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IBEW News



Best in Class

Durability Defines Workforce at Pa. Plant **2**

The Front Line: Politics & Jobs

Dark money, elections and you **3**



Organizing Innovation

In Tenn., Looking Back for Inspiration **20**

In This Issue

North of 49° **5**

Circuits **6**

Transitions **6**

Local Lines **8**

Retirees **14**

In Memoriam **17**

Editorials **18**

Letters to the Editor **19**

Who We Are **19**

IEC minutes **20**



Bikes, Not Buicks

Ore. Members Build Portland's New 'Auto-Free' Bridge

Portland, Ore., has earned its reputation as a city that embraces alternate transportation. Now, members of Local 48 are building Portland's first 'car-free' bridge that will connect the city's downtown region, shown here in an artist's rendering. Photo credit: Courtesy of TriMet.

Popular songs and advertisements have inspired generations of Americans to get behind the wheel and step on the gas pedal. Returning World War II veterans were the first generation to "see the USA in your Chevrolet." From the Beach Boys' "Little Deuce Coupe" to Sammy Hagar's "I Can't Drive 55," there's a theme song for almost anyone to soundtrack their times on the open road.

But in Portland, Ore., car culture often takes a proverbial back seat to alternate modes of transpor-

tation—namely, bikes, buses and Birkenstocks.

Now, city infrastructure is catching up to the trend. And IBEW Local 48 is at the forefront.

More than 50 electricians are helping build the new Tilikum Crossing bridge, which will span the yawning gap of the Willamette River and connect the city's east and west downtown areas.

But don't think about driving your car across it. The 1,720-foot-long multimodal bridge will instead be the largest carless commuting bridge in the nation, reserved exclusively for public transportation and foot and bicycle traffic. Tilikum Crossing is slated to open in late 2015. By making the bridge available to pedestrians and public transit only, city officials hope to cut down both on traffic and pollution.

The bridge's main function will be to connect the city's MAX Light Rail transit line, which runs on electricity—and that means jobs for Local 48 members.

"We've been doing light rail from the beginning," said Business Manager Gary Young, whose membership has worked under project labor agree-

ments to do this and other mass transit jobs in the city. "Because of our experience, as the rail system expands, the city has union contractors do the work."

Young said city planners are even looking into running some more rail into the south of Portland. The tricky geography of the area, with the Cascade Range to the east and the lower Coast Range to the west, along with the Willamette River bisecting downtown, means that the city is very limited in how it can expand its highway system.

Construction on the bridge began in 2011. When complete next year, Tilikum Crossing will boast 14-foot-wide bike and pedestrian paths, plus travel lanes for buses, streetcars and rail.

The bridge is part of the 7.3-mile rail extension, which has been under construction since last year. Local 48 members are wiring both the rail line and lighting on the bridge.

"This is a nice bridge—I take pride in it," said Local

'AUTO-FREE' BRIDGE *continued on page 2*

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Continued from page 1



Ore. Members Build Portland's New 'Auto-Free' Bridge

48 member Terrelle Tucker. "It's something that will be here forever that I can look at and say, 'Hey, I worked on that.'"

Tilikum Crossing will also add a visual bonus to the nighttime cityscape with its IBEW-installed LED system.

"It has very cool lighting design," said Local 48 member Camilo Marquez, who said the LEDs will change color according to the flow rate, the water level and the direction of the current. Depending on the tides, the Willamette River sometimes flows east, sometimes west.

Construction has garnered widespread TV and newspaper coverage throughout Oregon, bringing added recognition of Local 48 to the public.

"The importance of having a project like this helps highlight who we are and what we do," Young said. "It's hard to do that when you're doing a commercial building or a grain elevator—but when something like this gets so much publicity, and then you can throw 'IBEW' across the face of it, it really helps to get our name out there."

Though no commuter cars are allowed, the bridge is designed to accommodate police cars, ambulances, fire trucks and other emergency vehicles.

"We used our Code of Excellence to motivate everybody, to get customers and contractors all involved and energized to get the project done," Young said. "It's been fabulous."

The Media Department's video crew recently traveled to Portland to capture the bridge work in progress. ■

Check out exclusive footage of Local 48 members building Tilikum Crossing.



Scan with a QR reader

Correction

In the August issue, the Electrical Worker featured a story on an effort coordinated by Seattle lineman Brady Hansen to help improve safety for linemen in Suriname. Hansen's e-mail address was incorrectly listed at the end of the article. He can be contacted at Brady.Hansen@avistacorp.com. The article also requests support for Recycling for Linemen, a program to send safety equipment to linemen. The program supports linemen all over the world, not just in Suriname.

Durability Defines Workforce at Eaton's W. Pa. Circuit Breaker Plant

"Continuous miners," those hulking 53-ton machines with spinning claws that rip five tons of coal a minute from underground seams, sometimes run over their own electrical cables. When they do, they and the flesh and blood miners who maintain them need quick protection from durable and dependable circuit breakers. Sparks kill.

The best-in-class 600- and 800-amp molded case circuit breakers for punishing underground duty are assembled by members of Local 201 working in Eaton Industries' Beaver, Pa., plant, 40 miles northwest of Pittsburgh.

Walking through the doors of Eaton's facility, opened 70 years ago to manufacture propellers for World War II fighters, one is struck by its aura of order and efficiency.

"I take new hires on their first tour of the plant and they always say they are surprised by how clean it is," says Eric Hoover, Local 201 business manager. It's no wonder.

Surrounding Beaver—a thriving place on the Ohio River, once occupied by managers of now idled steel mills—are struggling, rusting towns where cleanliness is the least of the worries.

"Working at Eaton is a second chance for many workers [who lost their jobs in other industries]. They understand what they lost. Both sides here realize that it takes each other to be successful," says Human Resources Manager John Bechdel, who spent 25 years in the area's steel industry.

Cheryl Meador, an Eaton assembler, worked at Mayer China, a legendary maker of high-quality restaurant ware, putting handles on teacups before the facility closed down in 2003. She then worked at an American Eagle distribution center before being hired by Eaton nine years ago as an assembler in the 500,000 square-foot red brick plant, where brackets for blackout panels that once guarded against German attacks still jut out below a high strip of windows.

Meador joins third-generation plant workers like Bob Javens, operating drill presses, punch presses and CNC machinery.

"This plant survives on quality. We take a lot of pride in what we build," says Javens, a bearded, broad-shouldered CNC operator wearing bib overalls, whose grandfather started working in the Beaver plant in 1944.

"We cater to specialty markets," says Plant Manager Steve Huggins. "We shock test circuit breakers that will be installed on Navy destroyers," says Huggins. They have to stay closed during potential attacks. Supporting Eaton's market share, the company offers superior service and repairs on breakers, concentrating on the mining industry, from centers in Kentucky, West Virginia and Indiana.

The plant, he says, has a good reputation for quality within Eaton, which employs more than 100,000 workers, markets power management apparatus



Eaton's Beaver, Pa., plant, opened 70 years ago to manufacture propellers for World War II fighter planes, now turns out best-in-class circuit breakers deployed in mines, naval vessels and other challenging environments.

to 175 countries and racks up sales of \$22 billion a year.

James Roberts worked in his family's pizza shop and says he likes getting home from work in time to spend a few hours with his children. New to a union shop, he says, "If I have a problem, I can always talk to the Local 201 steward to get help."

"We produce quality circuit breakers with pride and teamwork," adds Jeff Hertzler, a chief shop steward who serves on Local 201's executive board.

"Our union keeps us working together for the same goals," says Hertzler, a CNC operator who, last year, served on the negotiating committee for a new contract. "It was a proud moment in my career," he says.

Hoover and his team continuously work through issues large and small with managers, keeping grievances to a minimum and always looking to improve quality, efficiency and worker safety.

With an escalating rate of baby boomer retirements in the 315-member plant, "a lot of knowledge is walking out the door," says Hoover, who negotiated a training program for punch press operators, directed by Rich Cox, a 20-year Local 201 member. Trainees for the new punch press specialist position start at a lower pay rate, but rates are enhanced once they are fully trained. "The union is adapting to change to keep a viable manufacturing plant here," says Hoover. "If our punch press operators were not competitive and the work was outsourced, we would lose other jobs, too."

More than 11 years ago, Eaton instituted a lean manufacturing program, investing more authority in employees in return for increased productivity. Assemblers are divided into work cells, directed by hourly group leaders. They rotate between machines and tasks, breaking job monotony, improving fill-in performance when co-workers take vacation or sick leave.

The plant is maintained by 20 craft workers, mechanics, electricians, electronic technicians and pipefitters, all members of Local 201. Jim Long, a machine repairman and the local's recording secretary, says Eaton has

Chauncey Brimage, daughter of punch press operator Quinn Alexander, has been working as an assembler for three years. Eaton's tuition reimbursement plan, widely used in the facility, will enable her to complete her associate's degree in accounting before she transfers to Penn State's Beaver campus.

Beating competitors with low prices isn't always the surest road to success.

"Low price can't make up for circuit breakers that won't last [on tough applications]," says Huggins.

Despite its focus on the U.S. market, signs of industrial globalization are everywhere at Eaton. Boxes stamped "Made in China," are stacked up waiting to be unloaded. Half of the parts installed in Eaton's circuit breakers are made elsewhere. The plant once employed 3,500 workers who produced most of them on site.

Eaton recently opened a more mechanized circuit breaker plant in the Dominican Republic producing 250-amp models, operating with far fewer workers.

An ivory-colored Bliss punch press carries the steel nameplate of the vintage U.S. machinery works. Just down the spacious aisle, large block letters spelling "K-o-m-a-t-s-u" are cut into the shining stainless face of a new 300-ton press, made in Japan.



T. Berry, Beaver Local 201's vice president, an environmental specialist, has been an active union member at Eaton's circuit breaker plant for 48 years.

'We Work at Keeping Everyone Safe'

T Berry, Local 201's vice president, could be a symbol of the Eaton plant's durability. Fit and lean with a ripped upper body, the 67-year-old chemical and environmental specialist has been working in the plant for 48 years.

A native of nearby Midland, Berry is the son of a Crucible steelworker who labored as a "scarfer," cleaning up steel ingots with a torch, sucking up hazardous dusts.

Before he was hired and began progressing through a number of jobs in the circuit breaker plant, Berry was severely injured after hitching a ride in a car whose driver hit a telephone pole traveling 96 miles an hour.

Maybe those memories fuel his commitment to keeping his co-workers out of harm's way.

"We put a lot of work into keeping everyone safe," says Berry. He tests the pH value of water exiting the plant, operates forklifts to remove scrap metal and used lubricants and makes sure that everything from light bulbs to batteries are safely handled.

"I spend a lot of time listening to our members," he says. "I first got involved in the union because if you want to get anything done, you have to participate. I'm sick of hearing people complain, but not do anything [to better their situation]," says Berry, a lifetime member of the Beaver County NAACP who conducts walks and fundraisers to clean up blighted neighborhoods and convince leaders not to ignore conditions in minority areas. ■



‘The union is adapting to change to keep a viable manufacturing plant here,’ says Local 201 Business Manager Eric Hoover.

New machinery has improved productivity. But sometimes, like in clothing and automobiles, vintage can be a company’s niche. Huggins says the Navy’s equipment specs are slow to change and Eaton is the producer of choice with years of experience fulfilling the military branch’s needs.

Hoover and the plant’s workers say they understand the competitive challenges facing their employer. That’s why the 19-year punch press operator successfully advocated for IBEW to join Eaton’s campaign against knockoff, counterfeit products, encouraging electricians in the field to scrutinize the circuit breakers they install for authenticity.

Hoover also volunteered to serve on the union’s product identification team that spearheaded the “IBEW-Made” website to help promote Eaton’s circuit breakers (Watch the IBEW’s YouTube channel for our upcoming video on Eaton’s fight against

counterfeit circuit breakers: www.youtube.com/user/TheElectricalWorker.)

“Workers here are engaged in the business, not just here to collect a paycheck,” says Bechdel, the human resources manager. Their efforts are being recognized. A research project has been brought on site from another Eaton facility, putting 16 members to work, stoking hopes for the future.

Royal Dutch Shell is now planning a multi-billion dollar plant across the Ohio River from Beaver on the site of an abandoned zinc processing plant to process byproducts from natural gas. Beaver Local 712’s Business Manager Frank Telesz expects 1,000 electricians to be working on site at peak construction alongside 9,000 other trades.

“Our sister local at Eaton is showing Shell that our area’s workers have the work ethic and skills to justify their significant investment,” says Telesz. ■

Solar Farm Illuminates Work of Three Locals

The terraced parking lots on a hill behind Eaton’s Beaver, Pa., circuit breaker plant hadn’t seen cars for years. Weeds were sprouting through the cracked asphalt.

Two years ago, electricians from Beaver Local 712 helped capture the sun that was helping the weeds grow, installing Western Pennsylvania’s largest solar energy array on Eaton’s parking lots. The \$5 million project, financed through state and private investment, provided a fresh training opportunity in solar photovoltaics for the local’s apprentices.

But Local 712 members alone couldn’t get the array’s power into the plant, where it now supplies 25 percent of the power. That took high-voltage workers coming into town from Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Local 1319.

“The 1.3 megawatt solar farm is a win-win-win,” says Local 712 Business Manager Frank Telesz Jr. “Members of Local 201 made the circuit breakers; members of Local 712 installed the solar panels and Local 1319 linemen came in to make it all work. It shows the power of union members working together.”

Eaton buys the generated electricity at a set rate governed by a 20-year purchase pact with Tangent Energy Solutions Inc. of Philadelphia, which owns the array.

An Eaton environmental specialist says that over the next 25 years, the solar array will lower greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 79 million pounds of carbon dioxide—the equivalent of pulling 238 cars from the road.

“We’re pleased to see the products manufactured by our members helping to improve the environment and contribute to our plant’s bottom line,” says Local 201 Business Manager Eric Hoover. ■

Beaver, Pa., Local 712 members installed the plant’s new on-site solar array, the biggest in the state, says Business Manager Frank Telesz Jr.



THE FRONT LINE: POLITICS & JOBS

Vote Your Job—Vote Your Union

Midterm elections are too often ignored by many voters, turned off by the attack ads and extreme partisanship that makes Washington dysfunctional.

But for union members who care about their jobs and their rights on the job, every Election Day matters.

Four years ago, low voter turnout resulted in a wave of anti-worker governors and state legislatures along with a tea party-dominated Congress that never met an anti-union bill it didn’t like.

Take Wisconsin. In 2008, voter turnout approached nearly 70 percent. In 2010, it was less than half. And that drop in turnout allowed Scott Walker to win.

The result: one of the most anti-union pieces of legislation in the country, stripping public workers of their right to collectively bargain, was rammed through the legislature within months of Walker taking office.

Similarly, in Michigan, Gov. Rick Snyder fooled many voters by his claim to be a moderate focused on job creation. But when he had the chance, he snuck through a right-to-work-for-less bill in a state that helped create the modern labor movement.

On the federal level, the Republican-led House of Representatives is led by its most extreme tea party wing, which pushed austerity for working families and more tax giveaways to the top 1 percent, while voting to abolish project labor agreements and prevailing wage laws, weaken worker protections and starve our country’s industrial infrastructure.

Their only barrier to the worst of these bills has been the Democratic-led Senate.

Behind this group of incumbents, from Madison and Columbus to Capitol Hill, is an extremely well-funded network with a clear agenda. People like the billionaire Koch brothers want an America without unions, a country where Wall Street and major corporations call all the shots. They want a tax code based on failed trickle-down policies that profess to help working Americans by giving tax breaks to the wealthiest families in our nation. And when it comes to health and safety regulations, they want to return to the 19th century and take the government out of the job of making sure companies treat their employees fairly.

This November, key races across the country will decide control of the Senate and governor’s mansions in Wisconsin, Maine, Ohio, Michigan and many other states.

We can’t afford to sit this election out. In the pages of the Electrical Worker, on www.IBEW.org and on Facebook and Twitter, we will be reporting on some of the most important races and what IBEW members are doing to educate their friends and families on the issues.

We’re not here to tell you who to vote for. But we do ask that you investigate the



The Koch brothers’ Americans for Prosperity has already spent millions in secret donor cash this year on attack ads against labor-friendly candidates.

Photo used under a Creative Commons License from Flickr user Nick Ares.

records, compare every candidate’s platform and vote your job and your union.

Wisconsin Locals Target Job-Killing Gov. Walker

Four years ago, The Electrical Worker reported on the good fortune of Jeannine Powell, an unemployed third-year apprentice member of Milwaukee Local 494 who had just been hired with 14 other journeymen and apprentices to retrofit an abandoned factory.

The factory’s new owner, Talgo, a Spain-based producer of locomotive cars, was planning to supply rail cars to a planned Milwaukee-Madison high-speed passenger line that was to be built with \$810 million in funds that former Wisconsin Gov. Jim Doyle and other regional leaders had secured from the Obama administration’s federal stimulus.

One year later, Republican Scott Walker was elected governor and promptly shut down the rail project, saying it was a boondoggle that would “cost” the state too much money in the future.

Then, Talgo pulled out of Wisconsin, filing a claim for \$66 million in losses. Hundreds of new jobs that could have put more workers like Powell back on the job died on the vine.

Dave Cieslewicz, a former mayor of Madison, explained Walker’s abandonment of high-speed rail, saying, “Scott Walker found it politically useful to exploit hard feelings between rural and urban Wisconsin.”

Walker has gained major national media attention for his successful efforts to undermine collective bargaining by the state’s public employees. And he is often portrayed as a potential candidate for president.

But, back in Wisconsin, Walker’s poor record on job creation—Wisconsin ranks 37th out of U.S. states—is under

deeper scrutiny as he faces a tough election challenge from Democrat Mary Burke.

As Wisconsin’s former secretary of commerce, Burke, herself a business leader, focused on attracting new businesses to the state and helped entrepreneurs and small companies grow. During her tenure under a previous governor the state’s unemployment rate was under 5 percent, representing 57,000 more jobs than exist today.

“We will give Mary Burke any and all the help she needs,” says Milwaukee Local 494 Business Manager John Bzdawka.

“Memories are short,” says Bzdawka. While some voters may have forgotten how Walker shut down high-speed rail, he says, fewer will forget that he promised to create 250,000 jobs. “He’s only hit about half that number and it looks like many of the new jobs are low-paying,” says Bzdawka, adding that Wisconsin’s low national ranking on jobs is commonly discussed.

Polls show that even so-called “independent” voters in the state are already locking in for Burke or Walker.

However, Bzdawka, secretary-treasurer of the Wisconsin State Electrical Workers Association, is hoping that recent defeats by tea party candidates in other states portend a Walker loss.

“I think we are seeing signals that people are sick of politicians like Walker who have an uncompromising approach to governing,” he says. ■

Anti-Worker Koch Brothers Loom Large in Mich. Senate Race

One of the biggest stories already shaping up in this year’s election cycle is the influence of deep-pocketed, extremist organizations and their fight against everyday American workers.

POLITICS & JOBS *continued on page 4*

THE FRONT LINE: POLITICS & JOBS Continued from page 3



Senate hopeful Gary Peters attends a rally with fellow union supporters in Michigan.

In Michigan, organizations like the Koch brothers' Americans for Prosperity—which promotes right-to-work laws, ending collective bargaining and eliminating the minimum wage—has sewn itself into the fabric of a close U.S. Senate race between labor-friendly candidate Rep. Gary Peters and challenger Terri Lynn Land. The group has already spent millions this year on ads against Peters.

Detroit Local 58 recording secretary and registrar Jeannette Bradshaw said the attack ads stem from one fact: "Gary is pro-union, all the way," she said. "Whenever we have needed him on anything for IBEW members across Michigan, he's been there."

Peters was elected to the House of Representatives in 2008 to serve the state's 14th district, which includes about 700,000 residents of eastern Detroit and the surrounding suburbs. In 2012, he voted for the use of project labor agreements on federal military construction projects. He currently has a 100-percent voting rating from the IBEW, along with a lifetime score of 95 percent from the AFL-CIO, according to Project Vote Smart.

Americans for Prosperity has funded anti-worker ads and lobbied lawmakers who supported ending collective bargaining in Wisconsin, Ohio and beyond over the last three years. In Michigan, the group backed Gov. Rick Snyder's successful 2012 push to pass right-to-work legislation. AFP's executive director in the state said the group's goal was to "take the unions out at the knees."

As former Michigan secretary of state, Land held in 2004 that contributions to so-called issue ads in Michigan could be kept secret and are immune from the state's campaign finance act. The ruling was a response to a Michigan Chamber of Commerce request for legal assurance that the names of donors funding the group's issue ads would not be public record. Such ads are exactly the types run by groups like Americans for Prosperity and are usually crafted to discredit or damage a candidate.

The Huffington Post reported in June that Land, a Republican, received at least \$4.6 million in secret outside spending from groups that do not disclose individual donors.

The biggest contributor? Americans for Prosperity—which has already spent

more than \$3 million to attack Peters on Land's behalf.

Bradshaw said Peters, a Democrat, can frequently be found at Labor Day parades and at pro-worker rallies alongside union members. "The crowd loves him," she said. ■

The Race to Replace Labor Hero Tom Harkin

After 20 years in the Senate, one of the most eloquent advocates for the American labor movement, Tom Harkin, is retiring. In 2014, upon his induction into the Iowa AFL-CIO Hall of Fame, International President Edwin D. Hill presented Sen. Harkin an honorary union card.

"I was stunned when President Hill did that, but also proud, because it was recognition of what an incredible friend to labor he has been," said Bill Hanes, business manager of Cedar Rapids Local 405. "Losing Tom Harkin is major for the labor movement, no question."

The candidates vying to replace Harkin are from opposite sides of the state and opposite ends of the political spectrum. Four-term congressman Bruce Braley is a centrist Democrat from the industrial Northeast Iowa town of Waterloo who named Harkin as his mentor. Freshman state Sen. Joni Ernst is a lieutenant colonel in the Iowa state guard from Red Oak, a western Iowa farm town, who won a five-year Republican race for the nomination.

Hanes said that ideas have always been more important for his local than

party affiliation and that on the issues, the differences between the candidates are clear. Braley has been a vocal supporter of project labor agreements and protecting all workers' right to collectively bargain. While Ernst has not taken a position on PLAs, she has called for the privatization of Social Security, an end to wind and solar generation tax credits and the complete repeal of the Affordable Care Act.

"We had our first experience with project labor agreements because of a Republican mayor, so we are open to finding friends wherever they are," Hanes said.

But it is precisely on the bread-and-butter issues where Ernst falls short in Hanes' view.

"She called replacing the income tax with a national retail sales tax a 'great way to go' even though it would slam working families and let the wealthiest Americans pay next to nothing," Hanes said.

More than 65 percent of Iowans voted for Obama in 2012, and even though the state is evenly divided between Democrats, Republicans and independents, it has a history of splitting its senators between the two parties.

"Anyone who tells you this isn't a 2-percent race doesn't know what is going on in Iowa," Hanes said.

The difference has been a torrent of money from national political action committees that can spend enormous sums of money on elections without disclosing their donors. Ernst was the only candidate in the Republican primary to get money from Americans for Prosperity, a conservative PAC that has spent hundreds of millions of dollars nationwide since 2008 on ads and candidates supporting drastic reductions in corporate and income taxes, minimal regulation of industry and an end to social safety net programs like Medicare.

Hanes said the flood of money from outside Iowa and the low turnout of off-year elections guarantee a close race.

"Every vote will count on Election Day," Hanes said. "Bruce is the one true friend of working families in this election, so this needs to be taken very seriously." ■

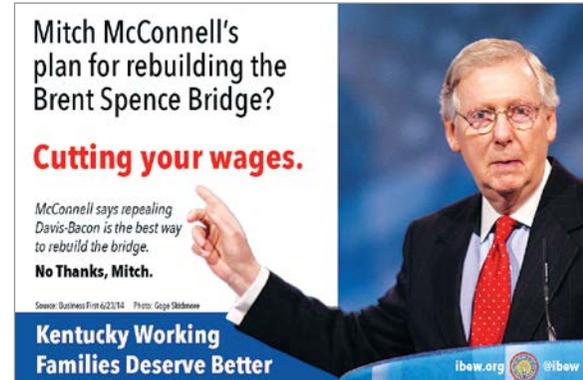
Kentucky Locals All in to Send Mitch McConnell Packing

In a normal political climate, the contest for U.S. Senate in Kentucky might be straightforward for Democratic challeng-

er Alison Lundergan Grimes, the state's attorney general.

Incumbent Mitch McConnell, the Senate's minority leader, has not only led Republicans to oppose federal help to put unemployed workers back on the job and reconstruct some of his state's dilapidated bridges and roads. He has proposed repealing the Davis-Bacon Act requiring contractors receiving public funds to pay the local prevailing wage.

Because of these and other obstructionist moves, McConnell's popularity in the state has taken a dive.



IBEW members showed up in force at a legendary yearly picnic to support Alison Lundergan Grimes, the state's attorney general, in her campaign against Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell.

But the Kentucky Senate race is not taking place in a normal political climate. Wealthy corporations are pouring unprecedented amounts of cash into McConnell's and other Senate races in an effort to win back the chamber in November. To win her race, Grimes—who has a strong record of supporting workers and challenging McConnell's support for right-to-work and other anti-worker legislation—will need to stay competitive, not just in money, but in boots on the ground.

"If working families show up in big numbers to vote, Alison can't lose," says Louisville Local 369 Business Manager Charley Essex. With that goal in mind, Essex and other IBEW leaders and activists are teaming up with labor and community allies to widen Grimes' base of support.

On Aug. 2, members of Louisville Locals 369 and 2100 and Paducah Local 816 joined dozens of other members of the building trades to support Grimes at the legendary yearly picnic held in the town of Fancy Farm in the state's western sector.

Members enthusiastically came out to Fancy Farm, says Local 816 Business Manager Jimmy Evans, united in the belief that, "This is our best chance to get McConnell out of the Senate." Mitch McConnell, he says, "has done nothing for the working people of Western Kentucky." And Grimes has expressed strong support for the state's coal and energy industry, publicly criticizing the Obama administration's timetable for shutting down coal-fired power plants.

Local 369 is sponsoring phone banks every week until Election Day and registering members and apprentices to vote. "I know how important it is to register new voters," says Essex. "I was first encouraged to register to vote as an apprentice."

Ohio Locals Aim to Defeat Anti-Labor Gov. Kasich

Two years ago, IBEW locals in Ohio played a critical role in winning a ballot initiative to defeat legislation supported by Republican Gov. John Kasich which would have taken away the right of firefighters, teachers and other public workers to collectively bargain.

IBEW members and others collected 1.3 million signatures on petitions to repeal the legislation. They won the referendum, gaining national attention.

As Kasich campaigns for re-election, union members are mobilizing to win another victory for working families by supporting his opponent, Ed FitzGerald.

A former FBI agent, prosecutor, mayor and Cuyahoga County executive, FitzGerald has a strong record of com-

petent, ethical leadership and working with, not against, organized labor.

"Kasich has attacked workers in the public and private sector," says Hamilton Local 648 Business Manager Jeff McGuffey. "We're going to educate our membership about how he has hurt our jobs."

The governor, says McGuffey, changed bidding procedures on public projects from multiple prime bidding to single prime bidding, which makes it harder for individual signatory contractors to compete. In the last three years, Local 648 has lost 50,000 man-hours of work at Miami University that would likely have been won by union contractors under the prior system.

"The building trades have lost ground on prevailing wages under Kasich," says Cleveland Local 38 Business Manager Dennis Meaney. Kasich raised thresholds for application of prevailing wage regulations despite lobbying efforts by the trades to limit the increases.

Local 38 members are doing precinct walks and literature drops for FitzGerald, says Meaney, who says he's inspired by poll numbers that show the race is close.

"We've given the AFL-CIO space in our local hall to phone bank for FitzGerald," says Dayton Local 82 Assistant Business Manager John Mueller. The federation used the hall previously to help defeat the collective bargaining bill. The local is planning mailings in support of FitzGerald and a mobilization for a Labor Day parade in a neighboring town.

While Kasich backed off on his efforts to undermine collective bargaining after his referendum defeat, Mueller is concerned that, with a Republican majority in both houses of the state legislature, a Kasich victory in November could bring back similar efforts, including the passage of a right-to-work law in the state. ■



IBEW activists in Iowa are working to get out the vote for labor-friendly candidate Bruce Braley.

Photo used under a Creative Commons license from Flickr user greghauenstein.

NORTH OF 49° | AU NORD DU 49° PARALLÈLE

Saskatchewan Local Fights for Mineworker Rights

Saskatoon Local 529 filed an unfair labour practice application against Alliance Energy Industrial Ltd. in June, accusing the company of intimidating pro-IBEW workers at its Agrium potash mine in northern Saskatchewan.

The local is attempting to organize the nearly 800 construction electricians employed at the mine.

"Guys are getting laid off for being caught with an IBEW card," said Local 529 Membership Development Coordinator Paul Janetzki. "The employer has created an atmosphere of fear."

"What we see today is tangible evidence of how working people's organizations are struggling to operate under the SEA."

— Larry Hubich, Saskatchewan Federation of Labour President

Alliance Energy workers are currently represented by the Christian Labour Association of Canada, an organization that critics say is a trade union in name only. The organization has been accused of failing to represent members, and negotiating weak contracts with minimal pay and benefit packages.

"It's an employer-dominated union," Janetzki said. "There is a complete lack of representation in the workplace."

Workers first approached the IBEW earlier this year for a number of reasons. The company is reportedly paying the salaries for CLAC-appointed shop stewards, but employees didn't know who any of them were. Workers also complained about numerous safety problems.

"Guys who raised safety issues were the first to get laid off," Janetzki said. "Alliance and CLAC didn't want to hear about it."

Labour activists say one of the biggest obstacles to organizing is anti-worker legislation passed under the ruling Saskatchewan Party government that has raised barriers for workers looking to join, or switch, a union.

The Saskatchewan Employment Act, an omnibus bill affecting provincial labour law, passed in April. One of its most onerous provisions raises the number of cards organizers need signed to trigger a union election from 25 percent of the workplace to 45 percent.

"What we see today is tangible evidence of how working people's organiza-

tions are struggling to operate under the SEA, meaning that more people are being denied participation in economic democracy," said Saskatchewan Federation of Labour President Larry Hubich in statement of support for the IBEW.

The SEA continues numerous other anti-labour changes made to the province's Trade Union Act by Premier Brad Wall since coming to power in 2007, including one that gives employers the authority to prevent their employees from going on strike by declaring them providers of an essential service.

It also continues legislation that

allows for "wall-to-wall" organizing in the construction industry, which allows employers to group skilled tradesmen into a single bargaining unit. Critics say this favors CLAC—which organizes on a general basis—at the expense of the building trades.

CLAC is a strong supporter of the Saskatchewan Party.

The Brussels-based International Trade Union Confederation has even singled out Saskatchewan in its annual global survey of violation of trade-union rights.

"Evidence is mounting that one of the primary effects of the new act is to

interfere with people's ability to exercise their constitutional right to freedom of association," Hubich said.

If Alliance is found guilty of violating its employees' rights, the provincial labour board could extend the open period for organizers to collect signed cards or even call an automatic election.

Check www.ibew.org for further updates. ■

Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall's efforts to restrict workers' rights has made organizing and collective bargaining more difficult for working families. Photo: Daniel Paquet



La lutte locale Saskatchewannaise pour les droits des travailleurs des mines

Le local 529 de Saskatoon a présenté une plainte de pratique déloyale contre Alliance Energy Industrial Ltd en Juin, accusant la compagnie d'intimider les travailleurs pro-FIOE dans sa mine de potasse Agrium dans le nord de la Saskatchewan.

La section locale tente d'organiser les près de 800 électriciens de construction employés par la mine.

« Des gens se font licencier simplement pour avoir été pris avec une carte de membre de la FIOE. », dit le coordonnateur au développement des effectifs du local 529, Paul Janetzki. « L'employeur a créé une ambiance de peur ».

Les travailleurs de Alliance Energy sont présentement représentés par la Christian Labour Association of Canada (CLAC), une organisation dont les critiques disent qu'elle n'a de syndicat que le nom. L'organisation a été accusée de ne pas bien représenter ses membres, de négocier des contrats faibles avec des salaires et des avantages sociaux minimaux.

« C'est d'un syndicat dominé par les employeurs. » dit Janetzki. « Il y a une absence complète de représentation sur le lieu de travail. »

Les travailleurs ont d'abord approché la FIOE plus tôt cette année pour plusieurs raisons. La compagnie payait apparemment les salaires des délégués syndicaux nommés par la CLAC, mais les employés ne savaient pas qui ceux-ci étaient. Les travailleurs se sont également plaints de plusieurs problèmes de sécurité.

« Les travailleurs qui ont soulevé des problèmes de sécurité ont été les premiers à perdre leur emploi. » dit Janetzki. « Alliance et la CLAC ne voulaient rien entendre. »

Les militants syndicaux disent qu'un des plus gros obstacles à l'organisation des travailleurs est la législation anti-ouvrière adoptée par le Saskatchewan Party (Parti saskatchewannaise) présentement au pouvoir, qui a créé

des barrières empêchant les travailleurs le souhaitant de joindre un syndicat ou d'en changer.

La loi sur l'emploi de la Saskatchewan, une vaste loi omnibus affectant le droit du travail provincial, a été adoptée en avril. Une de ses dispositions les plus lourdes augmente le nombre de carte que les organisateurs syndicaux doivent faire signer pour déclencher une élection syndicale de 25% à 45%.

« Ce que nous voyons est la preuve tangible que les organismes communautaires ont du mal à fonctionner sous la loi sur l'emploi de la Saskatchewan, ce qui signifie que plus de gens se voient refuser un droit de participer à la démocratie économique. » dit le président de la Fédération du travail de la Saskatchewan Larry Hubich en soutien à la FIOE.

La loi sur l'emploi de la Saskatche-

ewan est en continuité avec plusieurs autres modifications antisyndicales apportées par le premier ministre Brad Wall à la loi provinciale sur les syndicats depuis son arrivée au pouvoir en 2007, y compris une modification donnant aux employeurs l'autorité d'empêcher les employés de tomber en grève en les déclarant fournisseurs d'un service essentiel.

Cette loi continue également la législation permettant la syndicalisation « mur à mur » dans l'industrie de la construction, ce qui permet aux employeurs de regrouper les travailleurs qualifiés en une seule unité de négociation. Les critiques disent que cela favorise la CLAC, qui syndicalise sur une base générale, aux dépens des métiers de la construction.

La CLAC est une grande partisane

du Parti saskatchewannaise.

La Confédération syndicale internationale, établie à Bruxelles, a même mentionné particulièrement la Saskatchewan dans son enquête globale annuelle sur les violations des droits syndicaux.

« Les preuves s'accumulent à l'effet qu'un des effets premiers de la nouvelle loi est d'interférer avec la capacité des gens d'exercer leur droit constitutionnel de liberté d'association. », dit Hubich.

Si Alliance est déclaré coupable de violation des droits de ses employés, la commission du travail provinciale pourrait étendre la période prévue pour permettre aux organisateurs syndicaux de collecter les cartes signées ou même déclencher une élection automatique.

Rendez-vous sur www.ibew.org pour d'autres mises à jour. ■

www.ibewmerchandise.com



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IBEW

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TRANSITIONS

RETIRED

John R. Clarke



Third District International Executive Council member John Clarke retired effective Aug. 1 after more than four decades of service to the

Brotherhood. Clarke has served on the IEC since 2007 and as business manager of Wheeling, W.Va., Local 141 since 1996.

While growing up in Wheeling, Brother Clarke spent much of his youth on construction sites with his father. "I was on a site off and on from the time I was 5 up until I joined the military," he said.

In the mid-1960s, after more than two years of college, Clarke found himself at a crossroads and decided to enlist in the Marine Corps. He went on to serve in Vietnam in 1969, performing electrical work and maintenance on helicopters.

After finishing his service, Clarke applied for an electrical apprenticeship at his hometown's local union hall. "From that point on, I got involved in whatever I could." Clarke went on to serve on the executive board and on committees involved in negotiations, safety and grievance procedures.

Clarke helped with organizing efforts as a volunteer for six years before coming on staff as a salaried organizer in 1994. He served as vice president and president before his election as business manager in 1996.

Clarke worked with other leaders and the membership to boost the general fund to a present level of \$4.7 million. Doing that required an all-hands-on-deck approach to increasing the local's market share. "We had to get things headed in the right direction."

The biggest boon to the local has come from the rapidly growing natural gas industry. The rich Marcellus Shale gas deposit lies underground in the state's northern panhandle region. For the past three years, Local 141 has seen risks turn to rewards as they have become a vital partner to energy companies tapping the region's resources.

With the endorsement of the membership, Clarke worked with contractors to secure bids at a reduced rate to undercut nonunion competition. Though members would initially be working for lower pay, the gamble paid off. From an initial job in 2011 for Pennsylvania-based Chapman Corp., Local 141 members have since worked alongside hundreds of travelers building and maintaining plants that extract valuable liquids like ethane from the gas.

The local is operating at full employment, and work looks consistent through 2018, Clarke said.

"If members hadn't gone along, we would not be doing the work we did," Clarke said. "Our contractors eventually started raising wages at the request of the energy companies, since we'd proven ourselves on the jobs. We made sure that once we were there, we satisfied the customer. We're now

getting 100 percent of the work."

International President Edwin D. Hill appointed Clarke to the International Executive Council in 2007. He filled the vacancy of International Secretary-Treasurer Sam Chilia, who had been appointed to serve as Fourth District International Vice President. Clarke represented members in Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and his home state.

"It's definitely been an honor," Clarke said. "I appreciated my time on the council. It's a great group of people, and I thank President Hill for giving me this wonderful opportunity."

Clarke's position on the International Executive Council was reaffirmed by delegates at the 38th International Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia, in 2011.

As a member of the council, Clarke met at least four times a year with other representatives from seven other districts across the U.S. and Canada. At these meetings, and on other occasions at the request of President Hill, Clarke and the council members reviewed and approved International Office pension applications and payments, discussed current pending legal issues facing the Brotherhood and more.

Clarke officially retired as business manager of Local 141 on July 11. He said that the key to maintaining future union strength and density is a combination of civic engagement and political activism.

"You have to generate involvement, letting your neighbor and the community know you're a union member," he said. To this end, Local 141 has sponsored Wheeling's Christmas parade, members sit on various boards of organizations like hospitals and charities and local leaders work with politicians of all stripes to secure what's best for the membership. Clarke even serves as a board member of the Wheeling Chamber of Commerce.

In retirement, Clarke and his wife, Margaret, are preparing to move to Florida. They have two sons.

On behalf of the entire union membership, the officers and staff wish Brother Clarke an enjoyable and lengthy retirement. ■

APPOINTED

James Burgham



IBEW International President Edwin D. Hill has appointed Youngstown, Ohio, Local 64 Business Manager James Burgham, to fill

the Third District International Executive Council seat left vacant by the retirement of John Clarke.

Brother Burgham became a member of Local 64 in 1981, and topped out as a journeyman inside wireman in 1984.

"Organized labor has always been in my family," Burgham said. "My grand-

fathers were in the mills and the mines. My dad, Jim, was a sheetmetal worker and my uncle, Bill Lyden, is a former business manager of Local 64."

Burgham said he applied for apprenticeships with both unions after his freshman year at Youngstown State.

"I heard from the IBEW first," he said.

Burgham quickly rose into the leadership of Local 64, starting with an appointment to the health and welfare trustee fund soon after finishing his apprenticeship, leading to an election win to the executive board in 1987. He was appointed president in 1992, elected in 1993 and then ran for business manager in 1996, a position he has been re-elected to six times.

Burgham is the secretary-treasurer for Ohio State Conference of the IBEW; board member of the Mahoning-Trumbull AFL-CIO; president of the Southeastern Business Managers Association; secretary-treasurer of the Western Reserve Building Trades Council; and secretary-treasurer of the Tri-State Business Managers Association.

CIRCUITS

NJATC Transitions into the Electrical Training Alliance

IBEW members often say that the union's apprenticeship training, delivered by the NJATC, is the union's best-kept secret.

But secrets just don't work in an era when marketing one's image and worth is more important than ever. That's a big part of the reason the IBEW and its partners in NECA decided to transition the National Joint Apprenticeship Training Council into the Electrical Training Alliance.



NJATC Executive Director Michael Callanan says that over the past 10 years, the NJATC has become, in effect, "a diverse alliance of IBEW local unions, NECA electrical contractors, industry training partners and manufacturers, community colleges and universities, and public training centers in the U.S. and Canada." All of those entities, he says, are committed to training our next generation of electrical workers.

Three primary motives, says NJATC Director of Operations Mark Cerullo, drove the rebranding of the organization into the Electrical Training Alliance.

First, the new name better reflects the reality of the NJATC's operations and the way it delivers training. Second, over the past decade, training has significantly changed with the advent of new technologies and innovations. Third, the new name will better allow NECA and the IBEW to meet the needs of the electrical industry and its customers.

"I am proudest that we were able to keep Local 64 strong, maintaining our market share and expanding the contractor base, because the best part of the job is sending people out to work," Burgham said.

From 2005 to 2010, Burgham was a member of the Council on Industrial Relations, which arbitrates disputes between locals and signatory contractors.

"I come from a small local, but in my time on CIR I learned a lot about the challenges faced by large locals, all of which will be very important in this new position," he said.

Burgham will take over the IEC seat that represents Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, and West Virginia.

"Across the district, large or small local, we have a good deal in common, from the kinds of challenges we face from the nonunion sector to political challenges with right-to-work and prevailing rate issues," Burgham said.

On behalf of the membership and staff of the IBEW, the officers wish Brother Burgham great success in his new position. ■

RETIRED

Kevin E. Cash



Second District International Representative Kevin E. Cash retired effective July 1 after more than four decades of service to the IBEW.

"I always knew I wanted to work with my hands," says Brother Cash, who enrolled in the apprenticeship program at Dover, N.H., Local 490 out of high school in 1971, after some experience working with his father and brother in the field. Throughout his apprenticeship, he served in the National Guard and supported his wife and two young sons. Upon graduation, Brother Cash quickly assumed leadership roles on projects and became active in the local teaching JATC courses.

Those same teambuilding skills led to his election as president of Local 490 in

meter sockets, the metal boxes you see outside of homes, which are tailored to measure and regulate the electrical output of anything from an RV mobile home to an enormous factory.

"From the raw steel to the finished project, we paint, we assemble, we press, until it's out the door," Howell said.

Howell has credited the company's lean manufacturing model for keeping Milbank in business during hard times, especially the recent recession. Using this strategy, Local 2284 members say that they strive to be as efficient with time and materials as possible, communicating openly with management to find ways to reduce waste and meet customer needs.

"We all try to come up with ways to improve the process. Management lets everyone put in suggestions," Howell said. "It's steady improvement every day."

Members also said the Code of Excellence, a promise that ensures that work is performed in the highest principles of quality and safety, was a key component in their success, combining

"In the 21st century, we have recognized that the days when the customers would come to us are long gone," IBEW International President Edwin D. Hill told graduates of the National Training Institute in Ann Arbor, Michigan in July. "Our training is our foremost marketing tool and the Electrical Training Alliance conveys what we do, the cooperative nature of our program as well as who we, the IBEW and NECA, really are and what place we have in the community which we serve." ■

Kansas City Manufacturer Earns Plaudits

It turns out the first, second and third time is the charm, at least for members of El Dorado, Ark., Local 2284. In July, members celebrated Milbank El Dorado's third consecutive Champions of Business Award, selected by the Kansas City Business Journal based on the company's innovation, economic success and community involvement.

The company's trusty meter sockets, built by IBEW members, have been the industry standard since 1927.

"Everybody's excited that out of thousands of companies we've received this award, and now we're in the [Kansas City Business Journal's] Hall of Champions," said Local 2284 Business Manager Allison Howell, who has worked at Milbank for 28 years.

Milbank El Dorado will soon mark another milestone with its 50th year of operation, manufacturing



Nearly 90 members of El Dorado, Ark., Local 2284 work at the award-winning Milbank plant.

1992. After becoming business manager and financial secretary in 1998, Brother Cash wore “many different hats,” helping secure work in his local’s jurisdiction, while also focusing on organizing.

“It’s all trying to make a better quality of life for families, that’s what it’s all about,” Cash says.

Brother Cash was appointed as Second District International Representative by International President Edwin D. Hill in 2002. There was no such thing as “off the clock,” says Cash, who dedicated his time to rallying for Congress to take action in unemployment and healthcare for working families while meeting with voters and candidates. Brother Cash says patience was critical when knocking on the doors of citizens in a state that often found it hard to relate to members of the labor movement.

Brother Cash also spent 15 years as the executive vice president of the New Hampshire AFL-CIO, and 14 as president of the New Hampshire Building Trades. He was appointed by the governor to the Workforce Opportunity Council and Advisory Committee on International Trade,

serving on seven different committees.

In retirement, Brother Cash plans to head back to his roots, rebuilding and wiring a house on Silver Lake, near Dover, and spending time with his wife, Sheila, their two sons, Corey and Michael, and their three grandchildren.

Says Brother Cash: “I’m just starting out in this wonderful life.”

On behalf of the entire union membership, the officers and staff wish Brother Cash a happy, healthy and enjoyable retirement. ■

RETIRED Don Herzog



Eighth District International Representative Don Herzog retired effective July 1 after 40 years of service to the IBEW.

Brother

Herzog was initiated into Billings, Mont., Local 532 in 1974. His father, Jim—now a 60-year member of the local—sparked his interest in the trade and was one of the main reasons Don decided to pursue a career as a journeyman wireman. “I really enjoyed the work, it was a better alternative to college and it paid more than most jobs out there,” Herzog said.

He worked as an organizer and served on the local’s negotiating committee and examining board before being appointed business manager in 1989. He was elected five more times.

Herzog said a memorable moment of his time leading the local was organizing a large picket outside of a nonunion construction site for a Kmart in Billings. “We sent a message to the contractor,” he said. “With 50 people lined up around half of the block, it brought attention to our issue and was a success as far as the members voicing their opinion.”

The local also built its first area training center in 1991. In Montana, the statewide JATC is based in Helena, nearly four hours away. “Having our own facility

nearby allowed us to stay better trained on technology and code updates in the trade,” Herzog said.

International President Edwin D. Hill appointed Herzog to the Eighth District staff in 2003, primarily to service Montana locals with mixed trade classifications. “In order to build a strong local, you need to bring in a variety of people from different branches,” Herzog said.

Herzog said his top priorities were helping ensure financial success for members and contractors while increasing market share. “It was important to be a good listener,” he said. “I learned early on to not just listen to our side, but to listen to all parties. Everybody has a different perspective, and you have to keep the industry in mind. That’s how you continue to get work for the members.”

Brother Herzog helped organize and win a first contract for dozens of employees at Glacier Electrical Cooperative, which provides power across northwest Montana and into parts of Alberta, Canada. Herzog also worked with professional and industrial organizers to win represen-

tation and a first contract for several clerical/technical support employees at Mid-Rivers Communications, a telephone and Internet service provider based in the state’s northeast.

Herzog said that keeping local unions strong during times of political and economic turmoil requires strong relationships. “You have to really stay in touch with the locals and help in any way you can,” he said.

Brother Herzog served in many roles with Montana’s JATC, building trades council and other worker advocacy groups. He attended Eastern Montana College and Montana State University.

In retirement, Herzog said he looks forward to fishing, snow skiing, woodworking and travel. He lives with his wife, Patricia, in Helena. Their son, Brad, is a member of Anchorage, Alaska, Local 1547. Their daughter, Brooke, has a master’s degree in social work and lives in Boise, Idaho.

On behalf of the membership, the officers and staff wish Brother Herzog a happy, healthy and enjoyable retirement. ■

the IBEW’s high standards with the company’s business model.

Contentious negotiations for members’ most recent contract led to a brief lockout in 2013, but workers and Local 2284 leaders say they were able to reach a compromise and now maintain a strong and communicative relationship with management.

“The morale has been really good over the last year or two, and I think a lot of that contributed to winning the award,” said Local 2284 member Raymond Taylor, who has worked at Milbank for 15 years.

Milbank also operates two other manufacturing plants in Missouri, one in Kansas City and another in Concordia, whose workers are represented by the IBEW.

“This is yet another example of a company manufacturing products in the United States and proving that they can be successful when they partner with the IBEW,” said Jerry Kurimski, an international representative in the IBEW’s Manufacturing Department.

To see other quality IBEW-made products, visit IBEWmade.com. ■

Community Engagement Across IBEW Generations

Helping homeless families. Protecting the environment. Supporting military veterans. This October 18, IBEW members will have the opportunity to lend a hand where their communities need it the most.

The upcoming United Day of Action, “RENEWing our Connections to the Community,” will partner experienced and younger members of the IBEW, so that together they can promote a nationwide effort of community engagement.

“There is no better way of bridging the gap between young and seasoned workers and ensuring the longevity of our organization than everyone coming together with a common objective: community involvement,” said International President Edwin D. Hill.

Locals are encouraged to let existing RENEW (Reach out and Engage Next-Gen Electrical Workers) Committees plan their local’s activities, and locals that have yet to form committees are encouraged to involve younger members in the outreach effort.

“This will give younger members a chance to get their hands in organizing and leading their members,” said Civic and Community Engagement Department International Representative Rateeluck “Tarn” Puvapiromquan.

Since 2011, dozens of RENEW committees have formed in locals across the IBEW to mentor the next generation of union members by fostering leadership and teaching them about the labor movement.

Participating locals are urged to unify the efforts by wearing United Day of Action T-shirts, which are available for purchase through Local Connections, and by sending any photos of their local’s United Day of Action activities to the Civic and Community Engagement Department.

For more information about how to form a RENEW committee at your local, visit www.ibew.org/IBEW/departments/CivicCommEngmt.htm. ■

In Calif., A Solar-Powered Leg Up

For many Bakersfield Local 428 members, California’s thriving solar industry is an opportunity for job growth and stability.



Homeboy graduates will have the opportunity to work alongside and learn from experienced Local 428 members during the construction of California solar plants. Photo Credit: Photos used with permission by Local 428.

For some of the local’s newest members, it’s a second chance.

Local 428 is teaming up with 8minutenergy, a leader in the development and construction of solar projects, to create lasting career opportunities for graduates of a solar installation program.

“We have a great relationship with 8minutenergy, and this is just another idea they’ve presented to us that’s really good for everybody,” said Brian Holt, assistant business manager of Local 428.

Starting in 2012, 8minutenergy helped fund a solar installation program that offers courses to clients of Homeboy Industry, a Los Angeles-based nonprofit organization that has dedicated the last 25 years to helping former gang members and the previously incarcerated. The program trains its students in the fast-paced and grueling work of assembling solar photovoltaic modules, the heavy 3’x4’ solar panels, onto the massive installations in developing solar farms.

After completing several weeks of training, about a dozen Homeboy graduates will help members of Local 428 in the

construction of two major solar farms that will begin later this year: Redwood and Springbok, both in Kern County. About 120 miles north of Los Angeles, they will provide power for about 65,000 and 85,000 homes respectively, spanning several hundred acres. The project is expected to take two years to complete.

While the solar training is valuable, 8minutenergy and

Homeboy were interested in helping the graduates to find more permanent and stable careers. This is where the IBEW comes in—throughout their work on the solar farms, said Holt, Homeboy Industry graduates will have the opportunity to work alongside experienced IBEW members doing the advanced wiring on the project, and the chance to take the entry exams to pursue an apprenticeship with Local 428.

“It helps them make that transition, where they can get good benefits and good pay,” Holt said.

So far Homeboy Industry graduates have had a great record with IBEW-manned projects. Tom Buttgenbach, president of 8minutenergy, says his company approached San Diego Local 569 with the first round of Homeboy graduates two years ago, when work was about to begin on the Mount Signal solar farm, about 140 miles east of San Diego.

“We really highly value our relationship with the IBEW—as a developer we’re obviously trying to make a profit, and it is our belief that well-trained workers are

better and faster and in the end deliver a lower cost point,” Buttgenbach said. “If you do it right the first time, it ends up being cheaper.”

The Mount Signal solar farm spans 1,940 acres, and at 266 megawatts, it provides power to 180,000 homes. Construction was completed last March. At its peak, more than 800 IBEW members were manning the project, including 12 Homeboy graduates.

“You stand on one end of these projects, and you can’t even see the other end,” said Micah Mitrosky, environmental organizer of Local 569.

Precision is vital in the installation of solar panels, which automatically adjust position to catch the most light from the sun.

At the solar farms in the California desert, temperatures can climb to 110° F, and work typically lasts 10 hours per day.

“The IBEW is great to work with, and Homeboy guys and gals are very hard workers—it’s a hard program, and the reason why is we want to make sure you don’t have just the knowledge, but the right mindset,” Buttgenbach said. “The graduates all made a strong commitment to changing their lives, worked really hard and never complained.”

Of the 12 Homeboy graduates who worked with Local 569 on the Mount Signal project, all are now enrolled in the local’s apprenticeship program. Buttgenbach said that 8minutenergy and Homeboy hope to see the same results from the program’s expansion to Local 428.

“At the end of the day, there is value in education. We are a firm believer in that, and we’ve worked with the IBEW very closely to structure labor agreements to capture that value,” Buttgenbach said. “It’s been a fantastic experience.” ■

LOCAL LINES

Politically Active Membership

L.U. 1 (as,c,ees,ej,em,es,et,fm,i,mt,rts,s,se,spa,st&ws), ST. LOUIS, MO—IBEW Local 1 held a fundraiser for Steve Stenger, candidate for St. Louis County Executive, attended by hundreds of union members and families. [Photo, below.] Our area needs a leader who understands the needs of working families. Steve Stenger is that leader, having grown up in a union household and learned about labor issues at the kitchen table from his father, a telephone lineman.

Local 1 is proud to report that our members, along with IBEW locals and organizations across Missouri, defeated “right-to-work” and paycheck deception this year. Legislators took notice when brothers and sisters flooded their phones and inboxes demanding they put working families first. We’re honored to have helped educate and motivate our membership and others to effectively reach their elected officials. Special thanks to IBEW member and St. Louis Electrical Connection’s Government Affairs Dir. Tim Green as well as Local 1 Pres. Tom George for all the hours spent lobbying for working families this year.

Bus. Mgr. Frank Jacobs and all the officers thank our members for coming out and re-electing our team this year. “Our local belongs to its members and your vote is how you ensure it remains that way,” Jacobs said.

We mourn the death of several members: Richard Holtgrave, Anthony Shaffar, Regan Jones, Marlene Oatley, David Dlugos, Kenneth Dauphin, Adam Mlynarczyk, Ray Brown, William Bove, Richard Campbell, Ronald Sutton, Robert Rehling and Gordon Chisholm.

John Moyle, P.S.

Outlook for Work Picture

L.U. 9 (catv,govt,lctt,o&u), CHICAGO, IL—Congratulations to Bus. Mgr. Robert Pierson and all the Local 9 officers, who were re-elected by acclamation to a three-year term. The officers appreciate the trust extended to them by the membership and will contin-



Hundreds of union members and their families turned out to support Steve Stenger, candidate for St. Louis County Executive, at the IBEW Local 1 union hall.



Newly elected Local 9 officers: front row, Mark Simmons (left), Bryan Nieciak, John Conroy, Joseph Notaro, Robert Pierson, John Burkard, William Niesman, John Dowling, Phil Dote; back row, Ivan Westcott, Richard Peslak, Robert Leimetter, Lisa Page, Todd Pierson, Thomas McCluskey, Mark Wydra, Victor Ohanessian, Michael Green, Gary Pierson, Allan Bartosik, John Corcoran and Joseph Douin.

ue their work to advance the union movement on behalf of the members.

The work outlook in our jurisdiction for 2014 is slightly better than 2013. The street light and traffic work has picked up, but is not quite at the numbers we anticipated. The utility work on ComEd property has increased significantly and appears to only improve for the next few years. The local thanks the other locals across the country that kept our members working during our lean times. We hope to reciprocate in the future for any locals that experience a work slowdown.

Again, we are in a battle this election season with an anti-union gubernatorial nominee, Bruce Rauner. Local 9 officers, staff and members, along with the AFL-CIO, will work diligently to defeat this threat and re-elect incumbent Democratic Gov. Pat Quinn.

The re-election of Gov. Quinn as well as retaining a Democratic majority in the House and Senate are imperative to help protect our way of life.

The Annual Local 9 Golf Outing on Aug. 9 at Glen Eagles Country Club was a huge success. Over 200 golfers enjoyed a fun-filled day. Thank you to all the participants.

Mary Beth Kaczmarek, P.S.

Utility Local Update

L.U. 15 (u), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—Local 15 announced winners of the annual Scholarship Awards. The following ten recipients, all children of Local 15 members, will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship award: Hannah Brown, Laura

Bush, Adriana Casillas, Jake Collins, Jacob Vroman, Eldora Holder, Margaret O’Connor, Kaitlyn Daniels, Kelly Leifheit and Nicholas Marchio. Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all who applied!

As a result of the successful Northern Region clerical pilot, we are expanding the pilot to the West Region. This pilot includes transitioning some responsibilities from management back to the bargaining unit.

The Zion nuclear station decommissioning has moved about 25 percent of its spent fuel and aims to have all the spent fuel moved by the first quarter of 2015.

As of April 1, NRG has taken over operation of the fossil stations once owned by Edison Mission Energy. NRG is closely evaluating the economics of keeping the stations open, converting them to another fuel source (other than coal) or keeping them burning coal. No decisions on converting any of these plants have been announced as of July.

On our Commercial side, negotiations resulted in a Letter of Understanding relating to pipe installation work. The Automated Meter (AMI) installation is progressing; the goal is to change out 4 million meters.

On June 25, the U.S. Bankruptcy Court approved a settlement allowing Edison Mission Energy to terminate retiree health care. As part of the settlement, approximately 50 of our members (those eligible for EME retiree health care as of March 31, 2014) will receive a financial settlement.

The United Way fund drive is in the initial stages and Local 15 encourages our members to give what they comfortably can.

Doug Vedas, P.S.

Raising the Bar

L.U. 17 (catv,em,lctt,o&u), DETROIT, MI—Local 17 is implementing several new training programs designed to enhance our skills and competitiveness. Late this year we will begin Continuous Education Programs for our journeyman linemen and our jour-

neyman line clearance tree trimmers. We have also developed a Membership Education Program that has been presented to every apprentice class and will be presented to every member of our local. These programs are founded on the principles of the IBEW Code of Excellence and an improved safety culture.

The work picture is outstanding as of this writing. Most work sites are working “six tens” and this will continue for the foreseeable future. At press time, we have a standing call for journeyman linemen. If interested please contact our office.

We are saddened to report the loss of our dear departed friend Tim Head. Bro. Head was the quintessential example of what a true union brother is. He touched many lives during his career, and his memory will live on for many years.

We are also deeply saddened to report the loss of Bro. George Ward, who was fatally injured on the job in June. Bro. Ward was a fine man indeed and will be sorely missed by all.

Dean Bradley, B.M./F.S.

Get Out the Vote

L.U. 21 (catv,govt&t), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—As far as we are concerned the November governor’s race in Illinois is the only game in town. The choice could not be clearer. On one side, we have incumbent Gov. Pat Quinn, a man who’s spent his entire political career fighting for working-class people. On the other we have Bruce Rauner, a billionaire in a Carhartt jacket who demonizes labor by calling us part of the problem. Rauner will tell you he will make your life better by fixing Illinois’ problems. He won’t tell you he’s going to change your life by attempting to take away your union rights and then pick your pocket of your hard earned pension. If you’re a public employee look out, as you’re part of the “problem” he plans to fix.

Our Get Out the Vote (GOTV) efforts are in full gear. Our local along with the rest of the IBEW will be taking our rightful place in leadership rolls. We can win and elect worker friendly candidates if we register to vote, get our co-workers to register, help the campaigns of those who are on our side—and vote on Election Day. Registration deadlines and early voting information is on our COPE webpage at www.ibew.org. Let’s stand in solidarity against those who are fighting against us.

Bob Przybylinski, R.S./P.S.

2014 Graduation Celebration

L.U. 41 (em,es,govt,i,se&spa), BUFFALO, NY—In June we held the annual apprenticeship graduation dinner. Graduate Tom Roll received the Dr. Anthony Renzi

Submitting Local Lines Articles

Local Lines are printed monthly on an alternating even/odd schedule. They can be submitted by designated press secretaries or union officers via e-mail (locallines@ibew.org) or U.S. Mail. We have a 200-word limit. We make every effort to assist local unions in publishing useful and relevant local union news; however, all final content decisions are based on the editor’s judgment. Our guidelines and deadlines are available at www.ibew.org/articles/journaldeadlines.htm. Please e-mail or call the Media Department at (202) 728-6291 with any questions.

Trade Classifications

(as) Alarm & Signal	(et) Electronic Technicians	(mps) Motion Picture Studios	(rts) Radio-Television Service
(ars) Atomic Research Service	(fm) Fixture Manufacturing	(nst) Nuclear Service Technicians	(so) Service Occupations
(bo) Bridge Operators	(govt) Government	(o) Outside	(s) Shopmen
(cs) Cable Splicers	(i) Inside	(p) Powerhouse	(se) Sign Erector
(catv) Cable Television	(it) Instrument Technicians	(pet) Professional, Engineers & Technicians	(spa) Sound & Public Address
(c) Communications	(lctt) Line Clearance Tree Trimming	(ptc) Professional, Technical & Clerical	(st) Sound Technicians
(cr) Cranemen	(lpt) Lightning Protection Technicians	(rr) Railroad	(t) Telephone
(ees) Electrical Equipment Service	(mt) Maintenance	(uow) Utility Office Workers	(ws) Warehouse and Supply
(ei) Electrical Inspection	(mo) Maintenance & Operation		
(em) Electrical Manufacturing	(mow) Manufacturing Office Workers		
(es) Electric Signs	(mar) Marine	(rtm) Radio-Television Manufacturing	

Efforts are made to make this list as inclusive as possible, but the various job categories of IBEW members are too numerous to comprehensively list all.

Award for highest five-year cumulative grade average. Tom, along with Robert Umhauer, also received an award for perfect attendance. Vince Majchrzak received the highest cumulative average award for our residential journeyman class. We also recognized apprentices with highest average for the year: for 4th year—Ron Kennick; 3rd year—Chris Banas; 2nd year—Jennifer Impastato; and 1st year—Wayne Rich. Congratulations to all! You are the future!

2014 Inside Graduating Class: Mike Pabst, Josh Lang, Tom Donohue, Pavel Kulik, Ed Sheehan, John Lord, Joe Biggie, Daryl Sweeney, Tom Roll, Nick Clark, Andy Chwesik, Rich Malik, Jason Hine, Reggie Sovereign, Chris Goulet, Bill Howes, Sean Oshirak, Will Clark, John Ruhland, Aaron Coventry and Aaron Czesak.

One sad note ... our math instructor, Dave Grabenstatter, decided to retire. Dave has always been able to get the most out of his students in the most gentlemanly fashion; he will be missed.

Also in June, Local 41 elected officers: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Mike Gaiser, Pres. Matt Hilmey, Vice Pres. Shawn Creighton, Treas. Richard Nader, Rec. Sec. Curtis Johnson; Executive Board members Art Chmura, Eric Crawford, Jim Devany, Rick Guerra, Greg Inglut, Jud Payne and Heath Wagner; Examining Board members Brett Armstrong, Chris Bove, Bob Esford, Matt Gaiser and Ken Scheifla. Congratulations to all. Thank you to all who ran; participation in our union is the key to its success.

Gregory R. Inglut, A.B.M.

JATC Graduation Ceremony

L.U. 43 (em,i&rts), SYRACUSE, NY—The Central New York Joint Electrical Apprenticeship and Training Committee's (JATC) annual graduation ceremony took place June 6. [See photo at bottom, left.] Twenty-four apprentices from the inside wireman program graduated to journeyman wireman status.

The ceremony was filled with nostalgia, laughter and celebration. Congratulations to the entire graduating class. Also, special congratulations to award recipients, including Raymond Tucker, Scholarly Apprentice of the Year, courtesy of Klein Tools. Raymond finished the program with a final classroom average of 96.93 percent and over 9,000 on-the-job training hours.

Other awards included: the Most Outstanding Apprentice Award, presented to Justin Gurney, and a Perfect Attendance Award, presented to Jesse Scott, both courtesy of NJATC. Also, Bus. Mgr. Donald Morgan presented an award to Daniel Holl for his continued dedication to the IBEW.

Congratulations to the all the newest journeyman wiremen of IBEW Local 43!

Gene Townsend, P.S.

Officers Sworn In

L.U. 47 (lctt,mo,o,u&uow), DIAMOND BAR, CA—Happy Labor Day! The election of officers at Local 47 is complete. Tyrone Chamois, who was elected president, won the only contested election among the officers and board members. Outgoing president Ron Delgado, who served as president for 16

years, decided not to seek re-election. Elected as delegates to the 2016 International Convention were: Randy Heldoorn, Ernie Lopez, John Baca, Mike Moore, Chris Avila, Michael Hernandez, Armando Mendez, Arnold Trevino, Casey Lavin and Colin Lavin.

Local 47 officers were sworn in at the July Parent Body Meeting. [For a list of officers elected by acclamation without opposition earlier this year, please see the Local 47 "Local Lines" article in the July 2014 issue of The Electrical Worker.]

The members at our newest unit, the Utility Workers at the City of Vernon, ratified their first-ever contract by an 84 percent margin.

California primary results are in and Local 47-endorsed candidates did well in the June primary. In the state controller race, the local supported State Board of Equalization member Betty Yee. Yee took second place by a margin of 481 out of more than 3 million votes cast. A recount was underway as of press time to determine who will be in the November election.

Every vote matters, and all IBEW members should be registered and vote in November.

We are sad to report the passing of Elias Aguilar, Rigoberto Valdivia and Jaime "Bob" Arechiga. Our thoughts and prayers are with their family and friends.

Work safe, live well, work union!

Stan Stosel, P.S.



Outgoing Local 47 president Ron Delgado (left) hands gavel to incoming Pres. Tyrone Chamois (right) as Bus. Mgr. Pat Lavin looks on.

Scholarships Awarded

L.U. 51 (catv,lctt,o,ptc,rtb,t,u&uow), SPRINGFIELD, IL—Our annual golf scholarship outing was successful. We were able to award five \$500 college scholarships. Congratulations to Adam Jacob Smith (son of Michael Smith, who works at Frontier Freeport); Dacia Henning (daughter of Gerry Henning, CornBelt Northern); Alexis Rhodes (daughter of Vickie Means, Ameren); Alison Stone (daughter of Corey Stone, IBEW Local 51).

As of this writing, the local was planning on moving during the first week in August to our new location, 3171 Green Head Drive, Springfield, IL.

Again, we need to stress to our members that although some may disagree with Gov. Pat Quinn's leadership, voting for Bruce Rauner could be detrimental to our members' quality of life. Get out and vote!

Our construction outlook is slow.

Karlene Knisley, B.R.

'Congratulations to All'

L.U. 53 (lctt,o,rts&u), KANSAS CITY, MO—Former Bus. Mgr. Bob Stuart recently extended congratulations to Bro. Steve White on his newly elected position as Local 53 business manager (photo below). Bob decided to retire after 7½ years as the business manager, 12½ years as a business representative—and 43 years as an IBEW member! We thank you, Bob, for your long-time dedication and commitment to this local. We wish you a great retirement. You will be missed.

Newly elected Bus. Mgr. White has served as president, business representative and organizer for the last 12 years. Steve said he is proud to serve as business manager of this great local and looks forward to serving the membership.

Congratulations to all of our newly elected officers. The swearing in took place July 23, 2014, at our general meeting.

Local 53 officers are: Bus. Mgr. Steve White, Pres. Ron Head, Vice Pres. James Burke, Rec. Sec. Robert Frazee, Treas. Darlene O'Neal; Executive Board members Robert Duran IV, Ronald Kapp, Jason Martin, Todd Shull and Eric Youngmans. Delegates to the I.O. Convention: David Adkins, Eric Boyer, Richard Coddington, Ronnie Gaylord, Ronald Kapp and Brett Stone. Congratulations to you all.

Agreements are happening: Bus. Rep. Bruce VanCompennolle recently helped negotiate a three-year agreement for the line clearance tree trimming group out of Springfield, MO.

Hope all finds and keeps you well ... Local 53!

Tracy A. Riley, P.S. Pro Tem



Retiring Bus. Mgr. Bob Stuart (right) congratulates newly elected Local 53 Bus. Mgr. Steve White.

Collective Compassion

L.U. 89 (catv,em,lctt,o&t), SEATTLE, WA—On March 22, at approximately 11 a.m., Oso, WA, had a tremendous disaster. To see the entire Oso mudslide you had to be so far away that it appeared as a miniature scale model.

Even before reports of the missing and injured came in, our Local 89 crews from Marysville and Burlington were making their way to the scene. However, emergency responders initially were not allowing anyone on the scene. Finally, a call from Sen. Maria Cantwell gave our members the access they needed at approximately 3:15 p.m. The terrain was almost impassable, with the mud still shifting. The goal was



A Local 89 crew responded immediately following the major mudslide disaster in Oso, WA.

to get temporary emergency phone lines pulled in.

Working in unfathomable conditions, a group of our local union brothers and sisters—with an ear to the wind and an eye to the ground while helping to find the missing—simultaneously pulled 14,000 feet of cable and had it spliced in, within just over four hours. The Local 89 crew included: Frank Urbick, Mark Perry, Kerry Frable, Tim Miller, Steve Adams, John Arnez, Bob Oliphant, Justin Tillet, Dean Oban, Andrea Stinaro, Kevin Daurie, Paul Messina, Mike Jacobs, Ryan Colvin, Kellen Martini, Bret Murdock, Gary Griffith, Pat Howard, Russ Kindler, Brady Malean, Kevin Tallman, Wade Smith, Jeff Holocker and Barry Robinson.

Krystal Buoy, P.S.

Volunteers Restore Memorial

L.U. 97 (u), SYRACUSE, NY—On Sunday, June 1, dozens of Local 97 members volunteered their time and skills to help restore the Vietnam Memorial in downtown Albany, NY.

Located in Lafayette Park, the memorial is a tribute to local soldiers who gave their lives during the Vietnam War. The Local 97 volunteers, some of whom are also veterans, performed work such as: adding new dirt and topsoil, trenching for new secondary lighting, and adding stone for new sidewalks leading up to the monument. The work our members performed not only honored our veterans, but also brought a significant amount of pride to our community.

In September, the local will host its annual Union Appreciation Day across all three divisions. Please check with your local union hall for more details. Last year's events were a huge success and this year we hope to do the same.

Please continue to support your local union and remember to purchase union-made products and services.

Jim Zabinski, V.P.



IBEW Local 99 bus decorated for the Gaspee Days parade.

Work Picture Improves

L.U. 99 (govt&i), PROVIDENCE, RI—After seven years of limited opportunities, it appears Rhode Island is finally on the rebound. With several major projects on the horizon, an aggressive marketing and targeting plan and solid relationships with the Rhode Island Building Trades, Local 99 anticipates much lower unemployment than we have endured over the past seven years.

Local 99 has completed our Craft Certification labs to enhance proper testing of our apprentices and our future members. This innovative tool will assist every apprentice and organized member in securing stable employment by discovering any areas of their craft that need polishing up.

Our local has been working hard at boosting our strong spirit of brotherhood. The economic downturn took its toll not only on our member's bank accounts, but also their faith. Getting back to work is only half the task; getting the spirit of family and solidarity back is the rest. Through civic events such as



Local 43 congratulates the Central New York JATC graduating class of 2014.

LOCAL LINES



Local 103 apprenticeship graduation ceremony held June 5.

parades, volunteer activities and solidarity events nearly every month, we are proving to everyone that the union brotherhood is back stronger than ever. We welcome all members to get involved in these most important events.

"Upon the conduct of each depends the fate of all." – Alexander the Great

Joseph L. Walsh Jr., P.S.

2014 Apprentice Graduation

L.U. 103 (cs&i), BOSTON, MA—On June 5, Local 103 held its 68th Annual Apprentice Graduation at the union hall. [See photo, above.] Three graduates received special achievement awards. Kevin Simoneau received the William M. Swanson Jr. Electrical Academic Award; Brendan Conlon Jr. received the Charles A. McCarthy Memorial Award; and Brian Doolin received the Philip C. Davis Memorial Award. Instructor Dick Joyce received the Russell F. Sheehan Distinguished Service Award. Also, the ceremony included the swearing in of 206 first-year apprentices, making them the newest members of Local 103. Congratulations to the class of 2014 and to our newest members.

Local 103 helped in the battle against heart disease by taking part in the Climb America event held at Fenway Park in June. The event was organized and facilitated by ClimbCorp, a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating the public on the importance of preventing heart disease through proper exercise and nutrition. A group of Local 103 staff and members took on the challenge of raising \$200 each and taking on the Fenway stairs to help in this great cause.

Kevin C. Molineaux, P.S.

IBEW Members Restore Power

L.U. 111 (em,govt,lctt,mt,o,rtb,spa&u), DENVER, CO—At this writing, Public Service Co. of Colorado (PSCO) general negotiations continue. Concerning plant closings, the Arapahoe Station closing in particular was as a result of the Colorado Clean Air/Clean Jobs legislation. The closure took place in early January 2014, and approximately 35 affected employees were placed at either Cherokee Station or Denver Steam Heat Plant. No reductions in force were implemented, due to the negotiated agreement between David Eaves and this local union. The closure of Valmont Station, as a further result of Clean Air/Clean Jobs legislation, is anticipated for the end of 2017 at this point.

As for the Boulder floods of 2013, Boulder Service Center IBEW members, as well as IBEW members from all across Colorado, mobilized in Boulder and Ft. Collins to restore service to our customers in Boulder County and many other areas across northeastern Colorado that were devastated by these floods. Our members rose to the occasion, and with great expense of time and effort in difficult and dangerous circumstances, restoration was accomplished. While much of the restoration work was initially temporary, our members' efforts have continued in the work of more permanent restorations.

Have a safe and happy Labor Day!

Mike Kostecky, P.S.

Labor Day & Worker Rights

L.U. 125 (lctt,o,t&u), PORTLAND, OR—For many, Labor Day symbolizes back to school and the end of summer. As American workers, what does it mean to you? The holiday is a celebration of us—the American labor movement. Take time to recognize the advancements that many workers enjoy because of organized labor, but remember our work is not finished. We have corporations that want to eliminate many benefits. With many contracts up for bargaining, know your history if you want to secure your future.

IBEW members are united by a common bond. Whether you are a longtime or newly sworn-in member, all members must stand for our rights to organize and collectively bargain. Without this foundation, our ability to exist is substantially lessened. All members should work diligently to uphold the first object of the IBEW Constitution: "To organize all workers in the entire electrical industry in the United States and Canada, including all those in public utilities and electrical manufacturing, into local unions." To succeed, our local needs your help. Talk with nonunion workers, get contact information, and share it with your business representative. Most importantly, remember you're in the best position to advocate on behalf of our local and explain why unions matter.

Marcy Grail, A.B.M.

Work Picture Gains

L.U. 141 (ees,i,o&u), WHEELING, WV—The work picture continues to grow in our local with upcoming developments at a couple of shopping malls in our jurisdiction.

At the time of this writing, we were planning our annual summer picnic scheduled for August 2014 as well as a golf scramble that coincides with it.

Bro. Gerald T. Keller received his 60-year IBEW service pin presented by Bus. Mgr. John Clarke (see photo below). Bro. Keller is from a long line of Local 141 electricians, including his grandfather Charlie Keller, who was a charter member, and his father, Gerald W. Keller, who was business manager for 12 years.

I would also like to congratulate Bro. John Clarke, who is retiring from the office of business manager. We are thankful for your service, John, and may your retirement be as exciting as your career!

Michael R. Parker, R.S.



Local 141 Bus. Mgr. John Clarke (right) presents 60-year service award to Bro. Gerald T. Keller.

'Pack the Hall Night'

L.U. 145 (em,i,o,rts,spa&u), ROCK ISLAND, IL—Hello to all of our IBEW brothers and sisters. In March we had our annual Pack the Hall Night—a night when we induct our 1st year apprentices. This year we inducted 30 new apprentice wiremen. Nearly 200 members

attended. Among attendees were retired business agent John A. Winterbottom, his son John R. Winterbottom, and his grandson Bob Winterbottom—three generations of electricians!

John A. Winterbottom served as a Local 145 business agent for many years. He was a strong union member and political example for members. John passed away March 19 this year—just two weeks after the three generations were together at the union meeting.

The Local 145 annual picnic was in August and everyone had a great time! There were plenty of activities for all the kids and adults! Thank you to the Picnic Committee and volunteers for another wonderful picnic!

Remember to stay involved in your local union and your local politics—your participation is needed now more than ever! Remember to attend the union meetings, held on the first Thursday of every month.

Dan Larson, P.S.



Local 145 late Bro. John A. Winterbottom (seated); Bro. John R. Winterbottom (left); and Bro. Bob Winterbottom (right).

A Year to Celebrate

L.U. 153 (em,i,mt,rtb,rts,se,spa&st), SOUTH BEND, IN—This year has brought us a lot of good things to celebrate. We have celebrated our local's 100th birthday. And we have purchased a new building. The building (at 56475 Peppermint Rd., South Bend) is located next to our JATC site, and with this purchase we have about 11 acres of complex between our two organizations.

We congratulate this year's incoming apprenticeship classes. As of this writing, the incoming apprentices we've selected are: Thomas Brown, David Carlson, E'velle Cheeks, John Flack, Aaron Hassinger, Evan Haste, James Hunt, Jordan Jasinski, Kory Kolber, Andrew Kowalski, Shawn MacMillian, Dennis Manuwal III, William Martin, Ryan Moore, Mitch Mortensen, Robert Nicks, Lee Parker, Patrick Pedzinski, Austin Pennington, Kendall Pickens, Steven Richardson, Brody Schimel, Brandon Shumaker, Kyle Smith, Stephen Stopczynski and Cody Witt.

By the time you read this article, D.C. Cook Nuclear should be well into the fall refueling outage and the next one is planned for the spring.

Notre Dame has plans to expand student housing as well as its education facilities. This work will last over the next three-to-five years with the biggest portion starting after the final home game of 2014. As of press time, we are uncertain if we will get into Book 2.

Stanley B. Miles, Mbr. Dev.

Upcoming Midterm Elections

L.U. 193 (i,lctt,o,rts,spa&u), SPRINGFIELD, IL—After a long, cold, record-breaking winter, as of this writing we were anticipating that jobs should pick up over the summer as the economy has gradually improved.

Congratulations to newly elected Local 193 officers. Also, thank you to all those who participated in the union election.

Labor unions and working folks are getting pounded by anti-worker politicians and some court rulings that do not support organized labor or the middle class.

I ask every member, new and old, to check his or her family's voter registration cards, study the issues, and vote for the candidates who support working people and issues important to Local 193 and its membership.

Please check out website www.ibewmade.com featured in "Label Letter," the official newsletter of the Union Label & Service Trades Dept., AFL-CIO. IBEW signatory contractors and quality union-made electrical items, critical to USA standards, are listed on this cutting-edge website.

Hope everyone has enjoyed the summer. Buy local. Be safe!

Don Hudson, P.S.

Labor Day Festivities

L.U. 197 (em&i), BLOOMINGTON, IL—The Labor Day holiday is approaching. We will line up on Sept. 1, at 9 a.m., in downtown Bloomington to walk in the parade. After the parade we will have a picnic at the hall. Everyone is invited; please join the festivities.

The election season will be ramping up and we want to remind everyone to get out and vote. We will walk door to door, make phone calls, and stuff envelopes this fall. If you can help, there is always something proactive that can be done.

At the May union meeting a motion was made, voted on, and passed to elect all officers by acclamation, since there was no opposition for any office.

Congratulations to all officers: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Rich Veitengruber, Sec. Beth Sylvester, Treas. Stephanie Ashenbremmer, Pres. Mike Raikes, Vice Pres. Jacob Goar, and Executive Board members Keith Ashenbremmer, Brian Burns, Shawn Dehaven, Jacob Knobloch, Tom Peasley, Greg Potter and Matt Strupp. We look forward to advancing our local. Thanks to Josh Mathis for his dedication; he served as vice president for the last six years.

Thanks to those locals that have put our brothers and sisters to work. We hope our work situation picks up so we can get them home!

Remember: Get involved in the local!

Mike Raikes, Pres.

Rebuilding America

L.U. 269 (i&o), TRENTON, NJ—As our nation ages so does its infrastructure. As taxpaying citizens we expect, at the very least, to have passable roads, traversable bridges and safe, well-lit neighborhoods.

These things, however, do not maintain themselves. It takes well-qualified and dedicated craftspeople to perform the work so sorely needed on our country's vast transportation system.



Trenton, NJ, Local 269 Bros. Dave Pinnelli (left), Tony Di Christopher, Jay Tissone, Keith Tracy, Joe Doyle, Mike McGrath, Tim Faulkner and Brian Jacoppo stand near the Burlington-Bristol Bridge.

Luckily, there is a large and qualified workforce ready, willing and able to help rebuild our crumbling infrastructure. This workforce consists of all our brothers and sisters who proudly call themselves members of a trade union.

Within our territory and across our nation, public works projects are providing much-needed improvements while also providing much-needed employment for a skilled and eager workforce.

The middle class is the economic engine of this country. The jobs provided by public works projects are a boon to both our local and national economies. They also provide a living wage for citizens, who are essential to a sustainable local tax base. These taxes pay for our schools, our services, and have a direct impact on our quality of life.

Brian Jacoppo, P.S.

Celebrating 'Union Made'

L.U. 291 (i,mo,o,rtb&rts), BOISE, ID—Greetings. I recently completed my apprenticeship with the Southwestern Idaho JATC. On June 13, my classmates and I attended our completion ceremony.

I wanted to get my fellow graduates a gift to commemorate the occasion. I decided on a cigar and a nice bottle of liquor for each of them. At the liquor store, I asked the man at the counter, "Could you tell me which of these liquors are union made?"

He gave me a quizzical look and replied, "In nine years of running this place, I have never been asked that question." He asked me to "hold on one moment" and stepped over to his computer and began clicking away. His printer ejected numerous sheets of paper. "This is what I found," he said. "It might not be current but I think it will work."

It was a seven-page list of 249 liquors made by the UFCW. "I printed off one copy for you and a copy for the store in case someone else asks," he said.

He spent 20 minutes going through the list with me, showing me the liquors that he thought would go well with the cigars. After he rang my order up and congratulated me, I thanked him for his help and his time.

So, if you don't know whether something is union made and American made, ask. You might be surprised.

Nicholas J. Baumann, P.S.

Election of Officers

L.U. 309 (i,lctt,mo,mt,o,rts,spa&u), COLLINSVILLE, IL—Negotiations are continuing with the cities of Waterloo and Highland. We hope both agreements will be settled by the time this article is published.

Local 309's annual PAC Golf Tournament was July 11. Also, our second annual Party at the Park was Aug. 9 at Fairmount Racetrack. Both events are well-attended by active and retired members alike.

Local 309 held an election of officers on June 2. Officers elected are: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Tim Evans, Pres. Chris Burns, Vice Pres. Mike Hayes, Rec. Sec. Carlos Perez and Treas. Larry Aleksandrian. Executive Board: Mike Faust, Brandon Grivot, Sam Gross, John Reyes, Ron Scott, Matt Sommer and Josh Wieggers. Examining Board Wiremen: Rob Coppersmith and Joe Varvera. Delegates to the 2016 International Convention to be held in St. Louis will be: Bus. Mgr. Tim Evans, Charlie Busch, Chris Hankins, Chris Huckins and Chris Weir.

Bus. Mgr. Evans will bring in Chris Weir as an assistant business manager. He will also retain Asst. Bus. Mgrs. Lee Bradley and Scott Tweedy. Chris Hankins will continue to be Local 309's organizer.

Congratulations and good luck to all the officers and staff of Local 309.

Thank you to Election Judge Mike Stuart and Tellers Jake Albers, Jim Alvarez, Rick Kusmer and Mark McGlawn. Work safe!

Scott Tweedy, A.B.M.

ATV Ride & Cookout

L.U. 317 (i,o,rts,t&u), HUNTINGTON, WV—Local 317 recently held an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) ride for members and their families at an off-road park in Kentucky. The event started off with members unloading their ATV's at base camp and venturing off to explore the 7,000 acre off-road park. When it was time to eat, the IBEW 317 RENEW Committee, with the help of several other members, manned the grill. For lunch there were brauts, grilled stuffed jalapeños, and the usual sides. For dinner it was pulled pork, cooked all day in the smoker. The evening concluded with more trail riding and plenty of fellowship.

The work outlook for inside wiremen continues to be slow. Industrial outages have thinned out the books a few times over the last several months but nothing long term has been discussed for a while. Outside work remains steady as line improvement projects continue throughout the jurisdiction.

Right-to-work (for less) legislation in our jurisdiction continues to be a real threat. With state elections just around the corner, it's important that members stay informed about which candidates are working for labor.

James Stacy, P.S.



Local 317 members and families turn out for ATV ride.

Volunteers in Action

L.U. 343 (i,spa&st), LeSUEUR, MN—Local 343 retirees are an active bunch. Recently, the executive director for the Olmsted County Historical Society approached the local looking for help. The museum and history center had not seen much updating for 30 years. Although funding was limited, a lighting upgrade was needed as part of a larger renovation.

A small group of retirees sprang into action, after assembling for coffee and breakfast. Teaming with signatory contractor Winkels Electric, the job was completed on time and under budget. Not bad for volunteers. It was reported that only \$6,000 in Historical Society funds were needed for the remodeling project thanks to the donated labor and materials.

Our thanks go to Jim O'Neil, Dale Meyer, Cory Berg, Joel Walbridge, Tom Huiting and John Guyse for promoting our union and trade in a positive way.

Remember to buy Made In USA. The job you save may be your own.

Tom Small, P.S.



Local 343 team volunteers for Olmsted County Historical Society project: Jim O'Neil (left), Dale Meyer, Cory Berg, Joel Walbridge, Tom Huiting and John Guyse.



Local 351 honors retired members.

Work Picture is Promising

L.U. 347 (em,i,mt,rtb,rts&spa), DES MOINES, IA—This summer provided many opportunities for fun for the members and travelers working in Local 347. The picnic and the golf outing were huge successes. Close to 80 participants joined in on the golf course.

Local 347 now gets to repay the hospitality of the many locals that provided jobs to Local 347 members in the past. Work in the local continues to be promising. Three large projects are in the works. The Marshalltown powerhouse contract was awarded to Van Ert. The Facebook phase-one project will finish up in January 2015. The Facebook phase-two project is ramping up currently. Microsoft has approved the next phase of a large project, though some hurdles need to be cleared.

At press time, final preparations were being made for the 100th anniversary of Local 347 in October. See you there.

Mike Schweiger, P.S.

Officers Sworn In

L.U. 349 (em,es,i,mps,rtb,rts,spa&u), MIAMI, FL—At our June 2014 union meeting, Fifth District Int. Vice Pres. Joe S. Davis administered the oath of office to the elected officers of Local 349. Officers were elected for a three-year term (2014 – 2017).

Congratulations to all the Local 349 officers. They are: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. William "Bill" Riley, Pres. David Karcher, Vice Pres. Pete Garcia, Rec. Sec. John McHugh and Treas. Brian Rappaport. Executive Board members are: Frank Albury, Bill Callenius, Kenny Fennell, Sergio Mayor and Chris Simpson. Welfare Board members are: Kris Beckford, Robert Brumfield, Paul Gannett, Pete Grimm and Danny Yoham. Examining Board members are: Louis Bui, Cris Mendoza, and Oscar Ordaz.

Also in June, our fifth-year apprentices graduated. Congratulations to these new journeyman wiremen.

Remember: "Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass ... it's about learning to dance in the rain."

Let's remember our service men and women here and



Local 359 officers are sworn in.

overseas—and bring them home safe.

Work smart and work safe. Attend your union meetings. It is you that makes this union strong.

Frank Albury, P.S./Exec. Bd.

Retirees Honored

L.U. 351 (c,cs,i,it,lctt,mt,o,se,spa&t), FOLSOM, NJ—Congratulations to our 2013 retirees from Local 351 who were honored at our April union meeting. [See photo, above.] Food and refreshments were served and our retirees were presented with IBEW watches with their names engraved on the back.

We also honored 15 retired members who have 50+ years of IBEW service. We wish all of our retired members good health and happiness in their retirement. We encourage them to continue to come out and take part in all of our local union events throughout the year.

Dan Cosner, P.S.

Utility Negotiations Underway

L.U. 359 (u), MIAMI, FL—Local 359 held an election of officers. The officers were sworn in at the July meeting by former vice president Gene Miller. Congratulations to all.

Elected were: Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dwight Mattox, Vice Pres. Doug Sawyer, Treas. Walter Lamb, Sec. Dennis Russell and Fin. Sec. Steve Donovan. Executive Board members: Broderick Veal—representing Substation; Clifford Harris and Raymond Sinclair—Overhead Lines; Justin Stockton—Underground; Alice Keller—Clerical; Eddie Nettles and Ivan Soriano—Power Generation/Nuclear.

In the sub-locals in Homestead, the new unit chairman is Gary Shafer; John Ingram is vice chairman; Henry Gil Palmer is secretary. The Lake Worth Unit elected Samuel Jackson unit chairman.

On the negotiations front, the Utility System Council U-4 business manager and committee are meeting with Florida Power & Light Company/Next Era Energy. Many recommendations are being made by both sides. The company has eliminated the highly successful nuclear apprenticeship program. The employer previously was in a partnership with the union to train nuclear apprentices at Miami Dade College (Local 359) and Indian River State College (Local 627). Apprentices earned a degree in electronic technology and were hired at nuclear sites. What is the

LOCAL LINES

commitment of large corporations to train younger adults? Private sector employers need to get on board with skilled-craft training.

Please attend union meetings at the Local 359 Hall on the first Tuesday of each month. Support the negotiation team. Get involved.

Steve Flynn, P.S.

‘Do Your Share’

L.U. 363 (catv,em,govt,i,t,u&ws), NEW CITY, NY—I wrote the article below in February 1989 for the IBEW Journal. It is interesting that it still applies today.

“Another year has passed and we are looking at what 1989 will bring. Maybe at our first union meeting, we will look around the room and see there are no empty seats. Maybe when we go to the first labor rally, we will see that all Brothers and Sisters are doing their fair part to ensure our high standards are upheld, and it’s not just the same few faces fighting for our existence. And maybe everyone will realize that a labor organization’s biggest weapon against the nonunion is that organization’s members—and that is the bottom line.

“If we have full participation from our members when they are requested to be part of a meeting or rally, we will gain tremendously against the rats. Isn’t it ironic that 50 percent of a group’s membership will stand up and fight a battle, but 100 percent will expect to reap the benefits?

“Please let’s all get together on this matter and take a good look at ourselves. It’s time for each of us to evaluate ourselves as good union members.”

Sam Fratto, B.M.

JATC Training

L.U. 449 (catv,em,i,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), POCATELLO, ID—Congratulations to the members who received service pins at the local’s annual picnic. Great job! It is great to see the members and their families at this event.

The local continues looking at new ways to work with our contractors to get back into the markets we’ve lost. We must think outside the box sometimes in order to do this. The business manager and the organizers regularly talk with other locals to see what is and what is not working for them and vice versa. I believe that these efforts along with our forward thinking will pay off.

Our JATC has wrapped up the first round of training for the spring. We had a great bunch of classes. We started a new welding class to train our members and contractors. This is a skill that can save time and make money for our contractors. Our Craft Certifications booths were also recently finished and approved.

The local mourns the passing of Bro. Dewey Leadford. Our condolences go out to his family.

Chris Lochridge, Pres.

Lineman Appreciation Day

L.U. 455 (em&u), SPRINGFIELD, MA—June 12 was declared Lineman Appreciation Day in Pittsfield, MA. The linemen from the area were honored at a baseball game between the Pittsfield Suns and Martha’s Vineyard Sharks. Bro. Rick Kostanski had the honor of throwing out the first pitch (a blistering fastball).

The Fallen Linemen Organization—which provides financial and emotional support to the families of line workers who lost their lives on the job—brought the mobile version of its memorial. Bro. Jim Hanson, who passed away last year, was among those memorialized. Bro. Hanson’s sister Elizabeth Hanson Keefner was instrumental in putting on the event and raising funds for the Fallen Linemen.

Brian E. Kenney, B.M./F.S.



IBEW Local 595 electric crew at the University of California Berkeley.

New Five-Year Contract

L.U. 595 (c,cs,govt,i,mt,o,se&st), DUBLIN, CA—The University of California Berkeley (UCB) and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) agreed to a new five-year contract for our public sector sisters and brothers. This favorable contract was a long and drawn out process. Thanks to our negotiation team Bridget Hall (UCB) and Michael Lee (LBNL). Their dedication and hard work are recognized and appreciated.

Local 595 held its election of officers and I.O. convention delegates on June 28. Victor Uno was re-elected as business manager/financial secretary and Greg Bonato as president. Congratulations to all of our newly elected officers. We are confident that they will continue serving the members of Local 595 with the same integrity as our past officers have. We thank all of the candidates who stepped up and were willing to give back to their union.

This year’s primary election was exceptionally challenging this cycle, with the introduction of “Corporate Democrats”—and once again labor stood up to fight off these masked candidates. We are pleased to announce that our working class/labor-friendly politicians persevered to move on to the upcoming midterm elections in November. Again it will be all hands on deck, but with the commitment and dedication of our members we accept the challenge.

Bob Tieman, B.R.

Election of Officers; Apprentice Graduation

L.U. 611 (catv,es,govt,i,lctt,o,spa,t&u), ALBUQUERQUE, NM—In June the local held a run-off election for business manager and president. Carl Condit was elected as our new business manager, and Ruben Romero as our president. Congratulations to the officers.

On June 19 and 20, the Seventh District Progress Meeting was held here in Albuquerque at the Sandia Resort. Attendees included Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill.

This year’s apprenticeship graduation was held at the Marriott Pyramid Hotel on July 18. The 2014 graduates are: James Books, Caleb Carpenter, James Dunn, Isaac Garcia, Mario Garcia, Richard Gonzales, Daniel Handley, Charles Hill, David Holyfield, Jennifer



Local 611 congratulates the class of 2014 apprentice graduates.

Kuchera, Carlos Maestas, Joseph Manning, Nicole Manns, Steve O’Neill, John Phelps, Christopher Purcell, Anthony Quintana, James Ray, Steven Rodriguez, Jason Savedra, Robert Schock, Andrew Subia, Charles Witt and Hunter Wood.

This year’s Outstanding Apprentice was James Dunn. The C.S. Mitchell Award recipient was Ruben Martinez. Additionally, five apprentices had perfect attendance for five years: James Dunn, Caleb Carpenter, Anthony Quintana, Jason Savedra and Robert Schock.

Congratulations to the entire graduating class and to the award recipients.

Local 611 extends condolences to the friends and families of members who recently passed away: Jasper C. Evans, Leopoldo B. Vigil, John L. Webb Jr., Otis L. Beaty and Villani Tom.

Darrell J. Blair, P.S.



Local 617 congratulates the apprenticeship graduating class of 2014.

Graduating Class of 2014

L.U. 617 (c,i,mo&st), SAN MATEO, CA—Congratulations to the Apprenticeship Class of 2014! The local welcomes to its ranks the new graduates: inside wiremen Bradley Anderson, Daniel Ayala, Chad Barger, Krista Brooks, Shane Christensen, Sammar Cuevas, Daniel Fuata, Orlando Garcia, James Holsher, Gustavo Ibarra, Shane McKee, Ruben Pacheco, Jonathan Stock, Jeffrey Yee Jr.; and Sound and Communications installer Celso Orotea.

Chad Barger received special recognition as Outstanding Electrical Apprentice of the Year. Shane Christensen was presented the Ed Towle Apprentice-

ship Achievement Award, and Krista Brooks received the first Joe Hogan Leadership Award. Bro. Matt Green was recognized as Journeyman Trainer of the Year. We are proud of you, sister and brothers!

Congratulations to our two newly appointed business representatives, Steven R. Booker and Jillian Elliot. Welcome, and thank you for your service to the local and its membership!

Dan Pasini, Pres.

‘Long-Awaited Work’

L.U. 625 (ees,em,i,it,mar&mt), HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA—Congratulations to the members recently completing their apprenticeship and earning their journeyman status. They are: Wes Benedict, Clint Crowell, Paul Larade, Randy Baker, Alex Quon, Matt Lawlor, Richard McNeil and Luke Sullivan.

Retired Bro. John “Elwood” Ross passed away June 25, at age 74. Our condolences go out to his family.

Bros. Dale Sheffield and John Gerogiannis retired from the local recently. Enjoy your new life, brothers.

By the time this article is printed, our local should be busy at the Irving Shipyard and Northern Pulp Precipitator and Economizer projects. It is likely many of the 200 members on the road will return for this long-awaited work.

Thank you to those who accepted nominations for the local elections in June. Congratulations to those elected to positions. It is good to see new people willing to get involved in their local.

Tom Griffiths, A.B.M.

‘Focus on Safety’

L.U. 627 (u), FORT PIERCE, FL—Hello to all members and their families. Local 627 officers are requesting that members remain focused on safety, not only at work, but everywhere—whether on vacation trips, home projects or hurricane prep. Remember to always practice safety

and set an example for everyone to see.

The Ironman Tournament was a success in raising funds. At press time, Bro. Mark Pierce was scheduled to have more financial information at the next union meeting. In regard to the union meeting, negotiations continue with Florida Power & Light as of this writing; questions and updates are free at the meeting.

Bro. Erik Neilson and son Joshua posed for a snapshot (see photo, left) at our monthly “Adopt a Street” project, spending a few hours of quality time together—and setting another example of how Local 627 members lead the way.

Ray Vos, P.S.



Local 627 member Erik Neilson (left) and son Joshua volunteer for Adopt a Street project.

Power Station Project

L.U. 673 (catv,i,rts,spa,t&u), PAINESVILLE, OH—Bros. Rich Goodmanson and Paul Breedlove had the opportunity to work on an old power station left over from the construction of the Perry Nuclear Power Plant. [See photo below.] These 32,000-volt transformers with a companion 480-volt distribution center are scattered all over the Perry site.

Over the years the shoring that was used at the site has rotted, and burrowing animals have left these structures dangerously skewed. The job for Rich and Paul was to get these power stations reset.

All conduits had to be researched then disconnected. Once these structures were free from their conduits, they were raised and a new substructure was crafted. Eight 24-inch holes were drilled and concrete was poured. I-beams were set on these pads to which the structures were set. This was a great experience for Paul, who is a third-year apprentice. Nice job, guys!

James Braunlich, Mbr. Dev.



Local 673 apprentice Paul Breedlove (far right) disconnects conduits from 480-volt distribution center.

Fall Activities & Events

L.U. 697 (c,es,i,mt&se), GARY AND HAMMOND, IN—Local 697 fall lineup! We have several annual activities and events scheduled for the fall. All are listed on our website.

For September: Labor Day parade, local union picnic, Rebuilding Together in South Lake County and in Hobart/Lake Station, and Golf League Outing.

For October: Awards Night (affectionately referred to as “Old-Timers Night”), and fall blood drive. Voter registration closes Oct 6.

November: General election, Nov. 4. It is imperative that we are active at the polls. Labor in Indiana has never been under such attacks as we have witnessed the past several years. We have an opportunity to make a statement before the 2015 legislative session. Let’s make it count! You can register to vote, find your polling place, and learn who your representatives are at: www.IndianaWorkersVote.com.

Enjoy the autumn weather and consider volunteering in one or more of our events.

Dan Waldrop, B.M.

2014 Apprenticeship Graduates

L.U. 725 (i,rts,spa), TERRE HAUTE, IN—Congratulations to the apprenticeship graduating class of 2014! Our newest journeymen inside wiremen received their tickets May 16 at a banquet with family and



Local 725 congratulates class of 2014 apprenticeship graduates.

friends. The keynote speaker was John Delgado, Indiana’s state director for the U.S. Dept. of Labor/Office of Apprenticeship.

Graduating were: Chad Boatman, C.J. Coopridner (Outstanding Apprentice), Sam Fleener, Ian Gilbert, Dallas Gustafson, Garry Heighton, Andrew Kreiger, Nick Long, Neil Miller, Kent Mundy, Cody Nickless, Lance Plummer, Jeff Poe, Joe Rainbolt, Shane Robinson, Seth Thompson, Travis Weston, Jason Woodard and Jerry Woodfall. Great job, graduates; we hope to see all of you stay active in your union!

We thank our sister locals for sending their organizers to Bloomington during our recent construction site blitz to talk with the nonunion workers and contractors, handbill in the downtown area, and make the day a productive one. We are all in this together and the help was greatly appreciated!

Local 725 staff and officers participated in the Code of Excellence training. We look forward to scheduling classes for our membership to attend and learn more about the program and customer requirements. Watch your newsletters and social media sites for more information.

Remember to vote in November!

Tom Szymanski, P.S.

A Record-Breaking Month

L.U. 861 (i), LAKE CHARLES, LA—Local 861 swore in 39 new members in the month of May, a record breaking month for membership development. The local swore in

12 journeyman wiremen; two apprentice wiremen; one maintenance journeyman; and 24 construction electricians/construction wiremen.

Most of these new members were the result of the Industry Night held in DeRidder, LA, on May 8. We would like to say “great job and thank you” to: State Organizing Coordinator Ronnie Hickingbottom, the local JATC, Miller Electric Superintendent Joe Suggs, and all the Local 861 members who helped make the event such a success.

Work remains good in Lake Charles and should only get better. Organizing remains Local 861’s No. 1 priority.

In brotherhood,

Dwayne “Tink” Reeves, R.S.



Local 861 JATC Dir. Carlos Perez (left) and Miller Electric Superintendent Joe Suggs (center) speak with a potential member.



Local 1253 Bus. Mgr. Chuck Fraser (left); graduate Joseph Graves; Instructor Lee Whitaker; graduates John Withee, Jason Chabot, Tom Tobias, Miguel Govea, Elaine Stevens; Instructor Ed Peteraf; JATC Trustees Rick Broad and Jeff Rose; Instructor Pat Dauphinee; Training Dir. Chris Trider; and Pres. Nick Paquet. Not pictured: graduates Travis Yahn, Richard Rattary, John Caruso Jr. and David Long.

Apprentices Excel

L.U. 1015 (em&i), WESLACO, TX—Bus. Mgr. Sergio A. Salinas is proud to announce the largest class of apprentices to progress from their first year of apprenticeship training to their second year since the Rio Grande Valley-Laredo Electric JATC was established.

This class has been highly successful, with exceptional achievements throughout their first year of training in the electrical field. These students have worked on many projects throughout the Local 1015 jurisdiction including: construction of two Wal-Marts, a movie theater, a water treatment plant and multiple schools.

Based on information provided by office manager Jessica Luna, the entire class average is 97 percent, with a record of excellent attendance for classroom and work hours. The students’ achievements are commendable, and the class has admirably exceeded expectations set out for them. Local 1015 extends appreciation to the students and congratulates them for their hard work and dedication. They demonstrate their excellence as great electricians, both in class and out in the field.

Sergio A. Salinas, B.M.



Local 1015 second-year apprentices Jesus Alvarado (left), Daniel De Los Reyes, Eduardo Luna and Joseph K. Cedillo.

Election of Officers

L.U. 1249 (catv,lctt,o,t&u), SYRACUSE, NY—Congratulations to all of our newly elected officers, both those who were re-elected and those elected for a first term. Local 1249 held elections in June.

William Boire was re-elected business manager/financial secretary, and David Burnett was re-elected treasurer. Mark Lawrence was elected as the new president and Executive Board chairman. David Beatty was elected as the new vice president, and Ryan Youngman as our new recording secretary.

We also welcome three new faces to our Executive Board: David Jorgensen, Gregory Palmer and Daniel Pollock. They join re-elected Executive Board members John Delmar, Timothy Dillon and Dennis Morgan.

Local 1249 is happy to announce our delegates to the 39th I.O. Convention: David Beatty, David Burnett, Mark Lawrence, Terry Martin, Henry Westbrook and Ryan Youngman. Local 1249 wishes our new representatives good luck!

Also new to the local staff is Henry Westbrook, who was appointed as an assistant business manager when Charlie Brigham retired. Henry has kept busy visiting crews around the state and learning the business of representing our municipalities.

Our membership has chosen some ideal people, and Local 1249 is excited to see what they can do for the local.

Jennifer Schneider, P.S.

Welcome to Reitze Electric; Kudos to Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 1253 (i), AUGUSTA, ME—The Local 1253 JATC graduated a class of 10 apprentices on June 15. There were four telecom graduates and six inside wireman graduates. These graduates all went through the Great Recession but stuck with the program and are all stronger for it. And our union is stronger for their participation!

Telecom graduates are: Joseph Graves, Travis Yahn, Richard Rattary and David Long. Inside wireman graduates: John Withee, Jason Chabot, Tom Tobias, Miguel Govea, Elaine Stevens (outstanding apprentice), and John Caruso Jr.

IBEW 1253 is proud to welcome Reitze Electric back as our newest signatory contractor. Owner Chip Reitze is proud of his union heritage and was glad to re-sign after being gone for several years. Reitze Electric specializes in small-works projects including residential and light commercial work; they’re a great addition to the family of IBEW 1253 signatory contractors.

Bus. Dev. Dir. Scott Cuddy has begun appearing on radio station WZON-AM 620 to present a bi-weekly “Labor Talk” segment. It’s a 20-minute slot where host Don Cookson and Scott discuss what’s happening in the world of labor and hit on hot-button issues.

Scott Cuddy, P.S.

Labor Day Celebrations

L.U. 1393 (catv,lctt,o,t&u), INDIANAPOLIS, IN—Numerous Labor Day celebrations around the state were gearing up at press time. Local 1393 members were looking forward to participating in these events. At this writing, members were making plans to enjoy the 128th Labor Day Celebration at the Princeton, IN, fairgrounds on Aug. 29 - Sept. 1. Also scheduled for Aug. 30 in the Indianapolis area was the Labor Fest on Georgia Street with free live music.

The local negotiated a new agreement with Vectren Energy. The contract was ratified by our members employed by Vectren.

Local 1393 organizer Mike Miller has been engaged in a campaign to organize United REMC in the state of Indiana. This company merged with Wabash County REMC, which is currently under contract with IBEW Local 1393.

Our RENEW committee is hard at work with a variety of community projects that the members have been excited to help with. Most recently members and family of Local 1393 rode bikes in a charity fundraiser event at Indianapolis Motor Speedway for the American Diabetes Association. Together, we were able to raise funds to support research for a cure of the disease that affects 25.8 million adults and children in the United States.

Robert C. Fox, B.M./F.S.

LOCAL LINES

Alliant Energy Agreement; Golf Tournament Benefit

L.U. 1439 (u), ST. LOUIS, MO—The 19th Annual Tom Kraus Memorial Golf Tournament held June 21 sold out to raise money for the American Cancer Society's Hope Lodge. This year's tournament was dedicated to retired business manager Tom Fagan for his years of dedication and service to Local 1439. A special thanks to Ryan Van Dillen and team for donating back to Hope Lodge. We extend our sincere gratitude to those who attended and especially the sponsors for making this year's tournament a success.

Congratulations to the Local 1439 bowling team for winning the St. Louis IBEW Bowling League Championship and advancing to the IBEW International Tournament. Team members include: Matt Kopecky, Jerry Schallom, Jim Diedrich and Rick Deters.

On June 3 this year, Local 1439 and Alliant Energy reached a tentative agreement on a new labor contract that was later ratified by the general membership. The accomplishments achieved in the contract are a tribute to the memberships' solidarity and commitment to the collective bargaining process. Additionally, we wish to recognize Doug Mueller, Bob Martin, John Brennan and Marvin Conlee for sacrificing their evenings and weekends to accommodate negotiations.

Matt Curry, P.S.

2014 Belmont Stakes

L.U. 1501 (ees,em,mo,pet,rts&t), BALTIMORE, MD—IBEW Local 1501 union members pictured in the photo below, along with fellow Local 1501 union brothers from other tracks, made this year's Belmont Stakes race in June the most successful ever. The Belmont Stakes is the third and final leg of the triple crown of horse racing.

With well over 100,000 people placing bets and enjoying the day, Local 1501 members working for Amtote pulled together to ensure a smooth and easy day not only for the bettors but for the employer as well.

This shows that we are a proud bunch of union members who went above and beyond the call of duty on a day that was a great success, thanks to the excellent talents of our members.

At this writing, the members were preparing for the August 2014 Saratoga, NY, racing meet; I am pleased to report that at press time they had been able to secure adequate housing for nearly everyone involved and had moved forward and worked with the money allowed.

We also want to thank Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dion



Local 1501 members gather at 2014 Belmont Stakes in June: From left: Danny Kuzyk, Billy Joel, Richard Colon, David Rivera and Manny Arranz.

Guthrie for coming to New York for the beginning of the Aqueduct, NY, racing meet to help secure our working conditions.

Note: The information above was submitted by Richard Colon, IBEW Local 1501 job steward, New York Racing Association.

Thomas J. Rostkowski, R.S.

Work Situation Good

L.U. 1579 (i&o), AUGUSTA, GA—Our work situation is good. We currently have many sisters and brothers working here from other locals and we thank them for all their help. The work at Plant Vogtle has been steady. The Vogtle project should hire throughout the year and continue hiring throughout next year. The Mixed Oxide (MOX) project is unique. Much of the electrical contract is being awarded to a contractor called Wise Services. This job should add manpower throughout the year as well.

The national, state and local elections are not far away. When you live in the South, the political environment is often tough. Many politicians are campaigning against unions. They are stating that unions are unwanted in the South, charging that we are overpaid and less productive than the nonunion sector. They are wrong! Support the candidate who supports you.

Remember, our union meetings are the third Monday of each month, with dinner starting at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting at 8 p.m. Let's all make a commitment to attend our union meetings.

Until next time, God bless.

Will Salters, A.B.M.



IBEW Local 1759 and Local 2159 members on a combined crew job in Montrose, CO: front row, kneeling, Pete Evans (left), Carl Roland, Tim Morrison, Amy Hamer; standing, Tim Duffy, Jay Ryan, Steve Smith, Richard Francher, Darren Cochran, Jake Elwell, Jason Mengwasser and Dale Beaudette.

IBEW Solidarity & Brotherhood

L.U. 1759 (u), CASPER, WY—Greetings, brothers and sisters. Congratulations to former Eighth District international representative Don Herzog on his recent retirement. His knowledge and helpfulness will be missed. Local 1759 looks forward to working with Eighth District Int. Rep. Guy P. Runco in the future. I also wish to congratulate Local 1759 members Bobby Watson and Mike Leisz on their retirement from the local. They will be missed.

The all hands meeting was held in Cheyenne, WY, this year, at Local 415's union hall. We thank Local 415 for letting us use their facility for our meeting. It was nice to see the brothers and sisters from the other areas.

As I am writing this, Western Area Power and the Bureau of Reclamation are well into their maintenance season and are extremely busy. At the same time, we are going through arbitration for wage increases and are optimistic they will pass this summer. It has been a long battle, but we will persevere to the end to get competitive wages for our brothers and sisters.

The local also congratulates Drew Tierney for turning out and becoming a journeyman lineman. He

has earned it and exemplifies what our apprentices should be.

Jason Mengwasser, F.S.

Ohio Utility Local

L.U. 2359 (u), CIRCLEVILLE, OH—We are a 140-member strong local serving our brothers and sisters at four Ohio co-operatives. We have had a busy 2014 so far. Our Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dave McChesney has negotiated two contracts and as of this writing has signed one.

Our local hosts a holiday party every January to encourage solidarity amongst our members and good, relaxing post-holiday fun.

Officers of our local include: Bus. Mgr./Pres. McChesney, Vice Pres. Thomas Sestito, Fin. Sec. James Graf, Rec. Sec. Pat Wycinski, Treas. Lonnie Roberts, and E-Board Chmn. Jeff Lykins.

Several Local 2359 members have retired this year, including longtime president Rod Richardson. Congratulations and best wishes to all.

Here's to a safe and prosperous summer and fall.

Lonnie Roberts, Treas.

RETIREES

Labor Day Tribute

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, NASSAU CHAPTER—At the time of this writing, we were preparing for our three-day visit to The Education Center, an enjoyable trip made possible by Local 3 members, both working and those retired. This event is another benefit made possible through union membership. Some people are trying to rid the country of trade unions. We can't let that happen.

The Nassau Chapter was busy once again with trips to see "Jersey Boys," Yankee Stadium, and a sight and sound rendition of "Moses."

At press time, we were looking forward to our Annual Picnic in August, which is always well-attended.

Also, at this writing, we were getting ready for a September Labor Day tribute to the IBEW and all New York City workers. Our Local 3 Bus. Mgr. Christopher Erikson was chosen to be honored as the "grand marshal" of the Labor Day Parade.

Hope everyone has enjoyed a great and safe summer. "Work union, retire union ... union forever."

Bob Cooper, P.S.

L.I. Education Center Trip

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, SUFFOLK CHAPTER—Our June meeting was very well-attended. It was the last meeting until September and our club sponsored a luncheon.

Chmn. Jack Foley spoke about getting a bus so we could all go to the Labor Day parade together. We dis-

cussed a trip to the 911 Memorial Museum and the end-of-summer barbecue. Jack thanked all the members who volunteered their time to help our club. First lady Ann Foley wished everyone a good summer.

We went to the Long Island Educational Center from June 21-24. Our Pension Dir. Thomas Gallager discussed the importance of attending the Labor Day parade and voting. We attended two very interesting seminars. Judy Blades, union wellness coordinator, demonstrated tips to prepare healthy luncheons. Erica Vinas, union nutritionist, gave a seminar about simple ways to reduce your cholesterol.

Tuesday night we had a delicious catered barbecue. We celebrated Mike & Suzanne Katz's 53rd anniversary and Ray Gotta's 70th birthday with great cakes. We had a "s'mores party" for dessert and sat outside by the fire pit. Wednesday afternoon we enjoyed a Tai Chi class with Judith Budd Walsh. Thanks to Stephanie and the entire staff for a wonderful stay.

Harvey Goldman, P.S.

Donation of \$10,000 to Fisher House Foundation

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, WESTCHESTER/PUTNAM CHAPTER—At our membership meeting on March 11, we welcomed Mr. Thomas Misisco and Mrs. Karen Fisher-Misisco as

guest speakers. Thomas and Karen spoke as representatives of the Fisher family and Ken Fisher, chief executive of the Fisher House Foundation Inc. They were invited to the meeting to accept a \$10,000 check for the Fisher House Foundation, and to address the membership on the mission of the foundation.

Since its inception in 1990, the foundation has built 64 Fisher Houses nationwide to provide housing on military bases for families of wounded service members, while their loved ones recover from injuries. Currently, 10 additional buildings are being constructed.

We thank the members of the Westchester/Putnam Retirees Chapter, the Queens Retirees Chapter, The Square Club of Local 3, and the Bronx Acorn Club of Local 3, for their participation; without their help, reaching our goal of \$10,000 would not have been possible.

*John Rich, P.S.
Bob Cuneo, P.S.*



Local 3, Westchester/Putnam Retirees Club board member/Treas. Richard Mills presents check to Karen-Misisco Fisher, of the Fisher House Foundation.

Annual Cruise

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 26, WASHINGTON, DC—In May we helped with the Local 26 Motorcycle Club's Poker Run. The retirees had a chance to assist and meet some of the riders, who helped to raise \$25,000 for "Special Love." This is a camp for children and their siblings struggling with cancer.

The month of June took Retirees Club members to visit Eastern Europe for our annual cruise. Most comments included raves at the visit to St. Petersburg, Russia. This was before recent events in the region.

Our 2015 cruise, which is nearly sold out, will be to Hawaii. Contact our travel coordinator, Rick Warner, at (240) 472-0438 if still interested in joining us.

On Oct. 11, 2014, instead of our regular meeting, we will meet in Annapolis for our annual crab feast. In the past, this event has brought back members from California and North Carolina to share Maryland crabs and good times. If you plan to be in the area, please e-mail us at flashmanbissell@aol.com. A reservation form with details can be emailed to you with an attachment. The more the merrier!

Susan Flashman, P.S.



At Local 26 Retirees Club's 2013 crab feast.

Chartered Fishing Trip

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 42, HARTFORD, CT—The Retirees Club invites anyone who's a retired member of Local 42 to join them. If you would like to get out of the house or take some time out of your busy life for a few hours, come and join them.

Club meetings are held bimonthly, on Tuesdays, at Local 42's hall. Annual dues are \$12. Retirees meetings start at 9 a.m. The meeting begins with discussion of upcoming business and upcoming events. Then attendees enjoy talking about old times and sharing funny stories while they relax and enjoy coffee and donuts. The Retirees Club would love to have you. If you're interested, give us a call at (860) 646-7297.

The Retiree's Club thanks all of the ladies in Local 42's office for all their hard work and for making everyone feel welcome. The staff works very hard putting all the events together to make them enjoyable and successful. The ladies of Local 42 always greet everyone with a warm smile and are ready to assist when needed.

Reminder: Save the date for our fall Chartered Fishing Trip on Sept. 27.

Retirees upcoming scheduled 2014 meetings are: Sept. 16 and Nov. 18. The December meeting had not yet been scheduled as of press time.

Jacquelyn Moffitt, P.S.

'Greetings from Detroit'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 58, DETROIT, MI—Greetings from Detroit and the Association of Retirees, Wives & Widows, IBEW Local 58.

April 12 was the date of our local's 100th Anniversary Celebration. The committee charged with creating a memorable celebration worked their magic and presented a great program, which included distinguished guests, entertainment, wonderful food, music and dancing. Thanks to the Labor Management Cooperation Committee for a generous donation that

allowed our members to attend at no cost. With 1,600 in attendance, all had a great time.

Our annual Retirees Summer Picnic was held for the third year at Rotary Park, in Livonia. With our usual picnic fare, card playing, 50/50 drawing and gathering of old friends, we enjoyed a lovely day.

On Labor Day, Sept. 1, members, retirees and their families turned out to display our solidarity and commitment to organized labor, our place in the middle class and our presence in this community.

This Nov. 4 will find us at the polls, casting our ballot for governor, seats in the State House of Representatives and Senate, State Supreme Court and attorney general. These positions have been "anti-middle class" for long enough; it's time to turn the tide, and return our government to one of the people. Get out and cast your vote, either in person or absentee.

Pat Nuznov, P.S.

Service Awards Presented

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 60, SAN ANTONIO, TX—Service pins were presented to the following brothers (see photo below) by Keith Schulz at a May 2014 meeting: 50-year member Roy Calderon; 55-year members Don Strackbein, Bobby Wolff, Gene Chamberlain, Lamar Clanton; and 60-year member Hilmer Merz. Several brothers who were not present at the May meeting received their pins at a later date. They are: 50-year members G.G. Galindo, William Stipp, Gary Van De Walle; 55-year member Royce Appelt; and 60-year member Roy Koehler. Congratulations to all and thank you for your longtime service to Local 60.

With a very successful April fundraiser (the 2nd Annual Golf Tournament) behind us, the Retired Members Club will continue to practice fellowship at our monthly meetings. Enjoy a delicious lunch with some really good people, and then add games and fun—what more can you ask for!

We invite any retired Local 60 member to please join in. On the second Thursday of each month, at 12 noon, the club meets at the Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 142 training bldg., 3630 Belgium Lane. The staff members there are very warm and friendly and very accommodating; they know the true meaning of brotherhood as demonstrated by our use of their building for our meetings. For that the club members are very grateful.

Sandy Rogers, P.S.



Local 60 retirees receive service awards at May meeting: Roy Calderon (left), Don Strackbein, Bobby Wolff, Gene Chamberlain, Lamar Clanton and Hilmer Merz.

A New Season Begins

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 90, NEW HAVEN, CT—On June 3 this year, the Local 90 Retirees Club met at our regular monthly meeting for election of officers. By unanimous vote, the three incumbent officers were re-elected. They are Pres. Robert Mantovani, Vice Pres. Gerry Asplund, and Sec./Treas. Hugh McGuire.

As this was our last meeting of the season before the summer break, pizza was served and enjoyed by all. We wish to acknowledge Bob Price for ordering, setting up and cleaning up after the party. Bob also makes the coffee at each monthly meeting and cleans up. Many thanks to Bobby Price.

At this writing, our next meeting was scheduled for September 2, 2014, which begins our new club year. We would like to invite all Local 90 retirees to join us at any of our meetings. We meet at 2 North Plains Industrial Rd. in Wallingford, CT, on the first Tuesday of each month, except July and August, at 1:30 p.m.

We hope all IBEW members and their families had a happy, healthy and safe summer.

Richard Launder, P.S.

City Officials Speak at Event

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 99, PROVIDENCE, RI—The Retirees Club of Local 99 held its annual May Breakfast on Tuesday, May 20, at the Providence Marriott Downtown. Approximately 150 members and guests attended.

Club Pres. Robert K. Pierce opened the ceremony and led a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. The blessing was delivered by Bro. Raymond Germerhausen, the club's former recording secretary. Short speeches were given by Providence Mayor Angel Tavares, City Council Pres. Michael A. Solomon and other elected officials.

The retirees honored Pension and Annuity Coordinator Natalie Kent upon her retirement following many years of faithful service. They also signed a get-well card for Bro. Bob Bierwood, who at this writing was recovering from leg surgery.

The retirees thank the active members of Local 99 and Bus. Mgr. Michael K. Daley for sponsoring the breakfast.

With the weather improving at press time, we hope the work situation improves as well.

Frank Colucci, P.S.



Local 113 Retirees Club Pres. Waldo Pendleton (right) congratulates Bro. Norman Pledger.

Tribute to a Brother

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 113, COLORADO SPRINGS, CO—Norman Pledger, a 59-year member, was honored for his 23 years of service as president and vice-president of our Retirees Club. Norm has dedicated his life to the betterment of all working people. He served many years on our local Area Labor Council rising to become president of the Colorado AFL-CIO, where he served 10 years. He comes from humble beginnings, plowing cotton fields behind an old mule under a hot Alabama sun. At age 13 he went to work in the

coal mines with his father, helping to support their family. Finishing his service in the Air Force in 1954, he began his apprenticeship. His interest in organized labor grew when he became acquainted with his future father-in-law, an organizer with the United Mine Workers. He is truly an inspiration to all working people and sets a high standard for us all. At age 85 may God continue to bless our dear brother!

Retirees Club election results: Pres. Waldo Pendleton, Vice Pres./E-Board Chmn. Bobby Phillips, Sec. Treas. Claudette Kunau; Executive Board members: Ray Sears, Al Kunau, Corky Patterson, Bill Campbell; and George Phillips, door foreman.

Our great appreciation goes out to all those who serve our club and to those who have served in the past.

Bill Campbell, P.S.

Annual Crawfish Boil

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 130, NEW ORLEANS, LA—On May 22, we had our annual crawfish boil in the Alexander room. Ninety-five people attended and everyone had a wonderful time. We had a 50/50 and raffled off door prizes. We extend special thanks to former business manager Chet R. Held for the providing the crawfish (600 lbs.). The crawfish came from Today's Ketch from St. Bernard.

Our quarterly meeting held June 26 was catered by Hobnobbers Café. Everyone enjoyed the meatballs and spaghetti with plenty of extras to take home.

On July 17, we had our monthly bus trip to the Hollywood Casino, Bay St. Louis, MS. We had coffee and donuts in the Alexander room before we loaded the bus. Everyone had a wonderful time, especially one of our big winners of \$600.

With deep regret we lost several brothers recently: Ronald P. Eiermann, August E. Gonzales, Murvin R. Hymel, Vincent E. Lamantia, George C. Lewis, Edgar A. Luminais, Leon Pennington, Philip J. Saladino and William G. Scivicque. May their souls rest in peace!

Until our next meeting, God bless America.

George Clesi, Pres.

Retirees Honored for Service

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 134, CHICAGO, IL—Congratulations to retirees recently honored for their longtime IBEW membership. Recognized at a luncheon in their honor were retired members celebrating their 50th, 55th, 60th and 70th anniversaries as IBEW members. They are proud Americans and union members who continue to contribute to our economy. They have made our country and our union strong.

Congratulations to all the award recipients, many of whom were able to attend the luncheon in their honor. We celebrate all the honorees: 50-year members James Ashby, William Beers, Richard Bilson, Mel Bonner, James Johler, Thomas Kendrick, Michael Mahoney, Louis Rodriguez, Robert Sluis; 55-year members Roger Becker, Walter Bijak, Philip Boshier, Leo Bree, Philip Gerck, Gerald Helper, John Henkel,



Local 134 retired service-award honorees attend luncheon.

LOCAL LINES

Warren Koener, John E. Lee, Philip Murphy, Gerald Palese, Thomas Powers, Stanley Sowizrol, William Spelz, Allen White, John Yohe; 60-year members Raymond Liberatore, Garrett Meade, Ralph Melferd, Joseph Pace, Edmond Ryan, Robert Turek, John H. Meter, Henry Wagner; 65-year members George Staffeldt, Edward Swanson; and 70-year members Kenneth Erdmann and Lawrence Wolfelschneider.

Come to your club meetings, where you will be a stranger only once! We welcome all Local 134 retirees. To join the club, contact Mario Coletta at (773) 736-1480. Noon to 1 p.m. is "greet & meet" time at Retirees Club meetings, held the second Wednesday of each month. The regular meeting continues until 2:30 p.m. at the union hall, 600 W. Washington St.

Louis Rodriguez, P.S.

Club Members Recognized

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 212, CINCINNATI, OH—Deepest sympathy to the family of late Bro. Jack Keller, who passed away July 10 at age 90. Jack was a 69-year IBEW member, a 28-year pensioner club member, and a World War II military veteran who served as a B-17 tail-gunner. Jack generally had a peaceful disposition but could get fired up quickly when his buttons were pushed. His son, John, is also a Local 212 member. Jack will be dearly missed.

Club members recently awarded IBEW service pins include: Frank Bader—for 65 years of service; Charles Louis—60 years; Ed Voneye and Walt Zimmer—55 years; Dennis Cohen, Ed Ochs and Russ Vinup—50 years. New Club Life members are: Jerry Dickerson, Earl Stalf and Larry Wilson. Congratulations to all!

Welcome to new Club members: Jim Alwell, Alex Carmosino, Bruce Haverland, Bob Kathman, Jerry Wadsworth and Steve Wessel.

Be sure to vote in November for candidates sympathetic to labor's cause. Don't get snookered by politicians who tickle your ears with empty rhetoric about hot-button issues. What they have done in the past is the best indicator of what they will do in the future. We cannot match the deep pockets of our opponents, but we do have the votes if we will just exercise our right to cast our votes.

Note: the Pensioner Christmas Party will be Dec. 3.

Bob Schaefer, P.S.

'Thanks to Club Officers'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 257, JEFFERSON CITY, MO—The Retirees Club met in Hartsburg, MO, on June 24 for our monthly luncheon/meeting. An election was held for the 2014-2015 officers. The officers are:

Pres. Ron Holzhauser, Vice Pres. Jerry Rehagen, Sec./Treas. Judy Holzhauser, and Executive Committee members Steve Klepel, Ken Polly and Ken Schulte. We thank them for taking on these jobs.

We also wish to thank the past officers for all of their time and efforts. In particular, we thank our past president, Jerry Rehagen. Jerry was our president for 11 years and decided it was time to step down. He did a marvelous job. Jerry tirelessly worked countless hours for the benefit of our club—far beyond the call of duty. We sincerely thank Jerry for his exceptional service for the past 11 years.

Thirty members took a tour on July 29 to Macon, MO, for lunch at Al's Restaurant and a theater show. Thanks to Juanita Fischer for all her help in planning this event.

On a sober note, three members passed away: Walter Mountjoy, Mel Pettigrew and Bob McCown. They will be sorely missed. Our thoughts and prayers go to their families.

Upcoming events: Labor Day parade and IBEW Local 257 annual picnic in Jefferson City, MO, on Sept. 20.

Delores Melloway, P.S.

Back From Summer Break



Local 570 retiree Hugh Crane Sr. receives 65-year service pin.

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 570, TUCSON, AZ—Hugh Crane Sr. is one of four Local 570 retired members awarded 65-year IBEW service pins this year. Bro. Crane was initiated into IBEW Local 474, Memphis, TN, on June 1, 1949. Hugh came to Tucson, AZ, in 1959 with AC Electric and worked on six of the 18 Titan missile silos that were built in the area. Hugh transferred his membership to Local 570 in 1962 and retired from the IBEW in 1988.

Local 570 retired members Horace Bounds, Harold Noake and Harvey Ward also were awarded 65-year service pins this year. Congratulations and a very special thank you to all of Local 570's 65-year members.

We hope all the retirees had a safe and wonderful summer. Local 570 will cater lunch for our retirees at the Oct. 9 meeting. We hope to see you all in attendance.

Mike Verbout, L.U. 570 B.M./F.S.

'We Welcome Suggestions'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 611, ALBUQUERQUE, NM—The Local 611 elections and run-offs are complete. On July 19, newly elected officers were installed. The membership elected Carl Condit as Business Manager/Financial Secretary, and Ruben Romero as President. Also elected were: Vice Pres. Richard Sandoval, Treas. Chris Frentzel and Rec. Sec. Santos Griego. Congratulations to all of the Local 611 officers, including those on the Executive and Examining Boards.

Our local's 100th anniversary display case was designed, built and installed by Local 611 retirees. It will contain many artifacts and items from the local's 100th anniversary celebration.

After more than a year of no action, other than researching the first 100 years of Local 611, the Retirees Club is attempting to re-organize. Watch your mail for an invitation to attend some sort of event before the end of the year. We welcome your suggestions as to what you would like to do and see. We must show that we are still actively involved and very much a part of this local.

We extend condolences to the families of members who passed away recently: Otto Obenhaus, Ben



Local 611 retired Bro. Joe Hill (left) and Retirees Club Pres. Tracy Hall stand beside 100th anniversary display case.

Baldwin Sr., Irl B. Johnston, Lawrence Selva, Paul Wareing, Jasper Evans, Leopoldo Vigil, John Webb Jr., Otis Beaty and Villani Tom. A total of 12 retirees from Local 611 have passed away this year.

Tracy Hall, Pres.

Meetings Resume Oct. 17

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 640, PHOENIX, AZ—It's summer in Phoenix at this writing. The "dry heat" becomes the monsoon in July, and returns to hot and dry again in late August. It is an agonizing time! Our accompanying photo shows the "wind chill"



Local 640 Retirees Club snapshot shows recorded "wind chill" on June 10 in Phoenix.

recorded on June 10, and gives us retirees nearly 114 reasons not to be in town! We Road Runners disband for the summer after our May elections meeting, resuming only in October when the weather has "cooled off" a bit!

After another year of comradeship, we held elections for the post of vice president, the only opening on the board. Chuck Foster relinquished his position after nearly 17 years of holding some board post, and Dan Pollard was elected to be second in command. Dan brings a wealth of experience from having served in many capacities at the local union hall, and certainly from his many years of political activism. Chuck will be missed, as he has done an excellent job.

We will again commence meeting on Oct. 17, and look forward to another year of interesting speakers and good food. Come on down and join us!

Daryl Knupp, P.S.

June Club Meeting

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 702, WEST FRANKFORT, IL—The Local 702 Retirees Club met Thursday, June 5, at the Golden Corral, in Carbondale, IL. Fifteen members and two guests were present. Pres. Gary King called the meeting to order and read the names of members who departed this life during the months of April and May 2014. In honor of the deceased, a moment of silence was observed.

The Financial Report was read and approved. Under "old business," Pres. King reported that he and Bro. Jim Nolen attended a meeting in Fairview Heights with the Alliance for Retired Americans. At Pres. King's recommendation, a motion was made and seconded in support of Alliance for Retired Americans.

While discussing "new business," there were some questions about the Alliance for Retired Americans, so it was agreed to contact the organization and ask its director to attend a later meeting. Additionally, it was requested to inquire at the union hall as to the number of retirees. Concluding the business discussion, the meeting was adjourned.

To stay up on the latest Local 702 news and information, please visit us at www.ibewlocal702.org.

Mark Baker, P.S.

'Welcome Back'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 756, DAYTONA BEACH, FL—We hope you all had a happy and healthy summer. We ended our meetings for the previous season in May. We began our summer break with a fish fry at the May meeting. More than 50 people attended. Thanks to our great cooks, the food was delicious!

A reminder: We will resume our meetings in the fall with another fish fry at our Sept. 11, 2014, meeting. We look forward to seeing all of you there.

With regret we announce the passing of two members, George "Singing George" Severance and Philip Free. Bro. Severance, a member since 1957, will be greatly missed for giving the blessing and great support at our meetings. Bro. Free was a member since 1959 and also will be remembered. We extend condolences to their families and send our prayers. Bros. Severance and Free will be missed by all. We thank them for their longtime service to the IBEW.

We wish to invite any retired or unemployed brothers and sisters and their spouses who are in the area to come join us. Our meetings are the second Thursday of each month, 11:30 a.m., at the Local 756 union hall, Port Orange, FL.

Diane Gibbs, P.S.



Local 756 Retirees Club members enjoy May 2014 fish fry.

Benefit for Burn Center

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 995, BATON ROUGE, LA—We had a luncheon the first Monday in June and we invited the spouses. Our main course was good old southern fried catfish. With the wives in attendance, we had about 40 people there enjoying the event.

Our retirees support the local's Annual Spring Golf Tournament to benefit the pediatric burn patients at Baton Rouge General's Regional Burn Center. The local has raised over \$95,000 for the Burn Center and received recognition recently in the local newspaper.

With regret, I am passing on the information about the recent loss of several of our dear retirees. They were Jack Hughes, George Nesbit and James "Jimmy" Joiner. Our brothers will be missed.

W. Roland Goetzman Sr., P.S.



Among Local 995 retirees attending luncheon are: Kenneth Barbier, Mervin Simoneaux, Hilton Guidry, Leonard Gauthreaux, Billy Long and Michael Bourg.

In Memoriam

Members for Whom PBF Death Claims were Approved in July 2014

Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death
1	Jones, R. M.	5/8/14	46	Burns, R. E.	6/2/14	130	Pennington, L. L.	5/12/14	292	Boser, L. A.	6/29/14	558	Hendrix, P. A.	5/25/14	1186	Hokama, H. H.	5/9/14
1	Mlynarczyk, A. J.	6/3/14	46	Graves, D. E.	6/1/14	134	Becker, R. M.	6/10/14	292	Chapman, R. L.	6/19/14	558	Williamson, C. L.	6/5/14	1186	Rillamas, J. A.	5/10/14
1	Sutton, R. E.	6/18/14	46	Snell, E. M.	3/18/13	134	Brach, R. A.	5/30/14	292	Doshan, R. G.	6/22/14	569	Arnold, B. E.	5/23/14	1186	Sugi, K. W.	2/11/14
2	Brown, D.	2/28/14	46	Stobie, M. L.	5/15/14	134	Couet, M. A.	6/17/14	292	Driscoll, K. A.	6/3/14	569	Byrum, G. L.	5/13/14	1191	Johnson, J. D.	6/1/14
2	Lawrence, R. E.	5/5/14	47	Orozco, B. H.	9/30/13	134	Danzi, M.	6/2/14	300	Chambers, G. W.	6/10/14	569	Williams, A. J.	5/29/14	1194	Zelenak, J. E.	5/11/14
2	Wilken, C. H.	6/9/14	47	Trueheart, B. L.	5/2/14	134	Dinkins, K. D.	7/13/12	306	Hubbard, R. E.	5/27/14	576	Barton, J. T.	5/29/14	1205	Garrison, J. R.	6/25/14
3	Arshanuse, J.	5/23/14	48	LaRoche, W. J.	6/1/14	134	Laniauskas, V.	6/17/14	309	Hecke, V. O.	2/13/12	577	Ellis, L. D.	5/12/14	1212	Merry, J.	6/11/14
3	Balthazar, J. V.	1/6/14	51	Putnam, B. L.	5/7/14	134	Le Monier, E. E.	3/17/14	313	Harris, C. T.	7/1/14	577	Miller, M. J.	5/22/14	1220	Diehl, A. E.	5/31/14
3	Bischoff, R. K.	5/24/14	53	Frankenberger, J. A.	5/16/14	134	Mabus, J. C.	8/10/11	317	Mills, W. C.	10/25/12	577	Steinert, E. J.	5/10/14	1245	Hardway, D. H.	2/12/14
3	Boller, V. J.	2/27/14	57	Sutton, K. A.	3/1/14	134	Maxey, E.	2/23/14	317	Wasmer, W. K.	4/16/14	577	Wagner, W. E.	5/2/14	1249	Miller, H.	5/4/14
3	Bremer, H. F.	5/29/14	58	Ferguson, G. G.	10/22/12	134	Milburn, W. T.	5/3/14	322	Hemstreet, W. E.	5/31/14	586	Flood, R. A.	3/22/14	1249	Shutter, C. J.	5/10/14
3	Calcasola, A.	5/8/14	58	Fife, G. W.	6/19/14	134	Obara, W. H.	5/24/14	332	Clemmer, J. E.	6/7/14	586	Neely, M.	12/12/11	1289	Lewis, C. T.	6/1/14
3	Cespedes, C. B.	9/20/11	58	Gebauer, G. J.	4/29/14	134	O'Connor, M. W.	6/5/14	332	Salkield, J. L.	2/10/14	595	Norman, J. E.	5/26/14	1316	Edge, C. G.	6/29/12
3	Fiorentino, L. J.	11/14/13	58	Glover, B. J.	6/26/14	134	Pencz, G.	7/18/12	332	Willis, A. E.	5/14/14	601	Wright, H. L.	3/31/14	1316	Reid, R. S.	6/2/11
3	Fisher, A. W.	3/25/14	58	Mc Cullum, C.	7/10/14	134	Petrucchi, E. R.	6/3/14	332	Wing, B. A.	10/19/13	602	Wesley, G. H.	10/21/13	1319	Adams, J. K.	6/7/14
3	Gerolimatos, E.	4/4/12	58	Megdall, J. W.	6/26/12	134	Schultz, J. W.	6/9/14	340	Braziel, K. L.	1/17/14	605	Pogue, H. R.	4/13/14	1319	Novak, J.	4/30/14
3	Grisaffi, S.	4/11/14	58	Milliron, K. A.	5/22/14	134	Schwieger, C. E.	5/7/14	340	Kough, W. W.	11/12/13	606	Blanks, C. R.	5/28/14	1319	Walker, G. A.	12/17/11
3	Katzman, N.	4/26/14	58	Munro, J. C.	2/14/14	134	Seick, S. T.	6/6/14	340	Sanjurjo, J.	4/9/14	611	Lopez, M. J.	3/1/14	1362	Lagerquist, P. A.	1/2/14
3	Lapham, F.	6/18/14	58	Puckett, R. N.	6/9/14	134	Sienkiewicz, A.	5/26/14	343	Conerton, J. C.	5/9/14	611	Webb, J. L.	6/3/14	1379	Ellett, R. E.	6/18/14
3	McKenna, G. T.	6/16/14	66	Fletcher, D. O.	4/26/14	134	Sugrue, C. J.	12/27/13	343	Danielson, A. E.	3/15/14	613	Bruce, F. H.	5/13/14	1426	Richter, K. A.	12/7/11
3	Molotch, A.	11/5/12	68	Beyeler, R. F.	4/25/14	134	Szomko, M.	6/18/14	351	Desiderio, J. A.	5/29/14	613	Niblett, W. A.	1/16/14	1516	Bunch, G. D.	4/30/14
3	Morales, A.	5/23/14	68	Pacheco, R. A.	10/4/12	134	Terlecki, H. R.	2/23/13	351	Diiks, S. J.	3/18/14	617	Anderson, A. M.	4/15/14	1516	Davis, T. E.	5/16/14
3	Ragucci, D. C.	8/3/12	68	Riggs, R. W.	5/22/11	134	Weinberg, R. G.	6/2/14	351	Haspel, S. I.	6/16/14	625	Tidgwell, J. W.	3/7/14	1531	Smith, L. L.	11/23/13
3	Roth, H. S.	5/30/14	68	Rolston, D. W.	6/21/14	134	Woods, J. G.	4/26/14	351	Tapp, D.	2/5/14	648	Banks, L. B.	11/4/12	1545	Lewis, L. G.	6/7/14
3	Satterfield, R.	6/3/14	68	Shandy, C. J.	11/1/13	134	Zimny, D. C.	6/17/14	353	Diggon, A. E.	5/30/14	649	Hundley, J. H.	2/6/12	1547	Keys, D. L.	6/19/11
3	Schafer, P. J.	5/26/14	68	Walker, G. L.	4/19/14	134	Zinaveah, W. J.	3/23/14	353	Ferguson, R. L.	4/22/14	654	Marshall, K. D.	6/1/12	1579	Russell, J.	4/20/14
3	Varga, L.	6/10/14	70	Hensley, E. R.	4/3/14	136	Wakefield, L.	6/13/14	353	Fodor, W. J.	7/2/14	659	Colley, J. G.	6/7/14	1620	Price, F. S.	5/1/12
3	Waters, C. A.	10/2/11	70	Wilt, K. E.	11/5/12	141	Amend, W. J.	2/12/13	353	Harris, H. C.	5/22/11	659	Eichner, G. E.	3/22/14	1687	Welsh, C. W.	5/26/14
3	Wolters, J. F.	6/10/14	71	Nagy, J.	4/27/14	141	Capriotti, J. J.	5/29/14	354	Jensen, M. D.	7/27/12	659	Koning, R. W.	6/7/14	1925	Holaday, R. D.	1/13/14
5	Froncek, J.	3/21/13	76	Busk, S. D.	3/30/14	141	Hoge, J. H.	6/2/14	354	Schulz, R. L.	6/15/14	659	Thompson, L. A.	4/24/14	1933	Cole, J. D.	6/19/14
5	Onorato, G. F.	5/24/14	76	Golden, O. L.	5/15/14	143	Farling, J. A.	5/30/14	354	White, D. L.	6/11/14	665	Bommer, S. M.	3/4/14	1980	Burnett, D. T.	1/22/14
6	Asuncion, T. R.	5/16/12	77	Dye, L. R.	5/18/14	143	Kirk, J. B.	6/7/14	357	Shaner, C. W.	1/16/13	665	Kestenholtz, T.	6/22/14	1996	Birmingham, J. D.	1/6/14
6	Balling, P. R.	3/23/14	77	Hope, D. N.	5/28/14	146	Cripe, C. V.	6/8/14	363	Bragg, F. P.	2/8/14	665	McCasey, M. J.	5/4/12	2038	Uhersky, D. K.	5/17/14
6	Hope, J. S.	6/23/14	77	Johnson, R. D.	3/1/14	158	Degroot, W. R.	5/31/14	364	Williams, R. F.	4/16/14	666	Parrish, W. C.	7/2/14	2129	Cosby, W. B.	4/1/14
6	Koepke, W. P.	5/21/14	77	Jolley, D. D.	11/6/13	158	Eland, S. R.	6/14/14	365	Drinnon, C. E.	5/20/14	668	Morgan, J. B.	6/8/14	2330	Ste Croix, R.	3/7/14
6	Orlandi, W. O.	9/26/11	80	Cahoon, A. D.	1/3/12	158	Lewis, J. D.	10/18/13	369	Burkhart, W. R.	6/6/14	683	Harris, R. K.	6/1/14	I.O. (5)	Devlin, L. J.	3/30/14
7	Tetreault, R. A.	5/20/14	86	Hatch, R. W.	9/29/12	158	Meyer, H. J.	5/2/14	369	Greene, K. R.	5/18/14	683	Horn, W. D.	5/22/14	I.O. (134)	Israel, D. K.	1/26/12
7	Whitmire, W. F.	2/10/14	89	Young, D. L.	5/31/14	159	Fritz, R. A.	6/3/14	369	Lambert, C. D.	6/30/12	684	Johnson, D. G.	6/1/14	I.O. (134)	McCoy, M. D.	12/17/13
8	Ripple, C. W.	5/8/14	90	D'Andrea, P. R.	6/7/14	159	Lapinski, B. F.	8/3/13	379	Pennell, O. J.	5/20/14	692	Macaulay, R. B.	6/7/14	I.O. (134)	Tansey, M. J.	5/21/14
8	Wiesmann, H. J.	5/26/14	90	Greenleaf, J. A.	5/9/14	164	Allan, E. R.	6/3/14	379	Reynolds, L. A.	6/27/14	697	Dancho, D. W.	2/10/13	I.O. (292)	Sallblad, K. F.	9/4/11
9	Miller, M. E.	5/29/14	90	Rogers, E. S.	11/18/13	164	Fredricks, G.	6/14/14	380	Mobley, A. L.	3/20/14	697	Johnson, A. L.	4/28/14	I.O. (359)	Collins, W. D.	4/14/14
9	Nelson, R. J.	12/9/12	97	Reidenbach, C.	4/26/14	164	Lassiter, J.	5/31/14	387	Junas, E. L.	6/2/14	697	Schultz, D. A.	4/6/14	I.O. (1303)	Hubka, M.	4/24/14
9	Wadzinski, L. J.	6/24/14	98	McCormick, W. J.	6/13/14	164	Mullen, J. J.	10/23/13	387	Sanchez, T. C.	5/20/14	701	Sulhoff, F. A.	1/31/12	I.O. (2085)	Marchak, A.	6/9/14
11	Barr, J. W.	3/13/14	98	Novak, J. J.	3/1/13	175	Kilgore, H. C.	12/15/11	388	LaMarche, A. J.	5/15/14	702	Pulley, B.	11/1/13	Pens. (561)	Bourgeois, Y. J.	1/23/14
11	Brundage, A.	3/18/14	98	Tingle, J. J.	3/18/14	175	Orr, E. L.	6/20/14	401	Garner, J. T.	5/13/14	716	Storenski, P. J.	4/6/14	Pens. (835)	Hopper, W. B.	7/23/10
11	Corum, L. G.	6/5/14	100	Gaede, J. A.	6/13/14	175	Tarpley, D. L.	11/23/13	402	Groom, R. R.	5/14/14	721	Hale, D. M.	4/14/12	Pens. (875)	Ellis, K. P.	4/12/14
11	Langner, E. H.	1/26/14	100	Soltero, R.	5/26/14	175	Taubert, C. S.	5/5/14	402	Landry, C. M.	5/21/14	728	Aguilar, P. J.	6/11/14	Pens. (966)	Wild, J. D.	3/1/12
11	Paul, J. R.	5/13/14	100	Welborn, V. O.	6/19/14	177	Davis, J. R.	4/27/14	405	Brown, B. D.	3/6/14	728	Dugger, C. W.	12/30/13	Pens. (1095)	Ribout, J. E.	1/30/14
11	Warner, L. M.	5/11/14	102	Brinker, W. M.	6/1/14	177	Snell, K. M.	5/15/14	413	Dunn, B. H.	5/31/14	728	Hodges, J. M.	6/1/14	Pens. (1788)	Currah, K. D.	3/8/14
16	Goodwin, D. C.	4/11/14	102	Cotton, W. R.	12/24/13	180	Arnold, R. K.	6/22/14	424	Brens, L. L.	6/3/14	728	McAfee, R. E.	5/8/14	Pens. (1788)	Simonyak, S.	6/11/14
16	Herman, V. D.	6/15/14	102	Kroegman, F.	5/1/12	193	Craddock, D. E.	6/27/14	424	Potorocza, F. A.	4/11/14	733	Vaughn, F. T.	12/2/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Annett, R. L.	11/15/12
17	Cusson, H.	5/4/14	102	Patterson, E. W.	6/11/14	194	Evans, H. I.	6/1/14	424	Smith, J.	6/12/14	743	Groh, E. M.	10/29/12	Pens. (I.O.)	Atkins, D. P.	10/20/12
17	Ward, G. V.	6/16/14	102	Rovere, K. M.	5/2/14	197	Gaddy, R. S.	6/1/14	429	Mattox, T. L.	6/12/14	743	Heim, N. J.	10/7/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Barton, B. L.	5/12/14
18	Messing, R. M.	12/25/13	103	Brazeau, R.	6/1/14	204	Weber, E. J.	8/26/13	429	Nelson, G. I.	10/2/13	753	Bradshaw, V. E.	5/15/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Bostrom, L. A.	6/9/14
20	Bixby, R. L.	6/9/14	103	Cartolano, F. G.	5/28/14	210	Juniewicz, C. J.	9/21/13	440	Maynard, J. R.	5/19/14	760	Ford, J. E.	5/25/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Carley, R. L.	4/7/14
20	Krumm, V. M.	4/18/14	103	Goershel, P. W.	3/29/12	212	Shaw, W. E.	6/2/14	441	Cadotte, R. R.	4/9/14	760	Mills, W. B.	3/30/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Cottom, J. P.	5/8/14
20	McIntire, R. G.	6/25/14	103	Hayes, F. X.	1/12/14	213	Bradley, R. N.	7/1/13	441	Macfarlane, W. E.	3/11/13	760	White, W. F.	5/2/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Covington, J. C.	12/31/12
22	Buhrman, B. B.	6/2/14	103	Karoul, A.	8/11/12	213	Ebenal, A.	4/27/14	444	Billings, R. L.	4/21/14	768	Kanerva, P.	6/11/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Crider, T. L.	6/5/14
22	Dougherty, D. L.	6/11/14	103	Kelley, J. J.	5/20/14	213	Halford, J. E.	4/3/14	446	Britt, H. A.	5/31/14	776	Gates, C. E.	6/20/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Fisher, R. F.	4/30/14
22	Mammel, W. C.	5/13/14	103	Kennedy, R. T.	8/7/11	213	Hermanson, R. G.	4/26/14	449	Leadford, D. L.	6/15/14	776	Ralston, R. M.	3/20/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Fitschen, S. A.	4/24/14
22	Patlan, C. J.	6/7/14	103	Wood, H. R.	5/26/14	213	Klein, F.	5/30/14	453	Edwards, R.	5/3/14	816	Roberts, G. T.	5/11/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Fulton, E. L.	6/26/12
24	Davis, C. B.	5/3/14	105	Johnson, L. J.	3/10/14	213	Lee, P. G.	4/13/14	456	Flachek, S.	5/8/14	816	Vaughan, C. V.	4/30/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Goss, R. L.	4/19/14
24	Gudeman, C. P.	5/14/14	105	Maiesciuk, A.	7/6/14	213	Slingerland, F. B.	1/14/14	474	Counts, C. D.	4/13/14	876	Burrell, J. D.	5/5/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Haffner, F. J.	5/19/14
24	Plitko, E.	7/4/12	110	Kuschner, G. S.	5/4/12	213	Tournemille, M.	10/24/13	474	Hulse, K. C.	3/22/14	876	Nelson, R. J.	11/18/12	Pens. (I.O.)	Hildebrand, E. H.	6/13/14
24	Roes, H.	3/31/14	110	Lyon, G. C.	6/14/14	219	Odgers, R. A.	2/17/14	474	Owen, B. D.							



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

The Electrical Worker was the name of the first official publication of the National Brotherhood of Electrical Workers in 1893 (the NBEW became the IBEW in 1899 with the expansion of the union into Canada). The name and format of the publication have changed over the years. This newspaper is the official publication of the IBEW and seeks to capture the courage and spirit that motivated the founders of the Brotherhood and continue to inspire the union's members today. The masthead of this newspaper is an adaptation of that of the first edition in 1893.

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FROM THE OFFICERS

Diverse Voices, Common Purpose



Edwin D. Hill
International President

One thing that makes our union unique is the widespread diversity of our membership. From working in different trade classifications, living in different regions and having our individual takes on the issues of the day, it says a lot about the future of our union and our country that we can bring so many voices into one house.

But the hard fact is that anti-worker politicians don't see us as a diverse fabric of the nation. They see us—all of us—as obstacles in the way to greater corporate profits and tilting the makeup of America toward a radically "free-market" society, and working people be damned.

Since 2011's coordinated rollback on workers' rights in Wisconsin, Ohio and beyond, these lawmakers have doubled down on their job-killing, union-busting policies. And with massive funding from extremist groups like the Koch Brothers' Americans for Prosperity, these legislators are now looking to take complete control of the Senate, the House of Representatives and governor's mansions across the country.

In this month's issue of *The Electrical Worker*, we shine a light on a few of the most grievous offenders, including Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker, U.S. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky and Ohio Gov. John Kasich. The common factor that unites them is their advocacy of policies that mean more money for those who are already at the top and less money for you.

Now, more than ever, we need to realize what unites us in common purpose. As Election Day nears, we need to summon the kind of courage and stamina we showed in statehouse protests three years ago. We need to show in mass numbers that working men and women are wide awake to the challenges facing all of us.

So this election season, keep talking about what we all face together. Talk with your fellow members about the election. Research the candidates. Read the reporting in the *Electrical Worker* and at www.IBEW.org. Volunteer to phone bank, do a precinct walk or a literature drop.

On Nov. 4, we have a chance to throw these guys out for good.

Let's come together. Let's finish the job. ■

On Labor Day, Celebrating Our Victories

It's Labor Day in the U.S., Labour Day in Canada. In a few cities and towns, IBEW members will march in traditional parades behind our union's colors. But even more busy working families will be shopping in big-box retail stores—those overwhelmingly nonunion workplaces that today employ nearly a quarter of all workers in the U.S.

Times have changed. But Labor Day still marks the one occasion during the year when many journalists and media outlets attempt to sum up the state of unions and organized labor.

The past year has seen unprecedented media attention across North America on how, despite huge productivity increases, wages for almost all workers have remained flat or fallen, even while the incomes of the 1 percent have blown through the roof.

Some commentators have accurately attributed this rising economic inequality to the fact that unions, which use their leverage to fight for a more level economic playing field for both members and nonmembers, have lost numbers.

Organized labor's decline and perceived weakness is serious business. But, looking through this year's issues of *The Electrical Worker*, we have much to celebrate this Labor Day because IBEW members aren't giving in to adversity or demoralization.

Our organizers have branched out, expanding the Brotherhood's reach to workers like satellite technicians employed by NASA in Mississippi and tool makers in Illinois. Even in the face of political attacks on public sector workers, the IBEW has won municipal worker campaigns in California and other states.

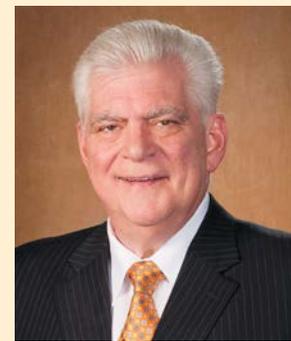
New hydroelectric and transmission projects are planned for jurisdictions as spread out as Newfoundland and Texas. So our union is signing up an exceedingly diverse workforce to build and maintain them.

Hard numbers are important. But growing the IBEW between now and next Labor Day also depends upon how we and our families spread the word about how our union serves our communities.

No one is doing this better than the spouses of IBEW linemen who are organizing financial and emotional support for families whose breadwinners have been killed or injured on the job, or local unions that are going the extra mile to provide more training opportunities to returning military veterans.

Our challenges are many. But this Labor Day, let's celebrate our achievements. And let's renew our commitment to showing our fellow Americans and Canadians who lack knowledge about labor unions, what the IBEW is made of.

That's the best way to make every day Labor Day. ■



Salvatore J. Chilia
International Secretary-Treasurer

**HOW TO REACH US**

We welcome letters from our readers. The writer should include his or her name, address and, if applicable, IBEW local union number and card number. Family members should include the local union number of the IBEW member to whom *The Electrical Worker* is mailed. Please keep letters as brief as possible. *The Electrical Worker* reserves the right to select letters for publication and edit all submissions for length.

Send letters to:

Letters to the Editor, *The Electrical Worker*, 900 Seventh Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001

Or send by e-mail to: media@ibew.org

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“LETTERS TO THE EDITOR”

The Value of Union

On Feb. 26, my life flashed before my eyes as I fell 12 feet from a Digger Derrick truck in Rochester, N.Y. I knew I was blessed to have an amazing family and group of friends, but I didn't know the true magnitude of love that surrounded me. Along with the best medical treatment I received, if it weren't for my friends, family, colleagues from JF Electric and electrical contractors from around the area and Syracuse Local 1249, I'm not sure I would have come out so strong.

After the fall I was left heavily sedated and on life support for three weeks due to a fractured skull. While my wife and two daughters sat by my side, they were also burdened with life's day-to-day tasks. Mark Lawrence and Dan Defoe, from Local 1249, took immediate action to help my girls. They made it so my family could focus on my recovery and not the paperwork. You never think you'll be the recipient of gifts from the union, but this support was critical when so much was unknown. My wife and daughters are especially grateful to the union and everyone else who prayed, sent cards, sent gas cards, etc. ... You all gave them strength.

My accident has also made me realize the importance of safety training. My colleagues, David Yoeman, Marty Foit and Jason Neshi, immediately applied the safety techniques they've learned to ultimately save my life. Our safety instructor, Richard "Frenchie" French, gave these men the tools they needed to help me. While you hope to never implement these techniques, you never know. Dave, Marty and Jason didn't hesitate and I'm so lucky to have had them by my side.

It's been six months since the accident and I'm home with my family, waiting for my first grandchild to arrive. I'm still battling some scars and building back strength, but all things considered I'm doing well. I've been a lineman for 40 years. My blood still ignites when a good thunderstorm comes roaring through, but I've also learned that life is precious. You only get one, so right now I'm focusing on what's important. I'm blessed to be part of a union, a community who protects and serves its members.

Allen Harter, Local 1249 member
Syracuse, N.Y.

Business Unionism?

I'm disturbed by the increasing "business unionism" I'm seeing from our International Office. I disagree with the IO's stand on Keystone XL and I suspect a majority of IBEW members do.

In the July 31 issue of "Investor's Business Daily," a magazine rarely supporting working people or their unions, the IBEW was praised for opposing the Obama administration's green agenda.

Lately the parroting of the utility industry's rage against the EPA's Clean Power Plan has left me astonished. Not only is the IBEW using flawed, corporate generated talking points but it is working against the interests of our members and our members' families.

Cleaning up our most polluting industries will not only create more good IBEW jobs long term, but it will create tens of thousands of short term construction jobs and guarantee our families more healthy communities.

There are no jobs on a dead planet and I encourage our International Office to live up to the forward thinking of our founders.

Allen Shur, retired Local 569 business manager
San Diego

[Editor's Note: Our job as a union is to represent the interests of all workers in the electrical industry. IBEW members are to be found in nearly every sector of the energy economy, from renewables like solar and wind to coal- and gas-fired power plants. The health of the entire energy sector is not only of interest to utility CEOs, but to our members and their families as well. We strongly support efforts to transition to a cleaner energy economy and are proud of locals like 569 that have helped make solar a serious energy alternative for consumers and businesses. But the EPA's clean coal plan is a poorly thought out plan that will cost jobs, disrupt the economy and have a minimal effect on global carbon emissions. And there is nothing forward thinking about that.]



From Facebook: Every month the IBEW Facebook page receives thousands of comments from our dynamic and engaged community of members and friends.

Union Proud

The IBEW has always been at the forefront defending worker rights and family values. Ed Hill and his staff would not have it any other way. The Right Choice always!

Gordon Young, Local 3 member
Flushing, NY

WHO WE ARE

If you have a story to tell about your IBEW experience, please send it to media@ibew.org.

Boston Lineman Flies Spotter Plane for Wicked Tuna

If Mark Brochu is an adrenaline junkie, his friends and co-workers will tell you he's one of the best they know, putting adventurous exploits into productive work.

The 14-year Boston Local 104 lineman, who competed in motocross as a kid, has been a general foreman on some of the most massive substations in the Northeast.

And, when he's not supplying electrical power to his neighbors, Brochu is flying a 1973 Cessna 150 L as the spotter pilot for the Lily, a boat captained by harpoon-wielding Bill "Hollywood" Muniz, who competes with fellow commercial fishermen on National Geographic's popular reality show "Wicked Tuna." The show is viewed regularly by millions on the National Geographic Channel and Nat Geo Mundo.

Tuna fishing can be lucrative. Sushi-grade Bluefin brings in \$30 a pound. That's \$20,000 for one big fish.

But, for Brochu and Muniz, it's not just about money. Both have played key roles helping marine scientists study the migratory patterns of tuna and their susceptibility to warming ocean waters. And both have helped save the lives of whales entangled in nets they have encountered while fishing.

"Fishing, flying planes and working as a lineman are three of the most dangerous occupations," says Brochu. "But I don't take foolish chances." His home port's dramatic history punctuates the need for safe work practices.

Muniz and Brochu fish out of Gloucester, Mass., the nation's oldest seaport. Danger is tragically represented by a memorial to 10,000 local residents who have died at sea and is even more famously portrayed in the book "The Perfect Storm" by Sebastian Junger and the popular movie of the same name, starring George Clooney.

One of only 40 fishermen in the Northeast who use harpoons to catch tuna, Muniz requires exact knowledge of a fish's position to get in close enough for the kill shot. "Mark is good at distinguishing what the fish are doing and how big they are," says Muniz. "We don't want to kill anything we can't sell. We want to fish responsibly."

Before taking off to help Muniz find fish, Brochu checks satellite links to get up-to-the-minute weather reports. Modern radar has made his job safer. "I can time myself to get around rough weather if I have to," he says.

Balancing weather reports with extraordinary fuel consumption to sustain eight or 10 hours over the water, he heads out and begins to look in the distance for telltale wakes made by tuna, while also looking straight down for movement. "Spotter pilots are mostly self-taught,"



Boston 104 lineman Mark Brochu, one of a family of 48 IBEW members, is a spotter pilot for Captain Bill Muniz on the popular National Geographic show "Wicked Tuna."

says Brochu, who picked up some skills from one of his father's friends who piloted a plane spotting swordfish for his own crew. Brochu says his 13-year-old son is already showing interest in picking up the spotter pilot trade.

When he spots fish, Brochu, one of a family of 48 linemen and other utility workers that was profiled in "Powerline Magazine," guides Muniz to the catch giving directions using numbers on a clock or the number of boat lengths away.

"Working with the captain is a lot like linework," says Brochu. "We need to coordinate and factor in weather conditions. No matter what is written down or on our meters, talking and communicating is everything." When he's grounded due to weather, he helps rebuild aircrafts with the owner of his fixed base of operations.

"Mark[ie] is a big part of our operation. He's one of the best pilots around and gives me a lot more opportunities to throw the harpoon," says Muniz, who, before he bought his own boat in 1987, worked on the Andrea Gail, the boat lost in The Perfect Storm in 1991.

"I was rod and reeling until 2001 when I decided to try harpooning, and convinced Mark to go up for me. He's like a brother now, more like part of my family," says Muniz. Their extended family has come to include marine scientists studying the tuna population.

Bluefin tuna have extremely wide migratory patterns spanning thousands of miles. In the 1990s, Brochu was one of 13 spotter pilots who helped marine sci-

entists locate and count schools of tuna by using cameras linked to laptops and global positioning systems.

"Mark is a superb spotter pilot who is really good with data collection," says Molly Lutcavage, senior scientist at the Edgerton Research Lab at the New England Aquarium who flew with him.

Lutcavage says Brochu and other spotter pilots played a decisive role in the early 1990s when government fishery managers in the Northeast mandated that commercial catch limits be cut by 50 percent due to declining schools of tuna. The pilots refuted the manager's estimates of the tuna population and requested members of the white whale team at the New England Aquarium fly with them to survey the Bluefin schools.

"It became immediately clear to the scientists that the [managers'] estimates were faulty," says Lutcavage, whose mother was an IBEW manufacturing branch member at Wagner Industries in her native Hazleton, Pa. The original quotas remained in place.

"Our scientific partnerships with fishermen and pilots are so important," says Lutcavage. Ongoing cooperation, she says, is needed to document trends. Since 2004, Bluefin populations have declined in coastal Maine, for instance, and become more plentiful off the coast of Nova Scotia. Warming seas are suspected.

Follow Mark Brochu and Bill Muniz and their fishing competitors on "Wicked Tuna," Season Four, premiering in February. ■

IBEW MEDIA WORLD

In addition to your monthly issue of *The Electrical Worker*, check out the wealth of IBEW-related information in cyberspace.

www.ibew.org

Our Web site has news and info not available anywhere else. Visit us to connect with the IBEW on Facebook and Twitter.

And read *The Electrical Worker* online!

YouTube

Members of Portland, Ore., Local 48 are building the city's first "auto-free" bridge that will span the Willamette River and connect the city's downtown region.

YouTube.com/TheElectricalWorker

Vimeo

Even with all the training and protections available, tragedy can still strike brave linemen who encounter risk on the job every day. Watch a stirring video of this year's Climb for Fallen Linemen. Vimeo.com/ibew/fallenlinemen



HourPower

Now on IBEW Hour Power is a new edition of News Briefs, catching you up with what is going on around the IBEW. Check it out IBEWHourPower.com!



ElectricTV

California's first LEED Gold-Certified Winery was built by the NECA-IBEW team. We take you inside on the latest video on ElectricTV.net!



In Tenn., Looking Back for Organizing Inspiration

A failed election didn't stop UAW progress in Chattanooga

When a certification election fails, unions often have two choices: keep organizing in hopes of a successful election down the road, or pull up stakes and move on to the next opportunity.

The United Auto Workers found a third way. Less than five months after losing a high-profile election at Volkswagen's Tennessee plant, the newly-elected UAW president, Dennis Williams, announced they were chartering a local and accepting any employee who signed up as a full-blown member of the union, though they would not pay any dues until they signed their first UAW-negotiated collective bargaining agreement.

"We said we would not give up on these workers, and we haven't," Williams said.

UAW's Chattanooga Local 42 will not be like any other UAW local, however. It will not really be like any local in any union

for the past 60 years. Local 42 will be a non-majority "members union" that will only represent workers who choose to join. Workers who don't want to join don't have to and will negotiate individual deals with Volkswagen, and the UAW has no duty to represent them in any way.

The upside for the members is that they will have a collective voice without having to go through another certification vote. The downside, said Seattle University School of Law professor Charlotte Garden, is that the company doesn't have to care.

"Under the current interpretation of the National Labor Relations Act, an employer has to negotiate in good faith with a union only if it is recognized as the exclusive bargaining agent for the workers. Member unions, by definition, aren't," Garden said. "The employer is not legally required to bargain in good faith with a members-only union, so most wouldn't."

While member unions are rare now, in the decades around the passage of the National Labor Relations Act in 1935, Garden says they were still able to bring employers to the negotiating table. The celebrated 1937 sit-down strike at General Motors' Flint, Mich., plant ended when the company agreed to negotiate a contract



The UAW chartered its first non-majority 'members only' union in more than 70 years, after losing a certification vote at VW's Chattanooga assembly plant.

(Photos courtesy Volkswagen)

April International Executive Council Meeting

Minutes and Report of The International Executive Council's Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the International Executive Council was called to order at 9:15 a.m., by Chairman Pierson, on Tuesday, April 8, 2014, in Lake Buena Vista, Florida. Other members of the council in attendance were Calabro, Calvey, Clarke, Riley, Walter, Smith and Lavin.

International President Hill

International President Edwin D. Hill met with the members of the International Executive Council to discuss a variety of matters affecting all branches of the Brotherhood.

International Secretary-Treasurer Chilia

International Secretary-Treasurer Salvatore (Sam) J. Chilia presented financial reports covering the IBEW Pension Fund and the Investment Portfolio of the Brotherhood—both in Canada and in the United States.

Legal Defense

Payments for legal defense, made from the General Fund, were examined and approved in accordance with the requirements of Article X, Section 1, of the IBEW Constitution.

Financial Reports

The International Secretary-Treasurer's Reports for the various funds of the Brotherhood were presented to the members of the

International Executive Council, examined, approved, and filed.

Resolution Regarding Pension Coverage for IBEW Officers

The International Executive Council discussed pension benefits and the effect of the tax laws on certain in-house plans. The IEC took action to ensure that pension benefits will be paid as provided in the IBEW Constitution and consistent with tax law requirements.

Appeal Filed with the International Executive Council By John Etter, Local Union 20, Card No. D543207

Brother John Etter is appealing the Local Union 20 Trial Board decision of October 17, 2013. Brother Etter was found guilty of Article XXV, Section 1, sub-section (a) and (e) of the IBEW Constitution and assessed a fine of \$250.

Both International Vice President Steven M. Speer and International President Edwin D. Hill denied Brother Etter's appeal and upheld the Local Union 20 Trial Board Decision.

After a thorough review of the facts pertaining to the appeal of Brother Etter, it is the decision of the International Executive Council to deny Brother Etter's appeal and uphold the decision rendered by the Local Union Trial Board.

that only applied to UAW members.

"It makes sense to look to the early days of the labor movement for creative ideas on building unions now," said Ricky Oakland, who is Special Assistant to the International President for Membership Development. "Employers are getting away with union busting tactics that have made NLRB elections incredibly hard to win. We do still win, but all too often, judges and regulators are simply ignoring workers' rights."

In recent years, a coalition of unions, including the IBEW, has challenged the common view that only majority unions have a right to good-faith negotiations. No final decisions have been made by the NLRB or the courts and Oakland says the labor movement can't afford to wait for them.

"The way the law works now, it's an all or nothing vision of workers' rights. Either a majority of employees in a bargaining unit must prove they support the union, or none of those employees can have any legal protection. And employers fight who is and is not in that bargaining unit," Oakland said. "Unions are smaller than we used to be, but we still have the power to improve the lives of working men and women if we are creative in what we do. I congratulate the UAW and think we should all keep a close eye on what happens there." ■