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Nurses News briefs

at three hospital chains, members of the California Nurses Association, planned an Oct. 30 strike to protest the insufficient measures taken to prevent the spread of H1N1 flu among patients and health care workers, the AFL-CIO Now blog reported.

"Shame on You" is what protesters chanted after invading the annual convention of the American Bankers Association in Chicago the last week of October. The protesters called for reforming the banking system, which is no more stable today than it was when the economy crashed last autumn.

Mexico's Electrical Workers Union, one of the strongest and most vocal unions in Mexico, was liquidated by the government on Oct. 10, throwing some 40,000 people out of work. On Oct. 15 over 200,000 people marched in Mexico City to protest the government's action.

Get answers to your union questions at:
www.ibew1245.com

Utility Reporter



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UNITY IS STRENGTH

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FIGHTING BACK

NV Energy Members, retirees rally to defend benefits

Retirees Ron Borst, right, and Tom Bird responded to NV Energy's invitation to "discuss" the issues at the Rose Ballroom in Reno, but management shut off the microphone when they tried to ask questions.



The letter from NV Energy was clear: retired employees were invited to the Rose Ballroom in John Ascuaga's Nugget casino on Oct. 15 to "discuss" changes in retiree medical benefits.

Several hundred employees showed up and listened as Benefits Manager Bob Connolly outlined the company's plan to slash and burn their benefits. When Connolly was finished, retired Lineman Ron Borst rose to ask a question. Connolly said he would meet Borst in back. Privately.

"No, I want to talk to you over the microphone so everybody can hear," Borst said. About the same time, retired Troublemaker Tom Bird walked to the microphone to get the discussion going.

Maybe Connolly was afraid that the roomful of septuagenarians was about to riot with their canes and walkers. Or maybe he was just too ashamed to look them in the eye. Whatever the reason, Connolly raced back to the microphone, took it away from Bird and shut it off. End of discussion. No questions allowed. Meeting over.

"We had some pretty tough questions ready. But they didn't give us time to ask them," Bird said in an interview after the meeting. "When they saw the union brothers standing up they knew what they were up for."

But Bird wasn't done. Not yet. After surrendering the microphone, Bird turned to the crowd that stretched out across the vast ballroom and announced there would be a rally on Nov. 7 at the Washoe County Senior Citizens Center on 1155 East 9th Street in Reno.

"I got the point across," said Bird. "I think you could have heard a pin drop."

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City of Redding IBEW 1245 blitz punctures privatization

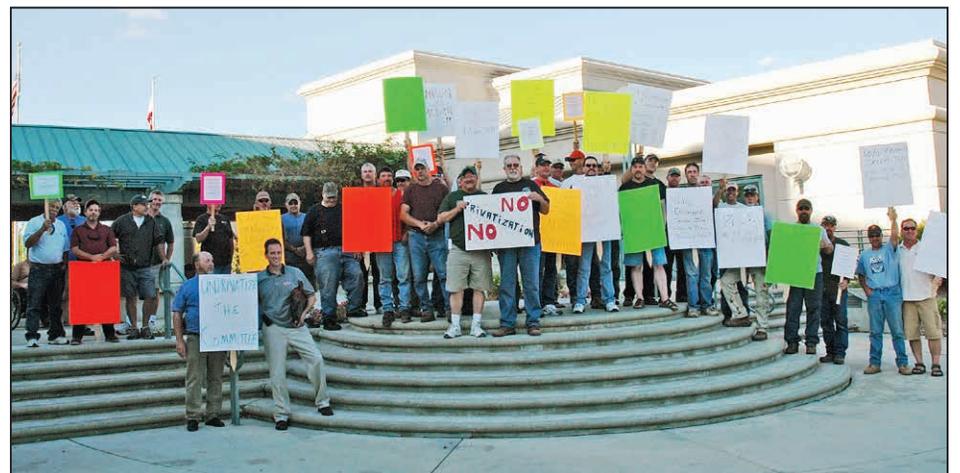
The City of Redding has retreated from a plan to privatize city services after encountering stiff resistance from Local 1245 and its members.

At a meeting on Sept. 28, the city's Privatization Evaluation Committee drastically scaled back its planned privatization study, deciding that gardeners will be the only IBEW members to have their work evaluated for possible privatization.

The city's abrupt retreat came after a week of concerted action by Local 1245, culminating in an Op-Ed piece in the Record Searchlight on Sept. 27 by Senior Business Rep. Ray Thomas, who cited a Cornell University study that poked holes in the common arguments for privatization. City Privatization Committee member Peggy O'Lea referred to that study during the committee's public deliberations the following day.

The city's strategic retreat from privatization came after a

continued on page 22



Local 1245 members and supporters rally outside Redding City Hall prior to the Privatization Committee meeting.



System Operator Howard Worthington, right, explains Grid Control Center operations to Local 1245 Executive Board members, from left: Anna Bayless-Martinez, Cecelia De La Torre (Treasurer), Art Freitas, Chris Habecker, Mike Davis, Mike Jacobson, Mike Cottrell and Tom Cornell during the dedication of the Center on Sept. 25.

story on page 14

Health Care Reform

The IBEW supports the fight for REAL health care reform.

Why Do We Need Health Care Reform?

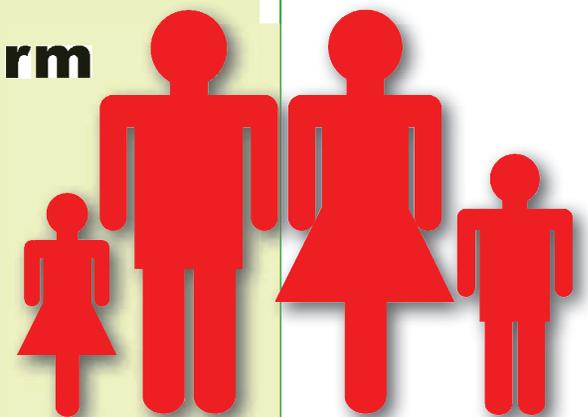
- Health care premiums are increasing three times faster than wages or inflation
- Health insurance company profits have increased more than 1,000 percent during the past five years
- Workers who have health insurance now pay 68 percent more than they did in 2000
- Every thirty seconds, someone files for medical bankruptcy in the United States



The status quo is unsustainable, and without action health care costs will crush families and businesses.

Five Points the IBEW Considers Essential for **REAL** Health Care Reform to Benefit Working Families

1. **A public health insurance option should be included.** This will provide competition for insurance companies, drive out waste, bring down costs, and guarantee affordable health care for all.
2. **Health benefits should not be taxed.** Taxing benefits will raise the costs for workers at a time when they need relief.
3. **Employers should be required to pay their fair share (Play-or-Pay).** This will keep companies that do not provide health care from shifting the costs to all of us.
4. **Small businesses should not be exempt.** Small IBEW employers provide health insurance for their workers, and exemptions put them at a competitive disadvantage for doing the right thing.
5. **Affordable coverage for pre-Medicare retirees should be offered.** Currently, workers who retire before age 65 have no affordable options for finding coverage on their own.



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Arcing and Sparking



Tom Dalzell
BUSINESS MANAGER

Distraction and Safety

Serious recent accidents haunted the October meeting of our Advisory Council. Safety dominated our discussions. In the three months since the Council last met, we lost two lineman members to on-the-job accidents, one by electrocution and one by fall.

These two terrible accidents made me think of a recent report from an IBEW local union in Montana about a rash of fatalities they suffered several years ago. As that IBEW local and the utility worked to change the safety culture of the workforce, they concluded that a large factor leading to the poor safety culture was distraction. The workforce had been distracted for ten years by the utility's attempt to spin off unregulated subsidiaries, by its subsequent bankruptcy, and by its failed attempt to be acquired after it emerged from bankruptcy.

As a result of these high-level management moves, the Montana local concluded that the utility had lost its corporate identity and organizational pride. The workforce lacked trust in the company officers, both because of the bad decisions that the officers had made and because of high turnover within the officer ranks. Last, the workforce believed that management was focused almost exclusively on financials, not on operational issues.

This report from Montana echoes an article that I read recently, "The Psychological Contract of Safety" by Carl and Deb Potter. The Potters warned that "when serious issues exist that lead to distraction," a disjointed safety culture results. When employees believe that the "psychological contract" with their employer has been violated and organizational trust is low, employees are not inclined to be engaged.

Both the lack of trust and distractions reported in Montana are factors that lead to unsafe work behavior and accidents.

I believe that our members have a tremendous responsibility for their own safety, and by saying what I am about to say I do not want to diminish that responsibility. It is just that as I listened to our Advisory Council members report, I wondered if it really is necessary for a supervisor to demand that an employee pay the company back \$4 because they could have ordered a less expensive dessert on an overtime meal.

I wondered if it is really necessary for a supervisor to demand that an employee take the rest of the year off to use up their vacation that they had planned to sell back to the company in 2010.

I wondered if it is really necessary for a municipal employer to require furloughs, especially knowing that

overtime costs soar when workers are furloughed.

I wondered if it is really necessary for an employer to threaten a ballot initiative that would ask city residents if they favor reducing city employee benefits.

Many of our members are already feeling uneasy due to difficult negotiations. Our members at NV Energy, the City of Redding, Sacramento Regional Transit, Alameda Municipal Power, and the Modesto Irrigation District, among others, are closely watching their employers' actions at the bargaining table. Some degree of distraction may be inevitable during bargaining, but when some employers seek unprecedented rollbacks of hard-won gains, I worry that the resulting distraction could end up compromising our mem-

bers' safety.

In any case, I can't believe that the smaller distractions that I heard so much about from Council members are either necessary or helpful.

Our employers can't change the safety culture singlehandedly, and neither can we. But it ought to be clear to everyone that small, needless distractions are not helpful at a time when there is a such a great need to stay focused on working safely.

Get the latest news at

www.ibew1245.com

RT budget cramps negotiations

Bargaining between IBEW Local 1245 and Sacramento Regional Transit District opened on Sept. 10 with an exchange of proposals. The District submitted its economic proposals on Oct. 9.

The District is looking to accomplish a net 0% increase in labor cost in order to deal with a projected budget shortfall in FY 2009 and 2010. The union committee has been studying the numbers in the District's proposal and was scheduled to meet again on Oct. 26. Meetings with company negotiators were scheduled for Oct. 30 and 31. No report on those meetings was available at Utility Reporter press time, but members can check for updates anytime on the union website at www.ibew1245.com.

Members are encouraged to attend unit meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 4:30 pm at Espanol

Restaurant in Sacramento. The November meeting will be Nov. 18.

Serving on the Local 1245 bargaining committee are Rod Beverly, Constance Bibbs, and Brian Medeiros, along with Business Rep. Sheila Lawton and Assistant Business Manager Dennis Seyfer.



Mendoza assignment

IBEW Local 1245 Business Representative John Mendoza became responsible for representing members at the South San Joaquin Irrigation District effective Sept. 14, 2009. A complete list of business reps and their areas of assignment can be found on-line at www.ibew1245.com/bus-reps.html.



John Mendoza

APPOINTMENTS

SACRAMENTO REGIONAL TRANSIT

Negotiating Committee
Rodney Beverly
Constance Bibbs
Brian Medeiros

CONFERENCES & CONVENTIONS

Inter-Union Gas Conference
Rex Mayo

National Safety Council Labor Division Fall Meeting
Dan Boschee
Robert Burkle
Al White

Coalition of Labor Union Women Biennial Convention
Donna Ambeau
Anna Bayless-Martinez
Cecelia De La Torre
Jennifer Gray
Graciela Nunez

California Alliance of Retired Americans Conference
Ken Rawles

IBEW Government Employees Conference
Dan Wyand

IBEW Nuclear Conference
Patrick Duffy
Mike Jacobson
Jeremy Winn

CALENDAR

2009

- Nov 12:** Retirees Club, Dublin, CA
- Nov 18:** Retirees Club, Sparks, NV
- Dec 1:** Retirees Club, Santa Rosa, CA
- Dec 1:** Retirees Club, Merced, CA
- Dec 3:** Retirees Club, San Jose, CA
- Dec 9:** Retirees Club, Vacaville, CA
- Dec 10:** Retirees Club, Dublin, CA
- Dec 16:** Retirees Club, Sparks, NV

2010

- Jan 5:** Retirees Club, Santa Rosa, CA
- Jan 5:** Retirees Club, Merced, CA
- Jan 7:** Retirees Club, San Jose, CA
- Jan 13:** Retirees Club, Vacaville, CA
- Jan 14:** Retirees Club, Dublin, CA



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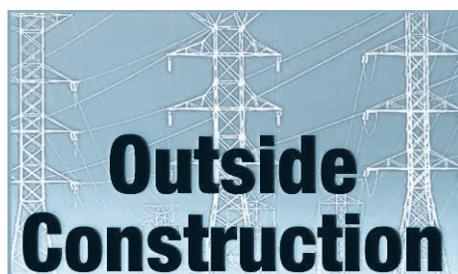
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Our Web Site can be viewed at www.IBEW1245.com.

Our phone number is (707) 452-2700.



Better than we planned for

By Ron Cochran

So, you ask, how's the work?

Well, better than we planned for. The dispatcher was deep into Book II for linemen one Friday in early October, and we still had one open call for an operator that we didn't fill. We expect a slow down when the rains come.

We have projects at both Colusa Power Plant and Humboldt Power Plant, building substations, dressing power transformers and some tower erection. We have a short T-line project being constructed in Trinity County for WAPA and TCPUD.

In the San Francisco area we have a few projects going. Shimmick is upgrading trolley circuits for the Muni, and Abbett is building a line extension on 16th Street around Mission Street. The Trans-Bay project is in full swing with several contractors working on it. WA Chester is replacing several underground oil-filled 115kv transmission circuits for PG&E. They are presently working on Bayshore Street; this is a very high profile project. Underground Construction Co. is installing a T-line conduit system between Station-X and Station-C in Oakland, CA. This is all the major work going on at this time.

The year 2010 will be slower on PG&E property than was earlier reported, but still should keep the core local workforce busy. PG&E has announced the alliances bid winners for the next three years. ARB was announced as the bid winner in PG&E's Areas 1, 2 and 3. Diversified was announced as the bid winner for Areas 4, 5, 6 and 7. Wellington will continue to replace electric and gas meters for PG&E and increase its work force to over 400 in 2010. All the Wellington workers are IBEW members.

SMUD has bid out 558,000 electric meters to be replaced in 2010. Utility Partners of America (UPA) won the bid. We were successful in organizing UPA and we will have around 75 members on the project for 12-plus months. Nevada T-Line (SWIP) project has been pushed back. We expected this as LS Power has shared that the steel towers have not been ordered yet. We will report information on the SWIP project as we get it. We do expect a full blown jurisdiction fight with the Building Trades over the



Ron Cochran

road construction and footer work.

USBR awarded a \$5 million dollar transformer replacement job to a non-union contractor and WAPA has a non-union low bidder on the O'Banion substation modification work. There is also roughly 30 miles of T-line out to bid on that closes on Oct. 21. We feel all these projects are tied to the Sacramento Voltage Support (SVS) Project. We are all working hard to secure PLA's on this work.

There is some very good news. Business Manager Dalzell has signed a Project Labor Agreement with PG&E requiring all electrical work to be done with IBEW 1245 contractors.

President Obama sent out an Executive Order in February requesting all large public works projects to be done through PLA's. WAPA is reacting very slowly to the Executive Order. WAPA was the last employer Ralph and I worked for before working at the Local. We are exhausting every avenue, from the bottom up. The Business Manager, Tom Dalzell, is working with all top level personnel from SMUD, Washington DC lobbyists, and the IBEW International President to fix this issue.

There is some very good news. Business Manager Dalzell has signed a Project Labor Agreement with PG&E requiring all electrical work to be done with IBEW 1245 contractors. This is something no other business manager has been able to achieve. On Nov. 2, 2009 we will be jointly hosting a meeting with all signatory and non-signatory contractors working on PG&E property. The message will be delivered jointly by PG&E and Local 1245 that all contractors will have to become signatory before Jan. 1, 2010. This is likely to double or triple our work load between now and then. This will also create hundreds of new 1245 members.

Business Manager Dalzell has also secured a new PLA that will cover several new solar projects in 2010. The future looks bright for Outside work at the local union. We are also gaining hundreds of new jobs on the gas service repair work in 2010. We dispatched 121 Outside Line members and over 25 BA members for Wellington in the month of September.

JATC News

The National Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee conference was held a couple of months ago in Ann Arbor, MI. This was the first time it was moved in 15 years.

There are many changes in the lineman apprenticeship taking place. One change is the apprentices do their homework online now with laptops.

We held interviews for several apprentice positions in September.

There probably will not be any more interviews until well into the first quarter of 2010. The next trustee meeting will be Nov. 12, and will be held in Oakland, CA. All the meetings in the past have been held at the training center in Riverside, CA.

We will be meeting in Oakland so that we can have a field visit to a local diversity work ready center. We are very interested in local hires.

Fatality

Business Rep. Ralph Armstrong attended Mr. Aaron Dineen's memorial service in Northern Washington last Saturday. It was a dark day for all. Ralph reported that he was thankful he could attend as the mother and father had many lingering questions and Ralph was able to answer some of them.

As you may have heard, the Cal-Nev JATC Director has barred two journeymen from working with apprentices as a result of the recent apprentice death. This action is legal and supported by the three locals involved in the Cal-Nev JATC.

Staff Availability

Ralph Armstrong will be out of state on union business the week of Oct. 19 for a safety conference. Our crew visits have been almost nonexistent lately as we have been dealing with all this upcoming work. Ralph spends more time now on the local's safety issues which is good in the long term as we have our guy on the inside. Due to the travel schedules, neither Ralph nor I were able to attend the golf tournament on Saturday October 17. Even though I'm way too young to take up golf, I do enjoy the comradeship of being with our Brothers and Sisters on the course.

The construction staff is working six

Most of the Outside Line members are working long hours to complete jobs before the wet weather sets in, and the union's construction staff is supporting all the current work and working with our utility customers for the upcoming work in 2010 through 2012.

and seven days a week right now. Most of the Outside Line members are working long hours to complete jobs before the wet weather sets in, and the union's construction staff is supporting all the current work and working with our utility customers for the upcoming work in 2010 through 2012. There is also a fair amount of organizing being done in between all the other activities. We are currently meeting on the Helms project and Dynergy's Moss Landing Power Plant to organize more of the non-union outage workers.

We will return all phone messages and e-mails; it just may take a little

longer to get back to you over the next couple of months. Texting works great for short questions and answers.

Training

As of Jan. 1, 2010 you must have the OSHA ET&D 10-hour training to work in Nevada. We will be holding a class in Reno on Dec. 12 & 13 to help you. We also will be holding classes in the Vacaville office on the second weekend each month for the first 10 months of 2010. Again, this will be mandatory to work in Nevada and will soon follow in California.

CPR-First Aid cards are now required by OSHA and by our contract very soon. The on-line refresher courses will not be accepted, because OSHA doesn't accept them. Last, we recently dispatched well into Book IV to dispatch a flagger-certified groundman. We are happy to report that the member we dispatched has made over \$10,000 flagging in San Francisco in the last month. We are puzzled as to why our entire Book I, II, & III groundmen have not taken the JATC reimbursable online flagger training course to get their certificates.

Policy 22 Testing

We are seeing an increase in utility linemen wanting to obtain their Journeyman "A" Member status. Last month we tested 15 PGE employees in the Bakersfield area and granted Journeyman status to 20 current members that exceeded the Policy 22 standard. PG&E's zero tolerance on safety issues has made some of these members inquire about their "A" membership.

I would like to thank Mr. Mark Rolow and Business Reps. Bob Dean and Ralph Armstrong for helping to proctor the testing. This testing was held on a Friday night and went to almost midnight. We anticipate seeing this trend increase with the current level of terminations that are taking place within the utility branches. We also tested two linemen last week in Vacaville under the Policy 22 rules.

Poker Chip Sets

We ordered 100 more poker chip sets for the holidays, as requested by the membership. Order forms can be downloaded from the local's website. Its first-come, first-served, so don't wait to fill out your order form. Please thank Business Rep. Liz McInnis for this when you see her—she did most all of the work. There was some unneeded

See story and photos on the Transbay Project, pages 12-13.

bureaucracy leading up to the borrowing of the \$8,000 capital we needed to make the order. This is cost-neutral to the local's treasury; all monies will be repaid as the poker chip sets are sold.

Clothing Order

We have ordered long sleeved T-shirts and hooded sweatshirts for the winter months to replenish the stock in our office display case. The order will be in soon.

Information Sharing Technologies

There are several Information Sharing Technologies we are exploring:

E-mail Groups

We just sent the second email to the Outside Line (OSL) in the beta testing phase of our effort to improve communications with our members. OSL is the first test group. In this case it's a good thing. As you know, we sent mailings out asking for emails and cell phone (texting) numbers to build a database to send real time information to the members. The second email may have been the longest email the members will get from me.

We would like to speak about all the media technologies we are trying. Some technologies will work and be continued, and some will not and will fade away. We have had the Local's website and OSL's hotline for years. They aren't going away—we are just trying to enhance and secure information related to your trade. The Local's website is under redesign as I write to you.

Some of the information posted on the website, the Utility Reporter, or the hotline is edited down or just not posted. There are a number of reasons for this. There are times we wish to share more information but are reluctant as it may provoke other utility members to fear for their job security, which shouldn't be the case. There are other examples where the customers and contractors monitor our postings, which may cause us to leave out certain information.

Anyway, I wanted to share the nuts and bolts of the efforts being made on our media changes.

Our reason for the e-mail effort is to have a group email setup for each work group, OSL being the first. Our vision for emails is to only have a few each month to carry larger payloads of information, such as things covered at a unit meeting. There was no capital investment for this effort. Business Rep. Leslie Asher is our IT Guru and deserves many thanks for setting up the database to be used for the email and texting platforms. We are discouraged that we sent a mailing to around 1,000 "A" members and only received 58 responses back. Again, because emails and text messages can be forwarded they will not carry sensitive information.

Texting

The second Information Sharing Technology is text messaging (txts). We received the green light to purchase a software program to blast txts to large groups. As you know, you can set groups on your phone but they are usually limited to a group of 10. We are looking to blast txts to hundreds at a time. This is a great way to get small messages to large groups all at once, *real time and first hand*. These messages will be 160 characters or less.

Again we only had 58 members interested to start. We are hoping that if we

We are looking to blast txts to hundreds at a time. This is a great way to get small messages to large groups all at once, *real time and first hand*.

do a good job, to have hundreds asking to join as it is a great tool to get the information to you. This texting will be one-way—from the software out to you. There are many great uses for these communication tools. Some examples are notification of satellite unit meetings, contract negotiation updates, and

other union business. It can also be used for announcements of all kinds for the members by the members.

For example, John Doe member contacts us and wants to make an announcement about an accident, or someone needing help, or the birth of future linemen, or reminders for training classes or storm work. Some txts could simply direct you to the website or our new group forum. We are planning to blast the txts before and after work, only as needed so as not to burn folks out or disrupt work. They could

continued on page 7

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IBEW LOCAL 1245 POKER SETS ON SALE NOW!!!
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Verizon deal: threat to jobs?

A pending deal by Frontier Communications to purchase Verizon's rural landline system could pose a risk to jobs and customer service at Frontier properties in California.

IBEW Local 1245 union stewards employed by Frontier met at Weakley Hall on Sept. 26 to examine the sale and its possible consequences. Other companies that have purchased Verizon assets have not fared well, according to Local 1245 Senior Business Rep. Ray Thomas, who led the steward's meeting.

"Verizon sold its assets in Hawaii about three years ago to the Carlyle Group," said Thomas. "But Carlyle had overextended itself. They ended up with service problems and they went into a

lot of debt."

The company filed for bankruptcy in December 2008.

Similarly, Fairpoint Communications has found itself on the brink of bankruptcy after purchasing the northern New England portion of Verizon's landlines in March 2008—due in part to problems with customer service.

"They've been fined nearly a million dollars for poor service and they're under investigation by the state utility commission in New Hampshire," Thomas noted.

IBEW Local 1245 members are understandably concerned about Frontier's ability to take on Verizon rural assets in California and 13 other states. At present it is unknown what interest rate Frontier will be paying on the \$3.3 billion that it will owe Verizon at the close of the deal, which means there is currently no way to accurately measure the financial burden the deal will impose on Frontier.

The union is also concerned about Frontier claims that "synergy" monies from the sale will produce \$500 million in savings. Synergy is a term companies often use to describe the savings that come from consolidating services and personnel—sometimes through office closures and layoffs.

"If that \$500 million comes in the



Local 1245 stewards at Frontier met at Weakley Hall on Sept. 26 to examine the potential impact of the proposed sale of Verizon assets to Frontier. From left: Don Carman, Denise Sanders, Business Rep. Sheila Lawton, Spike Gies, Eric Tanaka, Todd Baywell, Assistant Business Manager Dennis Seyfer, and Senior Business Representative Ray Thomas.



Spike Gies, Frontier Sales and Service Tech: Important to keep plant in top condition

form of consolidation, some of the work that is performed in California could be moved to other states," said Thomas. "If it comes in the form of manpower reduction, it's going to impact customer service."

Cutting employees who perform maintenance isn't really a form of savings, said Spike Gies, a Local 1245 member and Frontier Sales and Service Tech in Colusa, "because they're the ones who keep everything working."

"If you don't maintain the plant and keep it in top condition so that you can

provide all your services and keep your good customers coming back all the time, service is going to be degraded and here we go—we're going to lose customers," Gies said.

Local 1245 represents about 160 employees at Frontier in California, including a retail office and a cutwriters group in Elk Grove. Maintenance splicers, transmission techs, clerks, and sales and service techs work out of Frontier's other California locations: Alturas, Colusa, Susanville, Chester, Palo Cedro, Ferndale and Rio Vista.

Turlock Irrigation District Apprentices

Hot Stick Training

Photos by Sheila Lawton

Apprentice Linemen at Turlock Irrigation District recently went through a week-long "hot stick" training at the TID Training Center. The training instructs apprentices in specific techniques for using hot sticks to connect and disconnect wires and to install protective insulating gear, as well as maintaining safe work distances.



Apprentice Jimmy Martin and Journeyman Lineman-Trainer Troy Borges work in the bucket on the left. On the pole at right is Apprentice Jordon Lellhame, left, and possibly Mike Wigt with his back to the camera.

From left: Troy Borges, Journey Lineman-Trainer; Jimmy Martin, Apprentice; Chad Zumstein, Apprentice; Ben Phaa, Apprentice; Steve Johnson, Journey Lineman-Trainer; and Jordon Lellhame, Apprentice.



Journeyman Lineman-Trainer Steve Johnson, left, and Apprentice Chad Zumstein.



Tying off wire are Apprentices Jimmy Martin, left, and Jordon Lellhame. Ben Phaa observes from the ground.

In memoriam: Jack Osburn

Jack Osburn, a man who negotiated more union contracts than any other Local 1245 Business Representative in the history of the union, died of a heart attack on Oct. 5. He was 63.

Business Manager Tom Dalzell said Osburn took his place alongside Mert Walters, one of the union's founders, "as a great public sector negotiator." Osburn was also involved in the single largest arbitration award in the union's history, a case that arose from 1999 negotiations with Frontier Communications.

Brother Osburn, an electrician at PG&E, was initiated into the IBEW in 1970. He became a union business representative in 1984 and during his career represented employees at Bella Vista Water District, City of Shasta Lake, City of Redding, City of Gridley, Clear Creek Community Services District, Frontier Communications, Lassen Municipal Utility District, South Feather Water & Power, Sacramento Regional Transit, Richvale Irrigation District, Video Satellite, Truckee Donner PUD, and City of Roseville.

Osburn had a great appreciation for how important the small things are, said Dalzell. Like the great pride in took he maintaining a good union bulletin board at the worksite. Or the bagful of burgers he sometimes would bring to a crew in the field.



A very young Jack Osburn serving on a union committee in 1982.

"Jack was never satisfied with the status quo," said Communications Director Eric Wolfe. "He had a restless intellect and never seemed to run out of questions, whether dealing with management or his fellow business reps. Some of the properties he represented didn't have many employees but that didn't stop him from raising their issues—sometimes at great length—at our union staff meetings."

Representing such a diverse membership, under many different labor agreements, is a demanding job. Osburn discussed what it was like at a conference in 2002 that sought to describe the life of a business representative to up-and-coming union leaders. Here's how Osburn described the training that a business rep traditionally has received:

"Here's your keys, here's your car, here's your assignment."

Union business representatives have to learn to be many things to many people, but Osburn believed it was important for business reps to not overreach. "Don't try to play God," he said. "Members know what they want more than we think they do."

At the same time, he believed that a business rep could benefit from a broad education, and recommended that prospective business reps consider taking classes in labor relations, psychology, and even interrogation techniques.

Osburn said that business reps must remain flexible and "learn how to juggle your schedule" because meetings get cancelled, appointments get missed, and emergencies sometimes arise.

Humor is a tool that Osburn actively promoted in carrying out the union's



Jack Osburn, staff photo, 2003



Lightening the atmosphere at staff meeting.

mission. One of Osburn's unit chairs got into the habit of wearing a bow-tie to remind members it was unit meeting day. Osburn himself was handy with quips. If management negotiators started pressing too hard for union "flexibility" at the bargaining table, Osburn accused them of using the "f" word. He believed a little humor could be a more effective way of showing displeasure than losing your temper and pounding the table.

And then there were the crazy glasses at staff meeting...

Lasting Impression

Although it wasn't so funny at the time, Osburn left a lasting impression on the citizens of Marysville when—dressed as Santa Claus one Christmas season—he was hit in his personal truck by a drunk, who took off running.

"Jack pursued in his Santa costume, and tackled the drunk and stood over him until police arrived," Dalzell recounted. "The children of Marysville probably never looked at Santa Claus in quite the same way after that."

Osburn was knowledgeable and engaged in political issues. He was a fierce opponent of Gov. Schwarzenegger's efforts in 2005 to roll back pension benefits for public employees, who were the heart of Osburn's assignment as a business rep.

Osburn's wife, Barbara, was a frequent visitor to union functions and

Jack didn't hesitate to utilize her artistic skills in designing materials promoting the union.

In addition to Barbara, Osburn is survived by daughters, Gina Osburn-Lee of Chico, Lisa Christina Osburn of Yuba City, Cheryl Elynde Osburn of Marysville; sister, Jean Thoem of Marietta, GA; mother, Annabelle Osburn of Davenport, IA; and three grandchildren.

Memorial contributions can be made to The Museum of the Forgotten Warriors, 5865 A Road, Marysville, CA 95901.

Local 1245 offers our deep condolences to the friends, family, and former co-workers of Brother Jack Osburn.



(Left and above) Jack on the picket line at Frontier: never bashful on the picketline.

Moon omitted

An article in the September-October issue of Utility Reporter that listed names of the IBEW Local 1245 committee for the recently-concluded PG&E benefits bargaining inadvertently omitted the name of a key member: Ron Moon.

Moon's training in accounting and skills with Excel spreadsheets made him an indispensable part of the committee's successful effort.

"Ron's great at thinking creatively and he was a strong advocate for retirees and future retirees during the negotiations," said Business Manager Tom Dalzell.

Communications Director Eric Wolfe will be attending a proof-reading class for the next 14 months in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. He is also having his eye prescription checked.

Utility Reporter

Outside, continued from page 5

also be used to get safety topics to everyone's attention before your safety meeting. We are thinking of launching the txts around 0600 and 1800.

Yahoo Group

We set up an IBEW group forum for OSL on Yahoo. This is not a place to bitch and complain. It is a place to give your opinion and express your views on a posted topic and to post a topic you feel strongly about. This forum will be monitored and moderated in the evenings and available to 1245 "A" members in good standing. No personal attacks will be allowed or posted. We will encourage strong opinions as long as they're not per-

sonal. We will keep the posting mainly to business, safety, and event planning.

There are thousands of forum groups on the web; you can join one of them to discuss your Democratic or Republican views. Let's just keep our local OSL forum focused on the line work.

One example would be that before long there will be 100% attachment requirement when climbing. This has been the law in Washington State for 20-plus years. PG&E had a climbing fatality in October. Every accident gets us closer to a law requiring 100% attachment. As this issue grows we will host a forum for discussion.

To join this group log on at: <http://finance.groups.yahoo.com/group/ibew1245group/join>

Blogging

Next, we are setting up blogging from our Local 1245 website. This will be in the form of a discussion group, open to participation by the entire membership. As with our OSL Yahoo group, this will not be a place to bitch and complain. It will be a place to give your opinion and express your views on a posted topic and to post a topic you feel strongly about. It will be moderated by a staff member—probably someone other than Ralph, Liz or myself.

Pod Casting

We are researching the use of Pod Casting as a possible future communication tool.

Ron Cochran

SERVICE AWARDS



Fresno, CA September 12, 2009

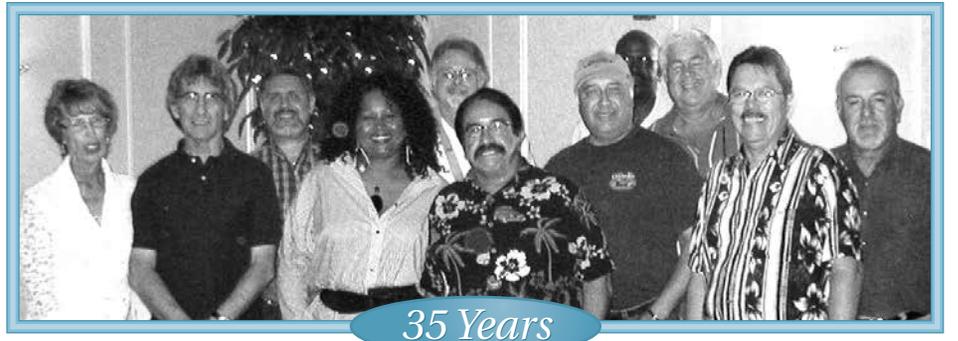
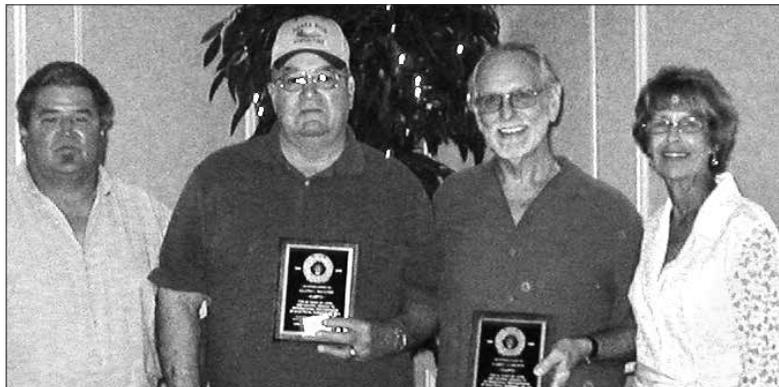
60 Years

Bill Peitz receives his 60-year award from Recording Secretary Chris Habecker, left, and Business Rep. Mike Grill.

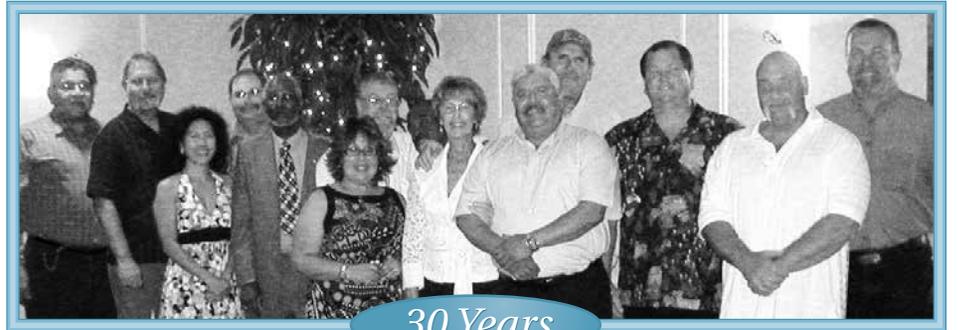


40 Years

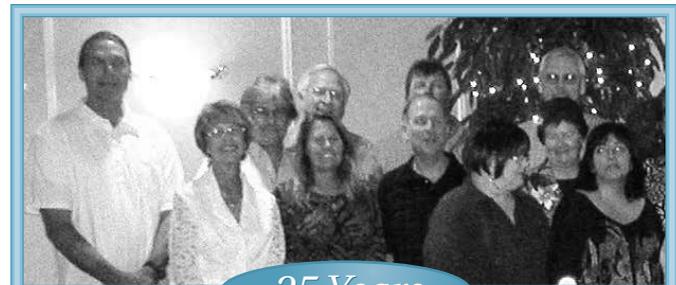
Glenn (Mac) McGuire and Larry Jameson receive their 40-year awards from Mike Grill and Chris Habecker.



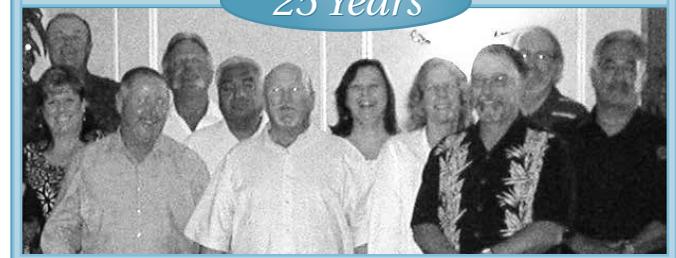
35 Years



30 Years



25 Years



THE HONOREES

60 Years

Bill Peitz

40 Years

Heck, Jack
Jameson, Larry
Johnston, Jim
McGuire, Glenn I
Rogers Jr., John R

35 Years

Belmontez, Fred
Breadmont, Ricardo
Camarena, Daniel R
Camarena, Jose
Camino, Dennis D
Cannon, Jan
Cardoza, John T
Cheney, Richard S
Christensen, Douglas B
Connell, Gary
Cook, Dennis B
Eldridge, William
Esquivel, Angelita
Flohr, Barbara L
Flores, Frank R
Foster, Russell E
Garza, Felix
Gilliam, Joyce S
Glass, Edwin C
Gomez, Ernest
Gonzalez, Paul R

Hegland, Robert A
Hernandez, Gilbert S
Hultman, Timothy E
James, Stan
Johnson, Michael
Johnson, Thomas L
Keys, Thomas
Koomjan, Daniel J
Martinez, Thomas
McBee, Beverly A
Morales, Felix
Ohama, Abraham K
Ortiz, Angelo
Paredes, Richard
Patterson, Norrell
Prince, David
Riofrio Jr., Robert
Rodriguez, Brian S
Rohrmann, Robert
Rosales, John R
Schellenger, Bob
Spain, Terry
Stafford Jr., Robert E
Tolbirt, Keith
Torres, Frank S
Van Tassel, Ted J
Wagers, Robert D

30 Years

Aguayo, Danny
Allgood, Steven
Alvarado, Angel
Anton, Sue M
Arabia, George A

Barry, Mark W
Bethel, James
Brewer, Michael A
Bush Jr., Richard
Charleston, Jeffery L
Colgrove, Michael
Collins, Gary M
Cotner, Glen A
Dillon, Mike E
Dixon, Rodney L
Dwyer Jr., Frederick
Faust, Linda J
Fields, Laron D
Fifer Jr., James O
Fraser, Matthew G
Galan-Garcia, Patricia
Gammel, Michael E
Gillespie, Jim F
Gross, William G
Haury, Leroy J
Helms, Lynn F
Henley, Gary L
Holland, Charles R
Ikeda, Steve S
Isaak, Mitchell
Johnson, Dale S
Jones, Ken
Joneson, Martin
Jorgensen, Donald
Juhrend Jr., William O
Kane, Rick A
Knapp, Gerry W
Konze, Tim H
Krupens, Donald T

Landes, Fred P
Landucci, Deborah K
Lewis, Patrick A
Madron, Richard A
Mah, Wayne
Marsh, Tamara L
Marten, Steven P
Mason, Sheryl L
McGee, Lin D
Moses, Victor E
Mosley, Braxton G
Pack, David A
Parmer, Billy W
Paul, William D
Paulson, James E
Perez, Debby M
Pharis, Diana
Pizarro, Richard G
Poe, James A
Puckett, Randy A
Reyes, Lloyd R
Sharette, Robert D
Shelton, Rick
Silva, Eddie M
Smith, Jack G
Stidham, Paul
Streets, Gaylen S
Takeno-Carlson, Robin W
Tucker, Stephen R
Turner, Victor H
Weissmann, Helmut K
Wibeto Jr., Harold A
Yeverino, Conrad J

25 Years

Aguirre, Jesse A
Apodaca, Andre R
Banda, Raul
Bradley, Geraldine
Castaneda, Salvador
Conti, Greg J
Cramer, Fred E
Crozier, Anthony Q
Crunk, Mary S
Dempsey, Colleen
Devine, Paul H
Douglas, John J
Estrada, Ned M
Fox, Robert J
Frey, John E
Furnish, Gloria G
Gomes, Michael T
Gonzales, Stella T
Gonzalez, Rachel
Guzman, Jennifer
Hagen, Anton A
Hakker, Steven J
Hall, Rodney W
Horn, Mark H
Hultman, Melody C
Hunter, Paul S
Jay, Gerald E
Jewett, Michael K
Kloppenburger, Valeron B
Lipe, David D
Magri, Vincent D
Markarian, Fred R
Mascherini, David W

McCormick, Odis J
McDaniel, David W
Meyers, David P
Montoya, Chet R
Neathery, Daniel D
O'Neill, Denise M
Paglia, Larry J
Parker, Alan R
Pauley, Vicki
Peck, Kimmy A
Penland, Chris A
Phillips, Judy A
Poulter, Donald S
Purnell, Robert G
Reynolds, Dale C
Ridge, Patricia
Rowe, Richard W
Sanders, David L
Sanders, Steven W
Schlumbohm, Robert E
Shertenlieb, John W
Singh, Stephanie
Smith, Dale L
Solorio, Arthur F
Solorzano, Victor
Souza, Michael D
Stenroos, Kevin J
Stockwell, Mark R
Tice, Houston L
Vetter, Donald B
Wilshusen, Daryl W
Worstein, David A
Zack, Tim A
Zapata, John J

Tree contract extensions

By Ray Thomas

IBEW 1245 members at Asplundh Tree Expert Co. and Utility Tree Service, Inc. ratified a two-year contract extension that calls for general wage increases of 2.5% in 2010, and 3.5% in 2011. The agreement also calls for the companies to pick up one-half of any LINECO increases in 2011.

The term of the new agreement is Jan. 3, 2010 through Dec. 31, 2011.

The mail ballot was tallied on Sept. 30 at Weakley Hall in Vacaville. IBEW Local 1245 employee Austin Lea served as judge. Sergio Munoz, IBEW 1245 steward at Asplundh Tree, served as ballot committee teller.

Trees, Inc.

Members at Trees, Inc. rejected the same terms for a two-year contract extension—the company’s “last, best and final” offer—by one vote. Subsequently, the union negotiating committee met with Trees, Inc. on Oct. 12.

The union’s committee offered multiple proposals. After consideration, the company determined that in order to stay competitive in a poor economy, they could not offer additional wages or benefits beyond those terms accepted by the employees of the other major line clearance companies.

Ultimately Trees, Inc. proposed the same previously-rejected “last, best and final” offer.

Member ballots must be back at the union hall no later than 10 a.m., Nov. 13, when they will be counted.

Davey, Wright, Family

IBEW Local 1245 members at Davey Tree Surgery Company and Wright Tree Service, Inc. on Oct. 9 ratified similar two-year contract extensions with general wage increases of 2.5% in 2010 and 3.5% in 2011.

As the Davey Tree agreement already provides that employees pay up to \$35 per month towards comprehensive family coverage premiums, the members at Davey Tree will not be subject to any additional cost sharing of health and welfare premiums through the new term of the agreement, which is Jan. 3, 2010 through Jan. 3, 2012.

Also on Oct. 9, Local 1245 members at Family Tree accepted a two-year agreement which kept pace with the agreements ratified by the larger companies. Local 1245 member Donald Baker assisted Business Representative Carl Lamers with that vote, which was held in Fort Bragg.

In other line clearance tree trimmer news:

Windy Tree and Local 1245 are scheduled to meet and confer in Sacramento on Nov. 19.

Davey Tree and Local 1245 are scheduled to meet and confer in Livermore on Oct. 21 concerning the Turlock Irrigation agreement.

Mountain Firewood Enterprises and Local 1245 are working on a two-year contract extension similar to the contracts which have been ratified by members working for the other line clearance companies.

Extensiones de los contratos tree

Por Ray Thomas

Los miembros del Local 1245 del IBEW de Asplundh Tree Expert Co. y de Utility Tree Service, Inc. ratificaron la extensión de un contrato de dos años que incluye un aumento general de salarios de 2.5% en 2010 y 3.5% en 2011. El contrato también especifica que las compañías pagarán la mitad de cualquier incremento de LINECO en 2011.

El nuevo contrato tendrá vigencia desde el 3 de enero de 2010 hasta el 31 de diciembre de 2011.

Los votos recibidos por correo se contaron el 30 de septiembre en Weakley Hall en Vacaville. Austin Lea, empleado del Local 1245 del IBEW, actuó como juez. Sergio Muñoz, representante sindical de Asplundh Tree ante el Local 1245 del IBEW 1245, ofició como contador del comité de votos.

Trees, Inc.

Los miembros de Trees, Inc. rechazaron por un voto los mismo términos para una extensión de dos años del contrato - la “última y mejor oferta” de la compañía. Posteriormente, el comité de negociación del sindicato se reunió con la compañía Trees, Inc. el 12 de octubre.

El comité del sindicato ofreció múltiples propuestas. Después de considerarlas, la compañía decidió que para permanecer competitivos en una economía débil, no podían ofrecer salarios o beneficios adicionales a los aceptados por los empleados de las otras compañías principales de control de vegetación en líneas eléctricas.

Finalmente Trees, Inc. propuso la misma “última y mejor oferta” anteriormente rechazada.

Los votos de los miembros deberán recibirse en la sala del sindicato antes de las 10 a.m. del 13 de noviembre, cuando se realizará el conteo.

Davey, Wright, Family

Los miembros del Local 1245 del IBEW Local 1245 de Davey Tree Surgery Company y de Wright Tree Service, Inc. ratificaron el 9 de octubre extensiones similares para un contrato de dos años, con aumentos generales de salarios de 2.5% en 2010 y 3.5% en 2011.

En vista de que el contrato con Davey Tree de por sí, estipula que los empleados paguen hasta \$35 por mes para las primas de cobertura familiar completa, los miembros de Davey Tree no tendrán ningún costo adicional que compartir para el pago de las primas de salud y bienestar durante la vigencia del nuevo contrato, que regirá desde el 3 de enero de 2010 hasta el 3 de enero de 2012.

Igualmente, el 9 de octubre, los miembros del Local 1245 de Family Tree aceptaron un contrato de dos años que está a la par de los contratos ratificados por las compañías más grandes. Donald Baker, miembro del Local 1245 ayudó al Representante de Negocios Carl Lamers con el conteo de esos votos, el cual se llevó a cabo en Fort Bragg.

Otras noticias sobre los podadores de vegetación y limpieza de líneas eléctricas incluyen:

Windy Tree y el Local 1245 tienen planificado reunirse y dialogar en Sacramento el 19 de noviembre.

Davey Tree y el Local 1245 tienen planificado reunirse y dialogar en Livermore el 21 de octubre en referencia al contrato de Turlock Irrigation.

Mountain Firewood Enterprises y el Local 1245 están trabajando en una extensión de dos años del contrato similar a los contratos que han sido ratificados por los miembros que trabajan para las otras compañías de control de vegetación en líneas eléctricas.



Attending the Oct. 9 Davey Tree and Wright Tree ballot count were, from left: Business Rep. Junior Ornelas, Austin Lea (judge), Senior Business Rep. Ray Thomas, and Davey Tree Steward Miguel Iniguez, who served as teller.

Los asistentes al conteo de votos de Davey Tree y Wright Tree el 9 de octubre, de izquierda a derecha: Representante de Negocios Junior Ornelas, Austin Lea (juez), Representante de Negocios Senior Ray Thomas, y el Representante Sindical de Davey Tree Miguel Iniguez, quien ofició como contador de votos.

Fire prevention meeting

A Local 1245 committee of line clearance tree trimmers met last June with Davey Tree Surgery Company at Weakley Hall in Vacaville to discuss fire prevention.

The meeting was held to discuss issues pertaining to fire prevention policies and the physical impacts on employees having to carry heavy fire fighting apparatus to and from line clearance work sites.

The company’s committee worked to accommodate some of the union’s concerns by making changes to fire prevention procedures which did not impede the effectiveness of the program, but aided the employees by lessening the physical requirements of lugging extremely heavy fire fighting water containers out from work sites.



Representing the union at the fire prevention meeting last summer were, from left, Shop Steward Miguel Iniguez, Business Rep. Carl Lamers, Advisory Council Representative and Shop Steward Pete Ely, Senior Business Rep. Ray Thomas, Shop Steward Robert Bodner, Shop Steward Leonel Mendoza, and Business Rep. Junior Ornelas.

En representación del sindicato, asistieron este verano a la reunión para la prevención de incendios, de izquierda a derecha: Representante Sindical Miguel Iniguez, representante de Negocios Carl Lamers, Representante del Concejo Asesor y Representante Sindical Pete Ely, Representante de Negocios Senior Ray Thomas, Representante Sindical Robert Bodner, Representante Sindical Leonel Mendoza, y Representante de Negocios Junior Ornelas.

Reunión para la prevención de incendios

Un comité de podadores de vegetación para líneas eléctricas del Local 1245 se reunió el pasado mes de junio con la compañía Davey Tree Surgery en Weakley Hall en Vacaville para dialogar sobre la prevención de incendios.

La reunión se llevó a cabo para conversar sobre temas relacionados con las políticas de prevención de incendios y los impactos físicos sobre los empleados que tienen que cargar pesados aparatos para extinguir incendios hacia, y desde los sitios de trabajo donde se efectúa la poda de vegetación.

El comité de la compañía, en reconocimiento a algunas de las preocupaciones del sindicato, realizó cambios a los procedimientos de prevención de incendios. Estos cambios no impiden la efectividad del programa, pero ayudan a los empleados al reducir los requerimientos físicos de cargar extremadamente pesados contenedores de agua para extinguir incendios, desde los sitios de trabajo.

Afterwards, many retirees remained in the ballroom, fuming over the "discussion" that never took place, trying to make sense of the company's wholesale retreat in the face of a question-wielding mob.

The meeting was over. But the discussion is just beginning, whether NV Energy likes it or not.

UNPRECEDENTED ASSAULT

The showdown at John Ascuaga's Nugget adds new fuel to a campaign by IBEW members and retirees to defend themselves against an unprecedented assault by NV Energy management. In the bargaining now underway, management is attempting to gut medical benefits for retirees and strip away union protections that were bargained over the past 60 years.

To drive the point home, the company announced on Sept. 29 that it would cancel the labor agreement.

"If the company gets its way, all language pertaining to retiree benefits will be removed from the union contract," said Local 1245 Business Representative Randy Osborn. "Life insurance, dental, vision, medical, wellness benefits—everything. The only thing that would remain is the pension plan, which is protected by law."

Current employees have responded to the attack on benefits as you might expect: they're furious. On Sept. 30, employees papered workplaces from Tahoe to Elko with "Don't Tread on Me" stickers that feature a snake wrapped protectively around the IBEW logo. It's a graphic warning that union members will defend the gains they've won through decades of collective bargaining.

"All the stuff that the guys fought and earned before us, they're trying to take it away," said Troublemaker Bruce Warmuth, who chairs Unit 3320 in North Lake Tahoe. "We owe it to those guys to fight and try to keep what we got."

(Read more at www.ibew1245.com/NV_Energy/Dont_Tread_10-5-09.pdf)

"RESPECT FOR OTHERS"

Union members identify strongly with their company, formerly known as Sierra Pacific Power, and expect top executives to support the company's historical mission of providing safe and reliable service. It is demoralizing when those executives treat employees as a cost to be cut rather than an asset to be protected.

CEO Michael Yackira, who joined the company in 2003 and became Chief Executive Officer in August 2007, told *Nevada Business* magazine in June that the three values he hopes to pass on to his employees are "integrity, respect for

others, and stewardship."

But employees weren't feeling the love at the meeting in the Rose Ballroom.

"It made us feel like you would expect—disrespected," said Bird, who had 32 years of service at the company and retired in 2006. The cuts the company is proposing, Bird said, "could hurt some of these old timers to the point of collapse. This could hurt them severely."

It's not like retirees can just jump back in the workforce to earn money for their medical coverage.

"Their bodies are failing them, they're busted up, they're walking with canes," said Bird. "We did a lot more at this company than lean on a shovel."

Bird, with a variety of physical problems stemming from his decades on the job, is living proof of the sacrifice that many retirees have made for the company. But he doesn't hold himself up as anything special.

"I'm not unique. There's a lot of people around here busted up if they've been in the trade for any length of time," he said. "What they're doing to us is immoral."

Bird and other retiree activists have been meeting in recent weeks to plan strategy for defending retirees' benefits. They're forming a Reno/Sparks chapter of the IBEW Local 1245 Retirees Club. An organizing committee is already in place, with Borst as chairman, Bird as vice chairman, and Mickie Baryol as recorder. Their first informal gathering in late September drew about three dozen people simply through word of mouth.

After the fiasco at the Nugget, they expect to grow. Indeed, a meeting of the Club at Denny's in Sparks on Oct. 22 drew several dozen retirees. (See photo, page 16). Future meetings will be held regularly on the third Wednesday of the month, 8:30 a.m., at Denny's Restaurant, on the corner of McCarran Blvd. and Nugget Ave. in Sparks.

And they've begun to reach out to the broader community. Political, religious and community leaders have been invited to come show support at the Nov. 7 rally at the Washoe County Senior Citizens Center.

"If the company's set on cutting our medical benefits, fine, but they're going to have to face us and that's when the fire storm's coming," said Borst.

"We made a deal with this company through collective bargaining," said Bird, who noted that the union has represented employees on the property since the mid-1940s. "We gave our lives in exchange for pensions and benefits. And they've broken the promise."

Meanwhile, bargaining remains at a virtual standstill as the company continues its "my way or the highway" attitude. On Oct. 7, citing the company's refusal to bargain over post-employment benefits, Local 1245 filed Unfair Labor Practice (ULP) complaints with the National Labor Relations Board.

Call it an invitation to the company to have a "discussion."

In Memoriam: Dan Lyday

Negotiator dies in accident

A Celebration of Life was held Oct. 21 in Sparks, NV to honor the memory of IBEW Local 1245 member Dan Lyday, who died in a vehicle accident on Oct. 18 during a hunting trip.

Brother Lyday, 50, was a Troublemaker based in Reno. He represented Local 1245 members on the past two bargaining committees at NV Energy, including the negotiations currently underway.

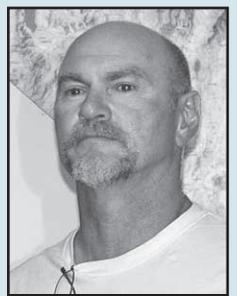
Local 1245 cancelled all three bargaining sessions that had been scheduled for the week of his death.

"Of all the people I know, Dan was one of the most dedicated to the membership of the union. He always has the greater good in mind," said Local 1245 Business Rep. Randy Osborn. "Dan is just one of the best people I know, just the nicest guy you'd ever want to meet."

In addition to service on the bargaining committee, Lyday has served on the joint grievance committee and the drug and alcohol committee, as well as serving as a union steward. He had 28 years of service to the union.

Lyday is survived by his wife Anita and a grown son, Ricky. He was to be buried in Texas.

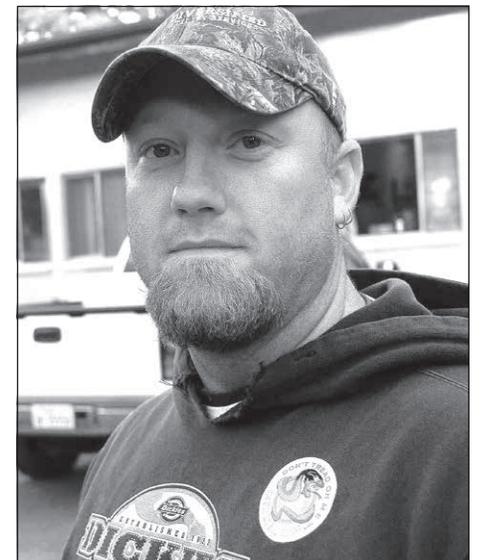
Local 1245 extends its deepest condolences to the friends, family and co-workers of union brother Dan Lyday. His death is a great loss to everyone.



Dan Lyday reporting on negotiations at the August 2009 unit meeting in Reno.



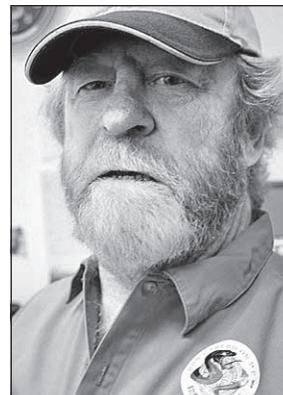
Lon Dohnansky



Brian Gregory



Casey Kelley and Jesse Justus



Marty Radekin



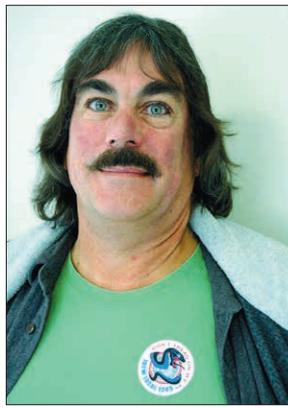
Tom Torvik

For more information about the Reno/Sparks chapter of the Local 1245 Retirees Club, contact Local 1245 Office Manager Tonya Alston at 707-452-2718 or just show up at one of the meetings and pick up an application. Union members can receive updates on bargaining at their monthly unit meetings and by regularly visiting the union website at www.ibew1245.com.



Michele Piechocinsky, Donna Haney and Sarah Wolfe showed solidarity in North Lake Tahoe.

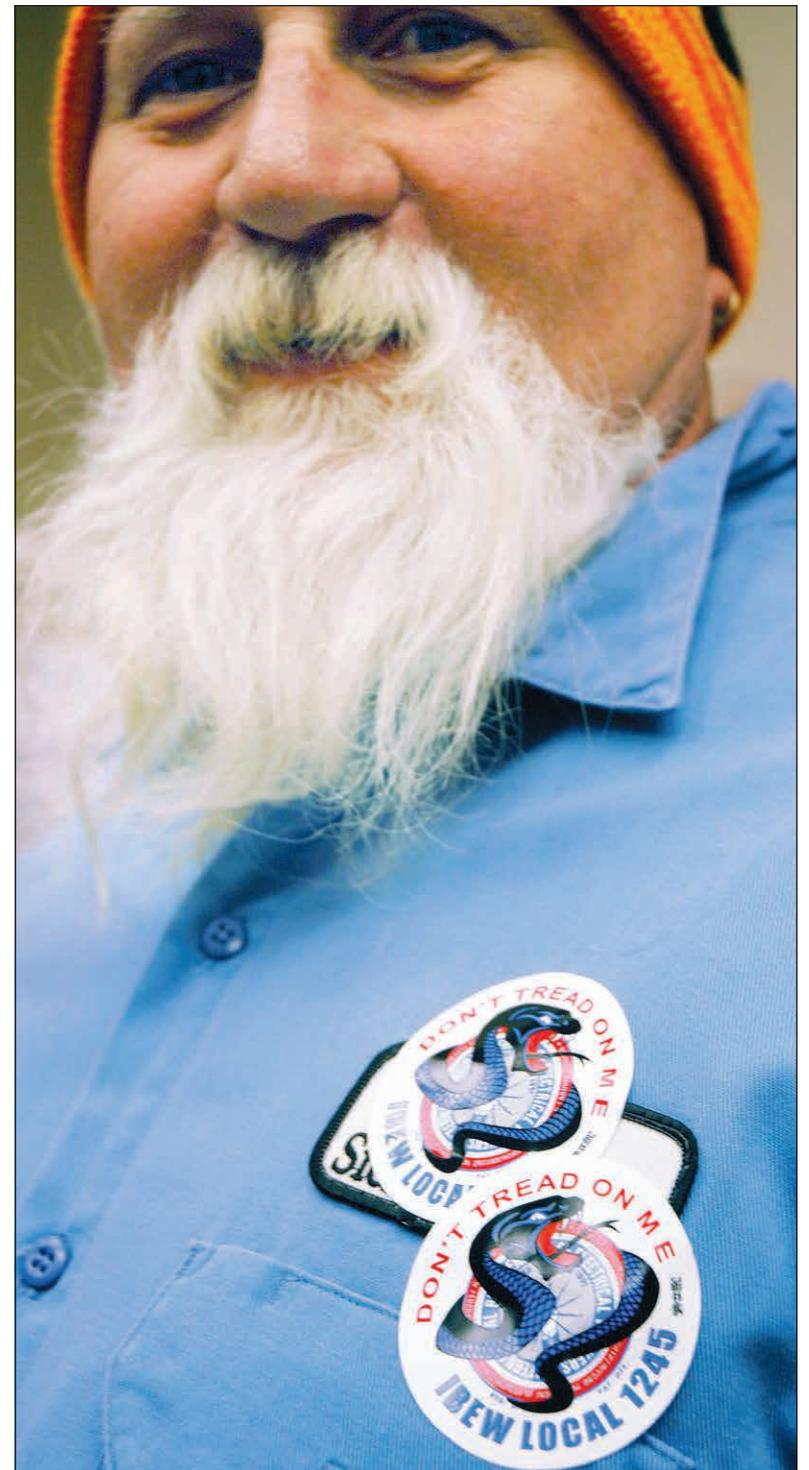
[BELOW] Among the IBEW members who protested the lack of “discussion” at the NV Energy meeting at the Rose Ballroom were, from left, Vickie and Ron Borst, Tom Bird and Mickie Baryol, who is holding the propaganda handed out by management at the meeting. When retirees tried to ask questions, management grabbed the microphone and headed for the exit doors.



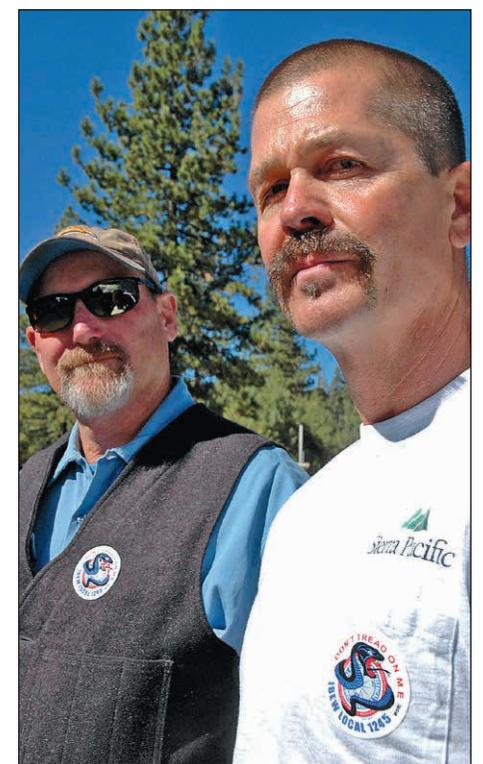
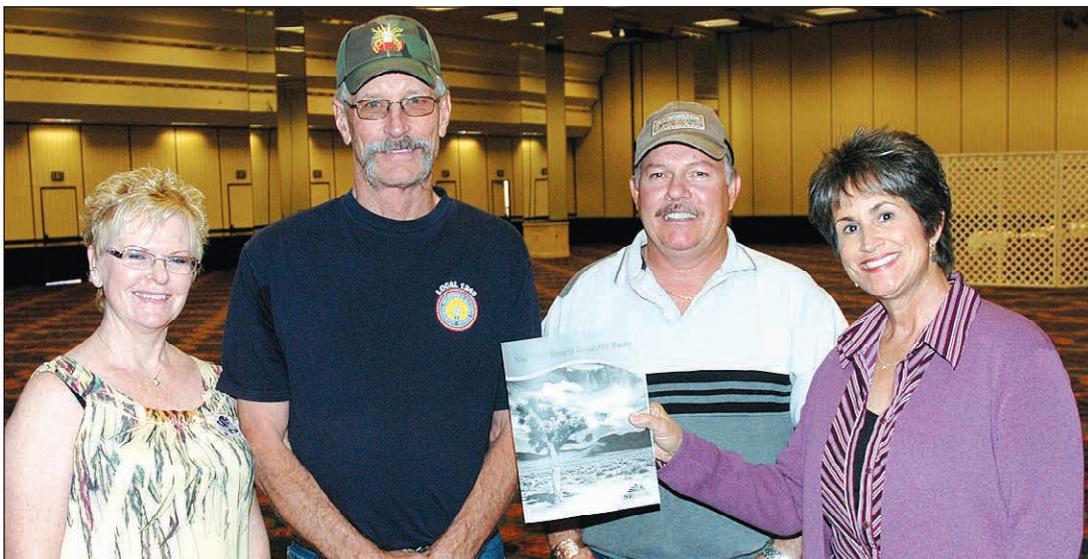
Paris Shipley



Joel Kuntz



Smiley Stahl: Don't tread on me, times two.



Troubleman Bruce Warmuth and Field Clerk Michael Ferry warn: Don't Tread on Me.

[LEFT] South Lake Solidarity.

Cupertino Electric



Dean Evans [LEFT] and Gerry Trillo cut jumper wire.



Evans and Trillo installing jumpers to 115 kv breaker.



Evans attaches jumpers to buss...



...and preps jumper wires.



Kevin Cicchini grounds steel structure.



Trevor Trambie attaches grounds to concrete footing.



Cupertino Foreman Aaron Elmore.

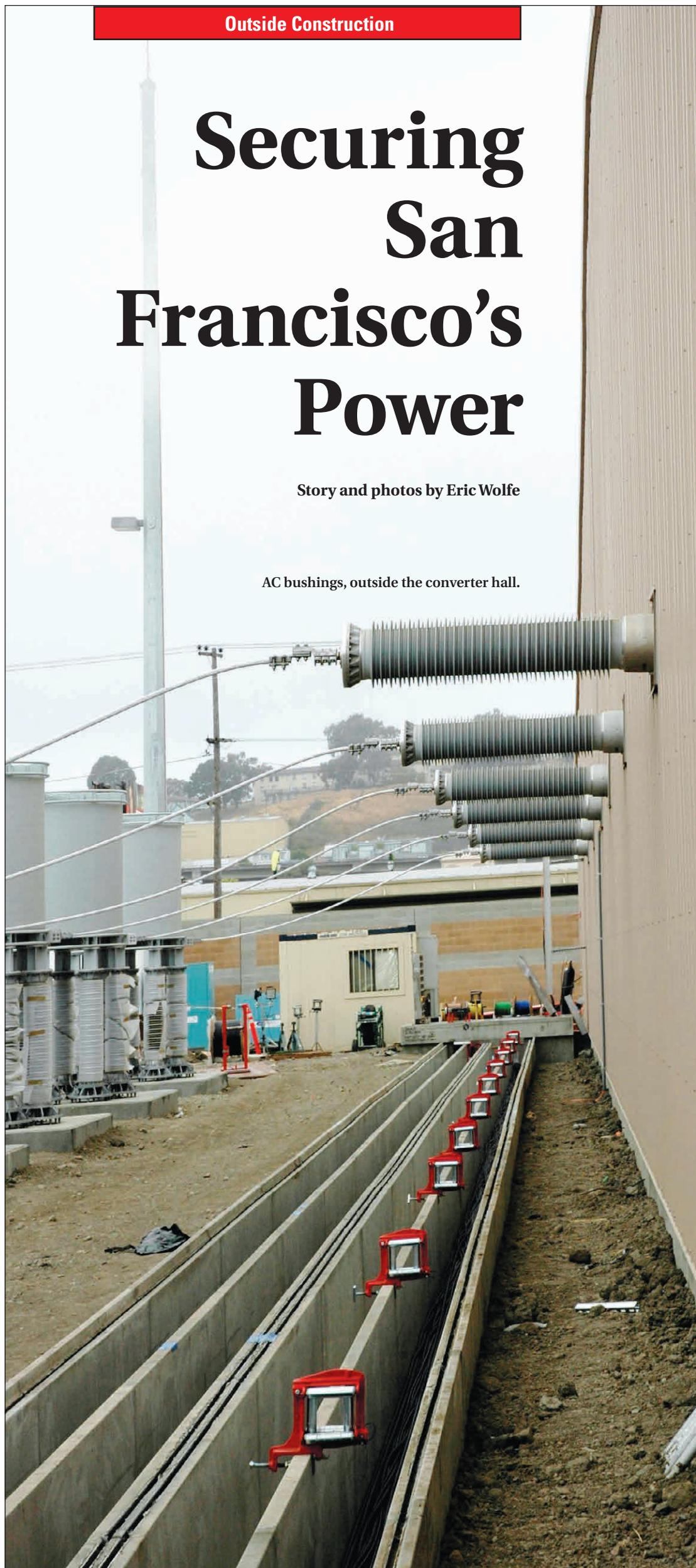


Andy Hicks, Journeyman Lineman

Securing San Francisco's Power

Story and photos by Eric Wolfe

AC bushings, outside the converter hall.



Electric power is about to become much more secure in San Francisco, and IBEW members are playing a big role in making it happen.

Trans Bay Cable

Over the summer several contractors have utilized IBEW members to prepare for the deployment of the Trans Bay Cable to deliver power from Pittsburg to San Francisco. The project requires construction of two converter stations: one in Pittsburg to convert Alternating Current (AC) to Direct Current (DC), and another one in San Francisco to convert the power back to AC.

The conversion to DC for the 53-mile journey under the Bay allows the electricity to travel without any loss of electricity and without any emission of electromagnetic radiation as it travels through the cable. Conversion back to AC is necessary to make the power compatible with the distribution system.

IBEW members working for Cupertino Electric were hard at work running jumpers at the San Francisco end of the project when the Utility Reporter visited on July 29.

“We’ve been here for two months and we’ll probably be here another month,” said Cupertino Foreman Aaron Elmore, a 16-year IBEW member. “We’ve got all the rough construction done, we’ll jumper out today, and then pull primary cable into the transformers.” When that’s done, Elmore said, Cupertino workers from Pittsburg will come in and “do final adjustment on switches.”

The San Francisco converter station is located just across the street from PG&E’s existing Potrero electric substation. When the power arrives from Pittsburg it will come through the DC yard switches at 200,000 volts and into the converter hall, where it will be converted to 200,000 volts AC. It then travels to transformers, which step it down to 115 kv, then hits potheads and goes across the street to Potrero substation and then sent on its way to end-use customers.

Local 1245 contractors Prysmian and CAM were also on the scene the day the Utility Reporter visited.

A Prysmian crew under Foreman Buddie Young was outside the converter building performing a “high pot jacket test” on a spool of cable to make sure there were no rips in the outside jacket.

A 20kv DC current is run through the jacket—which is a semiconductor—to test the jacket’s integrity.

Working across the road at Potrero substation, Local 1245 members working for CAM Contractors were doing linkage to switches they had just installed, according to Foreman Jim Deptuch.

The Trans Bay Cable is a public-private partnership between Babcock & Brown and the City of Pittsburg. Completion of the project, which began in late 2007, is expected in mid-2010.

Babcock and Brown, which developed the project, will retain ownership of the transmission rights, which it will turn over to the California Independent System Operator for control. The City of Pittsburg will take ownership of the assets.

Assets, it should be remembered, that were given substance by the labor of skilled IBEW members.

CAM Contractors

Linking to switches that have just been installed at the Potrero Substation are Foreman Jim Deptuch and Electrician Jeff Cook (in the bucket) and Line Equipment Man Juan Ramirez, with CAM Contractors.

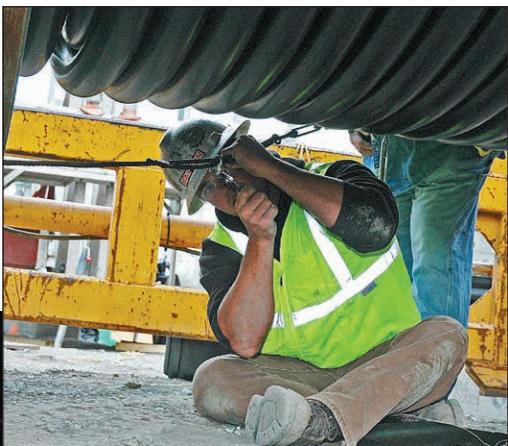


[LEFT] Jim Deptuch, on the left, and Jeff Cook.



[RIGHT] Juan Ramirez.

Prysmian



Jared Hurley



Prysmian crew pause for a photo while performing a high pot jacket test on a spool of cable. From left: Operator Jared Hurley, Heavy Equipment Operator Kenny Smith, Groundman Marc Hockenberger, Line Foreman Buddie Young and Groundman Louis Archuleta.

DC bushings, where DC current comes into the converter hall.

“The Converter Hall”



The converter hall, where the conversion takes place.

PG&E's Grid Control Center

If a job is worth doing it's worth doing well.

Pacific Gas & Electric has taken that proverb to heart in the creation of its Grid Control Center, a state-of-the-art facility unveiled on Sept. 25 in Vacaville.

Three days later, the GCC went live, consolidating the functions of 15 transmission control centers into a single location. And, because the switchover was flawless, customers didn't notice a thing.

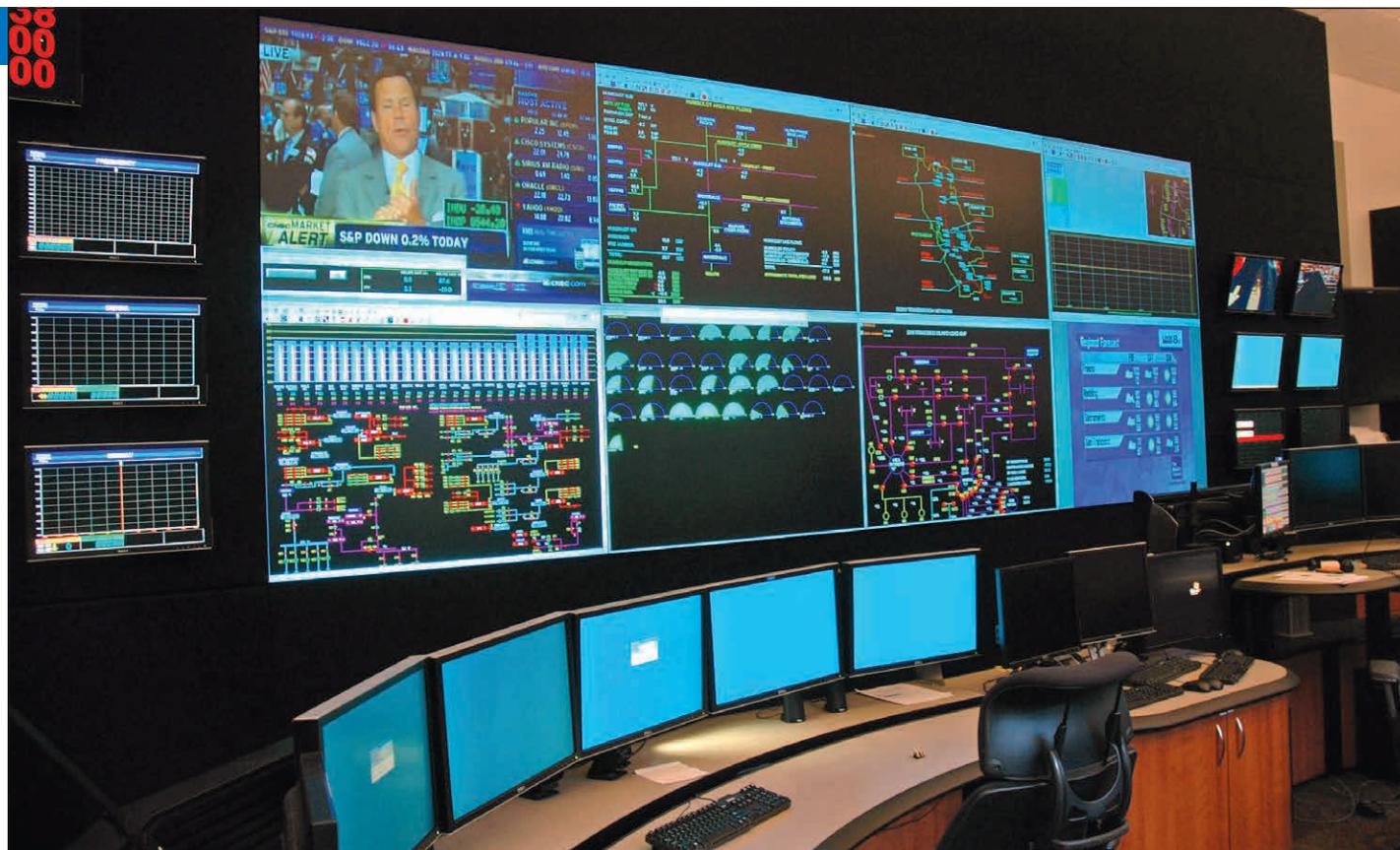
But over time, the consolidation of functions in one center will make a noticeable difference in the efficiency of PG&E's transmission operations.

"We are all in one center doing things the same way. We gain consistency and improved communications," said Jean Gleason, GCC Lead Supervisor. One large center makes it easier to coordinate training and to create work schedules that better meet employees' needs, she said.

In addition to the transmission control center—where IBEW members write the physical switching and run specific areas of the grid—the GCC houses a new transmission operations center, which works with a sprawling network of power generators, interties, and outside agencies to keep power flowing 24-7. The old transmission operations center remains in San Francisco, where it serves as a backup center fully capable of assuming control of operations at a moment's notice should the need arise.

During the dedication ceremony, Local 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell lauded the center's "breathtaking technology" and workspace design, but he saved his highest praise for the company's treatment of employees during the consolidation process.

"From the very start, labor issues have been given the same attention as the technology and workspace issues," he said. Relocation was a big issue for system operators, and the union "addressed it head on through PG&E's La-



A bank of monitors are easy on the eyes in the soft natural lighting of the control room.

Job Well Done

bor Relations department."

"The shifts," Dalzell added, "are well-thought-out and negotiated."

PG&E President Chris Johns acknowledged that relocation issues had required some personal sacrifices and said the company "really appreciated the people going through that decision-making process."

The GCC workforce, when all the pieces are in place, will have just over 70 IBEW-represented employees, including 54 system operators, six lead system operators, two clerical workers, and a handful of apprentice system operators.

The GCC controls an area of 70,000 square miles, monitoring and controlling 18,500 miles of conductor. A variety of measures are in

place to assure continuous operation, including the placement of computer servers on "seismic isolation planks" to protect them from possible disruption by earthquakes.

In creating the center, PG&E went to great lengths to live up to its reputation for environmental leadership. Three-quarters of the five acre site is restored to native vegetation, potable water use is reduced by 44% and landscaping water was reduced by 67.5% below a standard facility, and 70% of construction waste was recycled.



Manager of Operations Bruce Henry welcomes employees and guests to the dedication of the Grid Control Center on Sept. 25.



PG&E President Chris Johns, left, and Local 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell confer as they await their turns to speak at the opening ceremony.

A spacious workspace for employees.

Missed Meals: Group 3, Phase 2

PG&E will make offers in November to another group of employees and former employees in the company's on-going effort to ensure compliance with California state labor laws concerning missed meals in the wake of recent court decisions.

The upcoming offers will be the second phase of offers to Group 3 employees, who are defined as current or former bargaining unit employees who worked through their lunch and missed a meal between June 1, 2004 and Aug. 31, 2007, but did not receive a missed meal payment. The first phase of Group 3 employees received offers during the summer. Group 3 employees are dayshift employees who normally are scheduled

for an unpaid meal period but may have missed such meal.

Statistical modeling helped determine the size of the awards. Employees who, statistically speaking, missed less than one meal over the 39-month period will not receive an offer.

As with earlier groups, members receiving offers in coming weeks can appeal the size of the offer. However, you cannot appeal until you have actually received an offer.

Those who received offers last summer (Group 3, Phase 1) and have opted to appeal, will be receiving time cards as the company collects them at each headquarters. Directions will be included on how to count the missed meals.

All but a few classifications in Group 3, Phase 2 have been agreed to, with discussions resuming in early November.



Rob Harty, left, is sworn in by President Mike Davis as the new Advisory Council member representing Stockton-area PG&E and City of Lodi. Difficult negotiations at various employers and recent workplace fatalities dominated the discussion at the Council's Oct. 24th meeting. See Business Manager's column on Page 3 for additional information.



Safety Committee Report

Cal-OSHA letter: employers responsible for PPE

By Ralph Armstrong

The Local 1245 Safety Committee is sad to report that Local 1245 recently lost two of its members due to on the job accidents. See notices elsewhere on this page. We extend our condolences to both of these members' families.



Ralph Armstrong

PPE & Lineman's Climbing Equipment

An official letter to Cal-OSHA requesting clarification on who was responsible for the purchase of climbing equipment (Lineman / Tree) was sent in early July. On Aug. 24 Cal-OSHA issued a response with clarification on who is responsible for purchasing this equipment. The employer is responsible for the purchase of this equipment and all Personal Protective Equipment required for personal protection. That letter has been circulated throughout the state and has been posted on the

Local 1245 website under Safety Matters.

During the Sept. 4 Joint Safety meeting with PG&E this letter was discussed with the acknowledgement of the company that they will start to provide these items. Below are the excerpts from that meeting as they were noted in the minutes:

"Climbing Gear – The union shared a clarification it received from Cal-OSHA ... which indicates that climbing equipment (belt/harness with pole strap and lanyard, and climbers, necessary to safely perform their work) is personal protective equipment (PPE). John Parks has been designated the lead on this issue by Bill Hayes and will be formulating a plan for the parties to begin addressing. There are approximately 2200 climbers who currently have tools which support the need to develop criteria including parameters regarding employee responsibility, etc. The company will be seeking engagement in this effort and requesting the IBEW identify five members to participate in the process."

A meeting was scheduled on Oct. 16 with members from the company and the union to work on the process of implementing this program. It was cancelled on Oct. 15 due to storm work issues. This meeting has been rescheduled to Nov. 6. We don't anticipate this being a long drawn-out process and hope to have a plan finalized and implemented soon.

Safety Vests and Attire

Below is an excerpt from the Sept. 4 meeting with PGE regarding this topic:

Safety Attire – Additional revisions have been made to the draft Safety Attire Policy which should result in a more focused document being distributed versus the all-inclusive version. There is a need for greater clarity and resolution on Class 3 vest requirements and a need to address the concern regarding fading that's occurring.

Employees should be reminded that they have the option to purchase the FR shirt with stripping as opposed to having to layer with a vest. There are multiple issues to resolve through utilization of the smart and simple approach. Issues will be taken back to the Blue Chip Safety Committee before a communication goes out.

Here is a link to Fed OSHA, which just released a new letter of interpretation requiring that construction workers wear high-visibility warning garments: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=16629

Painters Grounding

From the report of the IBEW Local 1245 Safety Committee meeting in August:

This has been an issue we have been working on now for over 15 months. During the Joint Health and Safety Committee meeting the company and the union were still at odds over this issue. I presented an email at this meeting from Cal-OSHA which was in response to my question pertaining to this requirement where OSHA stated that painters were not considered qualified electrical workers (QEW's) and that they should not be hanging grounds. The company at this meeting stated that they would challenge Cal-OSHA on this issue and did not believe that this was a safety issue. I informed the committee that Cal-OSHA would be sending me a formal response to this question which was received one hour after the meeting was over. This letter was forwarded to the company. With the letter from OSHA this issue rests squarely on PGE and OSHA to resolve. I will continue to provide updates on this issue as they become available.

New California HOS rules

Governor Schwarzenegger signed a new bill that will become effective Jan. 1, 2010 which would remove the Hours of Service requirements on Utility Service Vehicles in the state of California. We are trying to find out how the California Highway Patrol intends to implement this.

Federal OSHA standard: Electric Power and Generation

This new standard was supposed to be released a couple of years ago; however it has been held up due to a discrepancy in the phase to phase mini-

mum approach distances for voltages of 230kV and higher. This was discussed at the last Safety Committee meeting and a link to the Federal Register and a brief description of this can be found at www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=FEDERAL_REGISTER&p_id=21098. When this final issue is resolved the new Federal OSHA standards should be released.

Electric Shock/Medical Evaluation

There have been several questions asked through the years regarding when should a person seek medical care after experiencing a shock. Many companies have no policy at all on this which could be a fatal mistake.

Some companies err on the side of safety and send everyone regardless of the severity of the shock. What has become clear is that this topic is all over the board throughout our industry. The best guide I could come up with is a document prepared by UC Davis back in 2000. Their recommendations are available on the Safety Matters section of the Local 1245 website, www.ibew1245.com.

Accident Reporting

Forms and guidelines are on the website. Units should start using them as part of their unit meeting and submit them to this committee whether or not there are accidents or concerns. This should be a standard reporting practice at every unit meeting every month. All accidents reported this month on the green form as well as accidents reported at the safety committee meeting are listed below;

Accident with no reported injury was discussed. Peeling lead jacket away from lead cable after taking clearance to verify cable is dead. While testing cable when it was exposed to verify it was de-energized an electrical explosion occurred. Employee had all FR on and proper PPE. Safety glasses were pitted very badly—could not see through them. Looking for a better procedure to properly test this cable de-energized. Issues with spiking lead cable in the past have resulted in the spike entering between the cables and giving an indication that it was de-energized which led to the practice of exposing the cables in the jacket to verify it de-energized.

Electrician fell out of a JLG man lift basket while maneuvering. While travel-
continued on page 17

In Memoriam: Aaron Thomas Dineen

Local 1245 Apprentice Lineman Aaron Thomas Dineen died Sept. 22 in an on-the-job accident in San Clemente, CA.

Brother Dineen had recently been serving his apprenticeship out of Local 47 in southern California. His death is being investigated by Cal-OSHA.

Local 1245 offers its deepest condolences to the friends, family and co-workers of Brother Aaron Dineen.

In Memoriam: Harold "Lynn" Lowery

IBEW Local 1245 member Harold "Lynn" Lowery was fatally injured in a fall on Oct. 7 while working on a pole replacement in Garberville, CA.

Brother Lowery, a General Construction lineman for Pacific Gas & Electric, was initiated into the IBEW in 1979. He had been at PG&E since 1997.

The incident is currently being investigated by PG&E.

Local 1245 extends its condolences to the friends, family and co-workers of Brother Lynn Lowery.

Safety Committee

Members of the IBEW Local 1245 Safety Committee are Al White, Pacific Gas & Electric; Bob Burkle, City of Santa Clara; Michael Gomes, Modesto Irrigation District; Art Torres, Sacramento Municipal Utility District; Sergio Munoz, Asplundh Tree; Dan Boschee, Frontier; Darryl Rice, PG&E; and Business Rep. Ralph Armstrong.

Check out the safety information on our website at:
www.ibew1245.com/safety-section/safety.html

Shirley Storey broke the barrier

When Business Manager Ron Weakley announced in early 1966 that he was hiring Shirley Storey as a business representative, let's just say there was some grumbling.

Local 1245 had never had a female business representative, and some staff members wanted to keep it that way.

"There was some staff members, quite frankly, who were kind of upset because Weakley hired a female," said former Business Manager Jack McNally, who was a member of the union's Advisory Council at the time. "It was a male club."

Storey, who died in Phoenix earlier this year at age 73, changed that forever.

"Weakley had a showdown with the whole staff, saying 'She's a rep like everyone else and if anybody has a problem with that then let me know right now because that's it,'" McNally recalls.

Storey may have needed a little help from Weakley getting through the door, but once she was inside there was no stopping her.

"She was strong," said Business Rep Debbie Mazzanti, who became a steward in 1974 when Storey was the business rep for PG&E's General Office. "Shirley didn't mince words. You didn't have to guess what was on her mind. She had a mouth that would make a sailor blush."

"She was a very, very good representative," said McNally, who got to know Storey when they both worked in East Bay assignments in the late 1960s. "She was tough."

And it was a good thing she was, because the Local 1245 staff wasn't the only resistance she encountered.

"PG&E was not used to dealing with a woman," said McNally. "Most all of the PG&E reps in those days in personnel or Industrial Relations were men."

There were attempts to undermine her authority, McNally recalls.

"But she held her own. She was good. If you wanted to get into a fight with her she could hold her own," he said. "I had the utmost respect for her and what she had to go through in those days. She was very wise."

"She had integrity," said Mazzanti. "She was easy to respect. You didn't necessarily have to like her but you had to respect her."

An incident during a heated union campaign for business manager in 1977 illustrates the point, Mazzanti said.

Storey worked for the incumbent business manager at the time, L.L. Mitchell. Mazzanti supported Dean Cofer, the

challenger. When Mazzanti and several other employees were disciplined by PG&E for wearing Cofer t-shirts and buttons in the workplace, it was Storey's responsibility to defend them.

"Shirley was our rep. Even though she didn't support Cofer, she supported our right to campaign and wear campaign buttons and shirts," Mazzanti said.

Saying that Storey didn't support Cofer is probably an understatement. Mazzanti remembers an encounter between the two of them during the election campaign.

"After a unit meeting they squared off in a hallway," said Mazzanti, who was present. "It was like the gunfight at the OK Corral. Cofer said if he won she would be the first one fired. She responded with some choice words that you can't print. It was pretty public and very vocal. It was a classic moment."

Soon after Cofer won the election, Storey found herself out of a job. McNally remembers going to her house with the man who was going to be Storey's replacement.

"I had to take him over to her house to pick up her files and pick up her union car," McNally said. "He finally confesses to me that he is scared to death because he knew Shirley as a rep and he knew how tenacious she could be and he thought she would be a fire eater when we showed up for the files. He was petrified."

But when they arrived, Storey showed she could be gracious as well as tough.

"She had all her files ready. She was very cordial. He couldn't believe it," McNally recalled with a laugh.

Storey's career with Local 1245 was over, but the experience didn't dampened her spirit in the least, according to Robert Barson, the man who married her six years later in 1983.

"She stood up to anybody. She wasn't scared of nobody, believe me," Barson said in a recent interview. "She was tough."

Storey bought a lounge—the Green Parrot—and the Barsons managed it together until 2003. They retired to Arizona.

Mazzanti said Storey paved the way for other women by encouraging them to "stand on your principles."

"She was adamant that you're not just an ornament. She encouraged you to succeed by being a strong union member, not because you were a male or a female."



Shirley (Storey) Barson, traveling during her retirement. Photo courtesy of Robert Barson

Retiree Club Meetings

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 Coco's Restaurant, 1501 Farmers Lane, Santa Rosa.



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

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

New Reno/Sparks Chapter forming



Former employees of Sierra Pacific Power—now NV Energy—are organizing a Reno Chapter of the Local 1245 Retirees Club. It's not hard to understand why: the company is attempting to remove all protections for retirees from the union contract and is proposing that retirees pay all future increases in health care premiums. Dozens of retirees met Oct. 22 to help plan a major rally—set for Nov. 7—to defend health benefits for current and retired employees.

Temporary officers are Ron Borst, president; Tom Bird, vice president; and Mickie Baryol, recorder. For the time being, meetings will be at 8:30 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month at Denny's, 205 E. Nugget, in Sparks.

Congratulations newly-retired members

The Local 1245 Retirees Club congratulates these recently-retired members of the union. We invite you to participate in a Retiree Club chapter in Dublin, San Jose, Vacaville, Santa Rosa, Merced or Reno. If you don't have a chapter nearby, call the union at 707-452-2718 and find out how you can help start one!



Pamela Alioto, 30 yrs
Pittsburg, CA

Michael Anderson,
18 yrs
Oakland, CA

Robert Baxter, 37 yrs
Kingsburg, CA

Johnny Bigham, 29 yrs
Fresno, CA

Henrietta Boles, 22 yrs
Paso Robles, CA

Rachel Bowman, 21 yrs
Bakersfield, CA

Gene Bowser, 25 yrs
Daly City, CA

Eric Burkhalter, 19 yrs
Fresno, CA

Kathy Cambra, 20 yrs
Oakley, CA

Mary Chu, 28 yrs
San Francisco, CA

Carolyn Collins, 33 yrs
San Francisco, CA

Robert Connow, 28 yrs
Folsom, CA

David Davenport, 31 yrs
Grover Beach, CA

Larry De La Torre,
35 yrs
Rodeo, CA

Larry Denney, 22 yrs
Grand Junction, CO

Madeline Fong, 29 yrs
Fairfield, CA

Ronald Franklin, 34 yrs
Morro Bay, CA

Ron Gilmore, 29 yrs
San Pablo, CA

Fred Giraldez, 20 yrs
Magalia, CA

Robert Greene, 35 yrs
Livingston, CA

Anne Hartline, 4 yrs
Bayside, CA

Dexter Hill, 8 yrs
Richmond, CA

Trenton Huggett, 35 yrs
Auburn, CA

Dennis Istre, 33 yrs
Clovis, CA

Frank Jimenez, 17 yrs
Magalia, CA

Thaddeus Johnson,
13 yrs
Scotts Valley, CA

Mike Kern, 23 yrs
Sunnyvale, CA

Lorna Little, 17 yrs
Fresno, CA

Stephen Lucas, 12 yrs
Fresno, CA

Thomas Martinez,
25 yrs
Rocklin, CA

George McNamara,
43 yrs
El Dorado, CA

Carey Mitosinka, 34 yrs
Antioch, CA

Kenneth Mockel,
Piedmont, CA

Jose Moguel, 39 yrs
Vallejo, CA

Steven Moore, 22 yrs
Grass Valley, CA

Ramon Moreno, 29 yrs
Pittsburg, CA

Michael O'Bryan, 28 yrs
Needles, CA

Gwendolyn Page,
22 yrs
Oakland, CA

Jan Quesenberry,
20 yrs
Napa, CA

David Rehn, 34 yrs
So. San Francisco, CA

Kurt Runge, 37 yrs
Folsom, CA

Lory Simon, 15 yrs
Healdsburg, CA

Robert Souza, 25 yrs
Livermore, CA

Joe Valdez, 37 yrs
Selma, CA

Robert Vigil, 31 yrs
Vacaville, CA

Robert Warren, 31 yrs
Inyokern, CA

Willie Weldon, 10 yrs
Los Angeles, CA

Kenneth Wood, 41 yrs
Chico, CA

Ronald Wooten, 24 yrs
Marysville, CA

SERVICE AWARDS



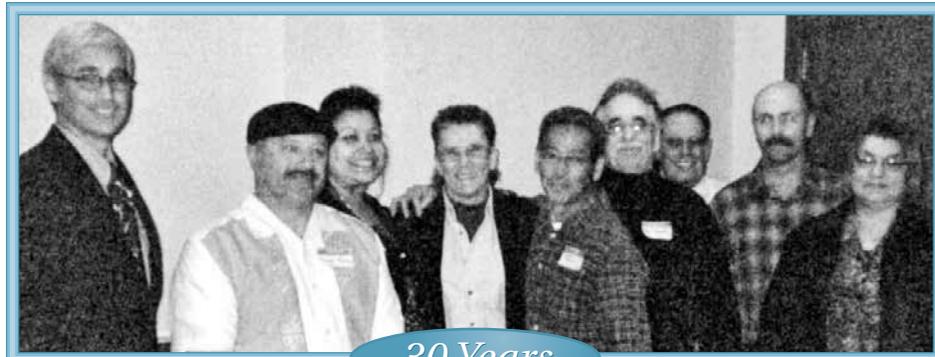
San Jose, CA
February 20, 2009



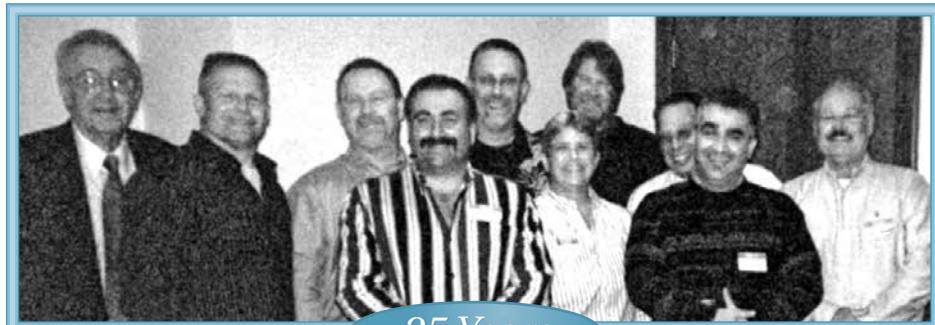
40 Years



35 Years



30 Years



25 Years

THE HONOREES

45 Years

Gauthier, Richard

40 Years

Bailon, Charlie S
Culbertson, Richard E
Mints, Tom E
Simmons, Jack

35 Years

Beam, Roger A
Blakley, Dennis
Cain, Dorothy J
Camarena, Steven
Carr, Jeffery E
Contreras, Manvel
Drapchaty, Jim S
Eng, Helen H
Gaeta, Raymond J
Herrera, Robert A
Morris, Colleen A
Munoz, Magdalena
Nyberg, Richard A
Panighetti, Steven
Rayner, Lance C
Rodriguez, Rocky
Romero, Ivan E
Schroeder, Robert P
Smith, Donald E
Trask, Richard
Tso, Susan Y
Villagomez, Robert
Beebe, Jerry J

30 Years

Atondo, Ricky
Balcazar, Dogoberto
Bennicas, Michael
Beriault, Charles D
Bomagat, Allan
Carbajal, Rosie
Cervantez-Dela O,
Roseann
Dalao, Frank S
Dickinson, George M
Early, Michael P
Furch, Ernest
Gazay, Michael O
Hung, Helen
Langworthy, Gary L
Lighty, Gene B
Lovett, Evelyn Y
Martin, Robert U
McKernan, Chris
Merrill, Joann P
Myers, Alan A
Nakanishi, Clifford
Naranjo, George
Nazareno, Oscar V
Painter, Dave W
Rodrigues, Lee R
Russell, Karen A
Silva, Fernando
Ware, Neil P

25 Years

Adams, Thomas M
Alcala, Patricio
Boroos, Thomas M

Caragher, Marilyn G
Chee, Betty
Cree, Debra L
Curtiss, Michael W
De Maria, Frank L
Eberhardt, Scott W
Fabella, Rebecca M
Filbin, Mike M
Gailo, Herbert
Grabot, Jim C
Gulizia, Michael R
Henderson, William J
Hughes, Kyle R
Kuebler, Anthony R
Leon, Felix V
Llave, Gaylord D
Locatelli, David G
Longa, Joseph J
Mangual, Juan A
Martarano III, Joe J
McClenahan, James E
McKinney, Richard D
Moore, Duane A
Naipo, Derek J
Negranza, Donny G
Periandri, Vincent L
Perry, Richard G
Sanchez, Gilberto
Sanchez, Jose Luis
Satariano, Louis J
Sorensen, Socorro
Stouffer, Bill A
Tapella, Michael C
Wiborn, Kurt P
Youmans, Michael J

Safety, from page 15

ing in the JLG the front tires dropped approximately 4 inches off of a paved road to a dirt road causing the employee to release the controls at the same time the wheels dropped. This resulted in the employee being thrown from the basket and striking the boom. The employee was wearing his fall protection equipment, however he was still able to contact the ground. Employee was taken to the hospital for an evaluation and released.

115KV to 21KV transformer. Employees were bending buss while a second crew was performing a Doble test at the same time. Employees were unable to move buss piece, so one employee went to the top of the transformer. While that employee was on the top of the transformer, another worker induced voltage into the low side and caused the upper worker to receive a static charge of unknown voltage. Employee fell on top of transformer, but was OK. Procedure is done with 2 safety buttons. One is controlled by the person with the lap top computer doing the testing. The other is controlled by an observer. In spite of this, they both pushed their buttons while the other employee was on the top of the transformer. Employee was taken to hospital, and released to go home.

Near Miss

No Near Misses reported to the Local 1245 Safety Committee in September.

One near miss was reported at the meeting, however. Employee while flying the boom on the truck in the morning did not put the stiff legs down. Employee raised boom and began to swing boom to side of truck. Foreman yelled at employee to stop.

The Safety Committee is encouraging everyone to report all near misses to the

committee through our IBEW1245 Safety Matters web page. Anyone with a near miss should sanitize the report to omit names and companies as the intent of reporting a near is to provide others with information about potential hazards that members find in the field in order to prevent awareness to others of those hazards.

A recent near miss resulted in a CalOSHA inspector visit. This OSHA visit also resulted in a "Written Memorandum," which cannot be appealed. The near missed was a result of an employee working in a CT compartment. The employee was in a place that became hazardous (physically and atmospherically) while he was in there, due to the absence of a preventive device to block start up while someone is inside with the door open, OR there is someone inside this compartment with the door closed. While in the compartment if the turbine fans were to come on all the air would be sucked out; the door cannot be opened by anyone caught inside, OR anyone trying to open it from the outside.

PGE Safety Glasses

A Letter of Agreement has been signed with PG&E to expand the prescription safety eyewear program. This program, however, has a disclaimer attached it. The program has been approved by the company for implementation, but it will be up to each department to roll out. There is no drop-dead date that the departments would be required to comply with it. I am hopeful that all the departments comply soon but also realize that the funding may not be available immediately for the roll out. We will continue to monitor the status of this.

Business Rep. Ralph Armstrong is Chairman of the Local 1245 Safety Committee.

IBEW 1245 UNIT MEETING SCHEDULE: JANUARY—JUNE 2010

CITY	UNIT	LOCATION	UNIT CHAIR	DAY	TIME	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
Alturas (Frontier)	4013	The Brass Rail, Hwy 395	T. Bagwell	Weds	5:30pm	13	10	10	14	12	9
Angels Camp	2512	Mike's Pizza, Hwy 49/Murphy Grade Rd.	G. Day	Thurs	4:00pm	21	18	18	15	20	17
Antioch	2317	Aladino's Pizza, 1324 Sunset Dr.	D. Tucker	Weds	5:00pm	13	10	10	14	12	9
Auberry	1129	Daddy Joe's Java, Auberry Road	C. Riggs/J. Kenney*	Tues	5:45pm	12	9	9	13	11	8
Auburn	3511	Round Table Pizza @ Auburn-Folsom Road	K. Davis	Tues	5:00pm	5	2	2	6	4	1
Bakersfield	1112	788 East "D" St., Lemoore, CA	M. Rollow	Weds	6:00pm	13	10	10	14	12	9
Buellton	1221	Firestone Walker Brewing Co., 620 McMurray Road*	B. Swanson	Mon	4:00pm	11	15	15	12	10	14
Burlingame/Peninsula	1512	TWU Local 505, 1521 Rollins Rd., Burlingame	B. Quinn	Weds	5:30pm	13	10	10	14	12	9
Burney	3213	Sam's Pizza, Hwy 299, Johnson Park	P. Baker	Tues	6:00pm	5	2	2	6	4	1
Burney (Frontier)	4015	Sam's Pizza, 38077 Hwy 299 East	D. Washburn	Weds	6:00pm	6	3	3	7	5	2
Carson City	3312	Round Table Pizza, 3325 Retail Drive	E. Gomez*	Thurs	5:30pm	21	18	18	22	20	17
Cobb Mountain/NCPA	3710	South Lake Fire Station	TBD	Weds	4:30pm	20	17	17	21	19	23
Concord/Davey Tree	4716	Round Table , 3393 Port Chicago Hwy, Concord, CA	J. Sims*	Thurs	4:00pm	21	18	18	15	20	17
Concord/Walnut Creek	2316	Round Table Pizza, 2960 Treat Boulevard	R. Lassus	Thurs	5:00pm	14	11	11	15	13	10
Davey/Willetts	4421	Old Mission Pizza, 1708 S. Main, Willets	G. Cowan	Tues	4:00pm	X	10	X	14	X	9
Davis General Construction	3000	Steve's Pizza, Davis	TBD	Thurs	4:00pm	14	11	11	8	13	10
Donner	3309	Best Western Hotel, Hwy. 267, Truckee	S. Camara	Thurs	5:30pm	X	4	X	1	X	3
Elk Grove (Frontier)	4014	Round Table Pizza, 5110 Laguna Blvd.	D. Sanders	Tues	5:00pm	19	16	16	20	18	15
Elko, NV	3318	Stockman's Casino, Elko	B. Brunson	Thurs	5:30pm	X	11	X	15	X	10
Ely, NV/Mt. Wheeler	3315	Ely Fire Dept, Meeting Hall	M. Venturino	Tues	4:30pm	X	9	X	13	X	8
Eureka/Tree Trimmers	3111	Babe's Pizza & Pasta, 4015 Walnut*	W. Hollesen*	Tues	6:00pm	12	9	9	13	11	15
Fallon, Nevada	3316	Fallon Country Club, 2655 Country Club Drive, Fallon	C. Robertson	Tues	5:30pm	X	9	X	13	X	8
Fort Bragg/Pt. Arena	3717	PG&E Yard, 3539 Walnut Street	G. Fernandez	Thurs	5:00pm	21	18	18	22	20	24
Fremont - Davey	4721	Round Table Pizza, Fremont Blvd, Fremont	S. Languren	Weds	4:00pm	20	17	17	21	19	16
Fresno	1111	Jimenez Mexican Grill Rest., 6561 N. Blackstone Ave	P. Sandoval*	Tues	5:00pm	5	2	2	6	4	1
Fresno - Trees Inc.	4712	Round Table Pizza, First & Bullard, Fresno, CA	R. Ramos	Weds	4:00pm	6	3	3	7	5	2
Grass Valley	3513	The Grey Goose, 10100 Alta Sierra Drive, Grass Valley*	M. Fitting	Tues	5:00pm	12	9	9	13	11	8
Gridley, City of	4017	Round Table Pizza, Hwy 99	S. Taylor	Thurs	5:00pm	7	4	4	8	6	3
Hayward/Fremont	2314	Bronco Billy's Pizza, 3940 Smith St., Union City	R. King*	Weds	5:30pm	20	17	17	21	19	16
Hinkley	1311	Clubhouse, Hinkley Compressor Station	P. Earl	Weds	5:30pm	X	3	X	7	X	2
Hollister	1219	Paine's Restaurant, 421 East St., Hollister	J. Schlegel	Weds	5:00pm	6	3	3	7	5	2
Jackson	2513	Mountain Mike's Pizza, 11974 Hwy. 88, Martell	B. Boitano	Tues	4:00pm	5	2	2	6	4	1
Klamath Falls	3022	Mia's and Pia's Pizza, 3545 Summers Lane, Kfalls	J. Rojas	Mon	5:45pm	18	15	15	19	17	21
Lakeport	3715	Senior Center, 527 Konocti Ave.	S. Mayfield	Tues	5:00pm	5	2	2	6	4	8
Lemoore	1128	230 Fox St. Lemoore	M.Aguirre	Thurs	5:45pm	14	11	11	15	13	10
Livermore	2315	Round Table Pizza, 1024 Stanley Blvd., Livermore	J. Pruet	Weds	4:00pm	27	24	24	28	26	23
Lodi, City of	2516	Round Table Pizza, 2715 W. Kettleman Lane, Lodi	D. Schulz	Thurs	5:00pm	14	11	11	8	13	10
Loomis	3510	Round Table Pizza, Horseshoe Bend	M. Hatch*	Tues	6:15pm	19	16	16	20	18	15
Los Banos	1115	Work Net 800 7th Street, Los Banos	P. Danieli	Tues	4:00pm	19	16	16	20	18	15
Madera	1113	Madera Valley Inn, 317 "G" Street	R. Danieli/D. Camarena*	Weds	4:30pm	13	10	10	14	12	9
Marysville	3611	Stassi's, Fourth Street	M. Anderson	Weds	5:00pm	6	3	3	7	5	2
Merced	1123	Branding Iron, 640 W. 16th St., Merced	M. Jameson	Weds	5:30pm	6	3	3	7	5	2
Merced ID	1122	Branding Iron, 640 W. 16th St., Merced	C. Tatum*	Thurs	5:00pm	7	4	4	8	6	3
Mirant	2319	Skipolini's Pizza, Fitzhuren Drive, Antioch	J. Ricard	Weds	4:00pm	27	24	24	28	26	23
Modesto	2515	Round Table Pizza, 1515 Mitche Rd., Ceres	M. Sakaguchi*	Weds	5:30pm	13	10	10	14	12	9
Modesto/Modesto Irr. Dist.	2518	Hero's Sports Lounge, 821 "L" Street	M. Gomes	Weds	5:00pm	6	3	3	7	5	2
Napa	3716	Round Table Pizza, 3331 Solano Ave. Napa	J. Kent	Thurs	6:00pm	7	4	4	8	6	10
Napa/Davey Tree-Tree Inc.	4710	Round Table Pizza, 3331 Solano Ave. Napa	E. Hurtado	Tues	4:00pm	19	16	16	20	18	15
North Lake Tahoe/Kings Beach	3320	Carpenter's Hall, Kings Beach (Deer Street)	B. Warmuth	Weds	5:30pm	20	17	17	21	19	16
Novato/Marin County	3711	Round Table Pizza, S. Novato Blvd.	I. Snyder	Weds	5:30pm	13	10	10	14	12	9
Oakland Physical	2311	Francesco's, Hegenberger & Pardee	M. Swain	Tues	4:45pm	5	2	2	6	4	1
Oakland/City of	2211	Francesco's, Hegenberger & Pardee	A. Fortier	Thurs	4:00pm	21	18	18	15	20	17
Oroville*	3613	2580 Feather River Blvd, Oroville	L. Mason	Wed.	4:30pm*	13	10	10	14	12	9
Paradise	3417	Round Table Pizza, 6038 (B) Clark Road, Paradise	R. Manley	Weds	5:30pm	13	10	10	14	12	9
Placerville	3813	Spanky's Pizza, 197 Placerville Dr.	P. Flecklin	Tues	3:45pm	5	2	2	6	4	1
Placerville - Davey Tree	4714	Round Table Pizza, 512 Main Street, Placerville, CA	S. Speak	Tues	4:00pm	5	2	2	6	4	1
Plumas Sierra* Rotates Mtg spots	3514	Sierra Valley Grange Hwy 70 Vinton CA*	T. Wolf	Tues*	6:00pm	19	X	X	X	18	X
Plumas Sierra* Rotates Mtg spots	3514	Gas House, County Rd A 26, Herlong CA*	T. Wolf	Tues*	6:00pm	X	X	16	X	X	X
Portland	3026	TC Headquarters - Portland	C. Mollenshott	Thurs	12:00 noon	21	18	18	15	20	17
Red Bluff	3214	Casa Ramos, 2001 Main Street, Red Bluff	J. Johnstone	Thurs	5:45pm	7	4	4	8	6	3
Red Bluff/Davey Tree	4720	Round Table Pizza, 116 Belle Mill Rd, Red Bluff	P. Ely	Thurs	3:30pm	27	24	24	28	26	23
Redding	3212	Round Table Pizza, 2808 McMurry Dr., Anderson	R. Rylee	Weds	4:00pm	6	3	3	7	5	2
Redding, City of	3217	Round Table Pizza, 900 Dana Drive, Redding	P. Snyder	Tues	5:00pm*	5	2	2	6	4	1
Redding/Davey Utility	4419	Round Table Pizza, 900 Dana Drive, Redding	TBD	Weds	5:00pm	26	23	23	27	25	22
Redmond, OR	3028	TC Headquarters - Redmond	D. Trueax	Thurs	5:00pm	14	11	11	8	13	10
Redwood City - Asplundh Tree	4711	Mountain Mike's Pizza, 120 El Camino Real, Redwood City.	D. Urbina	Tues	4:00pm	19	16	16	20	18	15
Reno, NV	3311	IBEW LU 401, 2713 E. 4th St.	D. Moler	Weds	6:00pm	6	3	3	7	5	2
Richmond	2318	La Strada Rest., 2215 Church Lane, San Pablo	D. Moore*	Weds	4:00pm*	6	3	3	7	5	2

IBEW 1245 UNIT MEETING SCHEDULE: JANUARY—JUNE 2010

CITY	UNIT	LOCATION	UNIT CHAIR	DAY	TIME	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
Richmond/E. Bay Clerical	2301	La Strada Rest., 2215 Church Lane, San Pablo	D. Ambeau	Weds	6:00pm	6	3	3	7	5	2
Roseville, City of	3512	Fast Freddie's Pizza, 130 Main Street, Roseville	D. Willford	Weds	4:15pm	6	3	3	7	5	2
Sacramento	3811	Florin Rebecca Hall, 8360 Florin Rd., Sacramento	L. Mennel	Weds	5:15pm	6	3	3	7	5	2
Sacramento Clerical	3801	Round Table Pizza, 4680 Natomas Blvd, Ste #170, Sacto	K. Krummes*	Tues*	4:30pm*	14	11	11	8	13	10
Sacto. Muni Utility District	3911	Dante Club, Sacramento	J. Basil	Weds	4:30pm	13	10	10	14	12	9
Sacto. Regional Transit	3011	Espanol Restaurant, Sacramento	C. Bibbs*	Weds	4:30pm	20	17	17	21	19	16
Sacto./Outside Line No.	4911	Ron Weakley Hall, IBEW 1245, 30 Orange Tree Circle	C. Kelly	Weds	7:00pm	13	10	10	14	12	9
Salinas	1211	Mountain Mikes Pizza E. Alisal, Salinas	D. Montanez	Tues	5:00pm	5	2	2	6	4	1
San Francisco	2412	Ship Clerks Union Local 34 Hall, 4 Berry St.	V. Jones	Weds	4:30pm	6	3	3	7	5	2
San Jose	1511	Sherwood Inn & Restaurant, 2988 Almaden Expressway	D. Johnson	Weds	5:15pm	13	10	10	14	12	9
San Jose - Asplundh Tree	4713	Mountain Mike's, 1289 S. 1st. St. San Jose, CA	E. Arellano	Thurs	4:00pm	14	11	11	8	13	10
San Luis Obis./Pismo Beach	1215	Vallarta's Mexican Food, 1761 Monterey Street, SLO	S. Weaver	Thurs	4:00pm	7	11	11	8	6	10
San Luis Obispo/DCPP	1220	Margie's Diner, 1575 Calle Joaquin	L. Moon	Weds	5:30pm	6	10	10	7	5	9
San Rafael Davey Tree	4722	Round Table Pizza, 915 Sir Francis Drake, San Anselmo	L. Maltez	Thurs	4:00pm	7	4	4	1	6	3
Sandpoint, Idaho	3021	Sandpoint Headquarters	D. Christman	Weds	5:00pm	13	10	10	14	12	9
Santa Clara, City of	1411	Vesuvios Resturant, 3044 El Camino Real	J. Sanders	Weds	4:30pm	20	17	17	21	19	16
Santa Cruz	1513	VFW Post #7263, 2259 7th Ave., Santa Cruz	G. Bargas	Tues	4:30pm	12	9	9	13	11	8
Santa Maria	1216	Giavanni's Pizza, 1108 E. Clerk, Orchard, CA	S. Armstrong	Weds	4:00pm	13	17	17	14	12	16
Santa Rosa	3712	Round Table, Steele & Cleaveland	L. Stubblefield	Tues	6:00pm	5	2	2	6	4	1
Santa Rosa/Davey Tree	4719	Round Table Pizza, Marlow & Guerneville	D. Rathe	Weds	4:00pm	20	17	17	21	19	16
Selma	1120	Sal's Mexican Restaurant, 2163 Park St.	S. Zamora*	Thurs	4:30pm	14	11	11	15	13	10
Shasta - USBR	3218	Market Street Pizza, 871 North Market Street, Redding	P. Mastan	Tues	5:15pm	19	16	16	20	18	15
SMUD Trees - North & South	4717	Pizza Bell, 8591 Elk Grove Blvd. Elk Grove, CA	J. Ferralis	Tues	4:00pm	N 12	S 9	N 9	S 13	N 11	S 8
SMUD/Fresh Pond	3912	50 Grand Club, Pollock Pines	R. Curtis	Weds	5:00pm	6	3	3	7	5	2
Sonora	2517	Round Table Pizza, 13769 Mono Way	D. Alcorn	Tues	4:00pm	12	9	9	13	11	8
South Feather Water & Power	4016	Round Table Pizza, Oro Dam Blvd. E.	R. McCullough	Weds*	6:00pm*	27	24	24	28	26	23
South Lake Tahoe	3314	Round Table Pizza, 1062 Emerald Bay Road	P. Stahl	Thurs	5:00pm	7	X	4	X	6	X
Spankel, WA/Rosalia	3027	TC Headquarters - Rosalia	P. Brown	Thurs	5:00pm	14	11	11	8	13	10
Spokane, WA	3025	TC Headquarters - Spokane	vacant	Thurs	12:00 noon	21	18	18	15	20	17
Stockton	2511	Ed Stewart American Legion Post #803, 3110 N. West Ln.	C. DeLaTorre	Thurs	6:30pm	14	11	11	8	13	10
Stockton - Trees Inc.	4718	Mountain Mike's Pizza, 1000 Robin Hood Ave., Stockton	J. Ferrufino	Weds	4:00pm	13	10	10	14	12	9
Stockton Clerical	2509	8110 Holman Road, Ste. #1, Stockton	D. Tatu	Thurs	4:00pm	5	2	2	6	4	1
Susanville (LMUD/Frontier)	4012	The Pizza Factory	K. Merrill	Thurs	5:30pm	14	11	11	15	13	10
Templeton	1217	Griff's Pizzeria, 105 S. Main Street	J. Comancho	Tues	4:00pm	12	16	16	13	11	15
Tiger Creek/Pine Grove	2519	Pine Grove Pizza, 19724 St. Hwy 88, Pine Grove	L. Pence	Tues	6:00pm	19	16	16	20	18	15
Topock	1313	PSEA Clubhouse, Moabi Park, Topock	K. Feil	Thurs	4:45pm	X	4	X	8	X	3
Truckee Meadows Water Auth	3310	Round Table Pizza, Mira Loma & McCarren, Sparks	F. Chadwick	Tues	4:30pm	X	2	X	6	X	1
Turlock Irr Dist	1126	Turlock Chamber of Commerce, 115 S. Golden State Blvd	A. Baker* (01/09)	Thurs	4:00pm	7	4	4	1	6	3
Ukiah	3714	Ukiah Garden Café, 1090 S. State Street	C. Spaletta	Weds	5:30pm	6	3	3	7	5	9
USBR/CVO	3012	Round Table Pizza, 7943 Greenback Lane, Citrus Hts.	P. Pipis	Tues	5:00pm	12	9	9	13	11	8
Vacaville	3812	Pietro's #2 679 Merchant St., Vacaville	Joe Stockel	Weds	4:30pm	13	10	10	14	12	9
Walla Walla	3023	TC Headquarters - Wallula	M. Prior	Thurs	5:00pm	14	11	11	8	13	10
Watsonville - Davey	4723	Mountain Mike's Pizza, 1000 Robin Hood Ave., Stockton	J. Gonzalez	Mon	4:00pm	11	8	8	12	10	14
Wells R.E.C.	3319	Silver Sage Senior Citizens Center, 1st St., Wells NV	A. Reusch	Weds	5:00pm	X	10	X	14	X	9
Winnemucca	3317	Los Marguerits, 47 E. Winnemucca Boulevard	J. Henriod*	Weds	7:00pm	X	10	X	14	X	9
Yerington	3313	Round Table Pizza*	P. Roberts*	Tues*	6:00pm	X	2	X	6	X	1
Retirees - Dublin		IBEW Local 595, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin	M. Silva	Thurs	10:00am	14	11	11	8	13	10
Retirees - Merced		Merced Senior Community Ctr., 755 W. 15th St., Merced	M. Bonds	Tues	10:00am	5	2	2	6	4	1
Retirees - San Jose		IBEW Local 332, 2125 Canoas Garden, San Jose	J. Hill	Thurs	10:00am	7	4	4	1	6	3
Retirees - Santa Rosa		Coco's Restaurant, 1501 Farmers Lane, Santa Rosa	L. Mead	Tues	10:00am	5	2	2	6	4	1
Retirees - Vacaville		IBEW Local 1245, 30 Orange Tree Circle, Vacaville	R. Renoude	Weds	10:00am	13	10	10	14	12	9
Retirees - Reno (in formation)		Denny's, 205 E. Nugget Ave., Sparks, NV	TBA	Weds	8:30am	20	17	17	21	19	16

(All info for Retirees-Reno is tentative)

Six top awards for Utility Reporter

Competing against local unions nationwide, the Utility Reporter captured a half dozen first place awards in the 2009 Labor Media Contest sponsored by the International Labor Communications Association. The awards were presented in September at the ILCA biennial convention in Pittsburgh, PA.

“Water War: Members at TMWA Defeat Takeover” by Communications Director Eric Wolfe told the story of the mobilization by Local 1245 members at Truckee Meadow Water Authority to defeat a proposed sale of the agency’s assets. The story

won first place for best news story and was also awarded the Saul Miller Award for best Political Action Story. The story appeared in the September-October 2008 issue.

“Mighty Movers”, a photo essay on a SMUD transmission job, won first place for Best Photo Essay. Members at SMUD contributed photos of the job; Eric Wolfe contributed photos of the crew. The photos appeared in the March-April 2008 issue.

“Electricity Generation, in Kilowatt-Hours (kWh), per 10-cent Investment” by contract graphic artist Kathy Kifer won first place for Best Informational Graphic.

It appeared in the January-February 2008 issue.

“Nuclear Revisited,” the third installment in the Utility Reporter series on Global Warming, Electric Power and IBEW Local 1245, won first place for Best Analysis. “Nuclear Revisited,” together with “Catching the Wind,” the fourth installment in the series, was awarded first place for Best Series of Articles. Both were written by Eric Wolfe.

“Working on the Riser,” a photograph by Eric Wolfe, won Third Place for best photograph.

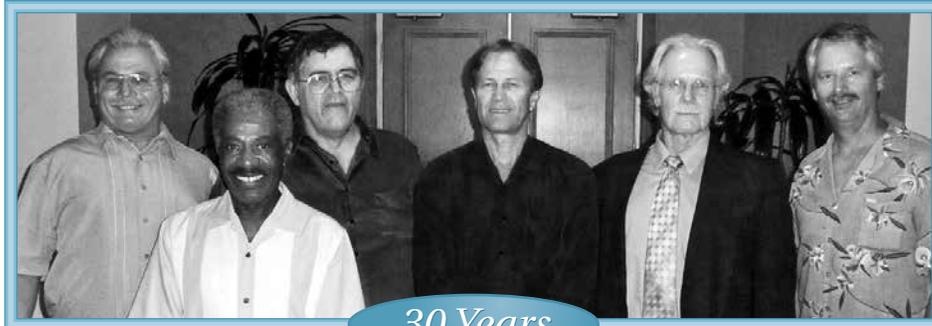
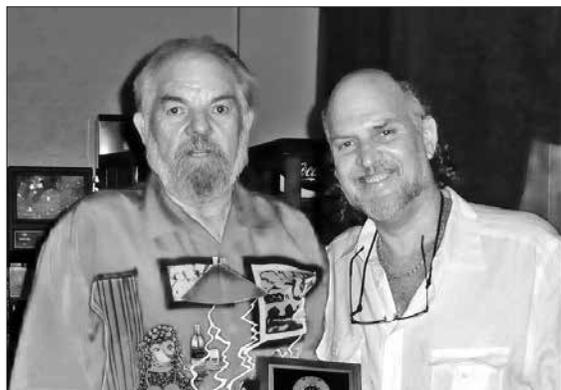
SERVICE AWARDS



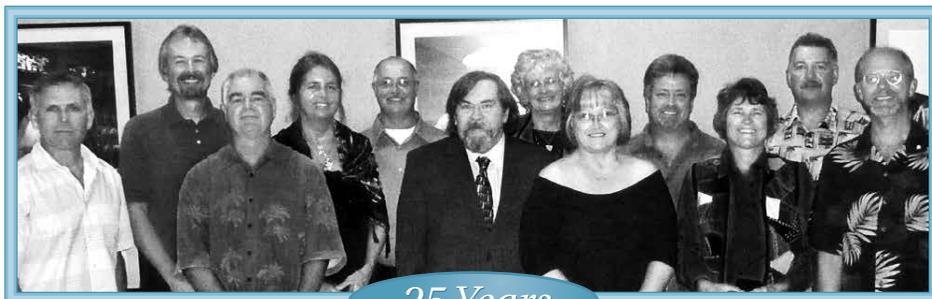
San Luis Obispo, CA
May 16, 2009

40 Years

Forty-year member Ronald Kirby, left, receives plaque from Assistant Business Manager Mike Haentjens.



30 Years



25 Years

THE 2009 HONOREES

35 Years

Brown, Richard S
Casillas Jr., Fred
Chavez, Mike
Chernosky, Sonia A
Clark, Stephen L
Diaz, Arthur P
Fortner, David
Garnett, Ronald B
Janowicz, Francis J
Kawaakoa, B W
Marbach, Ralph
Matsuyama, W T
May, Stephen
Mcgregory, J R
Morikawa, Eddy F

Power, Jeff
Reniere, Steve
Robb, Gordon
Rodgers, David
Rogers, Barry G
Rowe, James
Saiz-Pinson, Deborah L

30 Years

Anderson, Ross E
Armstrong, Stephen C
Banta, Steven D
Benson, Steve A
Bettencourt, Patrick J
Casiday, James M
Cates, David L

Coates, John W
Davenport, David A
Dohs, Roderick
Dykstra, James J
Edie, Robert A
Ellis, Robert D
Evangelista, Paul J
Felix, Gustavo A
Flores, Charles M
Gardner, Brett A
Gayhart, Michael C
Gerard, George O
Hanson, Gene C
Hart, Daniel G
Hay, Andrew P

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35 Years

THE 2008 HONOREES

40 Years

Kirby, Ronald

35 Years

Afana, Laura
Bonini, Daniel
Brown, Richard S
Casillas Jr., Fred
Chavez, Mike
Chernosky, Sonia A
Clark, Stephen L
Diaz, Arthur P
Fortner, David
Garnett, Ronald B
Janowicz, Francis J
Kawaakoa, B W
Marbach, Ralph
Matsuyama, W T
May, Stephen
Mcgregory, J R
Morikawa, Eddy F
Power, Jeff
Reniere, Steve
Robb, Gordon
Rodgers, David
Rogers, Barry G

Rowe, James
Saiz-Pinson, Deborah L
Tamaki, Luke P
Ward, Steve C
Washington, Randall E

30 Years

Ackerson, Kelly M
Adragna, Joe P
Anderson, Ross E
Armstrong, Stephen C
Banta, Steven D
Benson, Steve A
Bettencourt, Patrick J
Casiday, James M
Cates, David L
Coates, John W
Davenport, David A
Dohs, Roderick
Dykstra, James J
Edie, Robert A
Ellis, Robert D
Evangelista, Paul J
Felix, Gustavo A
Flores, Charles M
Gardner, Brett A
Gayhart, Michael C

Gerard, George O
Hanson, Gene C
Hart, Daniel G
Hay, Andrew P
Higuera, Fernando
Holloway, Lynda L
Holmes, Chris A
Houston, Russell K
Jefferson, Marlene J
Kelley, Randall E
La Cross, Marc
Mancebo, John R
Marshall, Steve G
Mealey Jr., Richard C
Molette, John E
Molnar, Nicholas
Montgomery, Leslie E
Nolan, Brent D
Norelius, Rhonda S
Oglesby, Daniel R
Payton, Larry J
Peak, Andrew
Perez, Mario V
Peterson, Floyd
Romero, Dennis C
Savala, G E
Spears, Rodney A
Steingruber, John K

Taylor, Mark E
Thompson, Mark W
Wagner, G H
Ward, Frank L
Wessel, Sandra M
Whiteley, James W

25 Years

Amstutz, William K
Anderson, Mark K
Ashford, Darren S
Barry, Gayle A
Baylon, Willard
Calderaz, Gary C
Carpenter, Dennis C
Carter, Jeffrey A
Castanon, Troy A
Chestnut, Andrew S
Cox, Robert E
Crawford Jr., William C
Daliva, Mario D
Downum, Mindy
Draeger, Richard F
Eitel, Loyd E
Etchison, Richard A
Evangelo, Kris C
Evangelo, Ruth T

Evenson, Donna L
Fielding, Rick A
Flores, David A
Flores, Mary
Garcia, Hector
Geer, Kim L
Goettig, Jeffrey A
Gryczewski, Allan
Hackleman, John T
Hagen, Matthew J
Hamby, Glenn L
Haney, Barton H
Hart, John H
Hatley, Jerry E
Hayes, James W
Hoppert, Monte W
Janes Jr., Richard P
Kell, John R
Knisley, Debbie L
Kovach, Joseph A
Larson, Gregg A
Layugan, Ron
Lewis, Walt
Lofstrand, Kurt E
Lorenz, Joe E
Macdonald, Andrew
Mackey, Chuck J
Martin, Robert

Mccleery, Shannon B
Mckell, James H
Mckenna, Dennis E
Middlemist, James R
Miller, Kathy L
Moon, Lynn A
Racette, Garry J
Rhodes, Dan
Richardson, Ray A
Rodriguez, Brian C
Ross, William P
Salas, Carolyn M
Sanders, Martin R
Schwarz, Robert J
Sherwin, Larry J
Smith, Billy C
Soto, Maximilia
Sowers, Michael D
Spangler, Walter M
Steele, James A
Stoltenberg, Cheryl R
Taylor, Kathleen
Varner, Jennifer
Wiggins, Michael S
Wiley, Loring P
Wilson, Mark S
Witt, Tricia J

2009 Honorees,
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Higuera, Fernando
Holloway, Lynda L
Holmes, Chris A
Houston, Russell K
Jefferson, Marlene J
Kelley, Randall E
La Cross, Marc
Mancebo, John R
Marshall, Steve G
Mealey Jr., Richard C
Molette, John E
Molnar, Nicholas
Montgomery, Leslie E
Nolan, Brent D
Norelius, Rhonda S

Oglesby, Daniel R
Payton, Larry J
Peak, Andrew
Perez, Mario V
Peterson, Floyd
Romero, Dennis C
Savala, G E
Spears, Rodney A
Steingruber, John K
Taylor, Mark E
Thompson, Mark W
Wagner, G H
Ward, Frank L
Wessel, Sandra M

25 Years
Baylon, Willard

Calderaz, Gary C
Carpenter, Dennis C
Carter, Jeffrey A
Castanon, Troy A
Chestnut, Andrew S
Cox, Robert E
Crawford Jr., William C
Daliva, Mario D
Downum, Mindy
Draeger, Richard F
Eitel, Loyd E
Etchison, Richard A
Evangelo, Kris C
Evangelo, Ruth T
Evenson, Donna L
Fielding, Rick A
Flores, David A
Flores, Mary

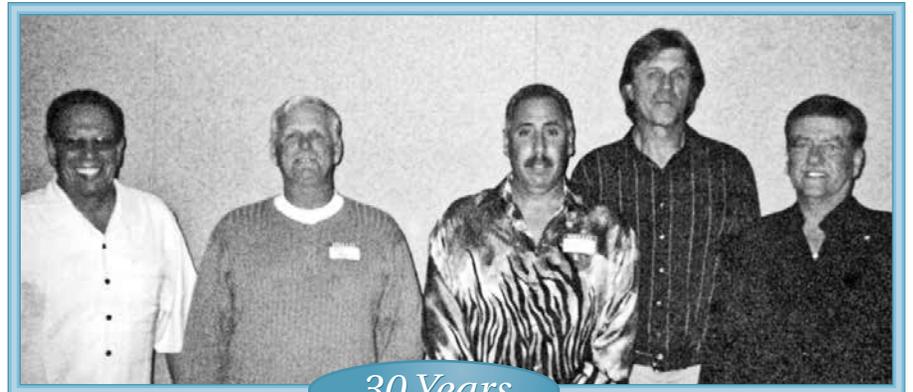
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Hart, John H
Hatley, Jerry E
Hayes, James W
Hoppert, Monte W
Janes Jr., Richard P
Kell, John R
Knisley, Debbie L
Kovach, Joseph A
Larson, Gregg A

Layugan, Ron
Lewis, Walt
Lofstrand, Kurt E
Lorenz, Joe E
Macdonald, Andrew
Mackey, Chuck J
Martin, Robert
McCleery, Shannon B
Mckell, James H
Mckenna, Dennis E
Middlemist, James R
Miller, Kathy L
Moon, Lynn A
Racette, Garry J
Rhodes, Dan
Richardson, Ray A
Rodriguez, Brian C
Ross, William P

Salas, Carolyn M
Sanders, Martin R
Schwarz, Robert J
Sherwin, Larry J
Smith, Billy C
Soto, Maximilia
Sowers, Michael D
Spangler, Walter M
Steele, James A
Stoltenberg, Cheryl R
Taylor, Kathleen
Varner, Jennifer
Wiggins, Michael S
Wiley, Loring P
Wilson, Mark S
Witt, Tricia J
Wright, David C



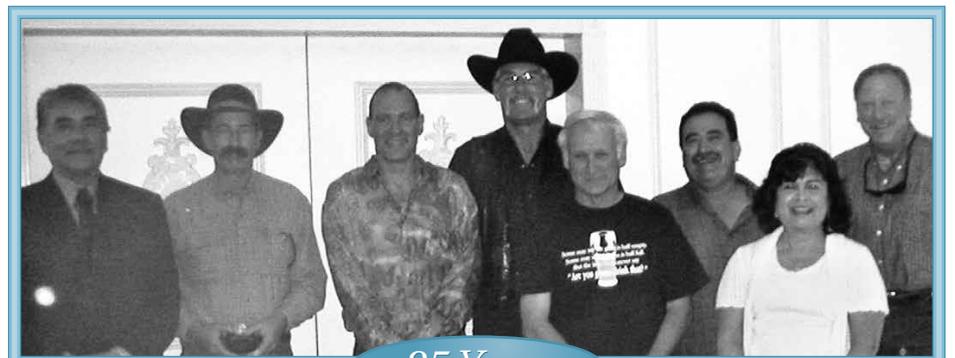
Monterey, CA
March 20, 2009



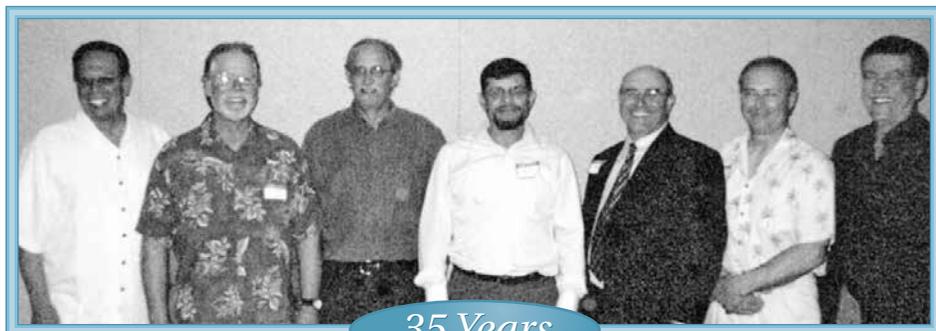
30 Years



40 Years



25 Years



35 Years

THE 2008 HONOREES

40 Years
Airey, Ronald L

35 Years
Ball Jr., Ken L
Hall, James
Hazel, Kirk
Leopold, Gary B

McCullough, Patrick N
Nolan, John R
Perez, Reynoldo
Santo, Silvio
Soza, Joseph

30 Years
Gallegos, Patrick
Morrow, Cara J

25 Years

Fisher, Randy H
Gonsales, Delia
La Fon, Michael A
Smith, Billy C
Sowers, Michael D
Thomas, Mark T

THE 2009 HONOREES

40 Years

Boyen, Richard C
Burpo, Edward A
Clark, Dennis
Diaz, Ricardo
Gatewood, J H
Gonzales, Alex L
Hamilton, Larry L
Jenkins, Ronald
Orebo, Russell J
Wood, Alain R

35 Years

Benavides, John G
Contreras, Marcilino
Cramer, Stephen
Hernandez, Jose
Muro, David A
Robedeau, Kenneth A
Scheepe, Woulter
Sepulveda, Kelly L
Welch, Paul

30 Years

Alvarez, Manuel J
Bravo, Mario L
Cummings, Curtis R
Garcia, Marie D
Gonzales, Rosendo
Kelly, William L
Kuhn, Gary Q
Martin, Robert F
Mattson, Douglas
Rounds, Jean D
Thomas, Richard
Vallejo, Craig A
Wortman, Terre C

25 Years

Brady, Douglas A
Brandt, Fred W
Cook, Brian J
Crivello, Mike R
De Groot, William E
Ferguson, Rhonda K
Freitas, Arthur J

Gallegos, Richelle
Hager, Todd R
Hurley, Kevin M
Jilich, Michael F
Linnenbrink, Frank W
Lopez, Jimmie J
Lopez, Roger E
Moyano, Rick A
Newman, Mark E
Padilla Jr., Frank
Partida, Frank
Perucchi, Mario W
Popichak, Walter A
Rangel, Rufino S
Reed, Tony W
Robinson, Donald
Rojas, Phil M
Schlegel, John D
Sibray, Wendy L
Simkins, Steven L
Tolch, Johna R
Urabe, Anthony
Vaca, Gilbert P

lightning quick mobilization by Local 1245 against the plan, which had been introduced by a business group called Shasta Voices in an apparent effort to peel away jobs from the city and give the work to the private sector.

The controversy engulfed the City Council, generated ominous headlines, invaded talk radio, and pushed Redding citizens to think about the cost and quality of basic services like electricity, trash and water.

The union brought the matter to public attention on Sept. 14 when a swarm of IBEW members and their supporters converged on City Hall, just as the Privatization Evaluation Committee was preparing to meet. Standing among the picketers was city Line Crew Foreman Sean McCall, with a sign proclaiming: “Don’t send our jobs or \$ out of state. Defend Redding.”

McCall disputed the notion that contractors could provide the same value as the City’s current workforce.

“How could they do it cheaper? We live here in town—the majority probably no more than 15 minutes from the yard. We’re on call a lot quicker than contract crews,” McCall said.

Redding crews respond to trouble, no matter what the hour, he said. “When we pull up on a job at midnight, we don’t leave until that customers’ power is back on. We don’t even go eat,” he said.

“The employees have a dedication to this city,” said Jim Ferguson, a lead warehouseman for the city. “Is a contractor going to come out on a Friday night to deal with a car-pole?”

THREAT TO LOCAL CONTROL

The privatization battle, which will continue as Local 1245 seeks to protect the jobs of city gardeners, has its origins in the current recession, which has depressed local tax revenues and pinched city budgets all over California. In Redding, Shasta Voices has capitalized on the city’s budget woes to press for the dismantling of city-run services and turning them over to private contractors.

IBEW Local 1245, which represents about 220 electric and maintenance workers employed by the city, has maintained that privatization threatens local



“When we pull up on a job at midnight, we don’t leave until that customers’ power is back on.” —Sean McCall

control of Redding’s services and will drive up the rates that citizens pay for those services.

Following the Sept. 14 demonstration outside city hall, captured on video by a local TV station, the action moved inside, where the Privatization Evaluation Committee conducted a public hearing. The case for privatization was made by Mary Machado, executive director of Shasta Voices.

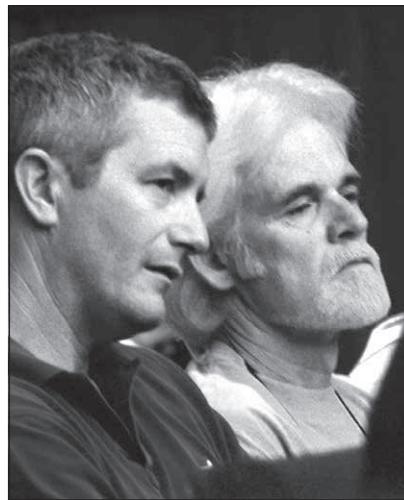
Machado drew the committee’s attention to a report that her group issued in August called “Privatizing of Public Services.” She went to great lengths to assure the committee that the report was “objective,” but repeatedly refused to name any of her group’s members when pressed to do so by a committee member.

The report cites a few examples of “successful” privatization, acknowledges that privatization has some opposition, and then races to its foreordained conclusion that “comprehensive privatization programs” offer local governments a way to maximize revenue, cut costs, and increase flexibility.

Incredibly, the report offers no hard numbers to support its case for privatization, and even admits that it “is not intended to be an analysis or comparison of the actual numbers involved.”

But the Privatization Evaluation Committee, which includes all five members of the City Council and five additional appointees, didn’t have to wait long for actual numbers: Local 1245 Senior Business Representative Ray Thomas came to the podium at the Sept. 14 meeting armed with copies of his utility bills.

As a resident of the county, Thomas doesn’t receive services from the city—and his bills reflect it. The most recent



Union members pay close attention to the City Hall discussion on privatization.



bill from his private electric provider was 39% higher than comparable service from the city. His trash service was 21% higher. His water service was 108% higher. Thomas noted that the city has made significant investments in its infrastructure over the years, enabling it to deliver services at very favorable rates.

“This is an investment citizens have made, and it is paying off,” Thomas told the committee. “We’ve got an investment that is working.”

TALK RADIO

Earlier in the day, on a KQMS talk radio program hosted by Ray Roberts, Thomas made a connection between privatization and the long-stalled negotiations between IBEW and the City of Redding’s electric department.

“You can’t beat this utility’s prices—whether it’s water, electric, trash service—you can’t beat it. And instead of privatizing it we need to protect it and take care of the employees who provide those services,” Thomas said. “All the current functions currently being provided by the city, it’s working—whether it’s the maintenance group or the electric unit—and our bills show it.”

While IBEW has been able to reach an agreement with the city covering maintenance employees, the agreement negotiated for electric employees was rejected by the City Council last summer. The most recent raise for employees covered by the electric agreement was 1.5%, and that was over two years ago. The most recent raise for maintenance employees, also more than two years ago, was just 1%.

Radio host Ray Roberts noted that he had invited the mayor and vice mayor to participate with Thomas in the call-in show, but neither official accepted the invitation.

Thomas noted that privatization also raises issues of local control of local services. After the Redding Area Bus Authority was privatized, for example, management of the service was transferred to Lombard, IL. Similarly, after the library was privatized, management of the service was moved to Germantown, MD.

LETTER TO BUSINESSES

The union kept the pressure on during the week of Sept. 21 with a letter to local businesses warning that union members reserve the right to not patronize “any business that supports the unwarranted elimination of their jobs.”

The letter prompted a story in the Redding *Record Searchlight*, headlined “IBEW threatens boycott over Redding privatization efforts,” and an editorial accusing the union of making a “bullying threat.” The editorial generated a flurry of on-line responses from citizens, including this one from a reader using the handle “figureitout”:

“Real classy *Record Searchlight*, label free speech as ‘angry threats’. We see how well-heeled interests are able to control government for their benefit with hefty campaign contributions and highly paid lobbyists. When a union tries to use one of their meager tools to impact pocket books in order to protect the interests of their workers, you label them bullies.”

In his Sept. 27 Op-Ed piece for the *Record Searchlight*, Thomas noted that private business already performs a substantial amount of work for the City, and that “the balance of public and private services has served City residents well.” But “misguided efforts to increase privatization simply for privatization’s sake,” he said, “will erase decades of investment that is paying off for City residents today.”

Thomas challenged the claim by Shasta Voices that there is any trend toward privatization of local public services. He pointed to exhaustive research by Cornell professor Mildred Warner showing that many local government entities are in fact reclaiming services which they had previously privatized. “These local governments report that they bring these services back in house mainly due to unsatisfactory private sector provided service and insufficient cost savings,” Thomas said.

On Sept. 28, the commission appeared to see the logic of his argument, taking privatization off the table for all IBEW classifications except gardener. Local 1245 will continue its efforts to prevent the privatization of the gardeners’ work.

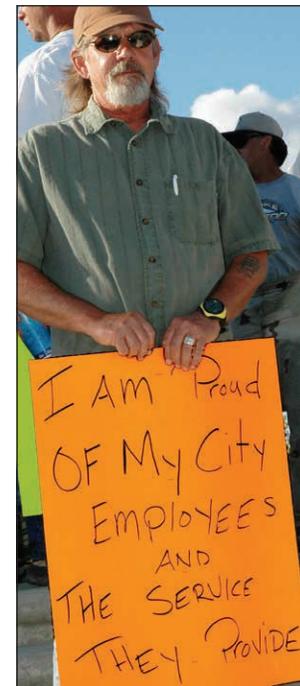
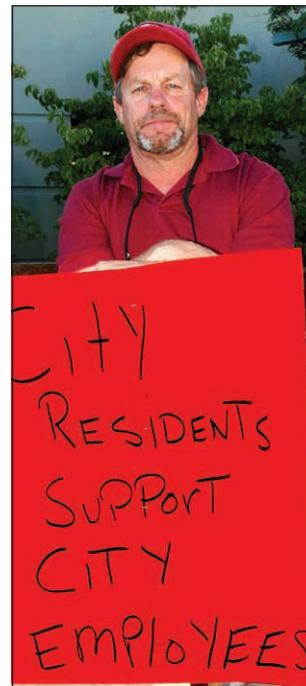
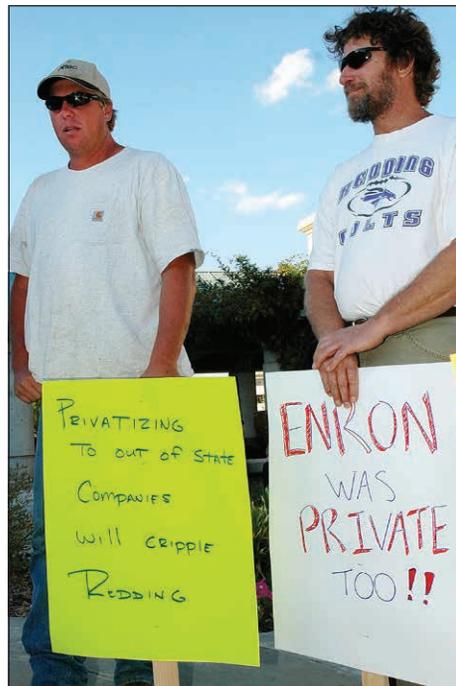


Ray Thomas explains the union's position on privatization to a reporter from Channel 7 outside City Hall.

Photos and Story by Eric Wolfe



Leland Thomas with a tongue-in-cheek sign suggesting the Privatization Committee should be turned into a public entity.



Making their feelings known are, from left, John Trunnel, Mike Fountain, Chris Fleming, Mark Burgon, and a local supporter.



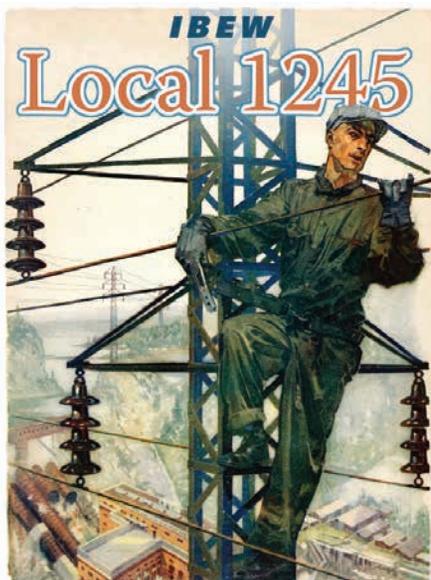
[ABOVE] Jeff Torres



[RIGHT] Elizabeth Shettell, age 2, joins the fun, accompanied by brother Justin and mother Summer.



Ray Thomas, right, makes the case against privatization on the Ray Roberts talk radio show.



IBEW 1245 UNION SHOPPER

Catalog

UNION MADE



IBEW 1245 Hat
 Choose logo: IBEW Lightning Bolt or IBEW Gas or IBEW Traditional Logo
Item #9
 6-panel brushed cotton. Low profile, unstructured front, fabric strap.
 Color: Navy
 \$12.00



"Historical Lineman" T-Shirt
Item # 42
 6.25 oz., 100% cotton
 Shirt color: White
 S, M, L, XL: \$11.50
 2X: \$13, 3X: \$14
 4X: \$15, 5X: \$16



"Carrying the Torch" T-Shirt
IBEW Local 1245
Natural Gas Workers
Item # 42
 6.25 oz., 100% cotton
 Shirt colors: Slate Blue or Khaki
 S, M, L, XL: \$11.50
 2X: \$13, 3X: \$14, 4X: \$15, 5X: \$16



"Let There Be Light"
Long-Sleeve T-Shirt
Item #47
 100% cotton. 5.4 oz
 Shirt color: Black
 S, M, L, XL: \$17
 2X: \$19, 3X: 20; 4X \$21, 5X: \$22



Women's Johnny-Y Sport Shirt
 Choose logo: IBEW Lightning Bolt or IBEW Gas or IBEW Traditional Logo
Item #115
 100% combed cotton
 6.8 oz soft interlock
 Shirt colors: Navy, White, Sage or Periwinkle
 S, M, L, XL: \$29
 2X: \$32; 3X: \$33



Denim Sweatshirt Jacket
 Choose logo: IBEW Lightning Bolt or IBEW Gas or IBEW Traditional Logo
Item #88
 100% cotton laundered denim with quilt lining, grey fleece insert drawstring hood, full zip/snap front, raglan sleeve, accent stripe trim.
 Colors: Light Blue Denim or Charcoal Denim
 S, M, L, XL: \$91
 2X: \$94, 3X: \$97
 S, M, L, XL: \$91
 2X: \$94, 3X: \$97



Portland Fleece Jacket
 Choose logo: IBEW Lightning Bolt or IBEW Gas or IBEW Traditional Logo
Item #85
 Poplin outer shell, arctic fleece lining, zipper front.
 Color: Navy with Gray
 S, M, L, XL: \$84
 2X: \$92, 3X: \$96, 4X: \$99, 5X: \$104



Champ Jacket
"Retro" Logo: "Strength Through Unity"
Item #84
 Sanded cotton 10 oz duck shell with quilt lining, Full zip front with contrasting distressed shading sleeves.
 Color: Black
 S, M, L, XL: \$72
 2X: \$75; 3X: \$78; 4X: \$81; 5X: \$84



Corona Polo Shirt
 Choose logo: IBEW Lightning Bolt or IBEW Gas or IBEW Traditional Logo
Item #55
 Corona Polo Pique Sport Shirt with Striped Trim, Blend 60/40 double pique, no pocket.
 Shirt colors: Navy or White
 S, M, L, XL: \$33
 2X: \$35; 3X: \$37



Solid Color Beanie
 Choose logo: IBEW Lightning Bolt or IBEW Gas or IBEW Traditional Logo
Item #24
 (acrylic)
 Color: Red or Hunter Green
 \$7

Embroidered logos



LOCAL 1245
IBEW Traditional logo
 (blue, red, white & gold)



IBEW Lightning bolt
 (white, blue and gold)



IBEW Gas logo
 (white, blue, silver & yellow)



"Retro" logo
 (black, red, blue & gold)

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