

# A lifetime of work in energy conservation

By Maureen Bogues



**Charles Segerstrom**—the manager responsible for the Energy Training Center-Stockton, Pacific Energy Center and K-16 school programs on energy efficiency—was recently inducted into the Building Performance Industry (BPI) Hall of Fame, a lifetime achievement that recognizes his work promoting energy efficiency during his 31-year career at PG&E.

BPI is the nation's premier standards development and credentialing organization for residential energy efficiency retrofit work. Its approach to energy savings sees the "house as a system" and takes into account how energy use impacts health, safety and comfort, as well as the durability of equipment and appliances.

For Charles, winning the national award is more than a personal milestone; it's also emblematic of PG&E's leadership in the field, bringing innovation and expertise on behalf of customers.

"In my mind, it is a broader recognition of how proactive PG&E has been and how we've really tried to stress looking for best practices and tracking with state-of-the-art in programs we are delivering," he said.

He has managed the Stockton center for 24 years and has been responsible for designing and delivering training, employee certification and technical support for PG&E's Customer Energy Management Programs. He also manages energy efficiency training centers in San Francisco and San Ramon.

"It's a passion of mine to have job that has a meaningful impact on the planet and future generations," Charles said. "It's not just a job. It's a career that I am passionate about. I am grateful to PG&E for making it possible."

Charles called it a "high honor" to get the BPI award, which was presented on March 29 at the Affordable Comfort Inc. (ACI) National Home Performance Conference in Baltimore, Md. Charles was nominated by Joanne Panchana, senior program manager, and Susan Randall-Nelson, senior communications specialist, both in Customer Energy Solutions.

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ETC class of 1988. Charles Segerstrom, far right, is pictured at the Stockton Energy Center in 1988, where he has worked as a manager, supervisor and trainer.

"I have witnessed Charles' leadership at the national level through his work with ACI and BPI," said Joanne. "The credibility and recognition Charles has brought to PG&E, our workforce education and training, and our incentive programs, has led to our continued success in these areas."

Duane Larson, director of Energy Efficiency Strategic Planning, cites—among Charles' many accomplishments—his decades of championing Home Performance in California; his work has directly led to the \$100 million funding of Energy Upgrade California, a comprehensive energy efficiency program that provides tools and resources to property owners to help them improve their energy and water efficiency, save money and increase building comfort.



# Retiree News

July 2012

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## San Francisco: PG&E volunteers undeterred by vandalism at Earth Day garden site

By David Kligman

**San Francisco**—Undeterred by recent vandalism to a community garden where PG&E employees volunteer every year for Earth Day, the utility returned this past weekend to re-seed plants and prep the area for a new fence that the company is funding.

About 25 employees were joined June 2 by volunteers from Oracle and Virgin America and members of the local community who read about the destruction to the garden at Candlestick Point State Recreation Area.

Jimi Harris, PG&E manager of Community Engagement and Volunteerism, said the garden is important to the utility since it's one of the sites where the company volunteers every Earth Day.

"We wanted to make sure resources are available to protect and preserve this park and avoid a reoccurrence of the circumstances which brought us out here today—a senseless act of vandalism," Harris told volunteers gathered on a chilly morning to await instructions on tasks for the day.

### Volunteers at the site in April

In April, dozens of PG&E employees, including CEO and Chairman Tony Earley, volunteered at the site. They re-built redwood planting boxes, potted seedlings and removed trash at the garden, located a half mile from Candlestick Park.

**"At the end of all of this it has turned out to be a positive thing in a lot of ways and affirming that people really do care and want to help."**

### Retiree Contacts

Alumni Advocates: 415-972-5803  
PG&E Outage Hotline: 800-743-5002  
PG&E Customer Service: 800-743-5000  
PG&E Pension Payroll: 415-973-3767  
Pacific Service Credit Union: 888-858-6878  
Pacific Service Employees Association: 800-272-7732  
PG&E Retirement Award Customer Service: 800-385-3139  
San Joaquin Power Employees Credit Union:  
800-637-5993  
Email: [alumniadvocates@pge.com](mailto:alumniadvocates@pge.com)  
Web: <https://myportal.pge.com>

continued on inside

HR and Benefits questions:  
phone: 800-700-0057  
email: [HRBenefitsQuestions@exchange.pge.com](mailto:HRBenefitsQuestions@exchange.pge.com)  
mail: 1850 Gateway Blvd., 7th floor, Concord, CA 94520

## PG&E volunteers undeterred by vandalism at Earth Day Garden site

continued from front

About a week later—on Earth Day—vandals broke into the garden’s greenhouse, flipped over tables, smashed garden tools and uprooted garden beds. Many of the plants were to be planted in July on the recently restored Yosemite Slough wetlands area, which will give a park and waterfront access to residents of Bayview-Hunters Point. Damage was estimated at \$18,000.

Earley himself donated \$1,000, prompting PG&E’s organization of a day of service and the donation for a new fence to secure the garden.

Nursery manager Patrick Rump said the response from PG&E and other companies helped him overcome the devastation he felt when he first learned of the vandalism.

“When this thing happened I wanted to quit my job,” said Rump, who works for Literacy for Environmental Justice, a group of teachers, young people and community leaders that operates the nursery. “At the end of all of this it has turned out to be a positive thing in a lot of ways and affirming that people really do care and want to help.”

### PG&E’s role is ‘huge’

Ann Meneguzzi, supervising ranger for the Candlestick Point State Recreation Area, said PG&E’s contribution is important given the state budget crisis.

“It’s huge,” she said. “The money certainly isn’t coming from the state. The state is broke. State parks have been really impacted by state budget cuts. There’s no excess money anywhere. There’s not even necessary money in lots of places.”

A volunteer re-seeds native grasses that will be planted in the restored Yosemite Slough wetlands area.

Meneguzzi said she appreciated the contribution but also praised volunteers from PG&E, Oracle, Virgin America and others who wanted to help after reading news reports about the vandalism.

“They’re coming on their own time,” she said. “They’re donating because they care about the parks, they care about the project and they’re generous, public-minded community-oriented people, and I appreciate that. It’s a good thing for all of us.”

On Saturday, the tasks included hacking vegetation to make room for a new fence that’s scheduled to be installed this week. Volunteers also transplanted native grasses and washed plant tubes.

More than anything, said PG&E volunteer Ashley Cookerly, supporting the garden sent a message to those who caused the vandalism.

“I think it’s important to show whoever caused the whole destruction that we’re going to continue on,” said Cookerly, who works in PG&E’s customer relations department in San Francisco.

# Bright Minds Scholarships: Winner learns via Skype; others applauded at Giants game

By Tracy Correa

**FRESNO**— The surprise announcement that Song Vang had won a PG&E Bright Minds scholarship had to be delivered via Skype, but the Fresno State student’s joy could be felt just as if she were in the room.

Vang was the 10th and final student to receive word in early June that she had won a scholarship worth up to \$30,000 a year and renewable for four additional years. She was the only one unable to get the news in person because she is currently studying abroad more than 7,000 miles away in China. (Currents previously profiled the winners who had already been announced before Song Vang.) PG&E had honored several of the Bright Minds scholarship winners at AT&T Park in San Francisco, where they were featured on the scoreboard and posed for photos with Giants pitcher Madison Bumgarner.

It was 1 p.m. in Fresno and 4 a.m. in China as Vang sat down at her computer for what she was told was a final interview for the Bright Minds scholarship. However, that was a ruse and PG&E’s Angela Vega and others—standing in front of a banner and holding an oversized check—told her that she had in fact already won.

Vang was overwhelmed and kept cupping her hands over her mouth in surprise and even tried to hug the computer monitor.

“I can’t say how much this is going to affect me and my family ... and really just my community because I really want to give back,” she said.

Raised by Hmong immigrant parents who struggled financially, the 22-year-old Vang is a dual major in deaf education and linguistics who has also demonstrated strong leadership skills. She hopes to become an educator.

More than 8,000 students applied for Bright Minds scholarships. In addition to the 10 who won \$30,000 scholarships, another 90 students won one-time \$2,500 awards.



From left, scholarship winners Marisa Monier, Kara Davis, Raymond Chan, Giants pitcher Madison Bumgarner, Craig Martineau, Nicholas Raber and Erica McCray.

### Here is a list of all the students who were awarded \$30,000 Bright Minds scholarships:

- **Raymond Chan**, 17, Sacramento, Stanford University
- **Kara Davis**, 48, Rohnert Park, Sonoma State
- **Lisa English**, 45, Bakersfield, Cal State Bakersfield
- **Song Vang**, 22, Fresno, Fresno State
- **Nicholas Raber**, 18, Alameda, UC-Berkeley
- **Erica McCrary**, 38, Angwin, Pacific Union College
- **Craig Martineau**, 18, Templeton, UCLA
- **Marisa Monier**, 27, Sacramento, UC-Berkeley
- **Hunter Wright**, 18, Fresno, University of Miami
- **Julian Alvarez**, 26, Hayward, Las Positas College

## Tributes

**Linda S. Bankard**  
5/14/2012; ret. 6/1/1993  
Human Resources and  
General Services

**Martin H. Brouns**  
5/1/2012; ret. 1/1/1995  
Power Control

**Charles R. Clausen**  
5/8/2012; ret. 11/1/1991  
Steam Generation;  
Power Generation

**Edward L. Crosby**  
5/10/2012; ret. 9/1/2008  
Electric Distribution; Area 2

**Hardy V. Darnell Jr.**  
4/4/2012; ret. 12/1/1992  
Hydro Generation;  
Northern Area Hydro

**Robert Douglas**  
5/8/2011; ret. 8/1/1998  
Power System

**Bernadine M. Haney**  
5/5/2012; ret. 6/1/1983  
Land; General Office

**Frank L. Heiden**  
4/27/2012; ret. 4/1/1984  
Electric Service; San Jose

**Frank C. Lopez**  
5/4/2012; ret. 6/1/2007  
Electric Construction;  
Area 6

**Richard N. McCausland**  
4/18/2012; ret. 1/1/1995  
Geysers Power Plant;  
Steam Generation

## Retiree Club Activities

**July 19: Silverado/Napa/Vallejo**  
Lunch: Olive Tree Inn, Napa  
Tom Dunlap: 707-642-5533

**July 26: Los Padres**  
Potluck Lunch: SLO IOOF Hall  
Gary Corsiglia: 805-544-0890

## Retirements

**NOTE:** The Retirements listing will return in the August issue of Retiree News.

**Allen C. Mills**  
3/12/2012; ret. 6/1/1984  
Gas Transmission and  
Distribution; Colgate

**Wallace E. Odneal**  
5/9/2012; ret. 11/1/1986  
Region Substation;  
Sacramento Valley Region

**Andy E. Powers**  
5/3/2012; ret. 4/1/1994  
Engineering; Hydro  
Generation

**Gary D. Presley**  
4/18/2012; ret. 11/1/2009  
Customer Field Services;  
Area 4

**Zane A. Stickel**  
5/6/2012; ret. 10/1/2001  
Materials Planning;  
General Services

**John M. Stott**  
5/7/2012; ret. 6/1/1993  
Gas and Electric Operations;  
Central

**Jim M. Vasquez**  
5/13/2012; ret. 11/3/1980  
Stockton

**Bobby J. Wilson**  
5/3/2012; ret. 2/1/1999  
Operations Maintenance  
and Construction