

SURGE

June, 2005 • Published for the members of IBEW Local 18 and their families



BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

A Grievous, Untimely Professional and Personal Loss!

Remembering Brother Miguel Contreras

By Brian D'Arcy
Business Manager, Local 18

It is hard enough to bid farewell to an outstanding, influential and charismatic leader within the ranks of organized labor but, believe me, it is *far* more painful and difficult to say goodbye to a close friend, someone I greatly respected professionally and hugely enjoyed personally.

The shocking and *terribly* untimely death of Brother Miguel Contreras on May 6, 2005 deeply affected me—it still does, and will continue to do so for years to come. The Los Angeles County Federation of Labor—indeed the *national* organized-labor movement—has lost a visionary leader, a very successful coalition builder and political strategist, and an eloquent voice.

Local 18 has lost a true friend, and I have lost a confidante and a thoroughly enjoyable *compadre*.

Miguel's achievements at the Fed speak for themselves and will resonate in the years to come:

He helped boost membership to over 800,000 working men, women and families throughout the County, making the Fed a leader among labor councils across the country.

He unified an extremely diverse, sometimes fractious group of 345 local unions into a potent force for political, social and economic equality, making the Fed a model of organized labor's strength and influence.



He encouraged, supported and then *won* with many local and state candidates, who have become some of our most vocal and reliable political allies at City Hall and in Sacramento, making the Fed a very serious and respected political "player".

Perhaps more important and far-reaching, he opened organized-labor's ranks to immigrants in traditional and non-traditional professions, extending our protection and cooperation to tens of thousands of new working people and families, making the Fed a true friend and partner.

That was Brother Contreras, the professional, who accomplished what few have done before.

continued on page 2

But I also mourn *Miguel*, my friend of 20 years, who was:

Always a sympathetic and knowledgeable ear for any union, policy or political problem.

An upbeat, forward-looking man, who saw both the small and large "pictures".

Quick-witted, out-going, and very funny—someone who always had a story for an occasion.

A thoroughly enjoyable, popular companion at meetings, conventions, meals and social events.

A true friend to my own family, as we were to his.

Deep-down a real Giants fan, even if he wore a Dodger shirt when we went to ball games.

Rest in Peace, Brother Miguel Contreras, you have fully earned it. Our very deepest sympathy to your wife, Sister Maria Elena Durazo, your sons and your extended family. Yes, we can—and will—physically replace you at the County Fed, because life, and our struggle, and your agenda *must* go on. But in so many ways, we *never* will replace you.

• • • •

Lilly Calvache Joins Staff as New Business Rep



Lilly Calvache

We are pleased to welcome Lilly Calvache as Local 18's newest Business Rep. She will represent sections of Unit 8 (Clerical) and Unit 28 (Print Shop/Reprographics).

Sister Calvache has been active in the union movement for 21 years. She became a Shop Steward in 1988, was elected to our Executive Board in 1995, served as a Trustee for our Health and Welfare Trust, and recently has been Vice President of the DWP Retirement Board.

Lilly has served our Union in a number of other capacities, including membership on the Clerical Joint Labor-Management Committee, negotiations and safety committees, and as a Strike Captain in 1993. She represented Local 18 at national and district conferences, as well as at meetings that focused on protecting the rights of women in the work force

Sister Calvache joined DWP in 1980, as a Clerk Typist, and steadily worked her way up professionally, using her skills and dedication to serve her co-workers and improve job site conditions. Local 18 is pleased and fortunate to have someone with Lilly's expertise and experience to assist our members. Welcome aboard!

CONGRATULATIONS, BROTHER VILLARAIGOSA!

The IBEW Local 18 extended family is proud and pleased to congratulate Los Angeles City Councilman Antonio Villaraigosa on his election as Mayor on May 17, 2005. This is an extraordinary turning point for working people and families throughout the City, because we have elected *one of our own*, someone who truly knows and understands unions, organized labor, and the agenda that working men and women need and *deserve*.

Brother Villaraigosa is *from* the union movement. He instinctively grasps our concerns and goals. He feels them in his gut. Over the years, I have been proud to work closely and productively with him on a broad and important range of issues, ranging from more affordable housing and health coverage, to job creation and economic equality, to better education and futures for *all* the people in our great city.

As a progressive State Assemblyman, then effective Speaker of the Assembly and, for the past two years, City Councilman from the 14th District, Antonio Villaraigosa has time and again demonstrated his unswerving support for our Union specifically and for working people in general. He shepherded important IBEW bills through the legislature and, as a councilman, took a leading role in resolving local work disputes, always with an eye on what was best for the employees.

As mayor, Brother Villaraigosa faces a daunting spectrum of challenges, many of which will impact the city's working people and families. I look forward to working closely with him, and I am confident that he will unite an effective, forward-thinking coalition of individuals and organizations to help move Los Angeles forward and make it even more of a city in which we will be proud to live, work and raise our families.

Congratulations again, Brother Villaraigosa! Now, *Mayor Villaraigosa*. We look forward to being an integral part of your team.

In Unity,



From the Trenches: Reports from your Business Reps

Unit 1 – Electric Distribution

By Barry Poole

◆ The Lineman's Rodeo was held Saturday, May 14, at the Truesdale Training Center. A total of 28 Journey and 22 Apprentice Teams competed. They represented a number of cities and utilities, including the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Burbank Water and Power, Pasadena Water and Power, Southern California Edison, San Diego Gas and Electric, Arizona (APS), the City of Anaheim, Glendale Water and Power, and Imperial Irrigation District.

Journey Teams that qualified from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, to go to the National Lineman's Rodeo Finals in Kansas City, are:

Team 1: *Dennis Honor, Shawn Monahan, and Craig Randles*

Team 2: *Hector Avila, Nazir Falzi, and Wilson Salvador*

Team 3: *Omar Diaz, Richard Olquin, and Randolph Bowen*

Team 4: *Ben Rodriguez, Troy Couch, and Scott Osborn*

Apprentice Team qualifiers are:

Team 1: *Sotero Ramos and Randy Pierson*

Apprentice Written Test Qualifier: *Edgar Maciel*

Congratulations to the winners and everyone who tested their skills!

For the kids, there were burro rides, a petting zoo, rock climbing area and jumpers. Good food was served at a moderate cost.

Special thanks go to all the members and volunteers who helped organize this event at the EDMT training center.

◆ Work continues on the separation of the Lineman/Splicer programs. It is currently before the City Personnel Committee.

◆ The overtime committee met to discuss a proposal to make to management. A number of suggestions were made and Senior Assistant Business Manager Russ Butow will present them to management. If you have any questions you can contact David Alarcon, Jack Bell, John Bilich, Richard Boyd, Omar Diaz, Jeff Farr, Tony Perez, John Saathoff, Mike Traweek, Russ Butow or me.

◆ Negotiations continue with regard to setting poles in the Street Light section. We will be sure to let you know when there is more progress on this issue.

Unit 2 – ESOs

By Bill Lewis

It looks like the on-going saga involving the hiring of a new class of trainees has ended. The Training Section has requested a certification list to fill a class of 20 trainees. The desired start date is *mid-July*. As of now, the plan to hire *another* class in six months has been approved.

Management has indicated a desire to move the Field Trainer positions to Training Center staff. Prior to the move, many issues surrounding it need to be addressed. We will keep everyone informed as we resolve the issues.

Unit 3 – Testers

By Bill Lewis

Please do not forget that your unit meetings are held at 4:00 p.m., on the *third Wednesday* of the month, at Main Street, in the Third-Floor Conference Room in Building 7. Recent retirements have left vacancies in the ranks of Unit Shop Stewards. We are looking for new Shop Stewards, and if anyone is interested, please contact Unit 3 Chair, Steve Anderson.

Unit 4 – General Construction

By Martin Marrufo

◆ Management has announced that it will change the reporting hierarchy of some employees from Electrical Station Maintenance to General Construction. Currently, there are Painters, Plumbers, Building Repairers, and a Maintenance & Construction Helper who will be affected by the reorganization. The scheduled changes are slated to take effect *July 1, 2005*.

Under the current plan, Building Repairers and Painters will remain at their current reporting locations at Palmetto and Truesdale, and would continue to work exclusively on ESM projects. However, these craftspeople and their supervisors would be in the General Construction organization.

ESM Plumbers would be moved to

Temple Street and combined with ISS forces in General Construction. Management intends to deploy the combined force of Plumbers to projects both within General Construction and ESM jurisdiction.

◆ *Our main concern is your safety!* There are critical differences in the type of safety training provided in an Electrical Business Unit, as opposed to a Construction Business Unit. Ninety percent of the work performed by crafts in ESM is done in electrical stations, in which there is energized equipment. ESM requires that all employees working in the electrical stations take two weeks of initial QEW training, as well as an annual one-week refresher.

ESM safety meetings are geared toward electrical hazards that are faced every day. Although the work scope of General Construction is hazardous in its own right, there are distinctly different circumstances associated with the work environments. While General Construction provides some level of electrical training, it is far less extensive than the two-week course required by ESM. *We are working very closely with management in order to ensure that safety concerns are the highest priority in making this transition.*

◆ I would like to thank all of you who participated in our Solidarity Day on May 18. The level of participation in our Union activities has increased, and we have the leadership of our active members and Shop Stewards to thank for this. Along those same lines, I want to thank Ron Jennings and Jeffrey Howell for stepping up and becoming our newest Shop Stewards!

Unit 6 – Stores

By Shawn McCloud

There is a form that lets management know that you are interested in transferring to another location within the Department. At our June JLMC meeting, it was brought to our attention that many of you are unaware that you can complete a registration form at DWP Personnel Services (Room 546, JFB), or you can call 213/367-1934 to request that a form be faxed to you. *This form is valid for only one year.*

continued on page 4

Unit 8 – Clerical

By Shawn McCloud & Lilly Calvache

◆ MOU training is going well at the Clerical Unit meetings. Thank you for your support and participation. We invite all employees to attend your unit meetings, which are held at the Union Hall. Postcards are sent out each month.

◆ There are a number of Joint Labor-Management Committees throughout the Department. Clerical Worker Safety Committee and Subcommittee members are working hard to make various training classes available to clerical employees. A few examples are, First Aid, CPR, and AED training. If you have not received training, please submit a request *in writing* to your supervisor. Most often, AED training will be offered to personnel in the districts. We encourage you to take advantage of the classes as they become available.

◆ Congratulations to DWP's first group of half-time employees! They have successfully completed probation. The Half-Time to Full-Time Committee members are working diligently to complete the process. We will keep you informed.

◆ Just a reminder: the next Clerical Unit Meeting is set for 9:00 a.m., Saturday, July 23, at the Union Hall.

◆ ***Our Sincere Condolences go out to the family members, friends & co-workers of:***

Lucille Henderson, Local 18 retiree, who worked in Legal Division.

Darlene Elaine Mack, Local 18 member who worked in FSO.

Anita Wedlow, a clerical employee at DWP, who worked in Security Services.

Your smiles and words of encouragement will be missed, but your personality will continue to live on through the legacy that you left behind. May you rest in peace. Our prayers are with their families, friends and co-workers.

—Shawn, GERALYN and Lilly

Unit 8/18 – Clerical Supervisory

By GERALYN Washington-Tatum

◆ As most of you now know, Lilly Calvache has joined the Local 18 staff. She has been assigned to represent Clerical employees at JFB. She will also

represent *non-clerical* Unit 28 (Print Shop & Reprographics). Our new assignments are as follows:

Shawn McCloud (ext. 111): All Unit 8 Clerical employees working *outside* of the John Ferraro Building. *Non-clerical* units are Unit 6 (Stores), and Unit 33 (Administration).

GERALYN Washington-Tatum (ext. 105): Unit 8 Clerical employees working in CSBU (including Customer Service Representative, Clerk Typist, Senior Clerk Typist and Clerks), FSO, Worker's Compensation, Retirement, Unit 18 Supervisory Clerical & Administrative, and Unit 12, Supervisory Employees in the Security Services Business Group.

Lilly Calvache (ext. 140): All other Unit 8 Clerical employees working at the John Ferraro Building, Voice Operation Center, Unit 28 (Print Shop and Reprographics).

◆ To all Supervisory Clerical & Administrative employees: if you are interested in attending a unit meeting, please contact GERALYN.

◆ Beginning in July, we will have copies of the final minutes of the Joint Labor-Management Committee (JLMC) for you at our monthly unit meetings. If you have any concern that you want addressed at the JLMC, please forward the information to me by fax (213/739-6937).

Unit 15/20 – Pasadena

By Barry Poole

◆ We continue to meet on the cost sharing for 2% at 55. The discussions are informal, and a resolution has not been completed.

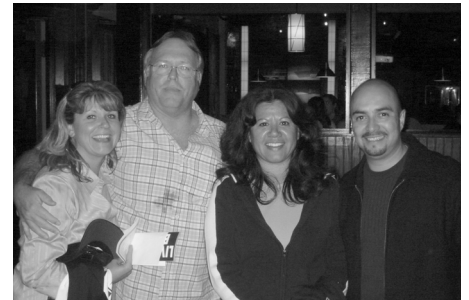
◆ R.W. Beck has finished its study regarding the condition of the infrastructure in Pasadena. It has found significant problems in substructures, switches, substations, and other areas. As a result of this study, the City Manager recommended hiring nine new positions in the Pasadena Department of Water and Power. The positions include: two Senior Electrical Testers; one Power Distribution Crew Supervisor; one Electrical Mechanic; one Assistant Electrical Mechanic; one Electrical Craft Helper; two Powerline Mechanics, and two Senior Cable Splicers.

◆ We have written to Human Resources, requesting a meeting to discuss the letter that was sent out about vacation accrual.

Unit 17 – Field Groups

By Nancy Romero

◆ I want to heartily thank all Unit 17 members who joined us at the Annual Dinner Meeting. I especially acknowledge Unit 17 Shop Stewards who stepped up to the plate and assured that we got the most important information out to the members who attended. Our meeting was a tremendous success, and a good time was had by all. We look forward to seeing more of you participate next year!



◆ **Attention CFRs:** Unfortunately, I must dispel any rumors or innuendo regarding the recent filling of the Field Investigation (FI) positions. For starters, there is currently *no* established list of eligible candidates for Senior Commercial Field Representatives. These two FI positions will be filled on an emergency basis until the Personnel Department conducts and completes the necessary testing procedures. Once the testing is done, and the certified list of eligible candidates is approved by the Civil Service Commission, only then will the emergency appointments end (the two emergency appointments must end within 30 days

continued on page 5

of the establishment of a list), and the cert will go out to fill two permanent positions.

For now, due to the fact that these are emergency appointments, the Department has *no* obligation to establish—or follow—a process for filling these positions. It can (and often does) select the appointees of its own choosing, based on its own criteria, and at its will.

Concerning these two specific positions, CSBU management determined that it would put out an interest memo and then select from those members who submitted their names for consideration. It decided how many candidates to interview and what questions would be asked. *Local 18 was never consulted in this matter.*

Following several complaints from members regarding the requirements listed in the interest memo, we worked with CSBU management to assure that the appropriate bulletin requirements were the ones that were listed on that interest memo. *This was the extent of our involvement.* More than 40 members expressed an interest in filling these two positions. Of those candidates, CSBU management decided who it would interview, and ultimately who would be selected for these two positions.

I encourage you to read the Civil Service Rules and Regulations in order to better understand the difference between how a “Permanent”, “Limited” and “Emergency” appointment is made.

Unit 19B – CR&FS, FMBG, GSC

By Martin Marrufo

CR&FS

◆ I want to thank every member for your support and patience. The Shops Bid Plan currently is in process. There have been bids posted, and we are waiting for you to voice your concerns over any flaws in the current seniority list, or the assignments that may be awarded. The Bid Plan Committee will meet and try to correct any errors or oversights.

◆ We currently are seeking someone in the mechanical sections to assume the position of Union Shop Stew-

ard. Our Shop Stewards are vital to our progress and improvement. ERS would also benefit by the appointment of a new Shop Steward. Despite some difficulties, this position can be very rewarding. Those of you who have needed the assistance of Shop Stewards know the value and importance of a representative who cares more for others than their own interests.

FMBG

I would like to thank Local 18 Shop Steward Glenn Carlisle for being so helpful and patient with me throughout the last few months. I will be visiting your facilities, along with the Shop Stewards, in order to introduce myself and become more familiar with your work. If you have immediate concerns, please contact me by phone (213/387-8274, ext.107), or by e-mail at mmarrufo@ibewlocal18.com.

Unit 22 – ESRs

By Bill Lewis

We are starting to see an increase in participation at the unit meetings. Each month, we have selected a topic for training. The presentations are well received, and take only a short amount of time. Last month, we learned about accumulated overtime. Please come see what the next subject is for discussion. Our meetings are held at 4:45 p.m. on the *first Thursday* of each month. Check the schedule for the location.

Unit 24 – Water Supply

By Ken Delgado

◆ Currently, we will be combining two Joint Labor-Management Committees (JLMCs), the Water Quality Section/L.A. Reservoir/Maintenance Committee and the Temple Street Shops JLM. The first joint meeting was held on June 9, at the Tujunga Pump Station.

◆ I will add some new members to the committee in the near future. Both of these committees are under the same section, and they deal with many of the same concerns and work-related issues. Because of this, the committee co-chairs have mutually agreed to combine these bodies. I hope that this will help streamline the way business is being handled.

◆ The Water Utility Operators’ Bid

Plan is currently at Department Labor Relations. We presented the new bid runs for your approval at the June 8 Unit 24 meeting, which was held at the Filtration Plant.

◆ *Negotiations are coming!* I very much hope that you keep attending your unit meetings in order to stay informed. And remember: *safety first!*

Unit 25 – Landscape

By Nancy Romero

◆ Following up last month’s article, I am encouraged by the quick action of Senior Park Supervisor, Ralph Valdez, who stopped all the work at IS Stations as soon as the potentially unsafe tasks were brought to management’s attention through the FMBG Safety Office.

◆ We will continue to work with the FMBG Safety Office and other Department management on exactly what type of clearances are required for members who are *not* Qualified Electrical Workers (QEW), who are required to work in these type of high-voltage environments. We expect to see some positive results from this experience! Thank you again to the Western District for bringing this issue to light.

◆ As of now, *all* seniors and supervisors have completed the safety-entry training. By the time you read this, the entire Landscape Section will have completed this very important training. You all are encouraged to attend this training and become aware of all the potential hazards that are related to working in the various Department facilities.

◆ Two seniors positions are expected to be filled soon as a result of the completion of probation by the two supervisors. Also, an additional opportunity will be available for a Gardener Caretaker. One Park Maintenance Supervisor will also be filled due to a recent retirement. Good luck to everyone as you go through the hiring process!

Unit 26 – Custodial Services

By Nancy Romero

◆ We are excited to add an additional 26 new Custodial Services Attendants to our ranks as emergency ap-

continued on page 6

pointments. We welcome you brothers and sisters to Unit 26. We look forward to meeting you at our monthly unit meetings.

◆ We have been talking with Department management regarding changes to the CSA structure. A total of four different section offices will be set up, each under the direction of a Custodian Supervisor. We are still working with FMBC management on whether or not the senior positions will be filled.

◆ As of now, interviews have been completed for the filling of two permanent regular positions for CSAs. One will be assigned to the JFB, the other will be placed in the Valley. Candidates for interviews were selected only from transfers from the City at this time, since there continues to be no established list of eligible candidates.

◆ Congratulations to Brother Enrique Gavilanes and his wife on the birth of their new son!

◆ I invite you to make every effort to join us at our monthly Unit meetings. There are many issues we need to discuss. Please join us and let your voice be heard. We meet at 3:30 p.m., on the *third Thursday* of the Month, at the Union hall.

Unit 31 – Professional

By Leslie Abbott

◆ In April, the Joint Training Institute (JTI) convened an Engineering Focus Group to discuss issues regarding engineer educational and training programs, and to consider possible strategies to achieve training solutions. Focus Group members represent a range of engineering disciplines and functions, and are drawn from all three DWP systems. They are: John Abdelmalak; Steve Cole; Cliff Damron; Jeu Foon; Kevin Garrity; Eric Hartman; Karen Iseri; Steve Ivanick; Al Medina; Phil Omlor; Brad Packer, and Bob Pettinato. Kerry McCorkle, Local 18's Business Rep for the Supervisory Professional Unit, and I both participate in the meetings, as well. Please let us know if you have training models or input that you would like considered.

◆ Pro Unit meetings are always at 5:30 p.m., on the *first Wednesday* of the month, at the Union Hall. Parent

Body (General Local 18 membership) meetings are always at 6:00 p.m., on the *fourth Thursday* of the month, at the Union Hall. Please plan to attend in order to keep yourself informed, especially during this MOU negotiations year!

Unit 32 – Technical

By Kerry McCorkle

◆ I am putting together nominations of Technical Unit members to be on the Bid Plan Negotiating Committee. The Committee will need your input as we begin this process. At the May Unit meeting, we discussed some of the issues about the present Bid System. Many issues were brought up for discussion. *Now is a great time to attend your unit meeting and let us know your thoughts and concerns.*

◆ A new feature at our monthly unit meetings is training on important MOU articles and other topics that need to be addressed. At our May meeting, I held a discussion about Article 9 of the MOU (Overtime Language). The overtime language in the Local 18 MOU is considerably different and *better* than the former wording. Following the presentation, we reviewed the changes.

I hope to continue training in our unit meetings. I am always happy to hear suggestions about what you want to learn. Please contact me or your Shop Stewards with ideas.

◆ *With the expiration of your present contract on the horizon, your attendance at unit meetings is very important.* Rumors and *incorrect* information are already circulating. Please attend your unit meetings, and stay in touch with your Shop Stewards, Union officers and me. *We will always give you the facts!* When you hear rumors and gossip, *consider the source.*

Unit 33 – Administrative

By Kerry McCorkle

◆ The Administrative Unit will now be represented by Shawn McCloud. It has been an honor to serve you. Shawn will need your support and participation in representing you. Please contact her if you are interested in being involved.

◆ *With the expiration of your present*

contract on the horizon, your attendance at unit meetings is very important. Rumors and *incorrect* information are already circulating. Please attend your unit meetings, and stay in touch with your Shop Stewards, Union officers and me. *We will always give you the facts!* When you hear rumors and gossip, *consider the source.*

Unit 34 – Supervisory Professional

By Kerry McCorkle

◆ The Local 18/Joint Training Institute has begun to address issues and problems concerning engineering, educational and training problems. A JTI Engineering Focus Group has been formed to identify issues, discuss and prioritize them, and seek solutions. We are reviewing past and present engineering-training programs, and looking at information from "Training Needs Analysis" and engineering competencies. I want to acknowledge the participation of Unit 34 members Jeu Foon, Kevin Garrity, Eric Hartman, Karen Iseri, Brad Packer, and Ernest Wong. Thank you!

◆ I will be adding a new feature to our monthly unit meetings: training on important MOU articles and other topics that need to be addressed. I always want to hear suggestions about what you want to learn. Please contact your Officers (Brad Packer, John Miller, and Jack Waizenegger) or me.

◆ There is a dedicated core of brothers and sisters who attend and participate in our monthly unit meetings. You also have a dedicated group of officers who are ably leading the unit. I hope more of you will attend our meetings. *Please come and join us and get involved.* Several unit members are already involved in Joint Labor Management Committees. Your voice is being heard as you actively participate in Local 18 matters.

◆ *With the expiration of your present contract on the horizon, your attendance at unit meetings is very important.* Rumors and *incorrect* information are already circulating. Please attend your unit meetings, and stay in touch with your Shop Stewards, Union officers

continued on page 7

Local 18 Members Turn Out For Solidarity Day on May 18, 2005!



Local 18 brothers and sisters proudly wear their t-shirts that proclaim:

"No Contract, No Work"

FROM THE TRENCHES – continued from page 6

and me. *We will always give you the facts!* When you hear rumors and gossip, *consider the source.*

Unit 35 – Supervisory Technical

By Leslie Abbott

Super Tech Unit meetings are at 5:30 p.m., on the *third Wednesday* of the month, at the Union Hall. Parent Body (General Local 18 membership) meetings are always at 6:00 p.m., on the *fourth Thursday* of the month, at the Union Hall. Please plan to attend in order to keep yourself informed, especially during this MOU negotiations year!

Unit 50 – Burbank

By Barry Poole

Currently, we are negotiating over wages. The next meeting of the committee was held on Thursday, June 30.

Unit 52 – Owens Valley

Unit 52A – Mojave

By Ken Delgado

◆ For the past four months, I have been pleased to be your Business Rep at both Owens Valley and Mojave. Most of my focus has been on getting a handle on how business is run up there. I want to thank all the members

who have been helping me along and getting me up to speed on what has been going on there over the years. My short-term goals are to work on such immediate issues as fair distribution of overtime, and the posting and up-to-date listing of the Accumulated Overtime Log (AOTL).

Most important is the issue of ensuring that we, as a membership, are doing the work that is described in your Duties Description Records (DDR). This is important because management must really get the "big picture"—that we do *not* have enough personnel on staff to do the work. *It must hire more people.* If and when someone is doing your work, then we immediately want to know *why* someone with a different classification is doing your work. *At all times, we should be alert to this, and make sure that we are doing the work that we were hired to do!*

Further, let's not forget the fact that when we work *out* of class, doing the kind of assignments that we are not familiar with, *there is a huge safety risk involved.* In reality, the right thing to do is request that management does the correct thing and have the proper class

do the work. The last thing we want is to be policing each other when all we want is to have management do *its* job properly.

Unit 55 – Telecommunications

By Nancy Romero

◆ Please know that the 67 positions requested by the ITS Managers for next year's budget were *severely* slashed. Only *five* positions are slated for the ITSBU in the new fiscal year. We commend management for its attempt to make a business-related case for filling two crews for the Telecomm Section. We will continue to work on securing more opportunities for you.

◆ I also want you to know that we are still reviewing the installation of the video surveillance cameras. Several discussions have been held regarding this item, and it has been determined that the Electrical Mechanics are, in fact, the appropriate classification for installing this equipment. Rumors had been circulated that the cameras were being installed by Electrical Craft Helpers and Electrical Repairers; *those rumors are false.*

UNION NOTICES

NOTIFY RE: CURRENT ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER – to Local 18 and DWP

NOTIFY RE: CURRENT BENEFICIARIES – to Local 18 for your IBEW Death Benefit and to the DWP Retirement Office

PRE-DESIGNATE PERSONAL PHYSICIAN IN THE EVENT OF WORK INJURY – at DWP Workers' Compensation Office. California law requires your employer to provide and pay for medical treatment if you are injured at work. If you choose your own physician or chiropractor prior to a work related injury, you have the right to treat with that personal physician or chiropractor. Forms may be obtained at the DWP Workers' Comp office.

UNION SPONSORED MEDICAL/DENTAL PLANS – For information, contact our Benefit Service Center at 800/842-6635 or Local 18 offices at 213/387-8274.

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE – Local 18 will finance tuition fees and 50% of the cost of required books for union labor-oriented classes *for members only*.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND – Local 18 offers two Trade School Grants per year to union members enrolling in technical, industrial or trade schools — \$250.00 yearly for two years (a total of \$500 per student). In addition, the International Union offers a maximum of 12 scholarships yearly to *members only* for undergraduate study. The scholarships are each worth up to \$3,000 per year to a maximum of eight years.

INQUIRE ABOUT PRESCRIPTION SAFETY GLASSES – Eligible employees are those who require the use of medically prescribed glasses to perform their primary work tasks, and whose primary work requires the use of safety eye wear by Department policy and/or CalOSHA regulations. Questions regarding employee eligibility and coverage should be directed to your primary Business Unit safety representative.

REGISTER TO VOTE – If you have moved or changed your name since the last election, you need to re-register! Registration forms are available online at the State of California's Secretary of State's website: www.ss.ca.gov.

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Website: ibewlocal18.com

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