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# Utility Reporter

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UNITY IS STRENGTH

For up-to-the-minute news, see our website: [www.ibew1245.com](http://www.ibew1245.com)

Good for the pole,  
good for the tree

See page 22.







## Arcing and Sparking

Tom Dalzell  
BUSINESS MANAGER

## Bridging past and future

During the spring IBEW 1245 lost two retired business representatives: Mickey Harrington and Wayne Greer. I worked with both men for more than 20 years, and I mourn their deaths on a personal level. On a professional level, I know their work lives on.

Although both men left the union staff over a decade ago, they helped propel the union into the future. Mickey Harrington's commitment to unionism was contagious, influencing many both within and beyond IBEW 1245. Wayne Greer was a master of leadership development, unsurpassed in his ability to recruit and mentor strong shop stewards to carry out the union's mission.

Their contributions remain relevant today as we seek to build a renewed commitment to union principles among the next generation of union members who truly hold the future of unionism in their hands. I see signs every day that IBEW 1245 is successfully bridging our past and our future.

In May, we finished our service award dinners and our PG&E shop steward trainings for 2014, and in June we conducted our first-ever training for manufacturing stewards. These important events gave me a chance to meet with close to 2,000 of our members. The give-and-take with members in a bull room, a break room, or a meeting hall truly is

the best part of my job—I can always count on members to bring fresh ideas to the complex issues we face throughout our large service area.

Members at PG&E moved ahead in several important areas this spring. They voted to extend the union contract for 12 months to let the dust settle from regulatory and criminal proceedings. Members also ratified letter agreements for gas service representatives and call-center bidding by strong margins. Large-scale negotiations continue with Gas T&D, and we have been working with new leadership in Electric T&D to prioritize issues and try to replicate the success we have had with gas. The Public Utilities Commission has finally issued a proposed decision in PG&E's general rate case, and our forensic accountants have begun their analysis of the decision and its implications.

We continue to work with six other IBEW locals from Illinois, Iowa, Utah/Wyoming, Oregon/Washington, and Nevada to develop a better relationship with Warren Buffet's Berkshire Hathaway Energy Company, which now owns NV Energy and employs 600 of our members. I met with the Iowa local in early June, and we are exploring ways to support IBEW 125 in Portland with their negotiations with Berkshire Hathaway this fall. We are operating on the theory that avoiding disasters in other parts of the company will help make us stronger for our own negotiations in 2017.

In Sacramento, we are working with our legislative advocate to fix Community Choice Aggregation. That program has been completely subverted by Shell Oil and their shell game of buying dirty power and "greenwashing" that power with unbundled renewable energy certificates that do nothing to reduce carbon emissions.

What do any of these activities and battle fronts have to do with Mickey or

Wayne? Nothing and everything. IBEW 1245 is a large organization responsible for defending 20,000 members. Our mission is the same as when Mickey and Wayne were engaged in the struggle: defending our members. But as the world grows more complex, we have to do more than simply react to current threats. Our union faces complicated, nuanced choices every day. The true

north of our compass is not any one particular policy or position—it is our commitment to improve the working lives of our members.

Mickey showed us what it means to live that commitment to union principles. Wayne showed us that leadership development is the way to carry those principles forward. That is our past.

And it is also our future.

## National Lineman's Day: July 10

Do electric linemen deserve a day of recognition? We believe they do.

Linework is a challenging and often dangerous craft, performed in every conceivable terrain and climate. In the early days, one out of two linemen died on the job—mostly from falls and electric shocks. Henry Miller organized the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers in 1891 because he realized that linemen needed to take control of this work to make it safer and to make it pay better. Utilities and contractors may own the company, but the work itself is owned by the linemen and the union they created: the IBEW.

Since 2012 there have been efforts to honor linemen with a "national day." An association with strong ties to management at non-union utilities in the south has been promoting April 18 as "National Journeyman Linemen Day." In response, the IBEW teamed up in 2014 with the Edison Electric Institute to celebrate March 31 as National Lineman Appreciation Day. Congressional resolutions have been introduced in support of both dates.

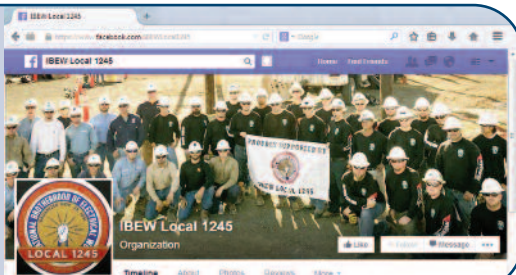
If there is to be a national day honoring linemen, IBEW Local 1245 believes that union linemen should "own" this date, just as union linemen have "owned" the work since the days of Henry Miller. Rather than picking some arbitrary date, we believe the appropriate day to honor linemen is the date in 1896 that Henry Miller himself made the ultimate sacrifice. Miller was working in

Washington DC late at night when he was electrocuted and fell. That day was July 10.

In March, the IBEW 1245 Executive Board designated July 10 as the date that IBEW 1245 officially recognizes as Lineman Day. With support from IBEW 1245 and IBEW 47 in southern California, Rep. Linda Sanchez recently introduced HR 516 in the US Congress to recognize July 10 as National Lineman's Day.

Anniversaries are important because they are rooted in who we are, the sacrifices we've made, and the things we've accomplished. We celebrate our national forefathers on July 4th because that's the day the U.S. Declaration of Independence was signed. We celebrate our veterans on November 11th because that's the day World War One came to an end. We should celebrate National Lineman's Day on July 10th because it's a day that actually means something to linemen. And always should.

Find us on Facebook at  
[www.facebook.com/IBEWLocal1245](http://www.facebook.com/IBEWLocal1245)



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## CALENDAR

- July 10** Keep the Clearance Safety Summit, Vacaville
- July 12** Fishing Challenge, Pacific Ocean
- July 26** Advisory Council, Reno
- July 26** IBEW 9th District Softball tournament, San Leandro
- August 6** "Changing the Narrative" training, East Bay
- August 13** "Changing the Narrative" training, Fresno
- October 4** Soccer tournament and cook-off, Fairfield
- October 11** IBEW 1245 Golf Tournament, Vacaville
- October 15** 31st Annual International Lineman's Rodeo & Expo, Bonner Springs, KS
- October 25** Advisory Council, Vacaville

## APPOINTMENTS

### PARADISE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

#### Negotiating Committee

Laura Capra, Jeremy Gentry  
Richard Stier

### CITY OF HEALDSBURG

#### Negotiating Committee

Valerie Macor, Alan Roseberry

### CONFERENCES, EVENTS

#### National Sisterhood United for Journeyman Lineman Benefit Rodeo

Dan Moler, Alex Price  
Russell Morrison

#### Grace Carroll Rocky Mountain Labor School

Michelle Benuzzi, Jonathan McCue  
Zach Romeo, Denver Thomas

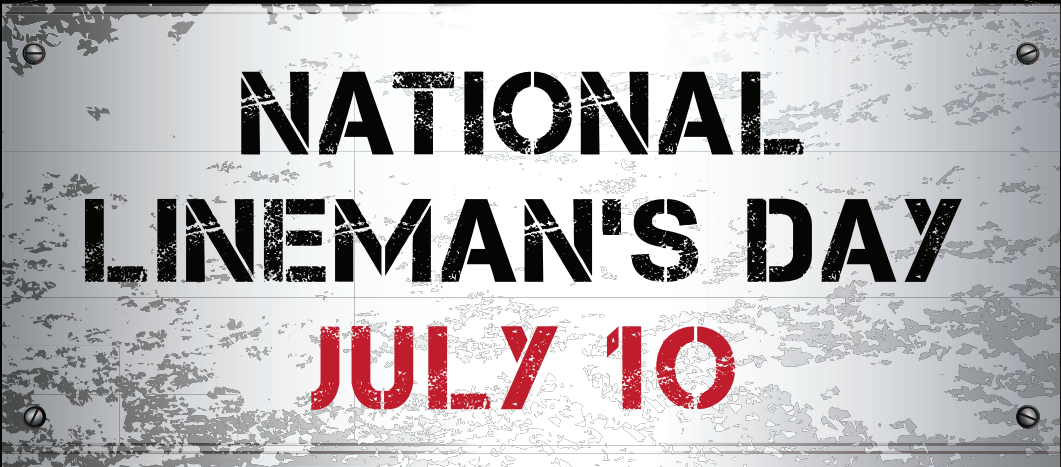
#### Coalition of Black Trade Unionists 43rd International Convention

Cloudell Douglas, Clara McAfee-Evans

#### 2014 National Alliance For Retired Americans Convention

Thomas Bird, Jesse Hoch  
William Keating, Ken Rawles  
Donald Roger, Bill Wallace





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## Clays and camaraderie at the NorCal IBEW Clay Shoot

# ON TARGET



Story by Rebecca Band

Hilmar photos by John Storey

Dunnigan photos by Eric Wolfe

About 300 union members, friends and family came out to the 2014 NorCal IBEW Clay Shoots for a fun-filled day of clays, camaraderie, barbecue and beans.

The annual NorCal IBEW Clay Shoot has grown so popular that this year's event was expanded to two locations: Raahuagee's Pheasant, Chucker & Sporting Clays in Dunnigan, and Rooster Ranch Wings & Clays in Hilmar. The event netted \$27,109, which was donated to 12 Boys and Girls Clubs in northern California.

The shoots attracted members from IBEW Locals 1245, 684, 595, 340, 332, 302, and 180, as well as Sprinklers Local 483, Plumbers Local 447, UA Local 393, Insulators Local 16, and numerous contractors.

For Sal Culcasi, a 27-year IBEW 1245

member from PG&E, it was a welcome opportunity to spend time with his co-workers outside of work.

"We had some guys from Dispatch come out [to the shoot] last year... they did pretty well shooting and one of them won a gun [in the raffle], so we put a team together from Dispatch and came on down," said Culcasi. "The best part was watching this rookie [fellow dispatcher Anthony Chan] hit over 50 [out of 100 targets] on his very first time out. We're coming back next year for sure."

The Clay Shoots were definitely a family affair that mixed together union members, friends and their families, including a good number of young shooters.

IBEW 1245 member Lou Carpio brought along his son, his brother-in-law and his nephew.

"I read about last year's clay shoot [in the union newspaper] and spoke to quite a few people who went and had

just a wonderful time, so I knew I couldn't miss it," Carpio said. "Really great camaraderie, spending time with family, friends, co-workers, tradesmen... it's just a great event all around for everyone."

PG&E Lineman Eric Wright has come to the clay shoot for the past few years, and this year, he brought along some of his fellow linemen to enjoy the day with him in Dunnigan.

"It's always fun, it's always a good time, and it's great because it's for charity," said Wright. "The best part was being out here with my buddies from work; some of them are here shooting for the first time. We hit some targets, ate some food and had a great time."

Overseeing the event in Dunnigan was IBEW 180 Business Manager Dan Broadwater. The event in Hilmar was directed by IBEW 1245 Senior Assistant Business Manager Ron Cochran.



Ron Cochran helped organize the Clay Shoots during his final months as Senior Assistant Business Manager.

The IBEW Clay Shoot isn't a competition; it's just for fun. Participants keep their own scores, there aren't any trophies. The only competition is to see who can have the most fun so that everyone walks away a winner.

The Clay Shoots concluded with a tasty cookout and firearms raffle. Dozens of participants, both north and south, walked away with great raffle prizes, mostly new shotguns and rifles.

See all the photos from Dunnigan and Hilmar at <http://www.ibew1245.com/2014/04/21/13890/>.



Matthew Horja was one of the youth raffle winners in Dunnigan.



From left: Herbert Mozon, Earl Hampton, Cloudell Douglas, and Eric Wright (PG&E)



There were so many shooters in Hilmar ...





"Pull!"



Scorekeeping at Hilmar Shoot.

From left:  
Mike Criss,  
LaDonna  
Criss, Ray  
Dianos,  
and John  
Dianos  
(PG&E)



Front, from  
left: Tyler  
Lindman  
and Caleb  
Krieger.  
Back, from  
left: Pat  
Patterson,  
Brendan  
Patterson,  
Dustin  
Rice,  
Gerardo  
Figuroa  
and Dustin  
Krieger  
(TID)



"Good grub!"



Lunch in  
Hilmar.



... we couldn't fit this photo on one page!





## Landmark agreement ratified

Gas service work has changed, and a landmark new letter agreement negotiated by IBEW 1245 makes sure that workers will be properly compensated as PG&E continues to improve the safety and reliability of its gas service. The ad hoc agreement was ratified by affected members in a mail ballot counted June 9.

Letter Agreement R1-14-17 will expand and strengthen the Job Definition and Lines of Progression for PG&E's Gas Service Department by establishing two new positions: Lead Gas Service Representative and Utility Gas Service Representative. IBEW 1245

Assistant Business Manager Ed Dwyer, who helped negotiate the agreement, said the change was long overdue.

"The work has changed, especially in the last 15 years. There's a lot more work at the meter set now because the

Smart Meter requires a lot of maintenance. Every 5 to 7 years you have to change the module because the batteries go out," Dwyer said. At the same time, in the wake of the San Bruno explosion, the company has upped its response to gas leaks, with a current average response time of 20-21 minutes.

These factors translate into more work.

For years the company has tried to keep up with the increasing workload by utilizing temporary workers from the IBEW 1245 Hiring Hall. But that approach failed to provide PG&E with a long-term solution to its staffing needs, and also failed to compensate regular employees for the increasing demands that were being made of them.

Letter Agreement R1-14-17 addresses

both parts of the problem by expanding the line of progression to include the new beginning level position of Utility GSR, as well as the advanced classification of Lead GSR.

The existing workforce will benefit from the opportunity to fill 67 new positions at a higher rate of pay: 50 Lead GSRs and 17 additional Service Mechanics. Lead GSRs will be paid \$48.55/hour, for a base yearly wage of \$100,984, a 7.2% increase over the existing GSR wage.

Both the company and the union expect to benefit from the creation of the Utility GSR position. For PG&E it

means the creation of a more experienced pool of bidders to the GSR position, laying the foundation for a more stable workforce (and service reliability) into the future. For the union it means more work going to permanent employ-

ees with full benefits and opportunities to progress through an enhanced line of progression with higher top wages.

At the same time, the agreement takes care to limit the number of Utility GSRs, and to also limit their duties so that they do not encroach on the work of GSRs. Under this agreement, if the company wants someone to do GSR work, they must provide GSR pay. There will be no Title 206 (displacement and demotion) actions under this agreement.

### Untenable Situation

The current practice of relying heavily on Title 300 Hiring Hall employees was becoming untenable for both the company and the union, said Business Representative Anthony

*The new Job Definition-Line of Progression will give the company a deeper bench for meeting the workload, and correspondingly less temptation to farm the work out.*



Ad hoc committee members, from left: Business Rep. Anthony Brown (standing), Craig Moeller, Michael Adayan, Mitch Bryans and Robert Mohler.

Brown, a former GSR himself.

"It was hard to manage for both sides. It was difficult for the company to figure out its responsibilities for offering overtime when temporary employees were in the headquarters, and it was hard for the employees to be able to track that and understand when their rights were being encroached on. I think this is a really positive permanent solution to what

had been an ongoing problem," Brown said.

GSR Robert Mohler, who served on the committee, said it will help the company in an era when many supervisors now come from outside of PG&E and have less familiarity with the work than supervisors of old.

"The company really needs a right-hand man who can do the work and

continued on page 20

## Top honors at rodeo

On Saturday, May 17, PG&E Linemen and Apprentice Linemen competed in the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) Lineman's Rodeo. Four Journeyman Teams and four Apprentices, along with their families and friends, represented IBEW Local 1245 and PG&E at the rodeo, which included 28 Journeyman Teams and 55 Apprentice Linemen from across the western states.

Several IBEW 1245 members took top honors at the rodeo. Congratulations to the PG&E Grass Valley team of Adam Beene, Anthony Albright and J.P. Richard for placing first in the Journeyman Pole Climb. Congratulations also to Templeton GC Apprentice Zach Huseby, who won first place in the Overall Apprentice Division and also scored highest on the written test.

IBEW 1245 commends all our members who competed:

### Journeyman Teams:

#### Grass Valley Team

Adam Beene  
Anthony Albright  
JP Richard

#### Bakersfield/GC Team

Mike Moss  
Jerry Bryant  
Randy Patt

#### Senior Team (no senior division at this Rodeo)

George McNeill  
Steve Bentley  
Jim Moon

#### Fresno GC Team

Luke Bogart  
Anthony Esposito  
Jacob Hunt

### Apprentice Linemen:

#### Templeton GC - Zach Huseby

Fresno GC - Sean Hunt (100% on all 4 events)

#### Fresno Division - Ryan Boyd

Livermore Division - Brandon Dance

These linemen and others will be back to show off their skills at PG&E's Internal Lineman's Rodeo on Aug. 16 at the Livermore training facility, where they will compete for an opportunity to represent PG&E and the IBEW Local 1245 at the International Lineman's Rodeo in Kansas City on Oct. 18.

## PG&E contract extension ratified

Members at PG&E ratified a one-year extension of the Physical, Clerical and Benefit Agreements in a mail ballot vote counted May 16.

The extension provides a 2.75% general wage increase for the coming year. A total of 4,054 members voted. The Physical and Benefits agreements were each passed with over 65% of the votes cast. The Clerical Agreement was passed with 88% of the votes cast.

Members of the ballot committee were Scott Powell, Lee Thomas, Marjie Pimentel, Anthony Moss, Cory Armstrong, Al Estes, Tiffany Bradley, Travis Carlson and Lorenzo Arciniega. Tim Ramirez served as the judge.

## A way out of abuse

*This story is courtesy of the PG&E Peer Volunteer Program*

"Help for today. Hope for tomorrow."

That's the theme for this year's Alcohol Awareness Month, but it can also describe PG&E's approach to helping people with substance abuse problems. In light of Alcohol Awareness Month, the Peer Volunteer Program (PVP) wants you to know who we are.

Mike Harris is a Gas Service Rep in Antioch. Elisa Stone is a customer service rep in Sacramento. Alycia Brown is an operating clerk in Bakersfield. We are your peers. We are PG&E employees. We are in long-term recovery or have a loved one who is. And we have been in your shoes.

The Peer Volunteer Program is a collaborative effort between PG&E, IBEW Local 1245, and ESC Local 20 — and it's for all PG&E employees and their family members. The Peer Volunteers are a group of PG&Eers who provide confidential help to fellow employees or their loved ones with alcohol/substance abuse issues. Peer Volunteers are available by phone 24/7, and can provide resources, assist in getting treatment, or even connect with an employee who has recently returned to work from treatment.

An estimated 9.1% of employees in a utility company our size have a substance abuse problem. That's nearly 2,000 of our employees. It doesn't have to be that way; we can make a difference.

If you need support, please visit the PVP website at: <http://peervolunteers.org/> to access the Peer Volunteer contact list or call the EAP hotline (1-888-445-4436) and ask to have a Peer contact you directly.







Shop stewards, said Dalzell, “are the key to our success.”



Tom Dalzell speaks with Danny Kutulas, Delta Star steward

# New Manufacturing Unit Holds First Stewards Conference

Shop stewards new manufacturing unit came together at Weakley Hall on June 18 for their first steward’s conference as IBEW 1245 stewards.

These 13 stewards represent more than 500 manufacturing workers at 10 different employers that manufacture everything from museum lighting fixtures to the Mars Curiosity Rover. Most of them are former members of IBEW 2131, the small manufacturing local that merged with Local 1245 earlier this year. The exception is the steward from newly-organized Sunoptics in Sacramento; the workers there voted to join Local 1245 in January of this year and are still negotiating their first contract.

The manufacturing shop stewards work closely with their IBEW 1245 Business Rep, Cruz Serna, while Assistant Business Manager Ray Thomas supports the unit behind the scenes as well as at the bargaining table.

“I work with and assist Cruz on the nine manufacturing contracts, and we’re going to have a tenth, as soon as we get an agreement with Sunoptics. Those negotiations are ongoing, and we’re back in bargaining this week,” Thomas told the stewards.

“It’ll be ten contracts in all, maybe more. We’re going out tomorrow night to look at some more [manufacturing] properties to organize. We’re really

excited to be back in the business of representing [workers in] manufacturing.”

The conference gave the stewards a chance to learn more about their new union and meet their new union staff and leadership, including Business Manager Tom Dalzell.

“Unions are how we exercise control over our working lives,” Dalzell said to the stewards after explaining a bit about his professional background as a lawyer defending workers’ rights at the UFW and IBEW. “I can tell you that every arbitration I ever won [as a union lawyer] was because of a shop steward. They know much better than the business rep, much better than senior staff,

what’s happening in the situation. We as a local make shop stewards a really big part of what we do. They are our key to success.”

At the conference, each steward received a copy of the IBEW 1245 steward’s handbook, along with a refresher course on their workplace rights under the law. They also went over tactics and processes for handling issues they or their co-workers may encounter on the job.

“There are things that we can teach you, resources we can put behind you, training we can give you, but in the end, you’re the ones who are going to be building this [unit],” Dalzell said. “We will do everything we can to make you smarter and stronger, and we’ll be relying on you quite a bit.”



From left: Arnaldo Lizzaraga (Trayer Engineering), Pamela Pendleton (Sunoptics), Chris Hanh (Sunoptics), Bill Van Zuylen (Jacobs Technology/Sierra Lobo), Todd Davis (Sunoptics), Gary Lundtvedt (Jacobs Technology/Sierra Lobo), Samuel Bradley (Ansaldobreda Inc), Mauricio Carillo (Sunoptics), Norman O'Brian (Eaton Cooper Lighting), Danny Kutulas (Delta Star), Jim Baker (Northrop Grumman), Don Matson (Sunoptics), Todd Shiels (Lockheed Martin).

Utility Reporter



Don Matson, Sunoptics steward



Assistant Business Manager Ray Thomas



Jim Baker, Northrop Gruman steward



# Keeping things bright at Borden Lighting

By Rebecca Band

What do the California Academy of Sciences, Ross retail stores, the Alpha Omega Winery, St Teresa's Church and the new BART station in San Bruno have in common? They're all a little more inviting thanks to high-quality, sustainable lighting designed and assembled by IBEW 1245 members at Borden Lighting in San Leandro.

The 25 workers at the small East Bay shop hand-craft a wide variety of lighting, from industrial and commercial ceiling fixtures to residential floor lamps and extremely high-end custom designs. Quite simply, there's no light too big or too small for this team.

Local 1245 is pleased to welcome these new brothers and sisters into our local. They were previously members of IBEW 2131, an East Bay manufacturing local that merged with IBEW 1245 earlier this year. Both the workers and the management seem pleased with the result of the merger, as they now have more resources and assistance than they had access to before.

Head finisher Bob Sharp has worked for Borden for 35 years since the age of 19, and has served as shop steward for the last 20 years. He started at Shaper Lighting, and when Shaper's then-president, Randy Borden, started a new com-

pany, Borden Lighting, in 2006, Sharp went over to the new shop. He enjoys working at Borden and particularly his colleagues, but lamented the cyclical nature of construction that has resulted in a handful of layoffs.

Production Manager Barry Gould elaborated, "When construction is flat or down, we follow. And when it picks back up, we're the last ones to see that work," since lighting is general done towards the end of construction projects. Gould noted that the construction industry is finally starting to pick back up, and he hopes to see those laid off workers back on the job again soon.

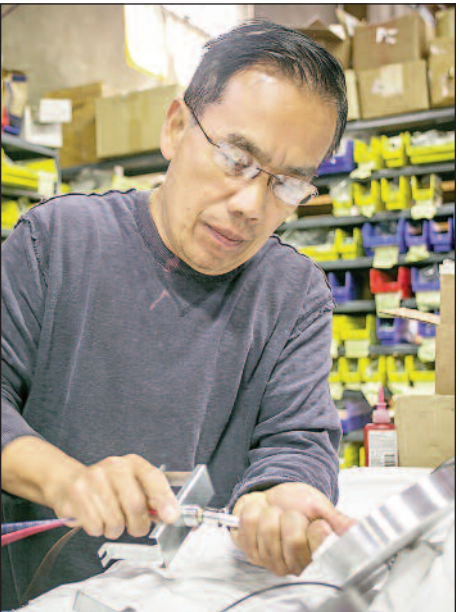


Tim Johnson packs a piece for transport.



Hoa Huynh assembles a fixture

Photos by John Storey



Ignacio De Leon wires a fixture.



Lepe Epigenio preps a piece for painting.



Shop Steward Bob Sharp paints a fixture piece.



IBEW 1245 members at Borden Lighting.



Lupe Alvarez applies a satin finish to a fixture piece.





Noy Sackdeawong forming sheet metal



Bounxom Sirisack operates the press break.



Mike Rohney stamps out honeycomb light diffusers.

# Manufacturing comeback

The U.S. manufacturing sector expanded more strongly than expected in June, with the rate of growth advancing to the highest level in more than four years, according to an industry report released on June 23.

The gain of 600,000 manufacturing jobs over the past four years, for a total of 12 million, has led some economists to believe that manufacturing in the U.S. is starting a comeback. Several factors support this optimistic view.

“The economics of the world are changing in favor of U.S. manufacturing,” consultant Hal Sirkin recently told the Wall Street Journal.

One factor is that wages are rising in China and other emerging economies. Sirkin’s Boston Consulting Group estimates that China’s overall manufacturing-cost advantage over the U.S. has shrunk to just 4%. When wages are adjusted for productivity and the costs of shipping and inventories are included, it can be more economical to make some products in the U.S. than in Asia.

Whatever you may think about environmental hazards posed by hydraulic fracturing, or “fracking”, the practice has caused a surge in U.S. oil and gas production, pushing down energy costs. It’s a subject manufacturers care deeply about.

Manufacturers also paid attention when an earthquake and nuclear disaster in Japan, and flooding in Thailand, temporarily halted production of vital parts for cars, electronic goods and other products. Supply chains that

stretch across the Pacific are subject to a greater variety of natural disasters than those that stay closer to home.

It’s also worth noting that some major foreign players are beginning to bet on America again. Germany’s BMW is expanding a car plant and Michelin of France last year opened a plant, both in South Carolina. China’s Lenovo Group is making personal computers in North Carolina.

On the other hand, there are obstacles to a renaissance in U.S. manufacturing. U.S. manufacturers bemoan a lack of skilled people to operate and repair sophisticated machinery.

The worker shortage suggests that manufacturers should start thinking about how to recruit and groom skilled workers, much as PG&E has been trying to do with its PowerPathways program. Instead of obsessing over how to keep unions out, manufacturers might want to take a fresh look at how a union contract could help them attract and retain the workers they need to make a go of it again in America.

IBEW 1245 is actively participating in the IBEW branding committee, which is building a website and exploring other ways to promote IBEW employers and their products nationally. As more manufacturers look to bring their production back to the U.S., they may find it’s time to look at unions as a potential partner in gaining market share, rather an enemy to be beaten into submission.

Is there going to be a manufacturing comeback? IBEW 1245 is ready for it.

# Members vote to approve agreement at Lockheed Martin

After 9 days of bargaining, IBEW 1245 reached an agreement with Lockheed Martin on April 8th, and the membership voted and approved the agreement on April 17th.

IBEW 1245 members at Lockheed Martin will receive a 3% lump sum of their last year’s earnings, as well as lump sum payments of \$1500.00 for the first, second and third years, and \$500.00 the fourth year. They will received a general wage increase of 2.5% the second, third and fourth years. The agreement also provides a ratification bonus of \$2700.00 and an 8% pension increase for current employees. In 2014, the total ratification plus lump sum payments will average \$6,900 per member. Members can elect to take payment or defer into their retirement plans.

The agreement also provides for increases in the Corporate Lockheed Martin HealthWorks PPO medical plan design, i.e. deductibles, out of pocket maximum; however the new plan design includes deductibles into the out of pocket maximum calculation which mitigates members’ exposure to plan design increases. The Kaiser plan design remains as-is. Premium cost sharing remains unchanged for both plans at 87% employer and 13% employee for the HealthWorks PPO, and 85% employer and 15% employee with Kaiser. The parties will meet in 2017, once the 2018 premium renewal rates are known, in an attempt to agree on plan design changes for any plan that would trigger the PPACA excise tax.

Effective Jan. 1, 2015 the dental plan will cover dental implants. There are no other plan design changes, no cost to employee. In terms of vision benefits, there are no plan design changes for either plan. The Vision 24 plan remains no cost to employee; in the Vision 12 plan the employee cost share remains unchanged. Life and AD&D benefits increase, and remain fully paid by employer for employee coverage. There will be an increase in weekly benefit for Short Term Disability.

“Overall, it’s a good package that the membership welcomed, and they are pleased with the results,” said Business Rep Cruz Serna.

The workers at Lockheed were formerly represented by IBEW local 2131, which merged with IBEW 1245 earlier this year.

Serving on the union’s negotiating committee were employee representatives Todd Shiels and Dennis Douglass; IBEW 1245 Assistant Business Manager Ray Thomas, IBEW 1245 Business Representative Cruz Serna, and former IBEW 2131 Business Manager Jack Floyd.



# SMUD & MID dominate 2014 Public Power

There may be plenty of public sector linemen and apprentices who can outperform those who belong to IBEW 1245.

But it was hard to find any of them at the 14th Annual Public Power Lineworkers Rodeo in Edmond, OK, where teams from the Sacramento Municipal Utility District and Modesto Irrigation District captured all but one of the first place trophies.

SMUD's journeyman team of Todd Prangley, Matthew Wilson and Cayleb Bowman were first overall in journeyman events, and SMUD's Garrett Mcghehey took top overall honors in apprentice events.

In the individual journeyman events, Prangley, Wilson and Bowman took first place in 4-kv Cross Arm Change Out, second place in the 4-kv Four Bell Change out, and third place in the 12-kv Post-Insulator Change Out.

The MID journeyman team of Matt McCurdy, Jimmy Boere, Sean Coulson and Victor Madrigal captured first place in the 12-kv Post-Insulator Change Out, first place in the 4-kv Four Bell Change Out, third place in the 600 Amp Switch Replacement and third place in the Hurt Man Rescue—powering them to a fourth place overall finish.

Let us all take off our hats to the team from JEA from Jacksonville, FL for being the only other journeyman team to capture a first place trophy—in the Hurt Man Rescue event.

Other SMUD teams also turned in

outstanding performances, and completely dominated the 600 Amp Switch Replacement event, with the team of Rory Malia, Justin Hirschi, and Gregory Baird taking first, and the team of Lucas Raley, Ben Bassett and John Moe taking second. Raley, Bassett and Moe finished fifth in the overall competition.

IBEW 1245 members took first place in every single apprentice event. Louis Jimenez took first in the Alley Arm Insulator Change Out, Hurtman Rescue, and Transformer Arrester Change Out,

while Richard Hall took first in the Obstacle Course, third in the written test, and fifth overall.

Garrett Mcghehey took first in the Written Test (as well as second place in the Obstacle Course and top honors overall).

SMUD apprentice Connor Hutchison took second in the Transformer Arrester Change Out.

While victory is sweet, rodeo competition is about more than out-competing your peers. The APPA Public Power Lineworkers Rodeo brings lineworkers together not only to prove their skill and knowledge but also to attend training courses and practice safety. Any deviation from safe work practices brings stiff penalties in the scoring, no matter how swiftly the task is performed. Speed is used in the scoring only if needed to break a tie.

Next year, the California teams will have home field advantage. The 2015 APPA Lineworkers Rodeo will be held in May in Sacramento.



The MID journeyman team captured first place in two events, third place in two events, and finished fourth place overall.



Rory Malia and Justin Hirschi compete for SMUD in APPA Rodeo.



The SMUD rodeo crew.



# Lineworkers Rodeo



MID team competes in APPA Rodeo.



SMUD journeyman Cayleb Bowman and Matt Wilson show the skills that led them, along with team member Todd Prangle, to top honors at the APPA Rodeo. Photo courtesy of SMUD

## Members ratify Sacramento Regional Transit agreement

Members of IBEW 1245 ratified an agreement with Sacramento Regional Transit on April 16 that provides wages increases, a lump sum payment, and additional increases for journey-level classifications. The vote was 124-57.

Members had previously rejected the District's first settlement offer in February by a wide margin.

The four-year agreement provides a wage increase of 1.5% effective April 1 and another 1.5% effective Oct. 1 of this year. Wage increases on the anniversary date of April 1 will be as follows: 3.25% in 2015, 3.5% in 2016 and 3.75% in 2017.

The lump sum was effective upon ratification. Thirteen journey level classifications will get additional increases each year of the agreement, totaling 5% overall. Additionally, small gains were made in the boot and the tool allowances, and the Dental plan was changed from \$50-per-year deductible to a \$50 lifetime deductible.

Bargaining for the union were committee members Constance Bibbs, Lauren Bartlett, Jeff James, Ron Hoff and Eric Ohlson, along with Business Rep. Sheila Lawton.



Dwight Johnson and his son Mason.

## 1245 nominates Dwight Johnson for IBEW Life Saving Award

IBEW 1245's Executive Board has nominated SMUD member Dwight Johnson for the IBEW International Life Saving Award. While most nominees for this award are recognized for saving a life at work, Dwight has a more unique story; using the skills he learned at work to save a life in his own home.

Last month, Dwight's two-year-old son Mason fell into the family's backyard pool. Dwight found him, pulled him out and immediately began CPR on the toddler while his wife called 911.

"I did about four to five sets of CPR until the paramedics arrived," he said in an interview with SMUD. "I was doing CPR until they pulled him out of my arms and took him to the hospital."

Dwight believes that the CPR training he received at SMUD played a major role in his ability to stay calm and begin CPR on his young child — which ultimately saved the boy's life.

Johnson credits his quick instincts to the skills he got from the training, along with his past experience as an Army medic. "I didn't even hesitate to start CPR," he recalled. "It was almost like a hurt man rescue training [for line-men]."

Mason spent 29 days in the hospital, including seven days in an intensive care unit. He was in a coma the first four days because of severe swelling of the brain.

"On the fifth day he opened his eyes," Johnson recalled. "The doctors were amazed he did that. They honestly weren't sure he was going to make it."

Mason arrived home from the hospital on April 10. He's still regaining all of his speech and motor functions, but he's running, playing with his siblings and enjoying the toddler life.

This inspiring story moved 1245's Executive Board to nominate Dwight for the Life Saving Award. His nomination is awaiting approval from IBEW's international office.



Dwight Johnson and all of his kids (left to right) Lauren, Ryan, Mason and Eric.





The apprentices.

Photos by John Storey

## Reno Rodeo Boosts Veterans

IBEW apprentice linemen from California and Nevada came to Reno on June 7 to demonstrate their skills and provide much-needed assistance to military veterans at the Reno Linemen's Rodeo.

With friends and family looking on, 38 IBEW apprentices from PG&E and NV Energy competed under a brilliant blue sky in six events: insulator change out, knots around the clock, hurt man rescue, speed climb, written test and a "mystery event" which turned out to be an arrestor change-out.

It was the fifth rodeo for Blake McCoy, an NV Energy 2nd-year apprentice who has competed in national rodeos in Kansas City and Pennsylvania. "I like competing. It's fun to hang out and meet other people," McCoy said.



Blake McCoy

IBEW 1245 Lineman Samson Wilson was the first up the pole in the flag-raising ceremony that opened the event. A dozen linemen in all scaled two poles to pass up flags representing California, Nevada, IBEW 1245 and IBEW 396, while a color guard stood at attention down below.

Wilson, who is an IBEW organizing steward and helped organize the rodeo, said he felt a lot of pride on his way up the pole.

"I have a tremendous amount of pride in my line of work," said Wilson. "I love being a journeyman lineman. Even more so, I love being a part of IBEW 1245 which has provided such great opportunities for me in my life and for my

family."

Wilson said he and co-chair Jim Lyle of NV Energy hoped the annual rodeo will raise awareness about the company's mission. "We keep the lights on," Wilson said.

Proceeds from the rodeo will benefit the United Way's efforts to provide assistance to veterans in need. In an effort to provide even more hands-on assistance to vets, the United Way, the US Department of Veterans Affairs, the IBEW 1245 Veterans Group and various industry vendors also had booths set up.

The IBEW 1245 Veterans Group booth was organized by NV Energy Apprentice and First Sergeant Jordan Bean and staffed by Veterans Group member Pam Pendleton, a Navy veteran who served for 8 years, and currently works as a welder at Sunoptics, and IBEW 1245 organizer Eileen Purcell.

IBEW 1245 Organizing Steward Michelle Benuzzi joined with NV Energy's Nanette Quitt to recruit participants, volunteers and vendor booths for the rodeo. "I wanted



Michelle Benuzzi

to show the community what our guys do and that unions are not a bad thing," she said. "We're out there, we're helping our community and we're giving back."

All the proceeds from the event will go to the United Way's Veterans Assistance Program. Last year's Reno Rodeo raised more than \$12,000 for charity, and while the final figures for this year's event are still being calculated, organizers project they will exceed last year's donation by a



Jared Wilson, NV Energy North, competes.

significant margin once they have added up all the registration fees, tee shirt and raffle ticket sales and generous donations from Local 1245 and a number of other sponsors and supporters.

A host of skilled journeymen served as judges for the competition. Their efforts were coordinated by chief judges Dana Moler of IBEW 1245 and Greg Moore of

IBEW 396. Both men serve as line trainers in their respective regions.

For Moler, the rodeo was about camaraderie and "bringing people together" in the trade.



Dana Moler





First up the pole in the flag-raising ceremony, top of left pole, was Organizing Steward Samson Wilson, who helped organize the rodeo.



Organizer Eileen Purcell and Sunoptics member Pam Pendleton staff the IBEW Veterans Group table.



Francisco Ortega, NV Energy North, competes.



Kids got treated to a bucket ride.



Erik Morring, PG&E, competes.



Vietnam Veterans of America table offers info for vets.

"It's to showcase our skills and what we do every day, rain, shine, snow, wind," he said.

At the evening Awards Banquet, the PG&E team was declared the winner of the day's activities. Bronson Lee of NV Energy South finished first overall. Individual event winners included:

- Kyle Jernigan** of PG&E, Insulator change out
- Kyle Jernigan** of PG&E, Knots around the clock
- Erik Morring** of PG&E, speed climb
- Mike Moreno** of PG&E, Hurt man rescue
- Mike Moreno** of PG&E, Arrestor change out (the "mystery event")
- Richard Knauss** of NV Energy, Written test

*Congratulations to all the winners!*  
Utility Reporter



Jesse Vigil, NV Energy South, competes.





Organizing stewards, retirees and activists with Maria Elena Durazo, Robert Reich and Business Manager Tom Dalzell (center)

## Robert Reich, Maria Elena Durazo headline IBEW 1245 leadership seminar

Former U.S. Secretary of Labor Robert Reich doesn't mince words.

He lambasted President Obama's recent public appearance at a Bay Area Walmart, calling whoever made the decision a "numbskull." And at a leadership seminar in Berkeley with 56 IBEW 1245 activists and LA Labor leader Maria Elena Durazo, Reich declared that the US economy is "rigged" in favor of the rich.

### Durazo hails "pioneers"

Durazo, head of the LA County Federation of Labor and a champion for low-wage and immigrant workers' rights, opened up the seminar by calling the Organizing Stewards "pioneers" and commending them for their hard work.

As an organizing powerhouse in the labor movement, "the name of IBEW Local 1245 is really getting out there," Durazo said.

She underscored the fact that an organizer's most powerful tool is his or her personal story, and 1245 Organizing Stewards are using their experiences to connect and motivate others. "What you're doing is spreading, and that's what you want," Durazo said. "You want it to spread so that other people like yourselves can join."

Durazo then shared her own personal story. Her parents came to California from Mexico as migrant farm workers, hoping to make a better life for their family.

"Most of the time, we didn't make enough to keep a roof over our head. We would stay in the labor camps, or the farmer's barn, or on the flatbed truck, or we would squat in a tent by a river on someone else's property and stay there as long as we could until we were ran



Reich: "There is no substitute for organizing!"

out," Durazo recalled.

Growing up in poverty shaped Durazo's life, with two seminal events that she feels moved her to fight for justice: the death of her infant brother due to lack of adequate healthcare; and her father's apology for being unable to provide more for her on the day she left for college, when she became the first in her family to do so.

"How could a man who worked so hard, sun up to sun down, 6-7 days a week, and refused to take any public assistance, how could a man like that have to apologize?" Durazo said.

Her experiences motivated her to begin organizing garment workers and hotel workers in Los Angeles, and she quickly rose to become the leader of her local, UNITE HERE 11. In 2006, after the

premature death of her late husband and labor leader, Miguel Contreras, Durazo was elected the Secretary Treasurer of the LA County Federation of Labor, and she has successfully turned LA into the largest labor town in the United States today.

Retiree Rita Weisshaar was struck by Durazo's conviction that history depends on "common people doing un-



common things.”

“Some people think they don’t have the knowledge or courage to reach out to others and spread the word so to speak. I used to be one of them. [Durazo] encouraged us to find universal values that we all care about and connect with other working people,” Weisshaar said.

## Reich: “No substitute for organizing”

“There are not very many voices out there for us, for working people, for the middle class, and I believe that the single strongest, most articulate, most well-respected voice [on our side of the issue] is Professor Reich,” said IBEW 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell, who introduced Reich at the leadership seminar, which was held May 14. “He’s my hero.”

True to form, Reich launched the discussion with a rapid-fire course in economics, history and politics. “This economy is rigged in favor of the people who have a lot of money and the big corporations. Ninety-five percent of all of the economic gains since the so-called ‘recovery’ began have gone to the top 1%.”

Reich went on to demonstrate the gross disparity in our economic system with some simple examples.

“If you want to declare bankruptcy because of student debt, you can’t do it. But if you are Donald Trump and you’ve got 300 different properties and you want to declare bankruptcy on one of them, sure, you can do it tomorrow,” Reich said.

“If you’re on Wall Street, you can get bailed out and come out even better than you were before, but if you’re a homeowner who’s underwater, you’re not going to get any bailout at all. And if you’re a poor person in this country,

your food stamps are being cut, but if you’re Big Agribusiness affected by the same bill, you’re doing better than ever.

“The reason why everything is being rigged for the rich and powerful is that the people who are not rich and not powerful don’t have enough of a voice, and are not sufficiently organized,” Reich said, noting that three times over the last 120 years, Americans have faced similar crises of economic inequality, and fought back successfully with organized labor at the center.

Reich ticked off a string of policy proposals that he believes could correct the course we are on. But the bottom line was all about working people standing together and fighting for their rights.

“Organized labor is more important now than ever. You create the voice, the negotiating power, wages, political power ... There is no substitute for organiz-

ing,” he said.

## “All is Possible”

“I think the most memorable moment I will take away from this, is knowing that all is possible. Organizing is possible. And it starts with *us*,” said Organizing Steward Nilda Garcia.

Tree Trimmer Justin Casey left the training motivated to go out and organize more workers, “not only to build membership, but to rebuild the whole economy as we know it.”

“Big money has a strong hold on what goes on, but collectively we can make a change,” Casey said. “Like we all know, it will not happen overnight. It’s going to take a lot of hard work and commitment, but if it was that easy to make change, it would have already happened!”

The seminar was the twelfth IBEW 1245 leadership training since the

Leadership Development and Organizing Program was launched by Business Manager Tom Dalzell in 2010. The intergenerational, hands-on program provides a powerful mix of youth and experience, trainings and learning-by-doing in live campaigns to prepare the next generation of labor leaders.

“Dispatching members to work on campaigns within our local or in solidarity with other locals reaps dividends,” said Dalzell. “They make an important contribution and grow and come back transformed.”

IBEW 1245 Organizing Committees and Organizing Stewards will be hosting screenings of the Robert Reich documentary, *Inequality for All*, at Unit Meetings, House Meetings, BBQs or other events.

For more information, email [organizers@ibew1245.com](mailto:organizers@ibew1245.com)



Durazo: “What you’re doing is spreading, and that’s what you want!”

The International Office of IBEW has a great new video on Local 1245’s organizing success. Go to: [http://ibew.org/vid\\_download.htm](http://ibew.org/vid_download.htm)

## New Advisory Council members sworn in



President Mike Davis, right, administers the IBEW oath on April 26 to new Advisory Council members Todd Shiels, left, and Cloudell Douglas. Shiels represents manufacturing members on the Council, Douglas represents members at East Bay Division of PG&E, Materials Distribution Department of PG&E, and Foster-Wheeler.



President Mike Davis, right, congratulates Kenneth Larson on being sworn in as the Advisory Council member representing Frontier Communications. At left is Ryan Dean, who also took the oath. Dean attended the April 26 meeting as an alternate for Jim Hayes, representing members at Diablo Canyon Power Plant.





# SERVICE AWARDS

## Sacramento

February 24, 2014



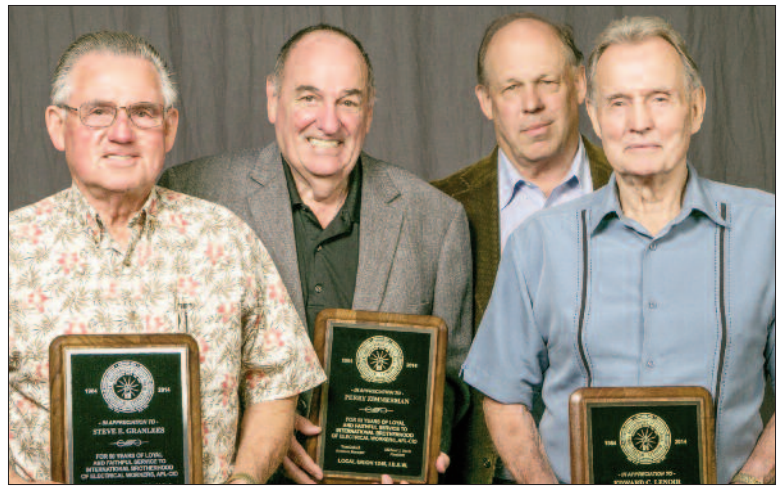
### 35 Years

Front row, from left: David Morrison, David Duane, and Daniel Hernandez. Back row, from left: Rick Estensen, Jim Thompson, Marlin Davis Jr.



### 35 Years

Front row, from left: Andrew Chatioan, and Greg Sisemore. Back row, from left: Don Woolridge, Art Torres, Brian Kapaun.



### 50 Years

Front row, from left: Steve Granlees, Perry Zimmerman and Ed Lenoir with Business Manager Tom Dalzell (back).

Photos by John Storey



### 40 Years

From left: Ed Siordia, Manuel Garcia, and Jim Farmer.



### 30 Years

Front row, from left: Paul Flecklin, Marvin Whitley, and James Hilliker. Middle row, from left: Frarino Bautista, Tracy Davis, and Dennis Carbullido. Back row, from left: Delbert Azevedo, Scott Cunningham, and Fred Martin.

## HONOREES

### 50 Years

Lenoir, Edward C  
Zimmerman, Perry  
Granlees, Steve E

### 40 Years

Avery, Robert S  
Beebe, Jerry  
Chico, Pete A  
Cole, Raymond S  
Farmer, Jim  
Garcia, Manuel  
Leon, George  
McCoy, James  
McSpadden, James K  
Molina, Carlos A  
Piercy, Paul D  
Terry, Donald S

### 35 Years

Abundis, Wayne M  
Ammon, Jefferson  
Andersen, Kim H  
Borrayo, Sergio M  
Campbell, Dennis E  
Carrion, Charles R

Chatioan, Andrew L  
Cockrum, Larry R  
Crittendon Jr., Ulysses  
Davis Jr., Marlin R  
Davis, Jerry L  
Duane, David  
Estensen, Richard H  
Ferguson, Dennis E  
Frey, Gary M  
Graybill, James M  
Gregory, James N  
Hayden, Diana L  
Hernandez, Daniel A  
Holding, Douglas C  
Horning, Phil M  
Hurdle, Donald A  
Kaiser, Ross S  
Kapaun, Brian F  
Kinsella, Cynthia A  
Krebs, John A  
Licon, George L  
Lizarraga, Armando  
Mason, David  
Meyers, Kurt A  
Morrison, David L  
Nelson, Thomas A  
Nepper, Terry

Rachel, Jeffrey G  
Renfree, Sam M  
Reyes, Secundino  
Rico, CV  
Sisemore, Greg K  
Storanski, Richard J  
Thompson, James L  
Torres, Arthur A  
Uyeda, Stanley K  
Walters, Michael T  
Wilkes Jr., Percy  
Woolridge, Don W

### 30 Years

Azevedo, Delbert C  
Bautista, Frarino L  
Bendure, Thomas L  
Boroos, Thomas M  
Bryans, Mitch A  
Carbullido, Dennis R  
Colip, Pat W  
Coloma, Jason  
Cooper, David R  
Cunningham, Scott C  
Danielson, Brett D  
Davis, Tracy E  
De Biase, David  
Deschaine, Michael J  
Diamond, Michael B  
Drake, Donnie L  
Elledge, Melody D

Flanders, Mark A  
Flecklin, Paul R  
Fletcher, Wade  
Flint, Dennis K  
Foley, Timothy C  
Freitas, Anthony R  
Gamba, Edward J  
Goodwin, Glenda J  
Graham, Steven A  
Hame, Janet M  
Hanks, Dennis J  
Hart, Emmett M  
Hespeler, Bryant N  
Hilliker, James G  
Johnston, Martin J  
Justice, Donna M  
Lawson, Richard J  
Lowe, Vernon D  
Manley, Paul R  
Martin, Fredrick R  
Morrison, Michael J  
Murchison, Robert W  
Neuburger Jr., Joseph B  
Niehenke, David W  
Notman, Jim  
Perry, Richard G  
Rodger, Mitchell  
Roman, John J  
Rose, Lisa L  
Sanders, Brian J  
Schindel, Byron W

Schmeck, Mark L  
Sickler, John E  
Simerly Jr., James E  
Snyder, Chris D  
South, Jack E  
Steffens, Jon A  
Stewart, Steven D  
Taylor Jr., Theodore  
Tellez, Gregory A  
Toth, Renee I  
White, Charles R  
Whitley, Marvin E  
Woods "Weiser", Michele

### 25 Years

Bell, John H  
Bien, Phil W  
Caldwell II, Lawrence  
Campodonico, Jeff A  
Chapman, Ron L  
Delgado, Chris  
Deschaine, James M  
Ebisu, Gayle C  
Flatland, John P  
Khan, Mohammed B  
Langan, Lance D  
Larry, Richard T  
Louis, Kan  
Low, Rory R  
McElhinney, Don S  
Perry, Brian D

Quarisa, Dennis R  
Stansfield, Eric J  
Torres, Bonifacio H  
Willford, Douglas

### 20 Years

Balch, Danilo R  
Barrows, Michael J  
Bergquist, Randy S  
Brooks, Shawn E  
De La Torre, Edmundo P  
Donnan, Mark S  
George, Craig A  
Gomez, Albert  
Goodwin, Joseph A  
Hernandez, Ruben I  
Hoang, Linh K  
Horiuchi, Dan J  
Iliev, Eric  
Kuo, Angela  
Lake, Samuel R  
Landa, Marco A  
Le Van, Todd M  
Lewis, Terry K  
Lotito, Dolores  
Manitta, Robert M  
Perez, Mindy E  
Pettigrew, Tameron M  
Reisinger, Kurt P  
Solorio, Richard L  
Veridiano, Reggie V

Vipond, David A  
Whitespeare, Edward D

### 15 Years

Aceves, Roberto  
Barton, Michael L  
Bencker, Scot F  
Borovac, Linda D  
Butler, Thomas E  
Camp, Jeff A  
Dillon, Sheryl A  
Eaves, Michael A  
Galley, Gary L  
Garcia, Agustin  
Gunski, Michael J  
Hall, Michael E  
Hansen, Mary J  
Hodges, John D  
Lawson, John C  
Lopez, Pasquale  
O'Mary (Doyle), Love  
Ornelas, Junior  
Prado-Ayala, Rafael  
Prince, Nathan W  
Rodriguez, Abel D  
Romo, Jose  
Skinner, Stephen H  
Smith, Marvin D  
Stewart, Ryan D  
Tucker, Michael B  
Williams, Sherifa Y





### 25 Years

From left: Mohammed Khan, Gayle Ebisu, and Jeff Campondonico.



### 20 Years

From left: Dixie Mara, Eric Iliev, and Tameron Pettigrew.



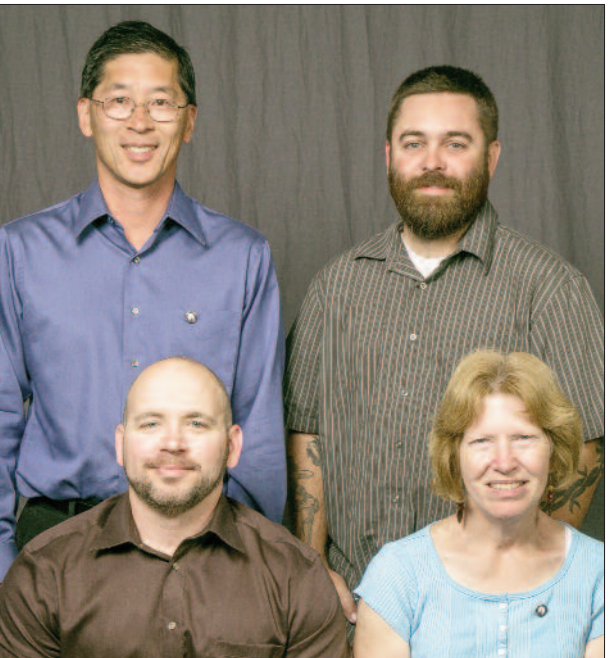
### 15 Years

Front row, from left: Junior Ornelas and Agustin Garcia. Back row, from left: Nathan Prince and Ryan Stewart.



### 10 years

Front row, from left: Terrance Herzberg, John Chappelle, and Anthony Albright. Back row, from left: Mark Curtis, Raul Martinez, and Frank Charles.



### 10 Years

Front row, from left: Matthew Langseth, and Deanna Parker. Back row, from left: Corey Mah and Lloyd Cargo.



### 5 years

Front row, from left: Keri Hughes and Ana Denise Leveron. Back row, from left: Jason Taylor, William Major and Joshua Kline.

*Congratulations on your service!*

<b>10 Years</b> Adams, Gary L Albright, Anthony J Alexander, Bertrand T Alvarez, Ernesto Angell, Elizabeth C Ayers II, Howard A Baez Torres, Humberto Banchio, Brandon C Barlow, Jeremy D Barnes, Craig A Bateman, Candice R Bennett, Boyd A Benyuska, Carrie A Bilotta, Robert A Bryan, James D Cargo IV, Lloyd I Carter, Branden K Chappelle, John S Charles, Frank R Clomon, Tyree V Cortijo, Joseph A Curtis, Mark A Cyphers, Shawn M Danner, Sam A Davila, Alfonso L Flavin, Daniel R Fukui, Christopher G Fuller, Jeff A Galvan, Alex P Godinez, Jose L	Goishi, Lori L Gonzales, Brandon R Graves, Jerry D Gross, Donald P Guimond, Peter O Gunter, David R Hardy, Jeff C Hearne, Troy W Hernandez, Ramiro Herzberg, Terrance S Hickerson, Eric L Higgins, James Hutler, Shayne R Huynh, Dung V James, Jimmy P Jasper, Thomas E Jones, Brandon A Jones, Joshua P Jordan, James C Jovalis, Loretta A Jurado, German L Keehn, Carl J Kemper, Zachary Kerch, Treavor W Kim, Douglas H Klein, Joseph P Klose, Timothy J Kolstad, Russell S Korte, Derek F Lamp, Raymon H Langseth, Matthew R	Logan, Charles J Lucas, Matthew W Lucero, Reynel O Lytchenko, Konstantin N Magee, Yvette V Mah, Corey K Marshall, Jeremy J Marshall, John A Martens, Jenny E Martinez, Raul A Matulich, Gregory L McCall, Michael T McClain, Dominic A McCombs, Beverly A Ming, Patrick A Morales, Cesar A Murphy, Shawn P Nelson, Tiffany N Parker, Deanna M Ploszaj, Michael S Quadrelli, Lynne M Raley, Lucas D Reed, Brett E Reynon, Richard K Rice, Darrol Rictor, Daryl A Rocha Jr, Anthony V Rodriguez, Isaias Rosas, Juan C Ruiz-Romero, Fabian R Rusk, John B	Saporito, Michael D Sealey, Eleon Springer, Adam P Stathopoulos, Billy Strickell, Robert W Takada, Alex P Toole, Kenneth E Tune, Christopher D Turney Jr., Robert W Utter, Joshua R Valderrama, Phil J Valencia-Garcia Jr., Ventura Vo, Tin H Williams, Micah B	<b>5 Years</b> Albano, Gina G Ayala, Anthony D Azzinaro, Justin R Bizallion, Steve E Blamey, Barry A Reed, Joseph W Bradley, Tiffany L Brown, Chad F Byer, Noah E Cardoso, Michael J Castle, Nicholas C Castro, Renee M Clark, Jeffrey A Coleman, Brett D	Cook, Raymond P Cortes, Luis M Covington, Tina Cronin, Adam Cross, Devaughn R De Los Cobos, Andrea E Derner, Jon S Dimas, Mark J Doolin, Charles W Dorado, Ernest M Fortin, Joseph E Frerking, Charles W Frisk, Joshua W Gabel, Peter J Garcia, Amado Garcia, Librado Garza, Ricardo G Gil, Job G Goligowski, Christopher S Grady, Jessie Guzzo, James R Hame, Gerald R Hamilton, Christopher M Hansen, Larry W Haswell, John C Hernandez, Isidro H Hernandez, Ricardo J Hidalgo, Edward Highfill, Kyle C Hughes, Keri L Hurff, Jared M	Isenberg, Allen B Joseph, Francoise C Keller, Travis Kidder, Gary Kline, Joshua J Kremer, Nicholas J Ladyman, Timothy P Lancaster, Kevin T Leavens, Ross O Leveron, Ana Denise Link, Steven S Lopez, Alexander I Lugo, Kenneth C Macias, Jose Major, William S Mara, Dixie W Marsh, Justin H Martinez, Angilberto Martinez, Santos Mcalister, Lawrence R McNeir, Jeremiah D Mollet, Cody A Moreno, Frank Mua, Tupu Munoz, Kevin Nordquist, Michael S O'Hagan, Adam N Perez, Eustacio Piper, Christopher M Po'oi, Jamie G Prasad, Abinesh	Reyes, Favian Reyes, Jose R Reyes, Jose S Rhea, Patrick W Rios, Justo A Rios, Victor Rivers, Tamara R Robles, Eduardo Rodriguez, Adan G Santos, Nelson C Shannon, John K Sims, Chynel N Smith, Stephen B Stutsman, Steven S Tanner, Walter W Taylor, Eric L Taylor, Jason S Thompson, Tommy L Torres, Alex Tran, Nghieu T Turner, Kjol W Vance, Jeff R Vanetten, Donald K Webb, Bradley W Wesch, Jennifer P Williams, Glen Wilson, April S Winkley, Nick Woodward, Jessica L Woolsey, Steven J
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Ready to compete: the Sacramento Charity bowlers!

Photos by John Storey

# 3rd Annual Sacramento Regional Charity Bowl: Hitting the pins & helping the hungry

There's nothing quite like knocking down some pins and knocking back some beers with friends and family at a bowling alley on a Saturday afternoon. Tie in some charity, organizing and a whole lot of solidarity, and you've got the IBEW 1245 Sacramento Regional Charity Bowl.

IBEW 1245 members from a wide range of employers, including SMUD, PG&E, Frontier, Trees Inc, Sunoptics and NV Energy, came out to Country Club Lanes in Sacramento on April 26. According to IBEW 1245 Organizer Jen Gray, who helped launch this annual event three years ago, the Charity Bowl is intended to be "multi-pronged" — combining a social activity with a charity effort while at the same time bridging the gap between members at different worksites and employers.

"I came out of PG&E, and that was all I'd ever known," said Gray. "Now, with this multi-employer event, we're building relationships and having friendships with folks you may never have known otherwise. But now through IBEW 1245, you have that connection."

Organizing Steward Rosario Garcia, a



Charity Bowl winners: Tom Embry, Rupert Espinosa, Sabrina Woodford and Rick Nguyen



Veronica De Luna, PG&E Sacramento CC, won a Samsung tablet in the raffle.



Tavia Valentine, PG&E Sacramento CC, and daughter YsaMonae



Harold Blackshire Jr. and Pam Pendleton





Rick Nguyen, PG&E W. Sacramento RMC

line clearance tree trimmer from Manteca, was excited to have some union-sponsored “family time,” so he brought his young son along with him to the bowling alley.

“A lot of times I’m away [from my family] for union business ... This is the first time I’ve gotten to bring my son to a union event so he can see what I’m involved in [and so he understands] why daddy’s always gone,” Garcia said. “And also, it’s great to support this good charity; that’s so important. It’s just another reason to come out and support 1245.”

All of the proceeds from this year’s Charity Bowl will go directly to Sacramento Loaves and Fishes, a local organization that feeds the hungry, shelters the homeless and provides a wealth of other essential survival services. The founder of the charity organization also has ties to the labor movement, and in fact knew IBEW 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell decades ago when Dalzell was active with the Farm Workers movement.

The Charity Bowl is hosted by IBEW 1245, but it’s truly become a community-wide event, and it’s grown by nearly 30% since last year. Members from nearby IBEW Locals 340 and 2376 were in attendance, and several labor activists from the Sacramento community also came out to support the cause.

Barbara Collins, a well-known activist with the OUR Walmart campaign,

heard about the Charity Bowl on Facebook from IBEW 1245 organizer Jammi Juarez, and decided to join in. Barbara and Jammi first met last summer, when IBEW 1245 dispatched members on a solidarity mission to join OUR Walmart’s “Ride for Respect” to Bentonville AK (home of Walmart headquarters).

“IBEW 1245 did an awesome job on our Summer for Respect last year. [The activists who worked on the Walmart campaign] really kicked butt,” Barbara said. “They’re an inspiration to me, and so I try to stay connected to 1245.” Barbara also noted that this was the first union-sponsored charity event that she’d attended, indicating that 1245 goes above and beyond to help others in need, whether they’re on the picket line or the soup line.

Never one to miss out on a chance to support the local labor movement, Sacramento City Council candidate Ali Cooper stopped by the bowling alley,

and IBEW 1245’s organizing stewards took advantage of the opportunity to encourage bowlers to sign up and volunteer with Cooper’s campaign. Local school board candidate Anna Molander also came out with her daughter to join the fun.

And indeed, it was a fun-filled afternoon. Returning champs from last year’s charity bowl, Tom Embry, Rupert Espinosa, Sabrina Woodford and Rick Nguyen from PG&E West Sacramento RMC, once again took home the winner’s trophies. Rick won best individual bowler as well.

The Charity Bowl also featured a raffle with all sorts of donated prizes, and of course all the proceeds from

the raffle tickets went to Loaves and Fishes as well. Taking home the biggest prizes were Rhonda Reynolds of PG&E West Sacramento RMC, who won the 32-inch LED television, Mark Devoll from Frontier Communications in Elk Grove, who walked away with a new beach cruiser bicycle, and Veronica De Luna from the PG&E Sacramento Call Center, who won a Samsung tablet.

Organizing Steward Walter Carmier of Frontier helped to coordinate the raffle and collect donations. “We sold over 400 tickets, and people were really excited to donate. Some people, when you’d tell them about the charity, they’d say, ‘No, I don’t want the raffle ticket, I just want to donate.’ I’ve been overwhelmed with the amount of support and people wanting to help out.”

At the end of the day, the Charity Bowl raised more than \$2800 for Loaves and Fishes, exceeding last year’s donation and the goal they set for themselves this year. The organizing team plans to set an even higher goal for next year.

Learn more and contribute to Sacramento Loaves and Fishes <http://www.sacloaves.org/>.



Sabrina Woodford, PG&E W. Sacramento RMC



Ivan Pereda, PG&E Sacramento CC



Fun for the family



Michael Musgrove with son



Rosario Garcia, Trees Inc., with son

Utility Reporter

Jennifer Gray, left, and Sunoptics Bargaining Committee members Chris Hann, Mauricio Centeno and Pam Pendleton participate in the raffle.







Patrick McCullough Jr. accepts the Al Sandoval scholarship from IBEW 1245. From left: Contest Judge Dorothy Fortier, President Mike Davis, Daphne McCullough, Patrick McCullough Jr., Patrick McCullough Sr., Business Manager Tom Dalzell.

## McCullough wins Sandoval Scholarship

Patrick McCullough Jr. was awarded the IBEW 1245 Al Sandoval scholarship at the Advisory Council meeting on April 26 in Vacaville.

McCullough won the scholarship in an essay competition on the topic, "Using the BART strike as an example, under what circumstances should a union strike in this day and age?"

"It's a complex decision, but a union should strike when it is clear the employer's disrespect for the workers is affecting the existence or utilization of employee rights and the employer's intransigence cannot be stopped or ameliorated by other means," McCullough's essay declared.

A plaque was presented to McCullough by contest judge and former Senior Assistant Business Manager Dorothy Fortier. She said

McCullough "captured the essence of the assignment and communicated with clarity, passion and power."

McCullough is the son of IBEW 1245 member Patrick McCullough Sr., a comm tech at the City of Berkeley as well as a 10-year shop steward and 18-year member of the union.

Business Manager Tom Dalzell told the younger McCullough that his dad has been "quite a model."

"If you come up like him you're going to be all right," Dalzell said.

McCullough plans to attend the University of California at Santa Cruz or New York University. He wants to study computer science and has a special interest in artificial intelligence, especially with applications "that help people."

The scholarship will provide McCullough \$2,000 toward his college education.

## Sandoval Scholarship Essay 2014

**Essay Topic: Using the BART strike as an example, under what circumstances should a Union strike in this day and age?**

By Patrick McCullough II

This topic has affected me. I have my license but don't drive myself. My girlfriend drives but we mainly depend on BART to go to San Francisco, Berkeley and Oakland. A lot of our friends use BART to get to school and go places, too. So, every day without BART was a pain. But, I've learned to think about the other people and not be too selfish.

The employees are people like my dad. When I was around 3 or 4 years old, my dad dressed me up in a power ranger costume with a sign saying "Master Blaster" on the back, and carried me on his shoulders into a city council meeting where his fellow technicians and electricians demanded fair treatment. (Master Blaster was the similarly sized man who harnessed the energy and made electricity for Barter Town in the Road Warrior movie.)

Their contract had expired two years ago and they felt they weren't appreciated and were being taken advantage of. Some were very afraid that if they went on strike or did a sick-out, they'd be fired or locked out and wouldn't have any money and benefits for their families. But everybody agreed they needed to do something besides just take it. They talked to negotiators, talked to the city council, got in newspaper articles, and, then, picketed, before getting strike sanction from the Alameda County Labor Council. The refuse workers in SEIU said they'd back them for one day. All of IBEW except for 1 guy stayed away from work that day. They agreed on the new contract the night of the day they came back.

It's a complex decision, but a union should strike when it is clear the employer's disrespect for the workers is affecting the existence or utilization of employee rights and the employer's intransigence cannot be stopped or ameliorated by other means.

Some of the things to look at:

- A union must communicate to the public and other labor organizations why they will strike.
- Are statements about costs, surveys, personnel, rules and efficiency statistics 100% factual, or are they false or misleading statements designed to unfairly gain advantage?
- Are negotiations treated like they're a top priority? Or are meetings subject to the employer's convenience or whimsical vacation schedules?
- Are the employer's public statements truthful and full of respect for their employees, though disagreeing on contractual terms? Or, are the employer's statements untruthful, misleading, or snarky?
- Would the public be hurt in their health, safety or national defense? Or would most of the public experience only tolerable inconvenience and appreciate the strike as benefitting all workers?

These are the things to consider. A balance must be made between what can be gained and what will surely be lost. It's hard to be very courageous when you've got mouths to feed and it would be very hard to justify an irreplaceable loss in the family income if just a little more effort, patience and creative thinking could do the trick.

## PG&E Agreement, from page 6

have the skill to help out the next gas serviceman, help do a little bit of the training, the tailboard," said Mohler. That lead GSR will be in a good position to give feedback to the supervisor with less background in the work and make it possible for that supervisor "to get a better product out of his employees."

Building a stronger Gas Service Department was part of the union's thinking all along, according to GSR Craig Moeller, another member of the committee.

"We as a committee early on came to a conclusion that we see probably way more work on the table than the company realizes, and we'd be foolish to turn it away and hand it off to a contractor or another department," Moeller said.

The work certainly seems to be there, including atmospheric corrosion work that needs to be performed on meters every five years. The new Job Definition-Line of Progression will give the company a deeper bench for meeting the workload, and correspondingly less temptation to farm the work out.

"For all the hundreds of existing GSRs who on a daily basis take leadership in their department and work as a *de facto* lead, we've put some frame-

work to the department and now we'll have people trained, experienced, and that is their job duty and they'll be compensated in the right manner for what guys have been doing in the department from the beginning of time," said Brown.

### Initial Staffing

The initial staffing of Utility GSR positions will be through offers to trained Title 300 installers.

"I like the fact we're finally going to pull people from Title 300, experienced employees, rather than pulling people from off the street and putting them 'in the fire,'" said Mitch Bryans, another GSR who served on the committee. "I think it's positive all the way around. This is the way it should have been done a long time ago."

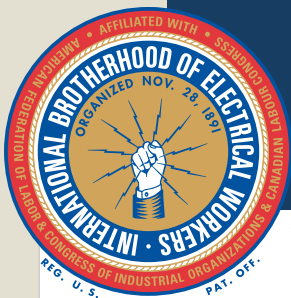
Also serving on the committee was GSR Michael Adayan. All four GSRs on the committee agreed that the end result should be better service for customers.

"The hope is that, long-term, all customers get a far better service and a more highly-technically trained GSR on the street to address what in some situations could be a life or death situation," Brown said.



Patrick McCullough Sr., an 18-year member, shares some union memories with Business Manager Tom Dalzell.





# Retirement Seminars

## I.B.E.W. Local 1245 and Merrill Lynch

These seminars are open to IBEW/PG&E employees age 45 and older and those on LTD. Your spouse or significant other is also welcome to attend. These seminars are provided to you free of charge, and a meal will be served at each seminar for attendees' enjoyment. You will receive a formal RSVP invitation letter in late July. Please contact Merrill Lynch in Walnut Creek, CA at 800-234-3858 and ask for Kindy Mann if you have any questions.

### Oakland

*Tues Sept 9  
6:30 – 8:00 PM*

*Francesco's  
Restaurant  
8520 Pardee Drive*

### Monterey

*Thurs Sept 11  
6:30 – 8:00 PM*

*Montrio Bistro  
414 Calle Principal*

### San Luis Obispo

*Sat Sept 13  
9:00 – 10:30 AM  
Madonna Inn  
100 Madonna Road*

### San Mateo

*Tues Sept 16  
6:30 – 8:00 PM*

*Crowne Plaza  
1221 Chess Drive,  
Foster City*

### Concord

*Tues Sept 16  
6:30 – 8:00 PM*

*Hilton Concord  
1970 Diamond Blvd*

### Stockton

*Thurs Sept 18  
6:30 – 8:00 PM*

*Hilton Stockton  
2323 Grand Canal Blvd*

### San Jose

*Sat Sept 20  
9:00 – 10:30 AM*

*Fairmont Hotel  
170 South Market Street*

### Redding

*Sat Sept 20  
9:00 – 10:30 AM*

*Best Western/  
Hilltop Inn  
2300 Hilltop Drive*

### Chico

*Sat Sept 20  
1:00 – 2:30 PM*

*Holiday Inn  
685 Manzanita  
Court*

### Bakersfield

*Fri Sept 26  
6:30 – 8:00 PM*

*Doubletree  
3100 Camino Del  
Rio Court*

### Fresno

*Sat Sept 27  
9:00 – 10:30 AM*

*The Elbow Room  
731 West San Jose*

### Sacramento

*Sat Sept 27  
9:00 – 10:30 AM*

*Holiday Inn  
300 J Street*

### Santa Rosa

*Sat Oct 4  
9:00 – 10:30 AM*

*Hilton Hotel  
3555 Round Barn  
Blvd*

### Eureka

*Sat Oct 4  
9:00 – 10:30 AM*

*Red Lion Hotel  
1929 Fourth Street*



2014

**Merrill Lynch**  
Wealth Management  
Bank of America Corporation

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





# Good for the Pole,

When a five-man IBEW crew from International Line Builders was dispatched in May to a job in San Jose, they found a pole almost entirely engulfed by a large California pepper tree. The pole was old, and it was being destabilized by the tree's roots. The crew's job: install a replacement pole about 40 feet away—in a more appropriate, tree-free location.

"We're moving the pole line over, and we're transferring the wire over to the new pole and new transformer, and we're hooking up that new service to the house," explained IBEW 1245 member and crew foreman Shawn Perez. "You know, just regular line work."

The driveway was too narrow for a line truck, so Groundman Daven "Dave" Hernandez navigated the backyard machine across the four-acre property to the pole,

Crew works to move the power lines to the new pole.



Backyard machine goes where a line truck can't.



Getting the new pole ready.

BELOW: Maneuvering the pole with backyard machine.



Crew foreman Shawn Perez



3rd step apprentice Josh Ganthier



Lineman



# Good for the Tree

which was located atop a steep incline.

The hole for the new pole had been dug the day before, so the crew got to work dressing and installing the new pole. The service was then moved over, with sixth-year apprentice Tim Fisher and third-year apprentice Josh Ganthier working from the new pole and Lineman Eric White (a traveling member from Local 77) working from the old pole.

Once the service was moved over, the old pole was carefully extracted to preserve the pepper tree, which was undoubtedly much happier for the extra breathing room.

IBEW 1245 Business Rep Richard Ingle said the pole's new location will help assure service reliability in the future.

"It's good for the pole, and it's good for the tree, too," he observed.

Story by Rebecca Band  
Photos by John Storey



California pepper tree threatened the pole's integrity.



The crew from left: Josh Ganthier, Daven Hernandez, Tim Fisher and Eric White



This way a little bit.



Lineman Eric White (local 77)  
Utility Reporter



Groundman Daven Hernandez



6th step apprentice Tim Fisher





# Bakersfield

May 2, 2014



## 35 years

Front row, from left: David Scott, Chris Habecker, and Patrick Earl. 35 year members; (left to right); Back row, from left: John Bell, Ed Vanderhorst, Marshall Elijah, and Tony Reyes.

Photos by John Storey



## 30 years

Front row, from left: John Van Horn and Dale Brosky. Back row, from left: Roger Wilson and Karl Feil.



## 40 years

Front row, from left: Raymond Aaron and Louis Rodrigues. Back row, from left: IBEW 1245 Recording Secretary Chris Habecker and Rickey Rollins.



## 25 years

From left: George Zaninovich, Charles Baker, and Michael Newton.

*Congratulations on your service!*



## 15 years

From left: Travis Downing, Keith Greenwood, and Juan Torres.



## 10 years

From left: Miguel Gonzales and Manuel Cordeiro.



## 5 years

From left: Chris Habecker and Anita Martinez.

# HONOREES

## 40 Years

Aaron, Raymond L. Rodrigues, Louis Rollins, Rickey M. Schmitt, Richard A. Scott, Michael G.

## 35 Years

Bell, John M. Cajita, Robert C. Earl, Patrick A. Hamilton, Billy W. Ogden III, James H. Reyes, Tony

Scott, David D. Vanderhorst, Ed A. Vink Sr, Bryan A. Wilder, Jerry R.

## 30 Years

Allen, Bryan A. Barton, Sherri J. Bradshaw, Mark A. Brosky, Dale J. Brown, Damon M. Campbell, Gerald Cruz, Gilbert J. Feil, Karl Gaston-Rollins, Joy A.

Holtschulte, Mark S. Lawhon, William R. Morrison, Lisa M. Mulholland, Gregg A. Parnell, Richard D. Phillips, Richard A. Reichert, Mike G. Root, Jerry W. Saffell, Kory M. Samaniego, Samuel R. Sperling, Dale G. Stewart, Gary Teagarden, Annette L. Van Horn, John E. Wilson, Roger D. Zimmerman, Blair G.

## 25 Years

Baker, Charles B.

Brown, Lori A. Casey, Brian J. Larson, Chris G. Newton, Michael Swindell, David Zaninovich, George M.

## 20 Years

Kamrar, William "Danny" Sanchez, Michael T.

## 15 Years

Albright, Nick P. Barrett, Tyler A. Bennett, Ronald J. Campbell, Cameron G. Downing, Travis W. Florez, Armando R.

Garcia, Daniel U. Greenwood, Keith R. Hidalgo, Felipe J. Rodgers, Aaron P. Suggs, Mark G. Torres, Juan E.

## 10 Years

BAuer, Alex W. Begley, Paul A. Cardenas, Anthony M. Carlton, Bryan D. Castillo, Michael Cervantes, Jr., Jose M. Cordeiro, Manuel G. Covert, Dustin L. Digirolamo, Jeffrey A. Francis, William B. Gonzales, Jose A.

Gonzalez, Miguel A. Greene, Chris C. Johnson, Ezekial R. Kesler, James L. Lynch, Artie J. Nevarez, Michael L. Perez, Ruben M. Perry, Jared Race, Andy F. Rios, Rafael Russell, Stuart Salyers, Scott C. Schulke, Eric C. Scott, Doug M. Speck Jr, Clifford J. Walker, Valentino D. Waters, Gregory S.

## 5 Years

Carrillo, Serjio A. Correa, Avelino C. Cruz, Casey Dillon, Xavier Dobson, Robert E. Dominguez, Patricia Gamboa, Sergio Larios, Frank Martinez (Tomberlin), Anita P. Martinez, Robert McGill, Jason W. Negrete, Kenny B. Riblett, Timothy D. Rocha, Jose R. Stallcup Jr., Robert E. Thomas, Christopher M.





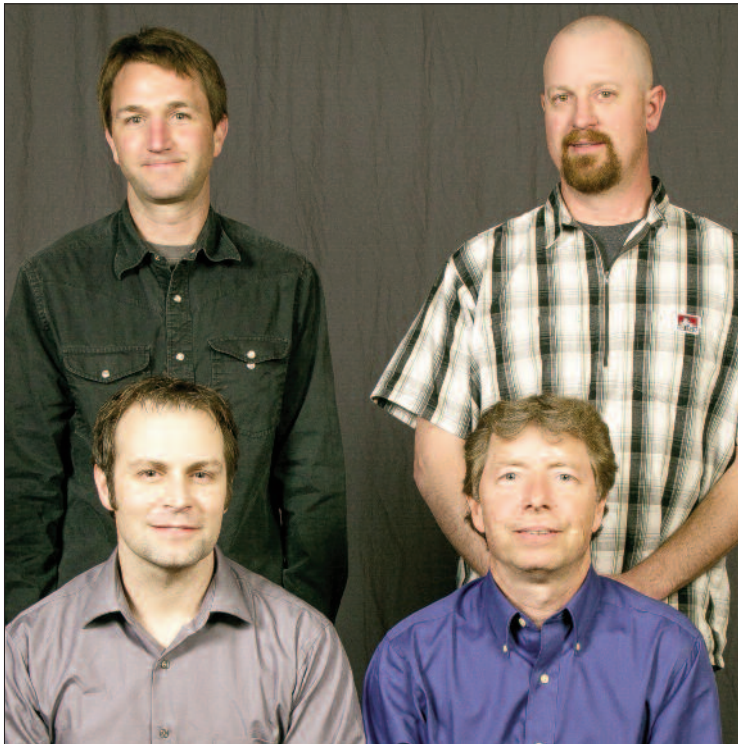
# Eureka

April 11, 2014



## 30 Years

Front row, from left: Darren Fraiser and Mark Richards. Back row, from left: Sonny Hollesen, Stacy Parsons, and Michael Richardson.



## 10 Years

Front row, from left: Kristopher Rowberry and Daniel Mentink. Back row, from left: Christopher Christianson and Anthony Ponnay.

Photos by  
John Storey

# HONOREES

## 35 Years

Harmeyer, Robert M  
Southworth, Brian

## 30 Years

Aronson, Robert J  
Bradley, Daniel E  
Crider, William R  
Frazier, Darren A  
Hollesen Jr., Ward J  
Page, David M  
Parsons, Stacy E  
Richards, David W  
Richards, Marvin A  
Richardson, Michael W  
Walpole, James H

## 25 Years

Conley, Joseph P  
Dekens, Mark E  
Hanson, Scott C

## 20 Years

Kuttler, Kyle A  
Luce, John M  
Miclette, Dueane J

## 15 Years

Bigham, Billy D  
Hays, Sandra J  
Martin, Mark E

## 10 Years

Baty, Kevin L

Christianson, Christopher M  
Evansizer, Richard T  
Mentink, Daniel B  
Ponnay, Anthony V  
Rowberry, Kristopher S  
Solen, Michael P

## 5 Years

Barajas, Rafael  
Barthman, Brian J  
Battilocchi, Jeff D  
Cox, Ryan D  
Doudna, Aquila J  
Dragoslyvich III, Michael  
Edwards-Moore, Timothy  
Elliott, Clay K  
Jeffrey, Dwayne A  
Lorenc, Jill M  
Myers, Troy J  
Nix, Timothy J  
Wood, Jacob T



## 35 Years

Brian Southworth, center, receives 35-year award from Senior Assistant Business Manager Bob Dean and Business Rep. Sonny Hollesen.

*Congratulations on your service!*



## 25 Years

From left: Bob Dean with Mark Dekens.



## 20 Years

From left: Dueane Miclette with Sonny Hollesen.



## 15 Years

From left: Billy Bigham with Sonny Hollesen.



## 5 Years

Front row, from left: Timothy Nix and Jill Lorenc. Back row, from left: Aquila Doudna and Brian Barthman.





# Armstrong replaces Cochran

With the departure of Ron Cochran on May 9, Ralph Armstrong now leads the construction and tree trimming group and has been promoted to Senior Assistant Business Manager.

Mike Cottrell continues to provide the Code of Excellence Safety Training to all Outside Line members who sign the books. Richard Ingle is out in the field daily doing crew visits and putting out fires. Liz McInnis will continue to handle organizing new contractors, some field work and many other assigned duties.

Carl Lamers, Abel Sanchez and Junior Ornelas continue to represent our ever-growing tree trimming group throughout our jurisdiction.

## Work Outlook

The current work outlook appears to have stabilized at the current crew amounts for distribution work, which is around 47 crews—down from around 75 last year at this time. The amount of civil work has increased with around 32 of our crews performing this work. We are trying to capture some other civil work for our members which we currently are not performing. If it works we could possibly see more jobs for our line equipment men and groundmen. There are still some transmission pole replacement jobs going on, but much of this

work is being slowed due to shortage of materials. It seems over the last couple of months a lot of the contracting work has slowed. The current level is still good overall, just not what most of our members have come to enjoy over the last couple of years.

## Organizing

In the month of May we have signed the following contractors:

- **California Outside Line Construction Agreement**  
Titan Electrical Contracting Inc  
Baileys Trenchless Inc
- **PG&E Support Agreement**  
HOT/SHOT Infrared Inspections  
G4S Technology, Inc

## 2014 Training Schedule and Special Events

- First Aid and CPR is the 2nd Saturday of every month at our Riverside and Sacramento facility.
- Crane Class –June 9-13, Vacaville - **CANCELLED** due to low sign-ups
- July 12–Fishing Derby – **SOLD OUT**
- July 26 & 27 – 9th District Soft ball Tournament, Hayward
- October 4 – Soccer Tournament, Fairfield, CA



Ralph Armstrong



Ron Cochran

## DISPATCH

May 2014	As of 28th	Total Calls YTD – 2014
Lineman	87	463
Apprentice Lineman	7	70
Equipment Man	13	90
Groundman	70	70
Substation Tech	1	16
Fabricator Tech	32	82
Cable Splicer	4	16
	214	807

## OUT OF WORK BOOKS

As of April 23, 2014

BOOK #			
L-1	37	CS-1	14
L-2	58	CS-2	26
L-3	2	CS-3	2
L-4	143		
		GM-1	27
ES-1	11	GM-2	28
ES-2	11	GM-3	279
ES-3	15	GM-4	291
		Sub-1	1
		Sub-2	7
		Sub-3	132
		Sub-4	0

# Members ratify extension

Outside Construction members in IBEW 1245's jurisdiction ratified a two-year extension of the current labor agreement. The vote, conducted by mail ballot, was 211-14, with two voided ballots.

IBEW members in Local 47's jurisdiction ratified by 86%, with 455 total ballots returned.

Members will enjoy a 6.5% increase in total compensation over 2015 and 2016. The new contract, which takes effect June 1, 2015, is good through May 31, 2017.

Ballots were counted on April 14 at Weakley Hall in Vacaville. Serving as judge for the ballot count was Peggy Proschold. Serving as tellers were George Fettingner and Erik Rodriguez.

# Fond farewell for Ron Cochran

On May 9, the staff and leaders of IBEW 1245 bid farewell to Senior Assistant Business Manager Ron Cochran. Brother Cochran, a 30-year member of Local 1245, has been an integral part of the Outside Construction staff since being hired on as a business rep in 2006.

"He's given us eight years and in those eight years, he's given us as much as anybody ever has at this local," Business Manager Tom Dalzell said to Cochran at his sending-off party. "And he's off on a great big adventure! We know he won't just do well, he'll do really well, because we saw what he did here... I'm so proud and so excited for him."

Cochran began his storied union career in Outside Construction, working directly for a number of utilities, including the former Pacific Power and Light in Oregon, an investor-owned utility; the City of Redding, a municipal utility; and Western Area Power Administration, a federal power agency. He served as both a negotiator and steward before coming on staff.

As Senior Assistant Business Manager, Cochran oversaw all of the Outside Construction and Line Clearance Tree Trimming units. Under his tutelage, IBEW 1245 saw tremendous growth in the number of signatory Outside contractors, now at well over 200. Cochran strove to consolidate agreements whenever possible; bringing tree trimmer contractors together under a Master Agreement, pulling 28 independent agreements

into one California Outside Line Agreement, and standardizing all the inspection agreements into five categories.

But what Cochran will be remembered for most was his innovative spirit. He built a new partnership with the Cypress Mandela Training Center of Oakland to recruit candidates for apprenticeship, and he was one of the first to take advantage of new digital technology to communicate with members. He also thought up, coordinated and launched some of 1245's extremely popular sporting activities, including the clay shoots, fishing trips, softball and soccer tournaments. What set him apart wasn't simply his big ideas, but his keen attention to detail and execution to make those big ideas succeed.

"The cake says 'Good Luck Ron,' but when I saw it I thought, you don't need luck. If you give a fraction of the time, dedication and energy you gave us, you're going to be a huge success," IBEW 1245 staffer Liz McInnis told Cochran at his send-off luncheon at Weakley Hall. "I want to thank you for your words of encouragement, all the opportunities that you've given me... and that kick in the butt whenever I needed it."

Brother Cochran will be sorely missed, and the union wishes him the best of luck in his future endeavors. As Cochran departs, Ralph Armstrong takes over as the new Senior Assistant Business Manager for Outside Construction and Tree Trimmer units. He can be reached by email at [rma1@ibew1245.com](mailto:rma1@ibew1245.com).



Business Manager Tom Dalzell presents Ron Cochran with a collage filled with memories of his time at 1245.

**Check your spot on the books and pay your dues – on-line!**

<http://bit.ly/IBEW1245updates>

[www.ibew1245.com](http://www.ibew1245.com)



# IBEW 1245 Veterans Group seeks new ways to connect needy vets with quality jobs

The IBEW 1245 Veterans Group was launched last year to address the many troubling issues that our service men and women face every day, with a heavy focus on lessening joblessness among returning veterans. Now, the group is zeroing in on concrete ways to help vets further their careers.

On May 28, the Veterans Group met at Weakley Hall to learn more about PG&E's PowerPathway, an eight-week training program that focuses on preparing military veterans for high-road careers in the utility industry.

"The hiring process at PG&E is an extremely difficult process. So our goal is to provide the candidates who go through the PowerPathway program an advocate within the company," said PowerPathway Program Manager Jason Cameron. "That's my job; to coordinate the program and also to serve as an advocate for those students when they apply for jobs at PG&E."

PowerPathway is free to eligible participants. Many PowerPathway participants are able to use their GI bill benefits for the program. While there's no guarantee of a job for PowerPathway graduates, 81% of those who've completed the program over the last three years have found prevailing wage employment in the industry, and 65% have secured jobs at PG&E.

IBEW 1245 Veterans Group members Erick Varela and Pam Pendleton are both graduates of PowerPathway. Varela has since secured an apprenticeship with PG&E. Pendleton is employed at another IBEW-represented employer

and is still working with the PowerPathway staff for assistance in advancing her career.

Cameron urged the group members to help spread the word about the next PowerPathway training on Electric Operations, which will begin in late August at American River College in Sacramento.

The group, which seeks to help vets both within and outside IBEW 1245, spent the afternoon discussing programs and initiatives being pursued in their local communities.

- Navy veteran Jaime Tinoco, who works for the City of Lompoc, shared news from a local group seeking to build a "Fallen Warriors" memorial in his town.
- City of Redding retiree and Navy vet Mike Grandmain announced plans for a veterans' clay shoot and/or charter boat trip in Redding this summer.
- National Guard reservist and NV Energy lineman Jordan Bean encouraged other group members to join him at the upcoming Lineman's Rodeo in Reno on June 7. Proceeds from the rodeo will benefit the United Way's veterans' assistance programs.

The group also brainstormed on new ways to broaden their reach. They decided to identify local and regional Veterans Day Parades and activities to join this fall. For more information and updates, visit [www.ibew1245vets.com](http://www.ibew1245vets.com).

For more information about PowerPathway visit [www.pge.com/powerpathway/](http://www.pge.com/powerpathway/).



PG&E PowerPathway Program Manager Jason Cameron explains the program.



Jaime Tinoco



PG&E guest James Morante



Dave Sankey



Phil Alleman



Pam Pendleton



Walter Carmier



PG&E guest Shanne Malilay, left, and Jordan Bean.



The IBEW 1245 Veterans Group discusses ways to help veterans gain employment.



Pat Duffy



# Futbol!

“Amistad, Unidad, Solidaridad”



About 200 IBEW 1245 *futbolistas* and their families came to Merced on April 12 for the union's 4th annual soccer tournament.

Eight teams went head-to-head in the single-elimination tournament, while their families and friends cheered them on. Kids of all ages competed in “junior soccer” along the sidelines, leaving little doubt that *futbol* is the most popular sport among IBEW 1245's line clearance tree trimmers and their families.

“It's a day of friendship, of unity, of solidarity; it's a day for the members and their families. And it's a day of soccer, the most popular game in the world!” IBEW 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell said at the soccer tournament. “Only one team wins today, but really everyone leaves a winner because of the friendship, solidarity and time that we spend together.”

There was plenty for kids to do. Besides all the soccer on and off the field, there were spirited games of volley ball and two piñatas that were just begging to get clobbered with a stick. The kids were happy to comply and were rewarded with showers of candy.

Estanislao “Tanny” Hurtado, who works at Davey Tree and played on the Bakersfield team, called the annual tournament “a great idea.”

“We get to meet the other brothers that do

the same thing we do for a living, and we get to know each other,” said Hurtado, who represents tree trimmers on the IBEW 1245 Advisory Council. “Most of the players here today know that the union helps us get good wages and benefits, but this is a great event because it reminds the tree trimmers that the union is there for them” in other ways as well.

IBEW 1245 staff and volunteers served up a BBQ lunch of chicken, rice and beans, and also served as judges in the Salsa and Dessert cooking competition. The unanimous verdict: all four entries were delicious, and all four contestants won prizes.

Following lunch, the teams from Bakersfield (in orange) and Angels Camp (in teal) battled it out in the final round of the single-elimination tournament, with Angels Camp squeaking out a 3-2 victory.

Artemio Contreras, an 11-year IBEW member competing on the Angels Camp team, usually brings his son along with him to the tournament, but this year his son had a conflict—he was playing in his own soccer game. Despite missing his family, Contreras says he thoroughly enjoyed the day – and the victory.

“The union has been sponsoring these tournaments for years, and we've come every year. Our

*continued on page 30*

**Story by Rebecca Band**  
**Photos by Eric Wolfe**





Angels Camp team: the victors



Bakersfield team: runners-up



IBEW 1245 Soccer Tournament  
April 12, 2014  
Merced, California

Angels Camp  
Bakersfield  
Fresno  
San Jose (Utility Tree)  
San Jose (Synergy)  
Santa Cruz  
Stockton  
Visalia



## Amistad, Unidad y Solidaridad: Torneo familiar de fútbol IBEW 1245 en Merced

**A**lrededor de 200 futbolistas del IBEW 1245 y sus familias se dieron cita en Merced el 12 de abril para participar en el 4º torneo anual de fútbol.

En el torneo, que era de eliminación directa, se enfrentaron ocho equipos mientras sus familiares y amigos los animaban. Los niños de todas las edades compitieron en “fútbol juvenil” en los terrenos adyacentes, sin que quedara la menor duda que el fútbol es el deporte más popular entre los podadores de árboles para la limpieza de líneas del IBEW 1245 y sus familias.

“Es un día de amistad, unidad, solidaridad; es un día dedicado a los miembros y a sus familias. Y es un día de fútbol, ¡el deporte más popular del mundo!”, declaró durante el torneo Tom Dalzell, Gerente de Negocios del IBEW 1245. “Hoy solo ganará un equipo, pero en realidad todos salimos ganando por la amistad, la solidaridad y los momentos que compartimos juntos.”

Hubo abundantes actividades para los

niños. Además de los juegos de fútbol en la cancha y fuera de ella, hubo animados juegos de voleibol y dos piñatas a la espera de que las rompieran. Los niños lo hicieron con gusto y como recompensa recibieron una cascada de golosinas.

Estanislao “Tanny” Hurtado, empleado de Davey Tree y jugador del equipo de Bakersfield, comentó que el torneo anual es “una excelente idea.”

“Nos da la oportunidad de conocer a otros hermanos que hacen el mismo trabajo que nosotros, y compartimos un rato con ellos,” dijo Hurtado, quien es representante de los podadores de árboles en el Consejo Consultivo del IBEW 1245. “La mayoría de los jugadores presentes hoy aquí, saben que el sindicato nos ayuda a obtener buenos salarios y beneficios, pero este es un gran evento porque sirve para recordarle a los podadores de árboles que pueden contar con el sindicato” para otras cosas también.

El personal del IBEW 1245 y un grupo de voluntarios sirvieron el almuerzo que

*continued on next page*



FUTBOL! continued from previous page

team always makes it to the finals!” Contreras noted with pride, speaking in Spanish. “I really love *futbol*. It’s the best! Even though I’m a little old to play, I love to come and it’s a great way to build solidarity.”

A second eight-team tournament scheduled for Fairfield on April 26 was postponed due to wet field conditions. The Fairfield tournament has been rescheduled for Oct. 4

See more photos on-line at <http://tinyurl.com/ibewfutbol>.



consistió en pollo a la barbacoa con arroz y frijoles. Ellos también actuaron como jueces en el concurso de cocina de Salsa y Postre. El veredicto fue unánime: los cuatro platos presentados eran deliciosos y los cuatro concursantes ganaron premios.

Después del almuerzo, los equipos de Bakersfield (en anaranjado) y Angels Camp (verde azulado) se enfrentaron en la última ronda del torneo de eliminación directa, resultando ganador Angels Cam con un ajustado triunfo de 3-2.

Artemio Contreras, un miembro que ha estado con el IBEW por 11 años y que juega con el equipo Angels Camp, generalmente trae a su hijo al torneo, pero este año su hijo tenía otro compromiso. El hijo tuvo que jugar en su propio juego de fútbol. Aunque extrañó a su familia, Contreras dijo que disfrutó el día y el triunfo, enormemente.

“El sindicato ha estado patrocinando estos torneos durante muchos años, y venimos todos los años. ¡Nuestro equipo siempre llega a la ronda final!” Comentó Contreras orgullosamente en español. “Realmente me encanta el fútbol. ¡Es lo mejor! Aunque estoy un poco mayor para jugar, me encanta venir y es una excelente manera de fomentar la solidaridad.”

El segundo torneo de ocho equipos, programado originalmente para el 26 de abril en Fairfield, tuvo que ser pospuesto ya que el campo estaba húmedo. La nueva fecha del torneo ha sido fijada para el 4 de octubre.



Tree Business Rep Abel Sanchez awards first prize in the cook-off.



Tree Business Reps Junior Ornelas and Carl Lamers.



Lunch



No one went away hungry!



It took many IBEW hands to organize the tournament. Congratulations one and all.



# Line clearance tree trimming report

We are now dealing with an enhancement of the “falsification of paperwork” policy with all utility line clearance tree companies by direction of PG&E. The new policy puts forth a policy of *zero tolerance* regarding not trimming to prescription, and includes inadvertent and unintentional clerical errors. PG&E has quoted section 3.1.3 of their contracts with the tree companies that allows PG&E to demand immediate removal from their property anyone they deem unsatisfactory. We have already seen one termination, which is being grieved.

We are off to an early start of fire season with several fires already in the South and one burning at this time near Mariposa. We are communicating with our members regarding the extreme fire danger this year and we anticipate stricter enforcement of the tree company's Fire Prevention Plans. The governor, PG&E, Cal Fire and other agencies recognize the danger and potential loss of life, property damage and firefighting costs. We are doing our best to get the

message out to our members.

With the high heat we have already experienced this year it is important we continue to inform our members regarding heat illness prevention and the necessity of having plenty of cool water. We know of one company that has already been cited by Cal-OSHA for not having legally-required supplies of water for their crews.

## Davey Tree Surgery

There have been several changes in Davey Tree Surgery management of late. Napa and San Rafael have been carved out of the North Bay Region and are autonomous under a new area manager. San Rafael is seeing the return of their former general foreman with their current general foreman going to Santa Rosa and the general foreman in Calistoga was laid off.

We are continuing to work on resolving the issue of vacation carryovers from the previous year, 2013 to 2014. The company fully understands our position regarding the vacation allotment per the union agreement. We are expecting

their final response prior to filing any grievance on the matter.

Davey has now expanded to Las Vegas and Reno for NV Energy. We expect this work to continue for the next 3 months until an agreement is reached with the utility. We fully plan on assisting the company in securing this contract. The previous contractor was removed from the property for numerous safety infractions. This last incident hit the media by storm.

The work forecast is very low in Los Padres Division; there may be another lay off.

## Mario's Tree Service

They are working in the northern part of the state from the Redding area and towards the coast. Mario's work continues to stay steady by working for Wright Tree Service.

## Mountain Enterprise Inc.

We held a labor-management meeting in Sacramento to discuss all open issues system-wide. We encountered several issues regarding vacation, lay-

offs, pay, and hours worked. We expect a follow-up meeting in June to address the issues of concern.

Work is continuing at North and South Lake Tahoe for Liberty Energy.

## Synergy

The company is doing reliability work in the Los Gatos area for Utility Tree. The employees have been receiving their raises to the next classification. No issues, things seem to be going good.

## Osmose

We have talked to a crew that was working in the Oakhurst area and they say they have plenty of work and are currently on a 4-10s schedule with no current issues.

## Trees Inc.

The Grievance Review Committee met in Yuba City on April 23. We discussed all open matters and including labor-management issues system-wide. We are still working on a few cases that were held over. We expect to get these

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## Informe de los podadores de árboles para el despeje de líneas

Bajo instrucciones de PG&E, las compañías de despeje de líneas han reforzado la política de “falsificación de documentación”. La nueva política pone en vigencia una política de *tolerancia cero* en lo que se refiere al incumplimiento de las instrucciones de poda de árboles, e incluye los casos de errores administrativos involuntarios y no intencionales. PG&E ha citado la sección 3.1.3 de los contratos con las compañías de poda de árboles para el despeje de líneas, según la cual PG&E puede exigir la remoción inmediata de sus instalaciones, de cualquier persona que ellos consideren insatisfactoria. Ya se ha presentado un caso de despido, el cual está en proceso de reclamo.

La temporada de incendios ha comenzado temprano este año. Ya se han producido varios incendios en el sur, y hay uno ardiendo cerca de Mariposa. Hemos estado en comunicación con nuestros miembros sobre los altos riesgos de incendio este año y tenemos previsto que los Planes de Prevención de Incendio de las compañías se apliquen de manera más rigurosa. El gobernador, PG&E, Cal Fire y otros organismos reconocen el peligro y las pérdidas potenciales de vidas, daños a la propiedad y costos relacionados con la extinción de incendios. Estamos haciendo todo lo posible para comunicar este mensaje a nuestros miembros.

El calor extremo que ya se ha sentido este año hace aún más importante mantener informados a nuestros miembros sobre las medidas de prevención de enfermedades causadas por el calor y la necesidad de tener suficiente agua fría. Hemos recibido información sobre una compañía que ya fue citada por

Cal-OSHA por no cumplir con los requerimientos legales de agua para sus cuadrillas.

## Davey Tree Surgery

Últimamente ha habido varios cambios en la gerencia de Davey Tree Surgery. Las áreas de Napa y San Rafael han sido separadas de la región North Bay y ahora son independientes y están bajo un nuevo gerente de área. El capataz general anterior de San Rafael ha regresado, el capataz general actual ha sido asignado a Santa Rosa y el capataz general de Calistoga ha quedado cesante.

Continuamos trabajando para resolver el asunto de los créditos de vacaciones correspondientes al año anterior, 2013 al 2014. La compañía entiende perfectamente nuestra posición sobre la asignación de vacaciones según lo especificado en el acuerdo del sindicato. Esperamos tener su respuesta final antes de someter ninguna queja sobre este asunto.

Davey se ha expandido a Las Vegas y Reno para ejecutar trabajos de NV Energy. Esperamos que este trabajo continúe durante los próximos 3 meses hasta que se llegue a un acuerdo con la compañía de electricidad. Nuestro plan es prestar apoyo a la compañía para obtener este contrato. El contratista anterior fue sacado de las instalaciones debido a numerosas infracciones de seguridad. El último incidente fue ampliamente difundido en los medios de comunicación.

También hemos tenido algunos problemas con Davey por la falta de pago de algunas de las horas correspondientes al año pasado. Los tres representantes de negocios están en conver-

saciones con Alan Finocchio para resolver este asunto.

El pronóstico de trabajo es muy bajo en la división Los Padres; es posible que haya más despidos.

## Mario's Tree Service

Están ejecutando trabajos en la región norte del estado, desde el área de Redding hacia la costa. El trabajo de Mario's continúa siendo estable ya que trabajan para Wright Tree Service.

## Mountain Enterprise Inc.

Se llevó a cabo una reunión sindicato-gerencia en Sacramento para discutir todos los asuntos pendientes a lo largo del sistema. Hemos encontrado problemas en lo que se refiere a vacaciones, despidos, pagos y horas trabajadas. Se espera tener una reunión de seguimiento en junio para discutir los asuntos que nos preocupan.

Continúan los trabajos en el norte y sur de Lake Tahoe para Liberty Energy.

## Synergy

La compañía está realizando trabajos de confiabilidad en el área de Los Gatos para Utility Tree. Los empleados han estado recibiendo sus promociones a la clasificación siguiente. No hay problemas, todo parece estar marchando bien.

## Osmose

Conversamos con una cuadrilla que estaba realizando trabajos en el área de Oakhurst y nos dicen que tienen bastante trabajo con un horario 4-10 y sin problemas actualmente.

## Trees Inc.

El Comité de revisión de quejas se reunió en Yuba City el 23 de abril.

Discutimos todos los asuntos pendientes, incluidos los asuntos sindicato-gerencia a lo largo del sistema. Aún estamos trabajando algunos casos pendientes. Esperamos que estos queden resueltos este mes.

Tenemos algunos problemas con las vacaciones, ya que la compañía no reconoce la antigüedad de servicio en la división Turlock. No están cumpliendo con el artículo 6.6 (2) c del acuerdo.

Las cuadrillas en Fresno continúan trabajando en un horario 4-10 sin mayores problemas.

Las cuadrillas del equipo de Control de vegetación están recorriendo SMUD limpiando los postes.

## Utility Tree Service

Esperamos que el programa “Close Call” (accidentes potenciales) comience pronto en la región # 74 bajo la responsabilidad de Marc Salvatore.

El trabajo ha permanecido constante en el área de la bahía y en SMUD. La compañía continúa recordándole a los empleados la importancia de tener todo su equipo contra incendios en sus áreas de trabajo. Esto se está supervisando muy de cerca. ¡Ponga toda su atención en el trabajo!

El pronóstico de trabajo también es muy bajo en la división Kern; la compañía ha comenzado a hablar sobre otra ronda de despidos. En la división San Jose la actividad continúa fuertemente, no hay mayores problemas.

## Wright Tree Service

Las cuadrillas están realizando trabajos de transmisión en el condado de Santa Clara. Martinez Tree también está ejecutando trabajos para WTS en el East Bay, saliendo del área de Orinda.



# Play Ball!

Softball/Barbecue raises more than \$1,000 for charity



Am I safe? Dominic Olguin, PG&E GC Pre-apprentice, Merced, slides into third, defended by Joel Dammner, PG&E GSR, Modesto.

It's the great American pastime. And it's also a great way to raise money for charity.

On June 21, IBEW 1245's Central Valley Organizing Committee hosted a charity softball game and BBQ in Modesto. More than 60 IBEW 1245 members, family and friends came out for a day of fun in the sun for a good cause.

All the proceeds from the day's activities will go to the Ceres Recreation Division, which helps lower-income school age children buy supplies for the upcoming school year. The committee exceeded their own fundraising goal of \$1,000, raising \$1,298.57 for the local charity.

"What a great way to kick off the first day of summer with the IBEW 1245 Central Valley Organizing Committee," said line clearance tree trimmer Rosario Garcia, one of the organizing stewards who helped coordinate the event. "Tree trimmers, linemen, gas services reps, dispatch and clerical [members] came together for a good cause to support raising funds to help out a community in need, all in the name of IBEW 1245. Weather was beautiful. Food was prepared to perfection, so we broke bread with members and friends of our great union, to give us the energy to play an intense softball game."

The softball game itself was action-packed and filled with excitement, right down to the very last inning. The final score was 38 to 37, with Team #1 squeaking out a narrow one-point victory over Team #2.

"The food was great and the softball game was a lot of fun to watch. We had two full teams play softball. The guys are pretty serious about softball and play really well," said IBEW 1245 Organizer Jammi Juarez. "There were a lot of exciting home runs!"

The event was a resounding success – particularly the home-made food. Rosario Garcia and PG&E Gas Service Rep Carl Olguin manned the grill and served up tasty carne asada and chicken tacos, while Organizing Steward Rachel Ramirez-Hill of PG&E prepared the tasty toppings.

"Several folks asked me if we can make this an annual event ... and they're glad it was here in Modesto," said Olguin, who also helped organize the event. "They felt playing along with tree trimmers and the other work groups helped them know what [the union] is all about!"



Players and fans: a great day for a game.





Jason Strauss, PG&E GSR Stockton, heads into home.



The IBEW 1245 Central Valley Organizing Committee, from left: Jammi Juarez, Rosario Garcia of Trees Inc., Rachel Ramirez-Hill of PG&E, Kristen Rasmussen of PG&E, Rodrigo Flores of Merced Irrigation District, Carl Olguin of PG&E. Not pictured: Craig Tatum of Merced Irrigation District.



Albert Jimenez, PG&E GSR Modesto, slides into third, intercepted by Jesse Ochoa, PG&E Dispatcher.







Members of the Executive Board and Advisory Council at the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano on April 25.

## Leading by example: IBEW 1245 Executive Board & Advisory Council volunteer at Food Bank

by Rebecca Band



Bagging carrots.

Photos by John Storey



Bagging onions.



Another completed bag heads for the "bagged" bin.

Volunteerism is a big part of the culture at IBEW, and that's largely thanks to the union leaders and member-activists who don't shy away from rolling up their sleeves in order to help those in need. Recently, IBEW 1245's Executive Board and Advisory Council decided to double down their commitment to the less fortunate by vowing to participate in a community-based volunteer activity at the beginning of every Board/Council meeting.

"Whenever we go to the IBEW Electrical Workers Minority Caucus [conference], the first day is always dedicated to volunteer work," said IBEW 1245 Executive Board member Art Freitas. "Everyone from the IBEW goes out into whatever community we're meeting in [to give back]. It makes you feel so fulfilled; you really feel good about doing a day's work to help somebody else."

Freitas decided to bring it up at IBEW 1245's April Executive Board meeting.

"I asked, 'Why are we only doing this when we go to these conferences? We should be doing that for all our meetings!' So as an E-Board, we decided, let's do it for all of the local's meetings, too."

They launched the effort on the day before the April

26 Advisory Council meeting, dedicating the afternoon to sorting and bagging produce at the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano, which serves nearly 150,000 hungry people in need every month. The Food Bank distributes the veggies directly to needy families in "food deserts" so they can have healthy meals, and the Bank also provides food assistance through a network of 180 shelters, soup kitchens and charitable agencies.

Last year, the Food Bank collected and donated 18 million pounds of food, about half of which was fresh produce. This year, they aim to exceed 21 million pounds of food.

"I like to do my part and get involved in community, and representing IBEW means a lot to me," Advisory Council member Rachel Ramirez-Hill said as she took a break from bagging carrots. "I think [the volunteer effort] is a good thing; it gets our name out there and shows that we do give back to our community."

The grants coordinator at the Food Bank, Neil Zarchin, agrees. A retired Letter Carrier, Neil first got involved in hunger issues through his union's annual "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive, the largest one-day food collection effort in the United States. When he re-

tired from the Post Office, he dedicated his time to the Food Bank.

"I want to express my appreciation on a number of levels," he told the IBEW volunteers. "I'm so glad to see the unions involved in this issue, because you guys really get it. This program wouldn't work without the thousands of volunteers like you. There just aren't words to say thank you enough."

The Executive Board and Advisory Council are planning on holding similar types of volunteer activities in conjunction with all their future meetings, and they're encouraging other IBEW groups and units to do the same.

The union is also encouraging all members to participate in the National Association of Letter Carriers' "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive on May 10. Simply leave a bag of non-perishable grocery items next to your mailbox that morning, and your letter carrier will pick it up and donate it to a food bank, shelter or pantry in your community. Learn more at <http://www.nalc.org/commun/fooddrive/index.html>.

To support the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano, visit [www.foodbankccs.org](http://www.foodbankccs.org).





Maria Fuentes, Service Rep, PG&E Fresno.



Isaac Mendoza and Noel Mendoz, sons of Rey Mendoza, and Mason Nguyen, stepson of PJ Nguyen.

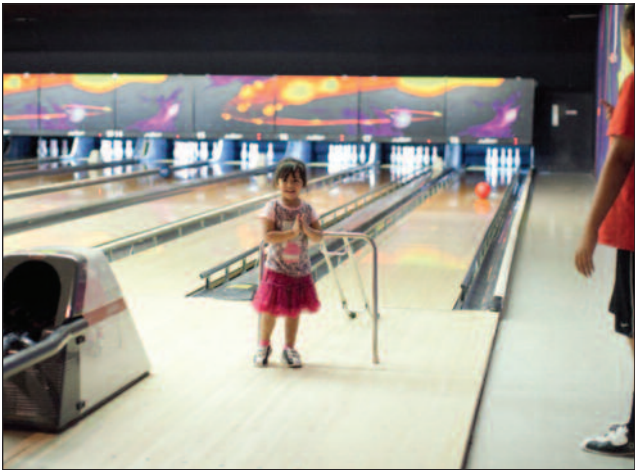


Fresno Service Reps Valdemar Guzman, Maria Fuentes, and Gabriel Guzman.



Madelyn Nguyen, daughter of PJ Nguyen, assists IBEW 1245 Organizer Jammi Juarez with the raffle drawing.

Photos by  
Priscilla Mendoza



Khloe, daughter of Albert Chavez, PG&E Gas Estimator.

## Connecting to the Community: Fresno Charity Bowl

The IBEW 1245 Fresno Organizing Committee found a way recently to connect to the local community and have some fun doing it. Welcome to the IBEW 1245 Fresno Charity Bowl! “We had 48 bowlers and 13 additional friends and family attend the event,” said IBEW 1245 Organizer Jammi Juarez. Several young children participated in the event, aided by a bowling ramp that gave their ball a little

extra push down the alley. Judging by the smiles, this event could become an annual affair. The May 24 event raised \$1,003 for the Marjaree Mason Center, a charitable organization working since 1979 to provide a safe and supportive environment for individuals exposed to family violence. Members of the IBEW 1245 Fresno Organizing Committee are Rey Mendoza, Lupe Flores, PJ Saenz, Pete Sandoval, Miguel Pagan, and Georgette Carrillo. See more photos from the Fresno Bowl at <http://tinyurl.com/fresno-bowl>.



The IBEW 1245 Fresno Charity Bowlers  
Utility Reporter



# Dealing with an Active Shooter

“Dealing with an Active Shooter” was the subject of a training session at the National Safety Council Labor Division meeting in St. Louis, MO. The training was designed to help people survive an active shooter scenario by making the proper choices on when to flee or fight.

The St. Louis meeting was attended by IBEW 1245 Health and Safety Committee members Art Torres and Dan Boschee, along with Senior Assistant Business Manager Ralph Armstrong and Business Representative Rich Lane.

Other trainings included “Accident Investigation,” conducted by Fed OSHA investigators, “Workplace Investigations,” and “Evolution of Flame Resistant Materials,” a class on how FR clothing was developed. In all there were 22 training classes and six labor caucus and industry committee meetings.

The NSC Labor Division is a collection of American and Canadian labor unions who meet to discuss matters related to worker safety and health, changes in federal regulations and caucus within industries to record worker injuries and fatalities. The NSC also pro-

vides industry related training for two days to attendees who sign up for specific subject matter classes.

The big focus for those in the electrical industry was two days of classes conducted by IBEW International Representative Jim Tomaseski on final rules changes to the General Industry Electrical Transmission, Distribution and Generation 29 CFR 1910.269 and Construction Industry 29 CFR 1926 Subpart V. These changes were released by Fed OSHA and have been 5 years in the making and encompass safety regulations related to fall protection, arc flash protection, minimum approach distance calculations, host employer communication requirements and tree trimmer training rules. The utility industry has not seen such sweeping changes since 1995.



Timelines for implementation of these rules are set for early and mid-2015 to allow employers time to study the new rules and request interpretations from OSHA. Tomaseski, who is a recognized authority on electrical work rules and language interpretation and who attended all OSHA and congressional hearings related to the rules change announced that he would be retiring from his post after 13 years of service with the IBEW effective at the end of June. He will be greatly missed, especially by the labor division.

On the last day of the IBEW labor caucus IBEW Local 77 business manager Lou Walter gave special recognition to Local 1245 for their work in the peer to peer programs: Hold the Pull, Control the Pressure and Keep the Clearance. Brother Walter and three representatives of Local 77 attended the April 1 safety stewards summit with the purpose to take away information that would help in the formation of their own peer movement. Local 1245 has offered support to her sister locals up North as they develop their programs.

View the video <http://bit.ly/ActiveShooterVideo>

## Rubber gloving at NV Energy

A recent presentation by Hold the Pull, the union's peer safety initiative for line workers, revealed a safety issue with the line work group at NV Energy. A pre-meeting between linemen and HTP committee members the evening before the presentation brought up questions about rubber glove work being done on 4kV conversions without any formal training.

This issue was brought to the attention of the company who contended that linemen have been rubber gloving for years and that the work was not in violation of federal work rules. A conversation with senior management by business representatives Pat Waite and Rich Lane prompted the company to agree that training should be scheduled.

NV Energy has suspended the practice of rubber gloving for the Reno work group until training has been completed.

## Non-union tree trimmer injured in fall: no harness

A recent serious injury of a tree trimmer in Las Vegas pointed out serious repercussions associated with unsafe work practices.

On May 9, a tree trimmer for West Coast Arborists, a non-union company contracted to NV Energy, was thrown approximately 30 feet to the ground after a furniture truck struck the boom of the aerial lift he was operating. The fall probably would have been prevented except that the operator was not

wearing a safety harness or work positioning belt as required by law.

A news article published by the Las Vegas Review-Journal with photos of the accident that were taken moments later, show a man lying on the road and the aerial lift truck had a NV Energy sign on the side. This story went national via internet and West Coast Arborists was subsequently suspended from working on NVE property. The condition of the tree trimmer is not known at this time.

## Un podador de árboles, que no es miembro del sindicato, sufre una lesión en una caída: no tenía un arnés

La grave lesión que sufrió un podador de árboles en Las Vegas recientemente nos recuerda las graves consecuencias asociadas con unas condiciones de trabajo inseguras.

El 9 de mayo, un podador de West Coast Arborists, una compañía contratada por NV Energy y que no pertenece al sindicato, cayó desde una altura de aproximadamente 9 metros (30 pies), cuando un camión de muebles chocó contra el elevador aéreo operado por el podador. La caída se hubiera podido prevenir, pero el operador no estaba usando un arnés de seguridad ni un cinturón de posicionamiento, exigidos por ley.

En un artículo publicado en Las Vegas Review se muestran fotos del accidente tomadas minutos después de que ocurrió. Las fotos muestran a un hombre ten-

dido en la calle y el camión del elevador aéreo con el símbolo de NV Energy al lado. Este suceso se difundió en todo el país a través de internet, y posteriormente la compañía West Coast Arborists fue suspendida de trabajar en las instalaciones de NVE. No sabemos cuál es el estado de salud del podador de árboles.

### Tree Trimmers, from page 31

matters resolved this month.

We are having some vacation issues with the company not honoring union seniority in Turlock Division. They are not following article 6.6 (2) c in the agreement.

In Fresno the crews are still working 4-10s with no major issues.

The VCA team crews are back patrolling at SMUD clearing poles.

## Torres honored for safety service

The IBEW1245 Health and Safety Committee honored committee member Art Torres for 12 years of service representing SMUD. Torres, who's worked in a variety of roles in union service, retired after 42 years in December, 2013. He will be replaced by electrician Mark Flanders who has 31 years of service to SMUD.

Committee members presented Art with a plaque and some playful ribbing for past exploits at a lunch in his honor at a local Italian restaurant. Torres was known to be a regular attendee at the National Safety Council Labor Division. His personable ways gave him the opportunity to meet and know a lot of people.

In particular, Art buddied up with the Canadian contingent of the IBEW and as Canadians are known for their love of drink and a pleasant habit for buying, if you were looking for Art then all you had to do was find the Canadians.

But when it came to safety that was a serious matter.

“Safety was always important to me,” Torres recently said, “I stayed with the safety committee the longest, I’ve had a lot of roles but safety was the priority.”

Brother Torres is still active in his role as Advisory Council member for the local and will continue to serve out his term as a senior member. Even in retirement Art Torres continues to serve.



From left, IBEW 1245 Safety Committee members Joe Joaquim, Dane Moore, Art Torres, Dan Boschee, Mike Gomes, Mark Flanders

### Utility Tree Service

We expect the rollout of the Close Call program to begin soon in Region # 74 under Marc Salvatore's area of responsibility.

Work has been holding steady in the Bay Area and SMUD. The company has been reminding employees about the importance of having all their fire suppression gear at their work sites. This is being closely monitored. Stay focused

on your job duties!

The work forecast is also very low in the Kern Division; the company is talking of having another lay off. In the San Jose Division they are going strong, no major issues.

### Wright Tree Service

The crews are working in Santa Clara County on transmission. Martinez Tree is also performing work for WTS in the East Bay out of the Orinda area.



# Organizing stewards make difference in June Primary

Ever since California instituted the “top two” primary system four years ago, the state’s Primary Elections have become more exciting, unusual and important than ever. Unfortunately, many of California’s voters don’t realize how essential these primaries are, and turnout is traditionally quite low, which means some races are won or lost by just a handful of votes.

IBEW 1245 understands the importance of getting out the vote for labor-friendly candidates, and last month the union dispatched 13 organizing stewards to various high-priority campaigns across California.

Kevin Krummes worked on the successful race for Bill Dodd in Assembly

District 4. In what turned out to be the closest election in the state, Dodd came in just one vote shy of GOP candidate Charlie Schaupp, which means Dodd and Schaupp will face off in the general election in November. Krummes, a seasoned election volunteer, looked at the total voter breakdown and projects that Dodd will be “a shoo-in in November.”

Nilda Garcia and seasoned staff organizer Jammi Juarez travelled to southern California to get out the vote for Connie Leyva in State Senate District 20. Leyva, head of UFCW Local 1428 and President of the California Labor Federation, defeated corporate Democrat Al Sanchez and earned enough votes to advance to the general election. “I was honored and happy to be out there,” said Garcia, who had never worked on an election before this year. “Canvassing was hard, long hours, but it definitely was worth it because we won! Connie is an amazing and inspiring person, and I’m just glad I got the opportunity [to support her].”

Garcia also brought her teenage daughters, who were on vacation visiting relatives in the area, out to help on Election Day.

“They were troopers, they begged to come out and help” Garcia said of her daughters. “And now [after this experience] they want to start a program to get their high school friends involved in learning about the labor movement and

what we do.”

Donchele Soper, Lupe Johnson and Jason Preston dedicated themselves to labor activist Ali Cooper’s campaign for Sacramento City Council District 5. Nilda Garcia, who lives in the district, also worked the first two weeks for the Cooper campaign, walking her own neighborhood and talking to her friends and neighbors, often with her children in tow.

Unfortunately, Cooper’s campaign fell short and he was defeated by incumbent Jay Schenirer, but the organizing stewards still took a lot away from the experience.

“We convinced a lot of people at the doors. Door knocking, especially in smaller communities, is super-important,” said Soper. “Everyone has a story, and you can always find a way to relate to somebody ... but it takes time, and you have to be willing to step outside your comfort zone.”

Kristen Rasmussen, Tina Jones and Anthony Seemster worked tirelessly for Tim Sbranti in Assembly District 16, largely considered to be one of Labor’s top electoral priorities in 2014. Despite initial reports to the contrary and erroneous data on the Secretary of State’s website on Election Night, Sbranti secured a decisive victory over anti-union Democrat Steve Glazer and will face off against the GOP candidate Catherine

Baker in November.

“Sbranti’s opponent ran on the issue of BART transit workers not being able to strike... it was just dirty,” Jones explained, noting that volunteers from dozens of unions got involved in the campaign to boost up Sbranti and keep Glazer off the ticket in November. “Glazer also tried to smear Sbranti. But Sbranti had a strong campaign, and he won.”

PJ Saenz, Rey Mendoza, Melissa Becerril and Lupe Flores worked to elect Magdalena Gomez to the Fresno Board of Supervisors in District 4. Unfortunately, Gomez failed to secure enough votes to come out victorious.

“We got to meet her, and then we really got behind her. I was honored to be able to support her ... [the experience] was really eye-opening,” said Lupe.

First-time election volunteer Melissa Becerril agreed. “Magdalena felt like a family member to us [by the end]. It’s unfortunate that she didn’t win, but hopefully next time!”

Saenz underscored that Gomez is “young and vibrant and a real advocate for labor. I feel like she can still effect change in the future.”

Organizing Stewards and activists are already looking forward to increasing their participation in the general election this fall. To get involved with a political campaign, contact Jammi Juarez [jjai@ibew1245.com](mailto:jjai@ibew1245.com).



From left: Jammi Juarez, Connie Leyva and Nilda Garcia.

## Marin Deserves Real Green Power, Not Slick Marketing Campaigns

by Tom Dalzell

A few enduring classics from the Too Good To Be True department: Eat more, lose weight! Get rich quick! Send your financial information to a generous Nigerian prince and he will pay you millions!

The latest installment comes courtesy of Marin County’s power provider, the Marin Energy Authority: you can have 100% clean, green electricity for less than the cost of traditional power.

At first, most marketing claims of this nature are met with excitement — and that’s certainly what MEA’s claim got from Marin’s politicians. They bought the story hook, line and sinker — so much so that they didn’t bother to conduct a legally required Environmental Impact Report or let voters weigh in on the idea. In 2008, the Board of Supervisors voted to automatically enroll tens of thousands of Marin residents in MEA’s Marin “Clean” Energy plan, and used taxpayer dollars to advertise promised reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

But as with all things Too Good To Be True, the promises never materialized. Now the facts about Marin “Clean” Energy are in — and they aren’t even remotely close to what was promised. Here is what we know:

**1. The power Marin residents receive is mostly brown system power supplied by Shell Oil.**

MCE’s original business plan committed to developing local, renewable resources that produced real green energy Utility Reporter

— but the reality turned out to be quite different. Many Marin residents may not know that the power they receive is supplied by Shell Oil. Shell is one of the worst environmental and human rights offenders in business today — in fact, Greenpeace UK has called it one of the “dirtiest, most regressive corporations in the world.”

But MCE managed to look past Shell’s treatment of communities in Africa, their mismanagement of pristine ecosystems in Alaska and their terrible record on social justice worldwide. MCE signed an agreement with Shell that has since been extended three times — falling short of their commitment to develop local, truly green power sources.

The power Shell provides is no greener than the power PG&E customers receive. But MCE’s marketing clearly states that they are providing 100% clean, green power. So how do they get away with it?

**2. Marin Clean Energy is using RECs to hide the fact that residents aren’t receiving green power.**

RECs (Renewable Energy Certificates) are financial instruments that are bought and sold by brokers across the country. Creative marketers argue that merely purchasing them allows one to claim that the dirty power a community is using is “off-set” — but the reality, according to many experts and environmentalists, is that RECs do almost nothing to stop climate change or promote green energy.

RECs are slips of paper signifying that

at one point, at some location in the U.S., some amount of green energy was generated. They do not represent actual green energy that Marin customers use. They have been widely derided as marketing gimmicks that only serve to fund the salaries of the people printing the certificates. RECs are clearly not green energy, and purchasing them does not mean that anyone in Marin is using more green energy than they were before.

Proponents of MCE have used RECs to hide the fact that they are not delivering truly green power, and to claim that the prices the public pays for their “green” power are on par with what a traditional power mix costs. But when activists in San Francisco insisted that RECs be stripped from the energy mix Shell Oil proposed, costs increased significantly. As former San Francisco Public Utilities General Manager Ed Harrington said, “You can’t charge PG&E rates and get wind and solar.”

**3. The switch to Marin Clean Energy failed to decrease greenhouse gas emissions.**

Chief among MCE’s promises was reduced greenhouse gas emissions. But instead of performing an Environmental Impact Report so the public and policymakers can see the program’s true impact, MCE has refused to conduct one. And even more troubling, MCE has not been reporting its emissions rates to California Air Resources Board.

Why?

All the available data points to the fact

that MCE is not cleaner than the energy mix it replaced. The power that is being “greenwashed,” or papered over by RECs, comes from brown fossil fuels. There is no evidence that it is any greener than what customers were receiving before.

The good news is that eventually, even the most egregious and misleading marketing claims are tested and the facts come to light. After some severe buyer’s remorse and, sometimes, government intervention, the scam and the people behind it are sent packing.

Unfortunately, that’s where we find ourselves in Marin. And while we understand the reticence to continue working with PG&E, unlike MCE, PG&E is a major utility that is held accountable by state law. Politicians interested in truly clean power might care to know that PG&E is rolling out a green option that provides real, measurable green power that is produced in state.

As the head of a union with workers at PG&E, I know they are far from perfect — we have gone head to head with them many times and often disagree. And when PG&E tried to use RECs to greenwash a power program that wasn’t truly clean, we held their feet to the fire — and won.

Marin residents deserve better than inflated marketing claims and programs that don’t deliver — they deserve the facts about real green energy.

*This article was published on Huffington Post.*





# Yerington retirees support community groups

The Yerington Chapter of the IBEW 1245 Retirees Club presented checks in the amount of \$250 each to the Soroptimist Club and Walker River Youth Baseball for their services to the community of Yerington. The donations were made from the IBEW 1245 Community Fund. The Yerington Soroptimist holds a

“Bunko Tournament” fund raiser annually for breast cancer awareness month. The proceeds benefit the breast cancer project, which includes funding for advanced diagnostics and support for women undergoing treatment.

Walker River Youth Baseball is a program for youth, ages four to 14. The program begins in March and runs through July. Approximately 280 youth players participated in this program in 2013.



## Lawmakers: increase Social Security

Each year 58 million Americans use the purchasing power of their Social Security benefits to pump billions of dollars into their local businesses and state economies. Families spend \$816 billion in Social Security benefits nationwide each year. When Americans use the purchasing power of those benefits, they are supporting local businesses and state economies with billions of dollars they simply wouldn't have without Social Security.

State and local lawmakers who value Social Security's economic impact have begun to speak out for increasing Social Security benefits.

Many of them have signed a proclamation urging Congress to support legislation which would increase Social Security benefits by about \$70 per month, thereby strengthening the economic security of America's workers, retirees and their families.

“While Social Security is a federal program, state and local lawmakers know all too well the importance of these program dollars in their communities, counties and districts,” said Max

Richtman, president of the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare. “That's why it's so exciting that these elected officials are urging Congress to boost Social Security benefits, not cut them.”

Today, Social Security's average monthly benefit of just \$1,290 is 90% or more of retirees' income for 46% of unmarried elderly and 23% of married couples. Fifty-eight million Americans of all ages depend on the anti-poverty protection offered by Social Security.

Three decades of stagnant middle-class incomes, disappearing pensions, limited ability to start and maintain personal savings, and the failure of the 401K experiment have laid the foundation for a retirement crisis that could further threaten millions of older Americans and their families.

Social Security will be even more important to future generations, especially the Recession Generation which faces income loss, diminished net worth, and high unemployment during their vital income earning years, all of which will ultimately impact their retirement.

## Retiree Club Meeting Schedule

You can find the specific dates for each month at <http://www.ibew1245.com/unit-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 every other 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, CA.

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

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

**Yerington Chapter:** Meets 2nd Tuesday each month, 10:30 a.m. breakfast, 11 a.m. meeting, Dini's Lucky Club, 45 N. Main St., Yerington, NV.

**Carson City Chapter:** 4th Thursday each month, 9:00 a.m., Grandma Hattie's Restaurant, 2811 S. Carson St., Carson City, NV.

**Winnemucca Chapter:** 4th Wednesday each month, 11 a.m., Round Table Pizza, 1043 W. Fourth St., Winnemucca.

## 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, Reno, Yerington, Carson City or Winnemucca. If you don't have a chapter nearby, call the union at 707-452-2718 and find out how you can help start one!

Jeff Arter 31 years Bakersfield, CA	Robert Herrera 40 years San Jose, CA	Wanda Otte 38 years Kelseyville, CA	Timothy Urmann 30 years Greenville, CA	Danny Hernandez 43 years Fresno, CA
Steven Banta 36 years Salinas, CA	Mark Holtschulte 30 years Bakersfield, CA	Billy Parmer 35 years Lemoore, CA	Gilbert Vaca 30 years Watsonville, CA	Gerald Hernandez 30 years Camino, CA
Philip Booth 34 years Concord, CA	John Kent 36 years Napa, CA	Rhuea Petersohn-Murray 34 years Elk Grove, CA	Thomas Wayne 42 years Santa Rosa, CA	Rex Hocking 40 years Ennis, MT
Roni Bowling 37 years Elk Grove, CA	Cynthia Kinsella 35 years Sacramento, CA	Jeffrey Power 41 years Arroyo Grande, CA	William Black 36 years Benicia, CA	David Jensen 40 years Manteca, CA
Paul Bradford 42 years Bakersfield, CA	William Lawhon 30 years Bakersfield, CA	Rickey Rollins 40 years Bakersfield, CA	Richard Boyen 40 years Gilroy, CA	Stanley Lacey 24 years Redding, CA
David De Biase 30 years Citrus Heights, CA	Dennis Lee 34 years San Francisco, CA	Edward Sickinger 21 years Pacifica, CA	Elena Campbell 33 years San Francisco, CA	Sylvia Leon 36 years Livermore, CA
Guy Dougherty 12 years Napa, CA	Felicia Mack 33 years Sacramento, CA	John Stone 33 years Los Osos, CA	Melvin Craig 34 years Oakland, CA	Paul Logan 1 year Fresno, CA
Ana Fong 34 years San Francisco, CA	J McSpadden 40 years Woodland, CA	Jesse Sweet 32 years Eureka, CA	Jerry Davis 35 years Woodland, CA	Jose Lopez 42 years San Jose, CA
Lawrence Halleck 34 years Grants Pass, OR	Thomas Mints 45 years San Jose, CA	Donald Thornberry 30 years Ceres, CA	Lydia Galvan 36 years Pittsburg, CA	Richard Lujan 39 years Fresno, CA
William Harrington 39 years Winters, CA	Robert Nimrod 41 years San Jose, CA	Pamela Thornton 33 years Novato, CA	Dolores Gaudet 34 years Richmond, CA	Gary Marley 36 years Manteca, CA
Juliet Helmstreit 34 years Dixon, CA	Wanda Otte 38 years Kelseyville, CA	Kenneth Goody 35 years Yuba City, CA		

Mario Martinez 32 years Fremont, CA	Charles Sardoch 36 years Burney, CA
Jim McIntyre 28 years Lemoore, CA	Henry Silva 34 years Riverbank, CA
Marcellus Mitchell 41 years Pacifica, CA	William Skoonberg 41 years Santa Rosa, CA
Frank Monti 30 years Oakdale, CA	Harvey Smith 31 years Santa Rosa, CA
Paul Neufeld 35 years Concord, CA	Luke Tamaki 41 years Grover Beach, CA
Christopher Ohlson 44 years San Jose, CA	Jeffrey Troub 36 years Dixon, CA
William O'Neil 42 years Madera, CA	Fernando Venzon 29 years Vallejo, CA
Rita Orr 27 years Vacaville, CA	Steven Walsh 42 years Sonoma, CA
Sally Osborne 30 years Bakersfield, CA	Alan Warren 36 years Concord, CA
James Petersen 37 years Atwater, CA	Thomas Wright 22 years Los Osos, CA

**Congratulations Retirees!**  
**We want you to STAY CONNECTED**

**to IBEW 1245.**

**Useful links for retirees**

**BLOG**

**Reno/Sparks IBEW 1245 retirees blog**

<http://renosparksibew1245retireesclub.blogspot.com/>



# “Heart of Gold” – Mickey Harrington, 1939-2014

“If I was a member, I tell you what,” retired Local 1245 Business Rep. Ed Fortier once said, “I’d want Mickey as my rep. The guy’s got a heart of gold.”

Mickey Harrington—IBEW 1245 member, business representative, political activist—died May 28 at the age of 74. From his IBEW initiation in March of 1960 to his final campaign for State Assembly in 2010, you could never doubt this: Mickey gave a damn.

“Friday night he’d get a call from Bakersfield, there’s a problem down there, and he’s heading to Bakersfield,” said the late IBEW 1245 President Leland Thomas Jr., in 1999, the year Mickey retired. In the early years, Mickey served as a business rep for GC members, said Thomas, an assignment that could take you from one end of the state to the other.

“And I remember Ron (Weakley) and Mitch (Mitchell) saying, ‘Hey, you don’t have to do that, you can wait ‘til Monday morning and go down there. You go home.’” But Harrington wouldn’t listen.

“He would go down there anyway, he

was that kind of guy, had to get involved in it,” said Thomas.

“For 50 years he threw himself into this union, into the labor movement, and other progressive causes,” said Business Manager Tom Dalzell. “He really embodied the fundamental principles of trade unionism. He made a big mark.”

Mickey was recruited as a shop steward in the early 1960s. By 1966 Mickey was active in the General Construction joint grievance committee, and by 1968 he’d won election to the IBEW 1245 Executive Board.

Business Manager Ron Weakley, the union’s founder, brought Mickey onto the union staff a few months later.

His first assignment was PG&E General Construction. This was still several years before IBEW 1245 negotiated a union security clause at PG&E, which meant that you had to sign up members one by one. Mickey

traveled from camp to camp, place to place, signing people up.

In 1971, following the retirement of Weakley, Mickey returned to PG&E, but remained deeply involved in union

activities. He served on the GC Line of Progression and GC Equipment Committees, and also served as a GC shop steward.

Fortier put it this way: In those early years, “There was no union in the Gas Department, GC, except Mickey. He *was* the union. He was sort of a legend.”

In addition to his work as a steward, Mickey won a union-wide election to become IBEW 1245’s Recording Secretary, while also serving his local unit as vice chair and then chair. He prided himself on being a good listener. When a member came to you for help, he once said, “Sometimes you could do something, sometimes you couldn’t, but people felt better if they could unload on you.”

Mickey believed it was important to be involved in union affairs beyond IBEW 1245 and he had a knack for finding his way to the middle of the action. He was a delegate to every California Labor Federation convention from 1985 to 2010, where political candidates are endorsed, and IBEW 1245 members elected him as a delegate to every IBEW International Convention from 1974 through 2006.

Mickey retired from the IBEW 1245 staff in 1999, but there was no way he was going to slip quietly off stage. He served as president of the Butte-Glenn Central Labor Council from 1997 right up to his death. And he dreamed of winning a seat in the California Assembly.

He repeatedly gained the Democratic nomination in the heavily-Republican District 3—only to be trounced in the general election.

Didn’t matter. The next election cycle he’d be back with a new analysis of why this time he had a better chance of victory. His best showing was in 2008, when he won a respectable 44% of the vote, the best performance by a Democrat in that district in many years. In 2010, his last campaign, he finished second in a 3-man race.

For Mickey, retirement was a simple proposition. It was a way for him to “spend more time getting people organized for phone banks,” he once said.

Mickey was preceded in death by his wife, Joanie, who has been described as “Mickey’s strength” and was a fixture at the many meetings he attended. Assistant Business Manager Ray Thomas remembers talking with her in the parking lot before unit meetings, where she passed the time crocheting or reading.

How do you explain someone like Mickey Harrington, who spent so much of his life staying involved, trying to help others? Fortier, the former Business Rep, put it this way back in 1999 as Mickey was preparing to retire:

“He’s on a crusade. I don’t know what it is. Sometimes I’m not so sure *he* does. The little man inside speaks to him, he marches. He has heart, he has soul, a special person.”



Mickey: Business Rep with a heart of gold, and a passion for political action

## In Memoriam: Wayne Greer

Wayne Greer had a knack for spotting leaders.

The former IBEW 1245 Business Rep, who passed away on June 11, understood the importance of recruiting talented stewards to carry out the work of the union in the workplace. Seven of the stewards he recruited went on to become part of the union staff: Business Reps Kit Stice, Arlene Edwards, Sam Glero, Bryan Carroll, Lou Mennel, retired Business Rep Darryl Norris, and retired Assistant Business Manager Art Murray.

A business rep can only do so much, the day being limited to 24 hours. But a business rep with a full stable of effective stewards multiplies the union’s impact in the workplace. Upon Greer’s retirement in 2003, fellow Business Rep Frank Saxsenmeier noted that Greer “is such an organizer that he can take a group of shop stewards and organize them in such a way that he can get them doing everything.”

“IBEW 1245 really benefited from Wayne’s gift for recognizing talent,” said Business Manager Tom Dalzell. “Wayne’s pool of shop stewards was a veritable farm club for the union to go to when it came time to hire union business representatives. For the union, that was a gift that kept on giving.”

During his 23 years on the union staff, Greer represented PG&E employees first Utility Reporter

in the San Jose Division, then the East Bay Mission District, and finally in Sacramento. In 1999 he took on his final union assignment, representing IBEW 1245 members at the Sacramento Municipal Utility District.

### In the Family

Unionism ran in Greer’s family. His father Clyde took young Wayne to his first union meeting at the tender age of four—a Teamsters meeting no less, Greer recalled in a 2003 interview.

“The cigar smoke was so thick you could cut it with a knife. A lot of ideas passed back and forth, especially at contract time,” Greer said.

His mother was a union activist with the retail clerks’ union at Montgomery Ward in Oakland.

After a stint in the US Army, young Greer found his way to PG&E in 1966, and by 1967 he had found a place in the Gas Service Department.

As a new member, Greer wasn’t shy about checking up on his union. In 1969 he went to all four unit meetings in his area. He said he did it because he “wanted to know if the union was telling the same story at all the meetings.”

His Business Rep, Jack McNally, soon recruited Greer as a shop steward.

### Hazardous Duty

Gas Servicemen had plenty of safety

concerns in those days, a lot of them involving potentially hazardous duties, like going into vacant buildings, collecting cash, and performing non-pay turn-offs. Greer personally had his share of hazardous experiences.

He once fell into an elevator shaft while removing a meter on Telegraph Ave. in Oakland. He remained there for four hours, until the police noticed his unattended PG&E truck double-parked outside the building and notified his supervisor. On another occasion he was locked up in a cage in a dog kennel by someone robbing the place.

Once when Greer was performing a turn-on after dark, the window came up and Greer came face to face with a customer pointing a gun right at his head.

“I’m turning it on,” Greer quickly explained.

“You’re turning it off,” the man replied, still pointing the gun.

“No,” Greer insisted, “I’m the turn-on man.” The turn-on man made a safe getaway.

### Steward Training

Today IBEW 1245 actively recruits members into leadership positions with its organizing stewards program. A central element of the program is to bring in union and political activists to share their experience and knowledge with young activists.



Greer: could spot leadership potential

But Wayne Greer did it first. He had once walked a picket line with United Farm Workers legend Cesar Chavez and decided to renew the relationship.

“I called Cesar and asked him if he’d be available to come to my shop steward conference,” Greer recalled in 2003. “He said he’d do it for free if I’d pick him up at the airport.”

It bothered Greer that some members assumed that good wages and working conditions were a part of the natural order of things.

“You have to inform them,” he once said, “that these are things that were fought for through collective bargaining, everything from wages to working conditions. The Serviceman who comes in now thinks his wages and benefits are the way it’s always been, but it hasn’t always been that way.”



# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT

To the Officers and Members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local No. 1245 Vacaville, California

We have audited the accompanying statements of Financial Position arising from cash transactions as of December 31, 2013 and the related Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local No. 1245 for the year then ended and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America: this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether from fraud or error.

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of

material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessment, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

As described in Note 1, these financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Accordingly, the accompanying statements are not intended to present financial position and results of operations in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial state-

ments referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash basis transactions of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 1245 for the the year ended December 31, 2013 and its financial position ( cash basis) at December 31, 2013 in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1 to the statements.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying supplemental information (shown on pages 11 to 24) is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying account and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

DALMAS ACCOUNTANCY CORPORATION  
San Bruno, California  
March 18, 2014

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL NO. 1245 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION ARISING FROM CASH TRANSACTIONS December 31, 2013

## Assets

### General Fund:

Bank of the West - checking accounts	1,186,120	
Bank of the West - money market	6,805,907	7,992,027
Cash funds		5,350

### Investments:

Merrill Lynch-Bank Deposit Program and other cash account	1,651,837	
-Mutual Funds	3,666,519	
-Common Stocks	2,855,415	
Franklin Income Fund	1,456,140	
Total General Fund	17,627,288	
Political Donation Fund- checking account	140,343	

Total Current Assets	17,767,631	
200 shares PG&E common stock - at cost	3,388	
Loan receivables-Energy Workers Center, Inc.	203,220	

### Fixed assets, (Note 1):

Automobiles (53) at cost	1,628,225	
Less: allowance for depreciation	941,130	687,095
Furniture and office equipment - at cost	648,321	
Less: Allowance for depreciation	425,635	222,686

Total Assets	18,884,020	
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## LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

### Liabilities:

IBEW per capita portion of December receipts to forward	290,553	
Vacation payable	1,352,878	
Current Liabilities		1,643,431

### Net Assets:

Unrestricted	17,100,246	
Temporarily restricted-	140,343	17,240,589
Political Donation Fund		

Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$	18,884,020
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL NO. 1245. STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS. POLITICAL DONATION FUND. TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED. For the Year Ended December 31, 2013

Cash balance, December 31, 2012	88,489
Receipts: Portion of Local Union dues directly deposited to this fund	92,635
Contributions refunded	1,600

Total receipts and balance	182,724
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### Disbursements:

Capital Web Works- filing fees	425
Secretary of State- filing fee	65
Jim Avalos for Selma City Council	500
George Rodriquez for Selma City Council	200
Dennis Lujan for City Council	250
Bill Slaton for SMUD 2014	500
Rob Bonta for Assembly 2014	5,000
Jeff Gorell for Assembly 2014	6,000
Adam Gray Assembly District 21	5,000
Bill Manning for Senate 2016 - District 17	2,500
Bill Quirk for Assembly 2014	3,000
Kathy Tang Campaign for San Francisco Supervisor	500
Cindy Chavez Supervisor 2013	500
Carmen Chu for SF Assessor 2013	500
Nora Campos for Assembly 2014	500
Gilmore for Mayor 2014	500
Madrigal for City Council	250
Jim Mortensen for Modesto ID Board	250
Jacob P. Wenger for MID Director 2013	250
Dave Tamayo for SMUD Board of Directors	500
Kevin Blake for Merced City Council 2013	500
Stanislaus-Tuolumne Counties Central Labor	300
Committee to Elect Linda Ryno	250
No. Bay Labor Council/Cope	1,575
San Mateo CLC Cope Banquet	1,575
Alameda Labor Council-Cope dinner	200
Committee to Re-elect Dan Agundez	7,000
TID Board -Div 3	
Storefront-Agundy mailers and walk pieces designs	1,856
Committee to Re-elect Mark Farrell	500
Secretary of State Political Reform	250
Div. annual fees	
Refunds- political donation	10
Cope dinners:	
Hunter Stern	575
Landis Martilla	400
Eileen Purcell	200

	42,381
Cash balance, December 31, 2013	140,343

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL NO. 1245. STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS. UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS. For the Year Ended December 31, 2013

Cash and investments balance, beginning December 31, 2012	15,216,790
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### Receipts:

Local Union portion of receipts:

"A" members' dues	698,957
"BA" members' dues	17,249,598
Initiation fees	43,876
Reinstatement fees	4,668
Agency fees	92,083
Working dues	6,010,342
Hiring hall dues	848,431
Retiree's club dues	21,625
	24,969,580

### Reimbursements to General Fund:

Interest and investment income	964,938
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### Refunds and reimbursements:

Union Shopper	31,507
Other receipts	24,815

### Energy Workers Inc. improvement loan payments:

Principal	192,142
Interest	18,354
Automobiles sales	4,229
	1,235,985

### International portion of receipts:

"A" members' per capita	645,038
"BA" members' per capita	2,647,968
Initiation fees	58,806
D.B.A.E fees	995
Reinstatement fees	9,250
Agency fees	21,339
Total receipts	3,383,396
Total balance and receipts	29,588,961
Disbursements, per Page 17 of Schedule of Disbursements	44,805,751
	27,178,463

Cash and investments balance, December 31, 2013, Details in Statement of Financial Position arising from cash transactions 17,627,288

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS. LOCAL NO. 1245 STATEMENT OF CASH DISBURSEMENTS. UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS. For the Year Ended December 31, 2013.

### Affiliation fees:

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers	3,975,000
Santa Clara C.L.C.	10,140
Alameda C.L.C.	12,480
Kern / Inyo / Mono	1,350
Nevada State Electrical Association	(484)
Sacramento C.L.C.	13,200
San Francisco C.L.C	18,102
Contra Costa C.L.C.	11,700
Marin County C.L.C.	7,164



San Joaquin and Calaveras C.L.C.	5,238
Butte-Glenn C.L.C.	1,500
Napa-Solano C.L.C.	3,210
Fresno-Madera C.L.C.	5,400
Merced-Mariposa C.L.C.	2,250
Stanislaus-Tuolumne C.L.C.	1,860
Marysville C.L.C.	1,200
Humboldt-Del Norte C.L.C.	763
Five Counties C.L.C.	2,556
Monterey County C.L.C.	3,630
Government Coordinating Council	600
San Mateo C.L.C.	4,200
Joint Executive Conference-N.C. 100 Electrical Workers	
Tri Counties C.L.C.	4,800
Maritime Trades Post Council	600
Northern Nevada C.L.C.	1,650
Forum - Alameda Retired Members	60
NV Alliance Retired Americans	250
California State Association of Electrical Workers	862,460
CARA	496
California Federation of Labor	50,000
Congress of Ca - Seniors	125
TCC-4	383
	<u>5,001,983</u>

**Staff expenses:**

Salaries	9,561,559
Expenses	623,282
Automobile expenses	136,278
Auto Purchases	314,740
Fitness plan	824
	<u>10,636,683</u>

**Research and Education:**

Subscriptions and publications	19,415
Scholarship fund	2,000
	<u>21,415</u>

**Office salaries:**

Administration office salaries	304,002
Bargaining unit salaries	790,385
	<u>1,094,387</u>

**Office expenses:**

Rent	480,000
Telephone	202,023
Postage mail service and meter expense	68,189
Print room/printing	177,389
Supplies	38,064
Equipment maintenance	9,188
Data processing	18,356
Equipment rental	28,004
Utility reporter	174,787
Miscellaneous	41,552
Bank charges	30,018
Furniture and equipment purchases	175,598
Storage	4,980
	<u>1,448,148</u>

	Salaries Paid or Reimbursed	Expenses	Total
<b>Committee salaries and expenses:</b>			
Executive Board meetings	37,185	38,497	75,682
Advisory Council	17,657	63,460	81,117
Trial Board		3,000	3,000
Trustee Committee	14,484	5,160	19,644
Safety Summit	83,410	46,791	130,201
Review Committee	12,164	9,033	21,197
Safety Committee	25,752	7,481	33,233
Shop Steward expenses	131,146	89,460	220,606
Other conferences	88,365	182,998	271,363
Labor Management		9,773	9,773
Organizing	1,419	33,307	34,726
Grievance/FF/LIC		7,787	7,787
	<u>411,582</u>	<u>496,747</u>	<u>908,329</u>

**Various Other Committees:**

Outside Line	170	6,041	6,211
Davey Tree	6,655	1,177	7,832
Retirees		11,036	11,036
Central Labor		255	255
City of Healdsburg		77	77
Outside conference		9,587	9,587
Membership development	119,775	47,095	166,870
Youth Council		49	49
Peer to peer	19,487	3,410	22,897
Utility Trees		71	71
Frontier committee	21,193	2,760	23,953
Paradise ID		180	180
Joint Apprenticeship		243	243
City of Alameda		32	32
City of Roseville	475	919	1,394
Leadership conference		3,179	3,179
So. San Joaquin		758	758

City of Lodi	2,021	97	2,118
City of Lompoc		5,618	5,618
Dynegy	11,604	3,694	15,298
Plumas-Sierra Rural	6,535	533	7,068
Apprenticeship committee		4,571	4,571
Lineman's Safety		78	78
Lassen MUD Neg		38	38
Leadership	106,459	14,244	120,703
Trees Master Agreement	192	68	260
Local Union Election	64,509	69,514	134,023
City of Gridley		818	818
Trees Inc.	385	378	763
City of Oakland		1,065	1,065
Merced ID	4,950	3,789	8,739
NRG		123	123
NV Energy	39,125	37,454	76,579
A.C. Transit	1,712	347	2,059
No. Calif. Power Agency	2,513	91	2,604
Truckee Meadows	1,020	29	1,049
Peer Volunteer program		144	144
Family Trees		173	173
Modesto I.D.	21,967	17,384	39,351
Truckee Donner	1,575	279	1,854
City of Berkeley		48	48
Turlock I.D.	12,063	9,833	21,896
City of Redding		803	803
City of Ukiah		50	50
Trans Canada		6,745	6,745
City of Fenley		207	207
Members training / education		8,208	8,208
SFCCA		127,435	127,435
Hold The Pull	78,903	42,618	121,521
Port of Oakland		1,141	1,141
Foster Wheeler		100	100
Regional Transit gen neg	21,432	7,194	28,626
City of Santa Clara	9,283	337	9,620
Ely MWP		55	55
Nevada ID		653	653
Tri Dam	59	307	366
Liberty / Calpeco		26	26
USBR		113	113
WAPA		1,171	1,171
SF Shell Shock		29,010	29,010
Jt. Grievance		839	839
Train the Trainer		22,432	22,432
Veterans Club		1,142	1,142
PUC		126	126
	<u>554,062</u>	<u>507,991</u>	<u>1,062,053</u>

**PG&E Negotiation Committees:**

<b>Departmental:</b>			
Arbitration	1,876 \$	51,122	52,998
Misc. physical		224	224
Negotiations	6,528	86,354	92,882
Ad Hoc	61,275	18,868	80,143
PSEA		63	63
Exhibit XVI	28,919	9,227	38,146
Benefits negotiations		12,379	12,379
T & R	3,179	4,563	7,742
Operations		24,110	24,110
Substation		93	93
GRS	2,865	2,574	5,439
Stand By	956	1,783	2,739
Lines of Progression		562	562
Diablo Canyon		278	278
Employee orientation	10,089	2,638	12,727
Call Center		3,875	3,875
Gas Operations	236	3,232	3,468
Benefits		6,504	6,504
Smart meter		230	230
Benefit Sub		299	299
Helicopter		249	249
Clerical Focus Group		16,665	16,665
Job Bidding		1,565	1,565
Gas T & D		191	191

Hydro/SYS op.	788	788
Clerical meeting	1,340	1,340
	<u>115,923</u>	<u>249,776</u>
		<u>365,699</u>

**Membership expenses:**

Supplies - Intl.	17,947
Supplies - Local	31,668
Membership fees	38,615
Labor Day Picnic	2,300
Union Shopper	51,819
Earth Day	12,983
Lineman Rodeo	140,486
Clay Shoot EB	2,670
Soccer tournament	22,390
Motorcycle Rally	7,003
Translation to Spanish	4,696
Golf tournament	1,756
	<u>334,333</u>

**Membership benefits:**

Group life insurance	93,197
Unit drawing award	650
Individual drawing award	550
Service award dinners	117,102
Flowers/donations/bibles	1,247
Social fund	34,000
	<u>246,746</u>

**Payroll taxes:**

<b>Employee portion:</b>	
U.S. income tax withheld	(1,749,401)
FICA withheld	(627,886)
California income tax withheld	(623,137)
SDI withheld	(67,527)
U.S. income tax forward	1,749,401
FICA forward	627,886
California income tax forward	623,137
SDI forward	67,527
Local Union's portion: FICA	626,914
California Unemployment	26,377
U.S.Unemployment	7,712
	<u>661,003</u>

**Employee benefits:**

Health and Welfare plans	2,243,443
Group life insurance	119,204
Pension plan	1,633,169
Other costs, pension plans	29,795
	<u>4,025,611</u>

**Other disbursements:**

Legal fees	424,396
Hall rentals	103,660
Workmen's compensation insurance	149,622
Refunds	16,416
PRD fees	28,177
Payroll deductions	(877)
Ca Electric Utility LM Trust	35,000
Miscellaneous taxes	354
Insurance - auto	55,659
Insurance -pension and 401K bond	19,567
Insurance - Bond -I/O	5,963
Insurance - professional liability	21,503
Audit fees	40,800
Charitable donations	11,150
Miscellaneous fees	2,250
Sales tax	4,187
Injured workers fund	795
Lobbying	16,000
Community Unit Fund	45,092
Members education	224
Consulting fees	392,129
	<u>1,372,067</u>
Total Disbursements	<u><u>27,178,463</u></u>





# THE TOKEN BEARERS

By Mike Cottrell

*The next installment in the lineman's novel by Local 1245 Executive Board member Mike Cottrell.*

## Chapter 13

1960 ELK HILLS STANDOFF. JESSE AND DEV ARBITRATE!

The kid was in the shop on a hot July day sweeping the floor. It was a small shop that could only hold two trucks and in the back, enough room to keep some wire reels and digging tools. Jimmy could hear Jesse talking on the phone from one of the two small offices. The door to the shop was open and he held the broom resting on it as best he could, curious to the conversation his boss was having. Jesse and the person on the other end were in a heated debate concerning the union contract. Leaning on the broom, he overheard Jesse call the other a Son of a bitch and slam the phone down. The creaking of the chair alerted the young man that the boss was on the move and he removed his hands and chin from the rest position and attacked the floor with long swift shoves of the broom.

The door opened on up and Jesse screamed at him.

"Jimmy!"

"Yes sir!"

"Can you find that brother of yours? I'm leaving tonight for Elk Hills and I want you and him to come along with me and John to make a crew. You want to go?"

"Yes sir! I'll find Dean and be right back."

"No, we are not leaving until midnight. We'll drive down in the cool of night and go to work in the morning. Go home and get some rest and find Dean. Be back here at midnight and I'll get John on the move myself."

"Yes sir!"

John had been just the man Jesse needed to keep the work going good and running off the worthless hands and making sure the good ones stayed busy. But now the only job they had going on was the pole line at Elk Hills and some splicing at Mather AFB that John was doing.

The union contract ordered ten dollars a day subsistence per man on the job. Jesse had opened a small office in Bakersfield to claim they were a local company and did not have to pay hands according to the language of the agreement. The union business manager did not see it that way, calling Jesse a rat and Jesse returning a Son of a bitch that caused the phones to be silenced. The business manager ordered the hands not to work, but to show up everyday on a picket line in front of the yard. He argued that the office in Bakersfield was temporary and the subsistence would have to be paid, claiming that as soon as the job was completed Jesse would abandon the office and having saved all the subsistence, leave claiming there was not enough work to warrant the satellite office.

The stalemate that ensued had been in effect for almost three weeks and the government wanted the job complete and was starting to demand completion as per the contract or liquidated damages of sixty dollars a day would go into effect if completion was not met in three weeks according to the contract with the government.

Jesse tried to get an extension and was denied due to the nature of the job having top priority due to cold war needs.

The business manager of the local would not send the grievance to the Council on Industrial Relations due to an old score with Jesse. But Jesse, not concerned with the doings of how it would be solved, only insisted the gate be unlocked and the work continue to allow him to complete his commitment on time with the government. The two old Linemen had squared off, locked horns and were at a stubborn deadlock while the hands went without work and the government went without job completion of the power line that would energize a crucial national security operation.

They drove out of Sacramento from the office at midnight. Two trucks carried them, one with Jesse and John leading the way and the other with the two younger men following loyally behind needing a job.

Jesse relayed the plan to John, who agreed reluctantly but understood the last six years had been steady and good for him and Ruth and the children. He had indeed crossed over the summit from Reno and started a new life.

Staying with a small outfit on the move, he had become the right hand man to Jesse, never denying his boss his wishes and keeping the jobs moving forward and profitable. This would be the first time they had really had to bow up to the union on such a grand scale, but understanding what Jesse wanted and realizing it could mean his job and new home he had bought three years back he thought the company's position was right enough to go along with the hand that fed him.

Bringing up the rear was the truck containing the two brothers who had come from Bakersfield to seek a new life and now going back not having a clue that trouble was on the horizon, rather happy to be going on another prevailing wage job where the money increased drastically compared to working around the shop. Dean and Jimmy drank bottled beer and cruised along behind thinking of the few weeks or days pay that would help their families to a better way of life.

"Them shit heads are probably back there drinking beer in a company truck again," said Jesse.

"You can rest assured of that, by God," laughed John.

Jesse started complaining and John eased his concerns by telling him he would talk with them about it and not to worry, they were good boys.



"But they shouldn't be drinkin' in my work trucks, insurance and all the way it is," complained Jesse.

John wanted a drink himself but Jesse was not a big drinker the way John was and he really wished he were back there with them so he could have a cold one.

They pulled off Highway 99 in Livingston at the Blueberry Hill Café for a piece of pie. The place was well renowned for its good food and delicious assortment of homemade pie.

Jimmy wanted a hamburger but Jesse protested the move and insisted they did not have time for a cooked meal.

"Just get a piece of pie; we have to keep moving to get down there in time to get some work done. We're behind on that job as it is."

Jimmy thought, "What's getting a f\*\*\*kin' hamburger got to do with the job not getting done?", then ordered hot apple pie with vanilla ice cream, and wondered if Jesse would raise hell about sticking it in the oven for a couple minutes.

"I don't want a piece of pie. You got a cold bottle of Coors back there baby?" said Dean.

"Sure".

"That's what I'll have. The road always dries me out for a cold beer."

"You be sober in the morning when we get there boy," and John looked at him and winked, his back to Jesse.

"No problem."

The waitress brought the pies, a hot apple for Jimmy, a piece of rhubarb for John and blackberry for Jesse. Dean got his beer and all were happy. The others coffee'd up and found favor in the pretty waitress showing cleavage and lots of red lipstick. The place looked good too, clean, and mopped down good, shakers all filled and the cook busy in the back treating the grill for the start of the early travelers of morning. The truckers would be in soon from their sleepers, piercing the morning with laughter and jokes for all. Taking to the road under the rainbow of hope that the road offered for the hearty to survive and the weak to be swallowed up and devoured by the white lines.

John ordered Jimmy to ride with Jesse so he could have Dean drive him while he drank and down the Ninety-nine they went to the dawn in Bakersfield and for more coffee and fuel at Holden's truck stop before making the last leg of the journey to Elk Hills.

Pulling off the main road they went down along the river and over a steel bridge that moaned its rage beneath the tires, shaking and crying through



the wooden timbers that held so much tonnage for so many years, it's agony continuing on this early Thursday morning.

Jimmy was driving the first truck with his boss at his side, and John and Dean in the second, John now driving and Dean asleep.

"Wake up you Son-of-a bitch, you're gonna' miss all the fun."

"What, what's that?" and Dean came to and rubbed his eyes and asked again.

"What the hell are you talking about? What fun? This ain't fun. Wake me up when the trucks are warmed up."

"Yeah, if we ever get to them. Look there at the gate in front of the yard, it's covered with hands not interested in us working or getting trucks started for the day."

John pulled over and watched as Jesse and Jimmy went on ahead and up toward the gate. Dean was wide awake now and started to understand the lock-out by virtue of the Linemen and grunts standing at the gate.

Jimmy questioned Jesse.

"What's going on Jess? There's more of them than us. You didn't tell me there was a strike."

"There ain't no strike kid. Me and the business agent are just having a little misunderstanding about the agreement. You just drive up to the gate and I'll take it from there."

Jimmy was not one hundred percent sure he was sitting in such a cozy spot anymore and the fear of the moment began a swelling of his throat and a swallowing of fear passed through to his stomach and developed a surge of emptiness as the truck rolled up slowly and pronounced its arrival with a screeching brake liner that had been developing since they left Bakersfield.

John and Dean sat comfortably back in the distance watching and noticing a few men he knew John decided to let the thing go on until he was really needed. Dean felt good about that too and produced a cigar from his vest and started licking it, wondering if his little brother would need his help soon or if it could be resolved without violence.

Someone had surely let the word out that they were coming because the Bakersfield business manager was standing there defiant and knowing he had more men he would win out and keep the others from going to work. He was decidedly cocky in view of the fact that for the moment the whole thing looked to favor him.

"You'll have to put them men back to work or let us through so we can. My contracting business is on the line if I don't get this job done on time It'll give me such a black eye they won't ever let me do anything else for them again and I'll be closing the doors."

"Your gonna' regret the day Jesse that you didn't pay these men the sub they got comin', when you start payin' it I'll consider lettin' you in."

Jimmy wanted to disappear into the seat cover and never be seen again when the Colt forty-five came from under the seat in Jesse's hands and he cocked back the trigger and reached over the kid and jerked the business

manager inside enough to stick the barrel in his neck.

"You can let me through Dev and forget about that old score and let arbitration settle this, or you can be down at the morgue directly and I'll be in jail for killin' you. But once you're dead and before I go to jail these men will be inside startin' trucks to go to work, only you won't be hearing them start. It's your call Dev; I'm ready to pull the trigger."

They just stared at each other for a few seconds and Jimmy closed his eyes and sweated profusely wanting to cover his ears but afraid to move his hands to them, being right in the middle of it.

It wasn't a shy response, it was a bold one. Dev didn't seem to care the gun was in his neck about to go off, it was more a matter to him it might be this man to be the one to kill him. The old score reflected in both their eyes and Dev knew he would pull the trigger. All I have to do to die, he thought, is give Jesse the nod and he'd be getting even for back in Medford in '48 and startin' the trucks to boot to my deaf, dead ears.

"We both deserve to die for that thing in Medford, Dev. We were scum bags for what happened to her, but you more than me Dev'. Now make your mind up, my finger is startin' to get a cramp."

"We'll settle this another day Jesse, but I'll send the subsistence thing to arbitration and these men can go back to work so you can get you precious job done and save your business. Turn loose of my shirt now and I'll give the word."

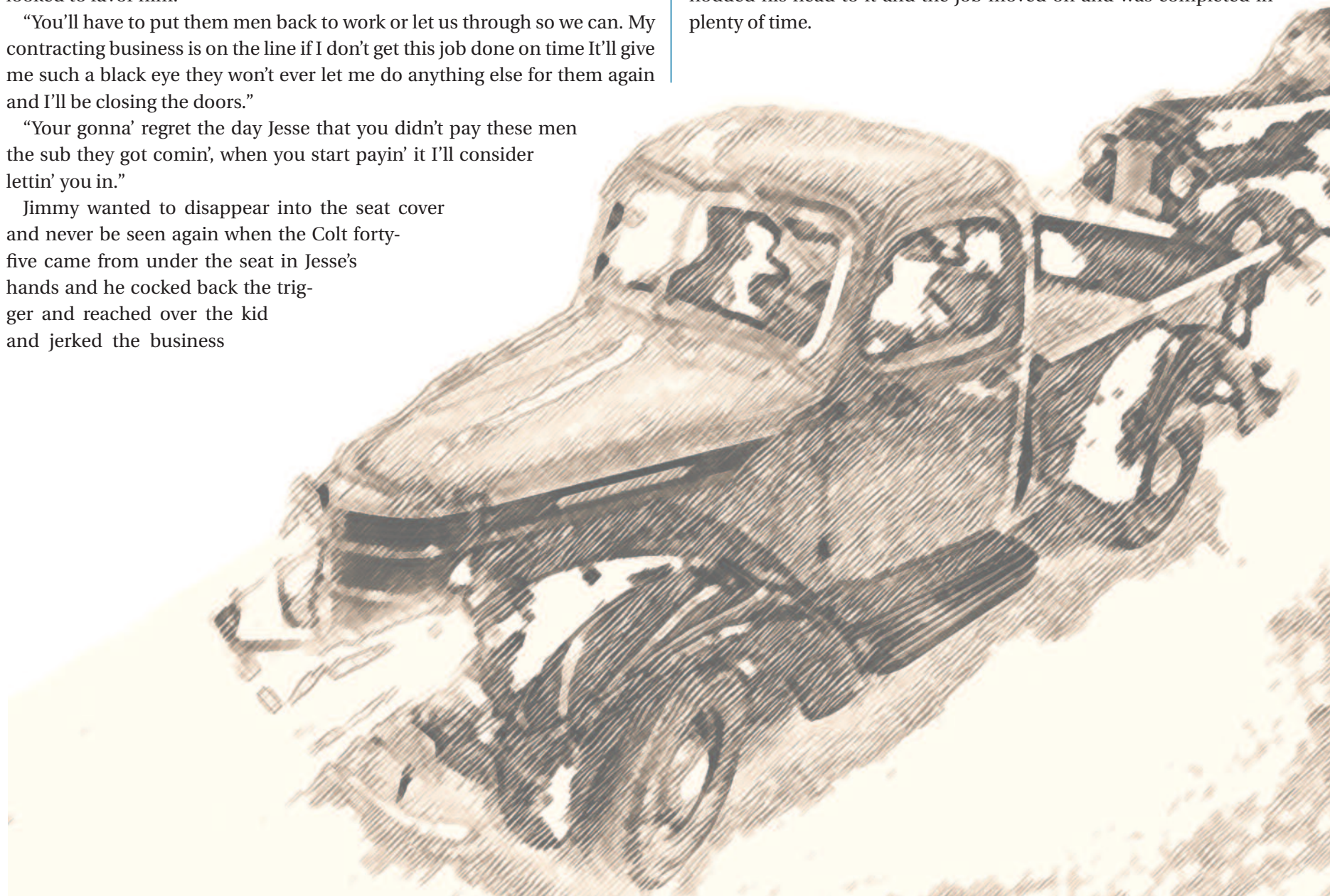
"Don't make me have to shoot you a runnin' Dev."

"You got my word Jesse, bad as you might think it is, it's good. But you take these men back north with you, they don't have a clearance for this job."

"I'll send them back to their job up north, but I'll be stayin' around here a few days to see this thing is moving good and be back once a week until its done so they'll be no slowin' it down."

"These men were getting it done fine until I stopped them. They want to work and as soon as I know you are out of my territory the better it will be for all of us. Now turn loose before I change my mind and can laugh from hell at your confinement."

Jesse turned him loose and moved back to his seat. Dev ordered the men back to work and told them they would be getting two hours overtime a day and working Saturdays to get it done on time. He looked back at Jesse, who nodded his head to it and the job moved on and was completed in plenty of time.



*continued in next issue*



# SAY SOMETHING

