the company has acknowledged the problem, but keeps getting distracted by other issues. Dalzell lists the major ones: deregulation and downsizing, the energy crisis, bankruptcy, Plan of Reorganization, new management, Transformation.

Retirement Security

Staffing isn't the only thing that union members worry about as they age. When

Vacaville Electric Crew Foreman Mark Sohnrey tells Tom Dalzell about the hardships faced by his mother, the surviving spouse of a PG&E retiree.

they see the problems that current retirees are facing, they fear for their own retirement security.

Mark Sohnrey, an electric crew foreman in Vacaville, tells Dalzell about his mother, the surviving spouse of a PG&E retiree. She has no employee discount, and she did not receive the \$7500 Retirement Premium Offset Account because her husband died before it was negotiated.

Improving retiree benefits, Dalzell tells Sohnrey, "is an extremely high priority of mine in the next set of negotiations."

Continued on page 2.



Anti-Annexation Ad

IBEW Local 1245 members Bill Wallace (second from left) and Dan Permenter (second from right) appeared in a TV ad this fall opposing the attempted annexation of PG&E service territory in Yolo County. Also shown in the photo are cameraman Kit Tyler (left), retired news anchor Stan Atkinson (middle), and Local 1245 Business Representative Hunter Stern, right. See page 5 for more on the annexation attempt.

Photo by Don Sipple

Members ratify USBR pact

Local 1245 members ratified a new agreement with the US Bureau of Reclamation in a vote at headquarters on Nov. 7.

The new agreement provides a majority of classifications with an average wage increase of 4.95% in January 2007 and a 1.88% increase in July 2007.

For classifications whose wages are already above those at surveyed employers, the wage increase will be 1% in January 2007.

Communications and Instrumenta-

tion (C&I) classification will receive a 5.26% increase in January 2007 and the opportunity to change their wage survey references for a wage adjustment in January 2008.

All classifications except C&I's will receive a 4% raise in January 2008.

Local 1245 represents USBR employees at headquarters in Redding, Folsom, Tracy, Fresno and Sacramento. The agreement was approved in a vote conducted at the various headquarters by an overwhelming 82% of those voting.



Local 1245 members negotiating for the union at USBR were (clockwise from left): Van Pender, C&I; Patrick Pipis, Plant Mechanic; Business Rep. Sam Glero; Dan Wyand, Sr. Control Operator; Rob Skordas, Operation Team Lead; and Tom McGahern, Electrician (NCAO).

Forging Unity, from page 1

He notes that five chapters of the Local 1245 Retirees Club now have active members who meet monthly and are "putting some real pressure on management."

But bargaining always involves trade-offs. Dalzell reminds members that active employees may get less of what they want now in order to get more for current and future retirees. It's a point he wants members keep in mind when negotiations begin in 2008.

"We take our marching orders from what comes out of the unit meetings and bargaining proposals," he says. "It's my job to take the things you want and try to get them for you."

In the Trenches

When people hear that Dalzell's a lawyer, they usually assume he followed the customary route of attending law school and eventually landing a job at a union. But it didn't happen that way.

When he was barely old enough to vote, Dalzell moved to California and



Moving work to the Resource Management Centers has necessitated more overtime for Vacaville Foreman's Clerk Shannon Campbell. "I will have to come in on the weekend because I don't have time during the day" for the extra work, she tells Tom Dalzell.

became involved in the epic organizing struggle being waged by the United Farm Workers. No time for law school. Instead, Dalzell read law while working in the trenches for workers' rights. He passed the California bar exam in 1976.

In 1981 he hired on at IBEW Local 1245 as staff attorney. Since then he has represented union members in over 400 arbitrations and dozens of negotiations.



Senior Service Rep. I Bob Uschmann discusses Sacramento Call Center issues with Business Manager Tom Dalzell.



Concord System Operator Jason Martin discusses local issues with Tom Dalzell.



Tom Dalzell explains that the extension of the Clerical Agreement extends severance protections during a time of change and protects Clerical members against any effort to substitute "lump sums" for genuine wage increases in upcoming negotiations.



Tom Dalzell inducts Line Clearance Tree Trimmers Kleet Jonte and Sean Stacy into the union during a recent unit meeting in Redding. Photo: Ray Thomas



Vacaville Electric Crew Foreman Mark Sohnrey tells Tom Dalzell about the hardships faced by his mother, the surviving spouse of a PG&E retiree.

As business manager, Dalzell won't have time to personally handle arbitrations anymore. But negotiations are another matter. Dalzell has been in the thick of the on-going contract dispute at Sierra Pacific Power. And in numerous meetings with members this fall, he's made it clear he intends to be directly involved in upcoming negotiations with tree trimming contractors in 2007 and with PG&E in 2008.

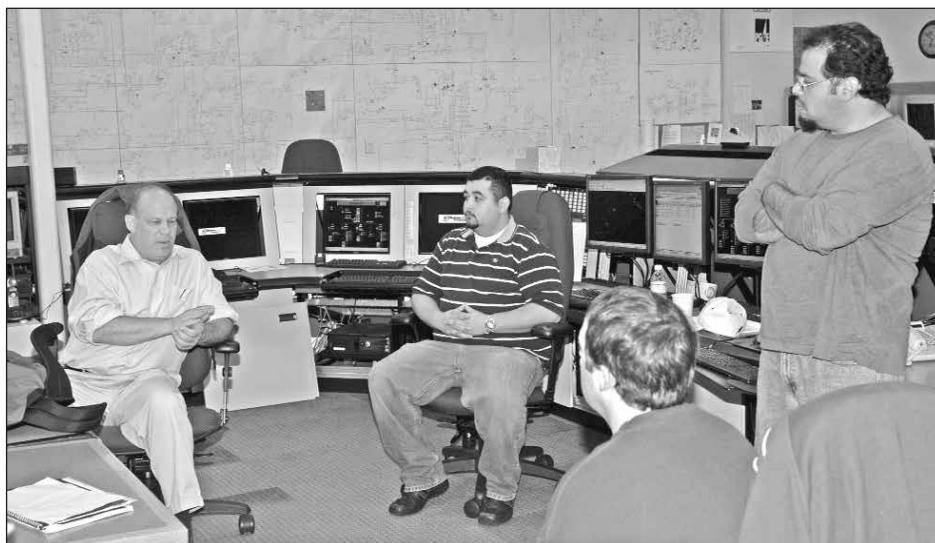
As he told shop stewards at PG&E's Bill, Print, Mail, and Payment Processing Center in West Sacramento last

month: "I like moving money from the company to you."

Rapid Turnover

Dalzell gives credit for honest effort, but has little patience for half-baked ideas or hype.

At a recent meeting with union stewards at PG&E's Sacramento Call Center, he praised efforts by supervisors and union members to work through problems at newly-opened Resource Management Centers: "The supervisors aren't treating the employees like chil-



Tom Dalzell tells System Operators in Concord: "You are right on the point of the riskiest business transformation project of all."



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dren—they're working things out, they're solving problems together."

He recognizes PG&E's right to engage in "Transformation," and applauds any effort to genuinely improve work processes. But he believes the rapid turnover in top management has badly eroded the company's institutional memory, sometimes leading to initiatives that are simply out-of-touch with realities in the field.

Like the replacement of the Scelzi gas service trucks with a new model made by Knapheide. The top of the tool bin on the old Scelzi model is 53-inches from the ground, just low enough for gas servicemen to easily see and remove the tools they need. On the new Knapheide truck, however, the top of the tool bin is 60-inches from the ground, creating an unnecessary barrier for servicemen trying to perform their duties.

"There's no way you're going to stand on the ground and pull a meter out of the truck," observes Business Rep. Darryl Norris, a former gas serviceman who joined Dalzell in comparing the trucks in the Vacaville yard.

Dalzell says it's the sort of result you get when "the people making decisions don't bother to consult the people doing the work."

Forging Unity

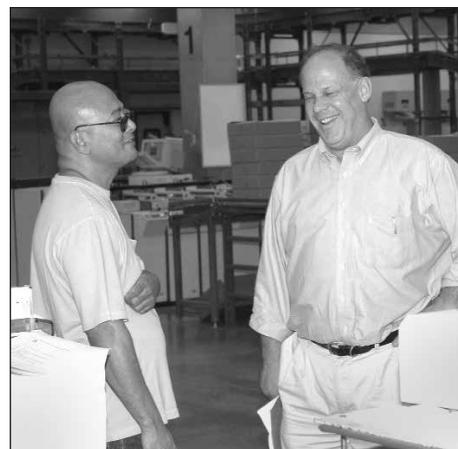
During the fall, Dalzell has visited members in Auburn, Roseville, Plac-

erville, Antioch, Concord, Redding, Burney, Sacramento, West Sacramento, Vacaville, Merced, San Francisco, and Fresno. He believes it's important for members to meet the business manager and have an opportunity to share their concerns and ideas for the future.

But he has another purpose in mind, as well: forging unity.

"The pace of change is still accelerating," says Dalzell. "The most likely points of stress include new technologies, new work methods, corporate mergers, and management turnover."

Management turnover is especially problematic at companies like PG&E and Sierra Pacific Power. People who have been with the company a long time understand the give-and-take



Computer Operator Jimmy Ramirez discusses bill print operations with Tom Dalzell.

that went into establishing the wages, benefits and working conditions that employees enjoy today. New managers, with no appreciation of that bargaining history, may see contractual protections as nothing more than a cost item to be whittled away, Dalzell warns.

"Without our members these companies could not even function. But without unity, our members will have a hard time convincing this new generation of management to take our concerns seriously," says Dalzell. "Unity may not be the only thing that union members need, but it's way ahead of whatever's in second place."



Senior Accounting Clerk Ed Valdez shows Tom Dalzell around the mailroom in West Sacramento. A current concern there is PG&E's possible use of the Postal Service instead of its own "Pony Express" to deliver company mail.



In a meeting with West Sacramento Shop Stewards Curley Reed (left), Mary Wise (right) and Kelly Wood, Tom Dalzell discusses some of the bargaining strategies the union has used in the past to get more money for the members, including "rounding up" the wage. "At first it's 'the union', but as you get a little older and move on down the line it becomes 'our union,'" Wood told Dalzell. "I know the private sector—you get half of what you get here. Here there's sick leave, vacation."

CALENDAR

Dec. 5: Retirees Club, Santa Rosa, CA

Dec. 5: Retirees Club, Merced, CA

Dec. 7: Retirees Club, San Jose, CA

Dec. 13: Retirees Club, Vacaville, CA

Dec. 14: Retirees Club, Dublin, CA

Jan. 2, 2007: Retirees Club, Santa Rosa, CA

Jan. 2: Retirees Club, Merced, CA

Jan. 4: Retirees Club, San Jose, CA

Jan. 10: Retirees Club, Vacaville, CA

Jan. 11: Retirees Club, Dublin, CA

Feb. 3: Advisory Council, Vacaville, CA

Feb. 10: Stewards Conference, Vacaville, CA

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Members interview Business Manager Tom Dalzell

When Tom Dalzell was appointed by the Executive Board to serve as business manager in August, he was known principally for the arbitrations and negotiations he has handled over the past 25 years as the union's staff attorney. In this interview, Dalzell looks at some of the important issues confronting members of the union—and how his background has prepared him for the challenges ahead. Asking the questions are Executive Board member Anna Bayless, Advisory Council members Terry Andreucci and Dan Mayo, and Communications Director Eric Wolfe.

Andreucci: Concerning PG&E's Transformation. There's a lot of frustration throughout the membership. There's so much going on and there seems to be fewer answers than ever before. The company is in this transition—they don't even know which way they're going because they change VPs and CEOs and CFOs and UFOs.

Dalzell: I don't think it's ever been more difficult than this in terms of anxiety, with the workforce not knowing what will happen next. It's been body blow after body blow, starting with the

downsizing of the mid 1990s, then with bankruptcy and then the Plan of Reorganization. As soon as the company emerged from POR they launched the first round of business transformation initiatives. The union's approach to Transformation has not really changed much. We have not gone in big mood swings about it. We were concerned about the impact on our members from the start. We chose to be involved because we believed that being involved would give us better information and an opportunity to shape the process to some degree, to an extent we wouldn't have if we were not involved.

People in Fleet and in Materials have just had a sword over their head the whole time. The local offices—we're into the third year they thought they were going to be eliminated. Meter reading is a little bit different because most people knew some years ago that at some point it's going to be automated. But still there's a big chunk of our membership that really doesn't know where their departments are headed. There are pockets where nothing has happened. In hydro, gas transmission, electric transmission, Diablo Canyon, places where transformation hasn't really hit,

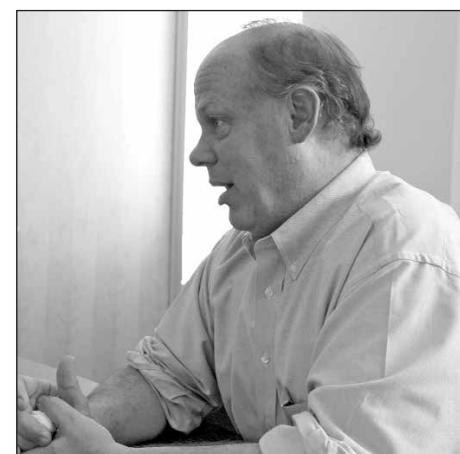
they've got to be wondering why not.

Andreucci: I've heard that whatever Accenture comes up with, PG&E managers or directors have to approve it—they don't just go with what Accenture says.

Dalzell: I believe that. But once Accenture has said, "You should open up the RMCs in the summer of 2006, you have to set that line in stone, no matter what you should meet that—whether or not you have the technology, whether or not you have the processes" it becomes very hard for PG&E to say no. PG&E is making the decisions but the issues that are presented to them to decide are dominated by Accenture.

Mayo: Isn't there some bias toward accepting the Accenture recommendations since they're paying millions of dollars (in consulting fees)?

continued on page 4



Tom Dalzell

Interview, from page 3

Dalzell: It almost becomes unacceptable for PG&E to say, “No, we just spent all this money and we’re going to keep doing things the same way.” One thing I’m sure of is we have never seen change on the scale and scope that we’re now seeing. Even the POR was just CGT, electric transmission and hydro. Now it’s the whole thing.

Bayless: In Clerical, it seems like every time they have something new, they open up a new center. The people who are left need help desperately.

Dalzell: You’ve hit on what I think is the biggest frustration I have with Transformation, with the whole movement away from the decentralized local offices

“One of my biggest goals as business manager is to help our members see that this is a union for all of us.”

that had clerks there, had estimators there, had troublemen there—the company had a presence. Now the estimators are gone, lots of the clerks are gone, troublemen are consolidated—and the customers are still there. The municipal utilities are still operating under the traditional vision of local service. And that starts sounding fairly attractive. That’s a big frustration—the loss of the connection to the community that meant an awful lot to our members. They were really proud of it.

Mayo: I have a Clerical question. At this point the company has some idea of the timeline for next year. When are displacements going to occur?

Dalzell: They tell us in the first quarter of 2007. And we are urging them to think very carefully about that because we think the local offices can’t do the work they need to do as things now stand. We’re urging them to reconsider. But it’s a management decision.

Mayo: Do you know if they’re still trying to determine the number of clerks that would be left at the local headquarters?

Dalzell: I think that number’s in flux.

Bayless: How has your previous experience in the labor movement pre-



Tom Dalzell

pared you for this job.

Dalzell: From 1972 to 1975, when I worked for the farm workers, I worked on strikes. That’s all I did for 3 years. Between 1975 and 1980 I worked on organizing drives and negotiations. What I bring from those years is a real aversion to striking. Striking just has to be the last option. It’s never a weapon of choice. I went to the funerals of three strikers, and I don’t want to do that again.

In the farm workers there was a wonderful mix in negotiations, with workers and professional negotiators. Negotiating is what I liked the most—the ability to affect the most lives. I brought that here—the worker committees, how important they are. There are parts of negotiating that can only be done by the committee. When we were doing the wage re-opener at PG&E last time, there was no way that I was going to get the company off their proposal for a lump sum payment instead of a wage increase for Clerical. Nothing I said was going to do it. It was the committee speaking, saying why it was unacceptable not just to the Clerical but to the Physical. That was a message that had to come from the committee.

The first project I threw myself into at Local1245 was in meter reader negotiations in 1982 or 83, when a big group of people felt they didn’t have a voice within 1245. They were already being picked on by the media. I worked with meter readers throughout the system in negotiating the first meter reader agreement. That was really satisfying.

The biggest lesson from anywhere is that with a union a person has the ability to take some control of their working life. That was true at the farm workers and it’s true here. One of my biggest goals as business manager is to help our members see that this is a union for all of us. Our power would be so much greater if more people thought this was their organization.

Wolfe: How do you help people working at other employers feel that it is their union?

Dalzell: The presence of non-PG&E people on the Executive Board and Advisory Council is important. But more than that, the issue is representing them well. I think the decision to have two business representatives dedicated to the trees was a great decision 5 years ago. And I think having reps who are largely dedicated to the public sector is really important, too. Involvement beyond PG&E is very important. That’s one of the reasons I did the negotiations at Merced ID this year. That’s why I will do the tree negotiations in 2007 if elected Business Manager in June. Members at PG&E and at our other employers need each other. When we have successes at PG&E, that pulls up the public sector. When they surpass PG&E, that pulls up PG&E. That last 1% we got for journey-level classifications at PG&E in 2006 was because of what was happening everywhere else. The



Dan Mayo, Terry Andreucci, and Anna Bayless interview Business Manager Tom Dalzell.

Merced Irrigation District is going to pass PG&E on the lineman rate in 2007. PG&E is a huge part of the labor market but PG&E can’t ignore it when they’re losing System Operators to SMUD, or Linemen to SMUD. There’s a synergy that can work to everyone’s benefit if you’re able to recognize and respond to the opportunities.

Mayo: You’ve done the union’s arbitrations for a long time. Is somebody else going to handle arbitrations now?

Dalzell: I’m not going to be handling arbitrations personally anymore. But I am going to be more active than ever in negotiations. I intend to negotiate the PG&E contract in 2008, Trees in 2007, perhaps Turlock Irrigation District in 2007.

Andreucci: On the subject of negoti-

“When we have successes at PG&E, that pulls up the public sector. When they surpass PG&E, that pulls up PG&E... There’s a synergy that can work to everyone’s benefit if you’re able to recognize and respond to the opportunities.”

ations, there are many concerns about Letter Agreements being negotiated outside of the general bargaining process. Are there any alternatives that might involve more of the membership in the process?

Dalzell: There are several things to be done. First, we need to educate people on the true scope of Letter Agreements. Some of them are just small, one-person agreements. The big agreements generally don’t take anything away from anybody. The second thing we do, if there is something in a proposed agreement that takes anything away from anyone, we will take it to the members to be ratified. In the future, we’re looking at posting some of the bigger letter agreements on our website to give members a chance to give us feedback. The more

minds that are involved in something the better.

So, the answer is: education, voting and bigger committees. As part of the education process, we’re going to bring every Letter Agreement signed in 2006 and 2007 to the next round of steward conferences and go through them. Also, we’re putting every new Letter Agreement on our website, except the individual ones.

Wolfe: We’re going to be seen a lot of new employees, a lot of new members in coming years. How do you educate them about the role of the union?

Dalzell: If we are to succeed in reaching out to new members, we have to be responsive to their values. And their values in all likelihood will be somewhat different than the older generation’s values. For example, the older generation values greatly the defined benefit pension plan. If younger workers don’t plan to stay at PG&E for 30 or 35 years, they probably won’t place the same value on the defined benefit plan. A defined contribution plan that is safe from bankruptcy or a corporate raider, and is portable—that might be something the younger generation values that would be different from the older generation. That’s just an example to illustrate that something we’ve seen as a sacred cow might not seem so sacred in the future. I would preach the defined benefit, but at some point the next generation will be the majority and they’ll decide for themselves.

Mayo: We have a lot of PG&E baby boomers who are getting ready to retire. Some of them may only get one more shot at an improvement in their retirement. What’s the picture ahead for people who are just getting ready to retire, or people who already have retired? Any improvement in the offering for them?

Dalzell: If I were king, that would be the primary focus of negotiations in 2008—getting back the ad hoc formula we’ve used to increase pensions for existing retirees, and trying to do something about retiree medical. I would also seek to improve the pension formula—that is something that benefits everybody eventually. But I’m not king, I’m just business manager and it will be up to the members to say what our priorities should be when we start the bargaining process.

Union members make decisive difference

The fiercely anti-union Congressional leadership—what's left of it after corruption investigations, criminal indictments, and alleged pedophilia—was sent into minority status on Nov. 7 by the American people, and union households provided the decisive difference.

Republicans lost their majority status in both the US House and Senate on the strength of union households, whose votes went to Democrats by an astonishing 74-26 margin. In 2004 the margin was 70-30 and in 2002 it was 68-32.

Even white born-again Christians, the foundation of the Republican's past majorities, gave Democratic candidates a sizeable margin over Republican candidates—15%—among union households nationwide.

In "battleground states" where Senate seats were in play, the union vote went to Democrats 73% to 27% versus the 55% to 45% split among all voters.

The polling was performed by Peter D. Hart Research Associates.

In California, labor-backed candidates won most statewide races, with the notable exception of Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's overwhelming victory over Phil Angelides, and Steve Poizner's victory over Cruz Bustamante for Insurance Commissioner. Labor-endorsed candidates achieving victory were Jerry Brown for Attorney General, John Garamendi for Lieutenant Governor, Debra Bowen for Secretary of State, Bill Lockyer for Treasurer, and John Chiang for State Controller.

Gov. Schwarzenegger reversed his dismal performance in the 2005 special election by embracing an ambitious program of infrastructure repair, embodied in five ballot measures. All five measures passed with strong backing from unions.



Rep. Nancy Pelosi

The Democrats ascension to majority status in the House means that California will be home to the next Speak of the House of Representatives: Rep. Nancy Pelosi of San Francisco.

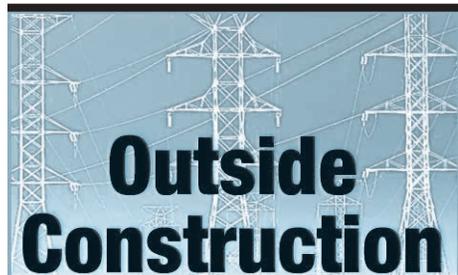
A major disappointment for Local 1245 was the narrow defeat of Dina Titus in her bid to become Nevada's next governor. The victory went to

Republican Jim Gibbons.

The California Legislature will have many new faces due to term limits, but the balance between Democrats and Republicans remains essentially the same.

The Hart survey demonstrates beyond any doubt that union members, when they act in a united manner, can have a direct impact on the makeup of the nation's top policy makers.

The job now is to make sure the new leaders, as the old saying goes, "dance with those who brung 'em."



By Ron Cochran

Holiday overtime provisions were reviewed at the November unit meeting:

4.10 All work performed outside of the regular scheduled working hours and on Saturdays, Sundays, and the following holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day (California only), Presidents Day (Nevada only), Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Veteran's Day (California only), Nevada Day (Nevada only), Thanksgiving Day and the Friday following, and Christmas Day, shall be paid for at double the regular straight-time rate of pay. Holidays (except for Veteran's Day) falling on Saturdays and Sundays do not require the Employers to observe those holidays on a Friday or on Monday and the employees will not receive premium time compensation on those Fridays or Mondays.

The first shipment of new t-shirts was sold out in two days. A new order has been placed for t-shirts and hooded sweatshirts.

- Dispatch report, from Oct. 12 to Nov. 8:
- Journeyman Linemen: 83
- Apprentice Lineman: 14
- Equipment Specialist: 9
- Cable Splicers: 0
- Groundman: 6
- UG Techs: 2



Ron Cochran, Senior Business Rep.

Totals calls: 112

Outside Line out-of-work lists as of Nov. 12

- Lineman-1: 12
- Lineman-2: 15
- Lineman-3: 3
- Lineman-4: 12
- Groundman-1: 19
- Groundman-2: 11
- Groundman-3: 17
- Groundman-4: 71
- Equipment Specialist-1: 1
- Equipment Specialist-2: 2
- Equipment Specialist-3: 2
- Cable Splicer-1: 0
- Cable Splicer-2: 1
- Cable Splicer-3: 3

Cal-Nevada JATC Report

We currently have 361 apprentices registered in our JATC program. We have 4 traveling apprentices working in our jurisdiction. 72 apprentices are working out of Local 1245; 250 are working out of Local 47; 14 are working out of Local 396; 29 are off of work (5 due to lack of work, 24 due to various personal reasons).

We graduated a total of 35 apprentices to journeyman lineman this year.

We currently have an orientation/climbing class in progress. We started the class Nov. 6 with 16 individuals attending. We have indentured 131 apprentices into the program this year.

Other News

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

Crane certification: I would expect the change to go into effect around the first of the year. Please keep in mind that all electric line trucks are still exempt. This change relates to mobile crane trucks and/or Manitex built to the B30.5 standard.



Election phone banking

Local 1245 staff members Marlayne Morgan, left, Landis Marttila and Eric Wolfe (not pictured) call voters to urge support for labor-endorsed candidates in the run-up to the Nov. 7 election. The phone bank was operated by the San Francisco Labor Council.

Photo: Eric Wolfe

SMUD loses bid to annex PG&E service territory

The Sacramento Municipal Utility District lost its bid to annex part of PG&E's service territory in Davis, West Sacramento, Woodland and unincorporated land.

Yolo County voters on Nov. 7 split on the two measures that, together, would have authorized the SMUD takeover. Measure H was approved by a narrow 50.6%, while Measure I garnered 49.6%, just shy of passing.

Current SMUD customers, who also had a say in the annexation, were not so evenly divided. Measure L was defeated in Sacramento and Placer counties by a 62-38 margin.

SMUD needed to prevail on all three propositions in order to proceed with annexation.

IBEW Local 1245, which represents employees at both SMUD and PG&E, opposed the annexation effort on the grounds that changes in ownership can cause major disruptions in the lives of its members.

Action taken to protect PBF solvency

Delegates to the 37th Convention of the IBEW in September approved increasing Pension Benefit Fund (PBF) contributions to protect the fund's solvency and provide enhanced benefits. Contributions will be raised by \$.70 per month on Jan. 1, 2007; \$1 per month on Jan. 1, 2008, and \$1 per month on Jan. 1, 2010. The resolution approved by the delegates gives the International Executive Council, as PBF fiduciaries, the discretion to modify future death benefit payments only for "A" members enrolled in the plan after a specified date, if it becomes apparent that the PBF's financial health is jeopardized by a sudden influx of new participants who are older than expected. Further information on the PBF contribution increase can be found at www.ibew.org/Convention2006/Newsletters/IBEW_9_15_Newsletter_WEB.pdf

Per capita increase to boost organizing

Delegates to the 37th Convention of the IBEW in September approved a per capita tax increase to help fund new organizing by the union. The amendment to Article IX of the IBEW Constitution sets out a \$1 monthly per capita increase for each member, starting on Jan. 1, 2007. A second increase of \$1 was authorized effective Jan. 1, 2009, with a final \$1 increase on Jan. 1, 2011. Further information on the per capita increase can be found on-line at www.ibew.org/Convention2006/Newsletters/IBEW_9_13_Newsletter_WEB.pdf



Local 1245 Officers and Executive Board, sta
Central Area; Tom Cornell, Northern Area; C
Southern Area; Mike Cottrell, At-Large. Seat
Dalzell, Business Manager; Mike Davis, Presi

Season's Greeting



Tonya Alston,
Office Manager



Leslie Asher,
Technology



Ken Ball,
Senior Business Rep.



Shirley Boyle,
Dispatcher



Bill Brill,
Business
Representative



Gina Britt,
Dispatcher



Virginia Browne,
Administrative
Associate



Phil Carter,
Business
Representative



Bob Choate,
Assistant Business
Manager



Sam Glero,
Business
Representative



Mike Grill,
Business
Representative



Mike Haentjens,
Business
Representative



Angela Jacobson,
Administrative
Associate



Nancy Kendrick,
Administrative
Associate



Karen Kiley,
Administrative
Assistant



Austin Lea,
Administrative
Associate



Dan Lockwood,
Business
Representative



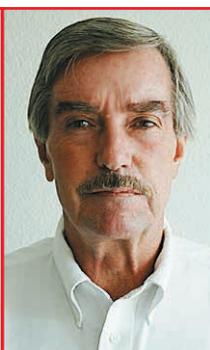
Landis Marttila,
Business
Representative



Debbie M
Busin
Represent



Joe Osterlund,
Business
Representative



Larry Pierce,
Senior Business
Representative



Peggy Proschold,
Administrative
Associate



Roy Runnings,
Business
Representative



Mike Saner,
Temporary Business
Representative



Dennis Seyfer,
Assistant Business
Manager



Bernard Smallwood,
Business
Representative



Roger Stalcup,
Assistant Business
Manager



Hunter Stern,
Business
Representative



Standing from left: Anna Bayless-Martinez, Cecelia De La Torre, Treasurer; Dave Scott, and from left: Art Freitas, Vice President; Tom [unclear], President; Chris Habecker, Recording Secretary.



from your Local 1245 staff



Lita Clark, Administrative Assistant; Ron Cochran, Senior Business Rep.; Rich Cowart, Business Representative; Tom Dalzell, Business Manager; Dean, Bob, Business Representative; Arlene Edwards, Business Representative; Jennifer Edwards, Administrative Associate; Dorothy Fortier, Assistant Business Manager; Luz Garcia, Building Maintenance



[unclear], Business Representative; Liz McInnis, Business Manager's Executive Secretary; John Mendoza, Business Representative; Muriel Moore, Administrative Associate; Lynne Morel, Business Representative; Marlayne Morgan, Assistant to the Business Manager; Darryl Norris, Business Representative; Junior Ornelas, Business Representative; Randy Osborn, Business Representative; Jack Osburn, Business Representative



Kit Stice, Business Representative; Howard Stiefer, Assistant Business Manager; Sam Tamimi, Senior Assistant Business Manager; Ray Thomas, Senior Business Representative; Larry Thomson, Temporary Business Representative; Gail Varner, Senior Office Associate; Patrick Waite, Business Representative; Lula Washington, Business Representative; Eric Wolfe, Communications Director



Happy Holidays!

from the Local 1245 Advisory Council



Terry Andreucci
Drum Division of PG&E, Plumas Sierra REC, and City of Roseville



Chip Chadwick
Sierra Pacific Power Company, Truckee Donner PUD, Mt. Wheeler Power, Inc., Wells REA, and City of Fallon



Peggy Daniel
Pipeline Operations Department of PG&E, C.P. National: Needles Division and Henderson District



Grover Day
Stockton Division of PG&E and City of Lodi



John Felts
Pacific Gas Transmission Company



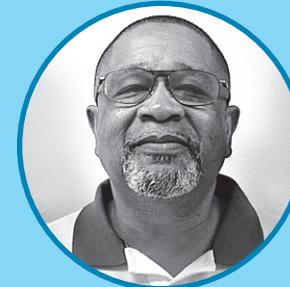
Jim Findley
North Bay Division of PG&E and City of Healdsburg



Gloria Flores
Clerical at Large of PG&E (except its General office clerical employees)



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



William Gilliam
Sacramento Regional Transit District



Dan Gracia
Outside Construction



John Harper
Shasta Division of PG&E, City of Redding, Lassen Municipal Utility District, Shasta Dam Area Public Utility District, and Bella Vista Water District



Mike Jessen
De Sabla Division of PG&E



Carl Lamers
Tree Trimmer Companies



Dan Mayo
San Joaquin Division of PG&E



Lou Mennel
Sacramento Division of PG&E and Calibration and Testing



Dave Morrison
Citizens Communications (Frontier)



Rich Perry
Western Area Power Administration, U. S. Government



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



Larry Rodriguez
Alameda/Contra Costa Transit District and East Bay Municipalities



Michael Saner
General Construction of PG&E



Mike Stout
Irrigation Districts



Mark Taylor
Coast Valleys Division of PG&E



Lee Thomas Jr.
Humboldt Division of PG&E



Dennis Thompson
City of Santa Clara and San Jose Division of PG&E



Arthur Torres
Sacramento Municipal Utility District and GEO/Coldwater Creek Operating Coop



Todd Wooten
Colgate Division of PG&E, Yuba County Water Agency, and City of Gridley





Hanging out in cell phone land

By Art Torres

As we all know, technology advances at an alarming rate. What we purchase today is antiquated tomorrow.

What concerns me is the misuse of technology, or said in a different way, the use of technology at an inappropriate time. I am referring to the use of cell phones.

Cell phones are a marvelous technology with a myriad positive uses. Imagine coming upon a serious automobile accident on some country road, far from any communication. The cell phone could possibly save someone's life.

But there's another side to cell phones. Ever been in a conversation with someone who is constantly being interrupted by their phone? At some point you want to shout: "Either talk to me or talk to the phone, not both."

Unfortunately, misuse of the cell phone can go beyond annoying; sometimes it puts us in harm's way. We've all seen the driver who's on the phone, not paying attention to the road.

The following are examples of on-the-job situations involving cell phones.

An apprentice is directing the driver of a line truck who is backing the truck into a parking stall. He doesn't see the concrete block at the end of the stall. As he's talking on the phone he's walking backwards. Suddenly he trips on the concrete and falls backwards. A roar of laughter erupts from his fellow workers. Nobody gets hurt, no damage to property, or equipment.



Art Torres

A young journeyman is operating the boom on a line truck. He is assisting another journeyman place a steel plate on a broken sidewalk. Suddenly the load stops moving. The boom operator is on the phone. Maybe his wife is telling him to bring home some milk. Or maybe it's something a little more substantial: she wants a divorce. One thing is sure: he's no longer paying full attention to the load.

Ever been in an aerial lift trying to get out of a tight situation and your observer is on the phone? The first concern is whether the person using the phone is still focused on the task at hand or not. Are they still cut in, or are they in cell phone land?

One moment in cell phone land can have serious consequences in the real world. That distracted moment endangers not just the cell phone user but the entire crew.

Please remember this: accidents can lead to a life of misery and pain, not only for the affected employees but also for their families. Don't hang out in cell phone land when your mind needs to be on the job.

Consideraciones en el mundo de los teléfonos celulares.

Por Art Torres.

Como todos sabemos, la tecnología avanza a una velocidad alarmante. Lo que compramos hoy es anticuado mañana.

Lo que me preocupa es el mal uso de la tecnología o, dicho de otra manera, el uso de la tecnología en el momento inapropiado. Me refiero al uso de teléfonos celulares.

Los teléfonos celulares son una tecnología maravillosa con muchos usos positivos. Imagínese si tiene un accidente automovilístico serio en alguna carretera del campo. El teléfono celular podría posiblemente salvarle la vida a alguien.

Pero existe otro aspecto de los teléfonos celulares. ¿Ha estado alguna vez en una conversación con alguien que constantemente está siendo interrumpido por su teléfono? En algún

momento usted desea gritar: "Habla conmigo o habla con el teléfono, pero no con ambos".

Desdichadamente, el mal uso del teléfono celular que puede ser más que molesto y hasta no puede poner en peligro algunas veces. Todos hemos visto al chofer que está hablando por teléfono y no presta atención al tráfico de la calle.

Las siguientes son situaciones en el trabajo con los teléfonos celulares.

Un aprendiz está dirigiendo al chofer de un camión de línea que está dando marcha atrás para estacionar el camión. El aprendiz no puede ver el bloque de concreto que está al fin del lugar de estacionamiento. Mientras habla por teléfono, él camina hacia atrás. De pronto, tropieza con el concreto y se cae para atrás. Los compañeros que lo vieron sueltan la carcajada. Nadie se lastimó ni ocurrieron daños a la propiedad o al equipo.

Un joven jornalero está operando el aguilón de un camión de línea. Él está ayudando a otro jornalero a colocar una placa de acero sobre una acera rota. De pronto, la carga deja de moverse. El operador del aguilón está en el teléfono.

Line Clearance Tree Trimmers



Jose Higuera



Francisco Garcia

Members at work for Provco

Fotos: Junior Ornelas

Local 1245 members Jose Higuera and Francisco Garcia performed line clearance tree trimming for Provco recently in a residential neighborhood, near the Ashland and West headquarters in Fresno. Higuera is a 9-year IBEW member and foreman. Garcia, is a 4-year member and CLA. Their work helps assure that trees are kept a safe distance from PG&E power lines, keeping the local community free of fire and electrical hazards.

Miembros que trabajan para Provco.

Fotos por Junior Ornelas.

Los miembros del Local 1245, José Higuera y Francisco García, ejecutaron trabajos de poda de árboles para la limpieza de líneas recientemente para Provco en un vecindario residencial cerca de nuestras oficinas de Ashland y West en Fresno. El Sr. Higuera es un capataz que ha sido miembro de IBEW

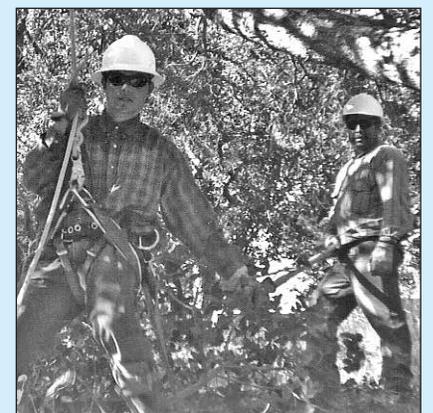
Quizás su esposa le está pidiendo que traiga un poco de leche a la casa. Quizás sea algo más serio: ella quiere un divorcio. Una cosa es segura: él ya no le está prestando toda su atención a la carga.

¿Ha estado alguna vez en un elevador aéreo, tratando de salir de una situación apretada, y su observador está hablando por teléfono? Lo primero que necesitamos saber es si la persona que está usando el teléfono está todavía enfocada o no en el trabajo que está haciendo, o se encuentra perdida en el mundo de los teléfonos celulares.

Un momento solamente, utilizando un teléfono celular, puede tener serias consecuencias en la vida real. Ese momento de distracción puede tener serias consecuencias no solamente para la persona que usa el teléfono, sino para todo el grupo de trabajadores en su equipo.

Por favor, recuerde esto: los accidentes pueden causar una vida de miseria y dolor, no sólo para los empleados afectados pero también para sus familiares. No se pierda en el mundo de los teléfonos celulares cuando su mente necesita estar en su trabajo.

por 9 años. El Sr. García ha sido miembro por 4 años y es un CLA. El trabajo de ellos asegura que los árboles son mantenidos a una distancia segura de las líneas eléctricas de PG&E, protegiendo así la comunidad local contra los fuegos y peligros eléctricos.



Local 1245 members working for Arrowhead Tree Service in Arroyo Grande, CA are Jesus Bravo (left), a Foreman and 8-year IBEW member, and Jose Perez, a Climber and a 10-year IBEW member.

Los miembros del Local 1245 que trabajan para Arrowhead Tree Service en Arroyo Grande, CA son Jesús Bravo (izquierda), un capataz y miembro con 8 años en el Sindicato IBEW, y José Pérez, un trepador con 10 años en el sindicato IBEW.

Local 1245 Safety Committee

Members of the IBEW Local 1245 Safety Committee are, seated from left: Carl Lamers, Davey Tree; Al White, Pacific Gas & Electric; David Vipond, Frontier. Standing, from left: Howard Stiefer, Assistant Business Manager; Bob Burkle, City of Santa Clara; Keith Hopp, Pacific Gas & Electric; and Michael Gomes, Modesto Irrigation District. Inset: Art Torres, Sacramento Municipal Utility District.

Photo: Eric Wolfe



IBEW 1245 Unit Meeting Schedule: January–June 2007

CITY	UNIT	LOCATION	UNIT CHAIR	DAY	TIME	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Alturas (Frontier)	4013	The Brass Rail, Hwy 395	M. Nelson	Wednesday	5:30pm	10	14	14	11	9	13
Angels Camp	2512	Mike's Pizza, Hwy 49/Murphy Grade Rd.	G. Day	Thursday	4:00pm	18	15	15	19	17	21
Antioch	2317	Aladino's Pizza, 1324 Sunset Dr.	D. Tucker	Wednesday	5:00pm	10	14	14	11	9	13
Auberry	1129	Daddy Joe's Java, Auberry Road	C. Riggs	Tuesday	5:45pm	9	13	13	10	8	12
Auburn	3511	Round Table Pizza @ Auburn-Folsom Road	T. Andreucci	Tuesday	5:00pm	9	13	13	10	8	12
Bakersfield	1112	Labor Hall, 200 W. Jeffrey	S. Branch	Wednesday	6:00pm	10	14	14	11	9	13
Buellton	1221	Antonio's Pizza 280 E. Highway 246	B. Swanson	Monday	4:00pm	8	12	12	9	14	11
Burlingame/Peninsula	1512	TWU Local 505, 1521 Rollins Rd., Burlingame	B. Quinn	Wednesday	5:30pm	10	14	14	11	9	13
Burney	3213	Sam's Pizza, Hwy 299, Johnson Park	E. Hood	Tuesday	6:00pm	2	6	6	3	1	5
Burney (Frontier)	4015	Sam's Pizza, 38077 Hwy 299 East	D. Trowbridge	Tuesday	6:00pm	16	20	20	17	15	19
Carson City, NV	3312	Fire Station #5, Stewart & 5th Street	M. Grimm	Tuesday	5:30pm	9	X	13	X	8	X
Chilcoot	3514	Last Chance Saloon, Highway 70*	C. Bagley	Wednesday	6:00pm	10	X	7	X	9	X
Concord/Walnut Creek	2316	Round Table Pizza, 2960 Treat Boulevard	R. Lassus	Thursday	5:00pm	11	8	8	12	10	14
Davis General Construction	3000	Steve's Pizza	K. Goodner	Thursday	4:00pm	11	8	8	12	11	7
Donner	3309	Best Western Hotel, Hwy. 267, Truckee	N. Evans	Thursday	5:00pm	X	1	X	5	X	7
Elk Grove (Frontier)	4014	Round Table Pizza, 5110 Laguna Blvd.	S. Lawton	Tuesday*	5:00pm*	23	27	27	24	22	26
Elko, NV	3318	Stockman's Casino	J. Peterson*	Thurs. (2nd)*	5:30pm	X	15	X	12	X	14
Ely, NV/Mt. Wheeler	3315	Ely Fire Dept, Meeting Hall	M. Venturino	Tuesday (2nd)*	4:30pm	X	13	X	10	X	12
Eureka/Tree Trimmers	3111	Labor Temple, 9th & E Street	vacant	Tuesday	6:00pm	9	13	13	10	15	12
Fallon, Nevada	3316	Fallon Country Club, 2655 Country Club Drive	C. Robertson	Tuesday	5:30pm	X	13	X	10	X	12
Fort Bragg/Pt. Arena	3717	PG&E Yard, 3539 Walnut Street*	G. Fernandez	Thursday	5:00pm	18	22	22	19	24	21
Fresno	1111	AMF Sierra Lanes, 6450 N. Blackstone	C. Habecker	Tuesday	5:00pm	2	6	6	3	1	6
Fresno/EPA-Provco	4712	Round Table Pizza, First & Bullard	R. Ramos	Wednesday	5:00pm	3	7	7	4	2	6
Grass Valley	3513	Swiss House, 535 Mill St. (Hwy 49 and Hwy 20)	M. Fitting*	Wednesday	6:00pm	10	14	14	11	9	13
Hayward/Fremont	2314	Bronco Billy's Pizza, 3940 Smith St., Union City	I. Araquistain	Wednesday	5:30pm	17	21	21	18	16	20
Hinkley	1311	Clubhouse, Hinkley Compressor Station	P. Earl	Wednesday	5:30pm	X	7	X	4	X	6
Hollister	1219	Paine's Restaurant, 421 East St.*	J. Vermilyer	Wednesday	5:00pm	3	7	7	4	9	6
Jackson	2513	Mountain Mike's Pizza, 525 S. Hwy 49	B. Boitano	Tuesday	4:00pm	2	6	6	3	1	5
Kettleman	1314	Kettleman Compressor Station	M. Guzman	Tuesday	5:30pm	9	X	13	X	8	X
Klamath Falls	3022	Mia's and Pia's Pizza, 3545 Summers Lane	J. Rojas*	Monday	5:45pm	15	19	19	16	21	18
Lakeport	3715	Senior Center, 527 Konocti Ave.	B. Dawson	Tuesday	5:00pm	2	6	6	3	8	5
Lemoore	1128	Fleet Reserve, 788 D Street	J. Brager	Thursday	5:00pm	11	15	15	12	10	14
Livermore	2315	Round Table Pizza, 1024 Stanley Blvd.	D. Diebner	Wednesday	4:00pm	24	28	28	25	23	27
Lodi, City of	2516	Mountain Mike's Pizza, 550 S. Cherokee	K. Enzi	Thursday	5:00pm	11	8	8	12	10	14
Los Banos	1115	Stockmans, 615 I Street	J. Esparza	Tuesday	4:00pm	16	20	20	17	15	19
Madera	1113	Madera Valley Inn, 317 G Street	G. Weaver	Wednesday	4:30pm	10	14	14	11	9	13
Marysville	3611	Stassi's, Fourth Street	M. Anderson	Wednesday	5:00pm	3	7	7	4	2	6
Merced	1123	Branding Iron, 640 W. 16th St.	M. Jameson	Wednesday	5:30pm	3	7	7	4	2	6
Merced ID	1122	Firehouse, 560 W. 18th St.	J. Fletcher	Thursday	5:00pm	4	8	8	5	3	7
Mirant	2319	Skipolini's Pizza, Fitzhuren Drive, Antioch	J. Ricard	Wednesday	4:00pm	24	28	28	25	23	27
Modesto	2515	Days Inn, 1312 McHenry Blvd.	T. Fortune	Wednesday	5:30pm	10	14	14	11	9	13
Modesto/Modesto Irr. Dist.	2518	Hero's Sports Lounge, 821 L Street	M. Quigley	Wednesday	5:00pm	3	7	7	4	2	6
Napa	3716	Round Table Pizza, 3331 Solano Ave.	J. Kent	Thursday	6:00pm	4	8	8	5	10	7
North Lake Tahoe/Kings Beach	3320	Carpenter's Hall, Kings Beach (Deer Street)	B. Warmuth	Wednesday	5:30pm	17	21	21	18	16	20
Novato/Marin County	3711	Round Table Pizza, S. Novato Blvd.	I. Snyder	Wednesday	5:30pm	10	14	14	11	9	13
Oakland Physical	2311	Francesco's, Hegenberger & Pardee	M. Swain*	Tuesday	4:45pm	2	6	6	3	1	5
Oakland/City of	2211	Francesco's, Hegenberger & Pardee	A. Fortier	Thursday	4:00pm	18	15	15	19	17	21
Paradise	3417	Round Table Pizza, 6038 (B) Clark Road	R. Jaster	Wednesday	5:30pm	10	14	14	11	9	13
Placerville	3813	Spanky's Pizza, 197 Placerville Dr.	G. McNamara*	Tuesday	3:45pm	2	6	6	3	1	5
Placerville/Davey Tree	4714	Round Table Pizza, 512 Main Street	S. Speak	Tuesday	5:00pm	2	6	6	3	1	5
Pollock Pines/Fresh Pond	3912	50 Grand Club, Pollock Pines	R. Curtis	Wednesday	5:00pm	3	7	7	4	2	6
Portland, OR	3026	TC Headquarters - Portland	L. Mitchell*	Thursday	12:00 noon	18	15	15	19	17	21
Red Bluff	3214	Crystal Restaurant, 343 S. Main Street	J. Johnstone	Thursday	5:45pm	4	8	8	5	3	7
Redding	3212	Round Table Pizza, 2808 McMurry Dr., Anderson	R. Rylee	Wednesday	5:15pm	3	7	7	4	2	6
Redding, City of	3217	Round Table Pizza, 900 Dana Drive	D. Norman	Tuesday	4:30pm	2	6	6	3	1	5
Redding/Davey Utility	4419	Round Table Pizza, 900 Dana Drive	J. Shepherd	Wednesday	5:00pm	24	28	28	25	23	27
Redmond, OR	3028	TC Headquarters - Redmond	J. Kissee	Thursday	5:00pm	11	8	8	12	10	14
Redwood City/Asplundh Tree	4711	Mountain Mike's Pizza, 120 El Camino Real	D. Urbino	Tuesday	6:00pm	16	20	20	17	15	19
Reno, NV	3311	IBEW LU 401, 2713 E. 4th St.	D. Moler	Wednesday	6:00pm	3	7	7	4	2	6
Richmond	2318	La Strada Rest., 2215 Church Lane, San Pablo	T. Verndon	Wednesday	4:00pm*	3	7	7	4	2	6
Richmond/E. Bay Clerical	2301	La Strada Rest., 2215 Church Lane, San Pablo	D. Ambeau	Wednesday	6:00pm	3	7	7	4	2	6
Roseville, City of	3512	Fast Freddie's Pizza, 130 Main Street	M. Barton	Tuesday	4:15pm	9	13	13	10	8	12
Sacramento	3811	Florin Rebecca Hall, 8360 Florin Rd.	L. Mennel	Wednesday	5:15pm	3	7	7	4	2	6
Sacramento Clerical	3801	Sacto Central Labor Council, 2840 El Centro	D. Ryan	Thursday	5:30pm	18	15	15	19	17	21
Sacramento/Asplundh-Davey	4717	Round Table Pizza, 8760 La Riviera Drive	Vacant	Tuesday	4:00pm	9	13	13	10	8	12
Sacto. Muni Utility District	3911	Dante Club	D. Trigeirio	Wednesday	4:30pm	10	14	14	11	9	13

IBEW 1245 Unit Meeting Schedule: January–June 2007

CITY	UNIT	LOCATION	UNIT CHAIR	DAY	TIME	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Sacto. Regional Transit	3011	Espanol Restaurant	C. Bibbs	Wednesday	4:30pm*	17	21	21	18	16	20
San Francisco	2412	Ship Clerks Union Local 34 Hall, 4 Berry St.	V. Jones	Wednesday	4:30pm	3	7	7	4	2	6
San Jose	1511	Straw Hat Pizza, 1535 Meridian Ave.	F. DeAguinaga	Wednesday	5:15pm	10	14	14	11	9	13
San Jose/Asplundh Tree	4713	Denny's, 1390 S. First Street	E. Arellano	Thursday	6:00pm	11	8	8	12	10	14
San Luis Obis./Pismo Beach	1215	Vallarta's Mexican Food, 1761 Monterey Street, SLO	S. Weaver*	Thursday	4:00pm	4	8	8	5	10	7
San Luis Obispo/DCPP	1220	Margie's Diner, 1575 Calle Joaquin	L. Moon	Wednesday	5:30pm	3	7	7	4	9	6
Sandpoint	3021	Sandpoint Headquarters	D. Christman	Wednesday	5:00pm	10	14	14	11	9	13
Santa Clara, City of	1411	Vesuvios Resturant, 3044 El Camino	B. Burkle	Wednesday	4:30pm	10	14	14	11	9	13
Santa Cruz	1513	VFW Post #7263, 2259 7th Ave.	G. Bargas	Tuesday	4:30pm	9	13	13	10	8	12
Santa Maria	1216	Round Table Pizza, 2508 S. Broadway	M. Landeros	Wednesday	4:00pm	10	14	14	11	16	13
Santa Rosa	3712	Round Table, Steele & Cleaveland	L. Stubblefield	Tuesday	6:00pm	2	6	6	3	1	5
Selma	1120	Sal's Mexican Restaurant, 2163 Park St.	P. Sandoval	Thursday	4:30pm	11	15	15	12	10	14
Shasta - USBR	3218	Keswick Dam Rd., Keswick	G. Walpole	Tuesday	5:15pm	16	X	20	X	15	X
Sonora	2517	The Peppery, Mono Way	B. Owens	Tuesday	4:00pm	9	13	13	10	8	12
Sonora/Asplundh Tree	4715	Round Table Pizza, 13769-B Mono Way	S. Hix	Monday	4:00pm	8	5	5	2	7	4
South Lake Tahoe	3314	Round Table Pizza, 1062 Emerald Bay Road	P. Stahl	Thursday	5:00pm	4	X	1	X	3	X
Spankel, WA/Rosalia	3027	TC Headquarters - Rosalia	P. Brown	Thursday	5:00pm	11	8	8	12	10	14
Spokane, WA	3025	TC Headquarters - Spokane	vacant	Thursday	12:00 noon	18	15	15	19	17	21
Stockton	2511	Ed Stewart American Legion Post #803, 3110 N. West Ln.	C. DeLaTorre*	Thursday	6:30pm	11	8	8	12	10	14
Stockton Clerical	2509	8110 Holman Road, Ste. #1	K. Krummes	Thursday	4:00pm	11	8	8	12	10	14
Stockton/EPA-Provco*	4718	Eddie's Pizza, 1048 Waterloo Road	J. Cervantes	Wednesday	6:00pm	10	14	14	11	9	13
Susanville (LMUD/Frontier)	4012	The Pizza Factory	K. Merrill	Thursday	5:30pm	11	15	15	12	10	14
Templeton	1217	The Pizza Place 105 Main St.	J. Comancho*	Tuesday	4:00pm	9	13	13	10	15	12
Tiger Creek/Pine Grove	2519	Pine Grove Pizza, 19724 St. Hwy 88, Pine Grove	R. Davis	Tuesday	6:00pm	16	20	20	17	15	19
Topock	1313	PSEA Clubhouse, Moabi Park	G. Shettco	Thursday	4:45pm	X	8	X	5	X	7
Truckee Meadows Water Auth	3310	TMWA Corporate Office, Sparks	F. Chadwick*	Tuesday	4:30pm	X	6	X	3	X	5
Turlock	1126	Turlock Chamber of Commerce, 115 S. Golden State Blvd	R. Lane	Thursday	4:00/5:00 p.m.	4	1	1	5	3	7
Ukiah	3714	Ukiah Garden Café, 1090 S. State Street	C. Spaletta	Wednesday	5:30pm	3	7	7	4	9	6
USBR/CVO	3012	Round Table Pizza, 7943 Greenback Lane, Citrus Hts.	M. McKay	Tuesday	5:00pm	9	13	13	10	8	12
Vacaville	3812	Pietro's #2 679 Merchant St., Vacaville	E. Owens	Wednesday	5:00pm	10	14	14	11	9	13
Vacaville/Outside Line	4911	Ron Weakley Hall, IBEW 1245, 30 Orange Tree Circle	L. Thomson	Wednesday	7:00pm	10	14	14	11	9	13
Walla Walla	3023	TC Headquarters - Wallula	M. Prior	Thursday	5:00pm	11	8	8	12	10	14
Wells R.E.C.	3319	Silver Sage Senior Citizens Center, 1st St., Wells NV	T. Leach	Weds. (2nd)*	5:00pm	X	14	X	11	X	13
Winnemucca	3317	Los Marguerits, 47 E. Winnemucca Boulevard	J. Henriod*	Wednesday	7:00pm	X	14	X	11	X	13
Yerington	3313	Pacific Avenue Firehouse	L. Soukup	Thursday	5:00pm	X	1	X	5	X	7

All Local 1245 unit meetings are open to all Local 1245 members, regardless of employer.

*Indicates change since schedule was last published in July 2006.



Santa Rosa chapter considers growth strategy

The Santa Rosa chapter considered several actions at its November meeting to promote the growth of the Local 1245 Retirees Club and increase its ability to represent retirees on important issues like pensions and health care.

Art Fahrner proposed asking the Local 1245 Executive Board to encourage any retiree holding PG&E company stock to vote as a bloc at the next PG&E shareholders meeting in April.

Brother Fahrner suggested that the union hold periodic conferences for retirees as a way to recruit new members to the club.

The Santa Rosa Chapter registered its agreement with a proposal by the East Bay Chapter (Dublin) to utilize the Utility Reporter to reach out to Local 1245 retirees and solicit them to join the Retirees Club and participate in the activities of the five chapters.

Chapter President Larry Mead and Recorder Ken Rawles reported on the October special retirees meeting at union headquarters in Vacaville with PG&E. PG&E has said it will report back on the retirees' appeal for pension improvements and relief from rising

medical costs.

Business Rep. Joe Osterlund will meet with the business manager of the Plumbers union hall to see about using their facility for future meetings. This would enable Retiree Club members to attend meetings on the ground floor, instead of having to climb stairs.

Bush says no to negotiating RX prices

The Bush administration last month said it would strenuously oppose a Democratic plan to authorize the government to negotiate with drug companies for lower drug prices for Medicare beneficiaries.

Michael O. Leavitt, the secretary of health and human services, said he saw no prospect of compromise on the issue, according to the New York Times.

The 2003 Medicare law explicitly bans the federal government from negotiating drug prices or establishing a list of preferred drugs. This provision

of the law has prompted many to charge that the drug program is a giant give-away to the pharmaceutical industry, while providing only marginal help to seniors.

Retiree Club Meeting Schedule

East Bay Chapter: 2nd Thursday each month, 10 a.m., IBEW Local 595, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin, CA.

San Jose Chapter: 1st Thursday each month, 10 a.m., at IBEW Local 332, 2125 Canoas Garden, San Jose, CA.

Vacaville/Sacramento Chapter: 2nd Wednesday each month, 10 a.m., at IBEW Local 1245, 30 Orange Tree Circle, Vacaville, CA.

Santa Rosa Chapter: 1st Tuesday each month, 10 a.m., at IBEW Local 551, 2525 Cleveland Ave., Suite B, Santa Rosa.

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

I BELIEVE IN SAFETY. I ACTIVELY ENCOURAGE MY FELLOW EMPLOYEES TO

PRACTICE

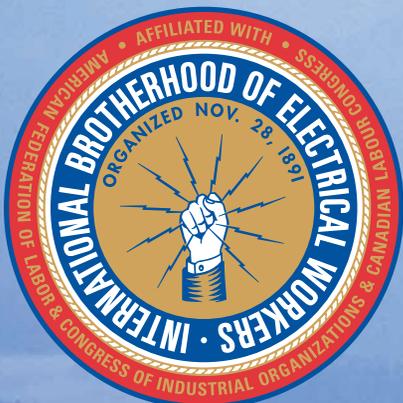
SAFETY

 FOR THE SAKE OF

OUR CO-WORKERS,

OUR FAMILIES,

AND OURSELVES.



IBEW Local 1245
Tom Dalzell,
Business Manager

