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IBEW News



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A New New York Icon

UNION BUILT & WORRY-FREE

Credit: New York State Thruway

Last Month to Enter

THE IBEW's
**2018 PHOTO
CONTEST**

Deadline: Oct. 1
See page 14 for details

The Hudson River crossing between Nyack and Tarrytown, N.Y., is a terrible place to build a bridge. The river is three miles across, one of the widest spots on the entire river, where, in places, the bedrock sits deep beneath hundreds of feet of sandy riverbed.

The river's banks, lined north and south with homes, businesses and vigilantly protected wetlands, offer no place for staging construction materials, and to complicate things further, there was already a bridge in the way — the 60-year-old Tappan Zee, a bridge so underbuilt due to the Korean War-era steel shortage that replacement planning began almost as soon as the ribbon was cut.

Every day, nearly 140,000 cars crossed the rickety four-lane artery, one of the most notorious chokepoints along the New York State Thruway, the lifeline

**“THIS IS A
100-YEAR
GUARANTEE
BRIDGE.”**

— New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo

linking New York City to the rest of the state and New England beyond.

So how did such a difficult, ambitious and desperately-needed infrastructure project — a bridge replacement that had been stalled for decades — get delivered on time and under budget?

Without drama.

On Labor Day 2018, after decades of delays and worries, the Gov. Mario Cuomo Bridge, a \$4 billion, 3-mile, twin-span cable stayed bridge was on track to be delivered, as promised, built in just five years with union labor and American steel.

“Was there any real bad news once we started

The main spans of the new Gov. Mario Cuomo bridge over the Hudson River carry traffic while the old Tappan Zee bridge is dismantled in the background.

building? I didn't hear any,” said International Executive Council Chairman and New York Local 3 Business Manager Chris Erikson. “Nothing.”

The straightforward, no-drama construction process of the new bridge stood in stark contrast to the white-knuckle experience of driving across the old Tappan Zee, which 30 years ago exceeded its original expected traffic volume by five times.

“You would drive over it, and they would have these large steel plates in front of you in patches on the roadway,” said New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo at the opening of the first span last August. “And the vehicle in front of you would go over the steel plate, and it would move just a little bit. And you would see a little sunlight coming through the crack in the roadway. And I would say, ‘My luck, that steel panel's going to move, and I'm going right down.’ And I would play it out in my mind. Do I take off the seat-belt, do I open the window? I think it traumatized an entire generation.”

TAPPAN ZEE continued on page 3

FROM THE OFFICERS

Back to Basics



Lonnie R. Stephenson
International President

There aren't many news articles dealing with the labor movement that don't pose the question at least once: is labor dying?

For years, opinion makers and so-called experts have been writing our obituary, telling us that organized labor is on its way out.

Well none of these naysayers were at last month's Membership Development conference. Because, to paraphrase Mark Twain, they would have learned that the reports of our death are greatly exaggerated.

The IBEW has experienced five straight years of uninterrupted growth in our total membership. This year, more than half of our districts met the benchmark we set for 4 percent yearly growth in "A" members — and others are close behind. Last year, not one district met that mark.

Our "A" membership has hit an all-time high, while we keep adding professional and industrial members in every branch.

And it doesn't matter where we are. In fact, some of our biggest victories have come in right-to-work states with low union density.

Despite all the challenges faced by the labor movement — hostile judges and politicians, big CEOs who don't respect their employees' right to collectively bargain, and well-funded union busters — the IBEW continues to grow.

And we are doing it by getting back to the basics of good organizing.

When Henry Miller and the founding members of the IBEW first set out to turn a handful of linemen into a continental-wide union of all electrical workers, organizing was not just one job among many responsibilities.

It was their only job. And they did it by getting out into the worksites and communities and talking face to face with workers. It took a lot of patience and determination, but as the message spread, the IBEW began to grow.

These days, IBEW locals have a lot to deal with, from contract negotiations to managing benefits. But the old truth still holds that organizing must be our top priority.

We have access to new technology that Henry Miller could never have dreamed of, like our new Mini Van app, which allows organizers to connect with workers in the community, or social media tools, like Facebook and Instagram, which organizers are using to reach out to the unorganized.

But while technology is changing, the basics remain the same. And that means building a spirit of solidarity with every single worker. It means educating them on the importance of the IBEW, and, perhaps most importantly, teaching them that the union is not just some dues-collecting institution, but a family of brothers and sisters who look out for each other and work together to better our lives and the lives of everyone who works for a living.

New members are signing up not just because being in the IBEW means better wages and benefits, but because they know there is power in numbers.

We have one more year before the next Membership Development conference. By continuing to stick to the basics, we are laying the foundation for our biggest year ever. ■

A Justice for the Rich

There's a saying, "When people show you who they are, believe them."

For 12 years on the federal bench, U.S. Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh has been showing us exactly who he is, siding with corporations over workers whether it's a matter of our rights or, literally, our lives.

Judge Kavanaugh's track record shouts that he would be an even more reliable vote for the interests of CEOs and the wealthy than was now-retired Justice Anthony Kennedy.

In other words, Judge Kavanaugh could do even more harm to working people than the justice whose swing vote gave us the devastating 5-4 ruling in *Janus v. AFSCME* in June.

Fueled by *Janus*, the deep-pocketed enemies of unions are plotting more legal assaults on workers' rights, and you'd better believe they're counting on Judge Kavanaugh's vote.

Why wouldn't they? As you'll read in this issue, this is a judge who threw out an NLRB order requiring now-President Trump to bargain with Atlantic City hotel workers. Another time, he backed the union-busting owner of the Venetian hotel in Las Vegas over its employees.

In 2016, Judge Kavanaugh stood with Verizon against our own members in Springfield, Mass. Overruling the NLRB, he declared that workers parking in the company's lot couldn't display signs in their cars urging their employer to honor the union contract — in their own personal vehicles.

And his attitude toward workplace safety is truly dangerous. In a well-known case, he sided with SeaWorld against OSHA after a whale killed its trainer while a horrified audience watched. The fact that he was out-voted by two other judges doesn't make his opinion any less of a threat. As an OSHA official said, "Judge Kavanaugh made the perverse and erroneous assertion that the law allows SeaWorld trainers to willingly accept the risk of violent death as part of their job. He clearly has little regard for workers who face deadly hazards at the workplace."

The White House is bragging to the business community about Judge Kavanaugh's hostility toward regulations, many of which protect our members and other workers from injury and toxic exposure on the job. The administration also believes his vote could dismantle what's left of the Affordable Care Act and deliver the fatal blow to life-saving protections for pre-existing conditions.

Working people seeking justice won't even have a wobbly swing vote to hang their hopes on if the nation's highest court becomes a 5-4 rubber-stamp against them.

We know the odds of keeping Judge Kavanaugh off the court aren't good. But Americans on many fronts are fighting his nomination, and our working-class voices can make the opposition that much stronger. His confirmation hearings are scheduled to start Sept. 4, but it's not too late. I hope you'll join me and call your senators and tell them that workers and their families can't afford the pain that Justice Kavanaugh would inflict. ■



Kenneth W. Cooper
International Secretary-Treasurer

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Remembering Electchester

I read with a smile the recent article about Electchester ("Off-Broadway Play Raises the Curtain on Local 3's Electchester," July 2018). It was interesting to learn about the history of the complex and the people involved in its creation. As a youngster, I lived with my family in the Pomonok Apartments on Parsons Boulevard. I would walk to school at PS 200 each day, past Electchester, and be envious for the neighborhood's beauty and how well it was kept. I remember being impressed that you could not just walk into a building lobby like Pomonok but needed a key or to be buzzed in by a resident. At that time the shopping center was brand new and the bowling alley did not exist.

Now, next year I will celebrate my 55th year as an IBEW member with Local 449 in Pocatello, Idaho. I started my apprenticeship in 1964 in Pocatello, though I now live in Eagle, Idaho, and worked with Boise Local 291. Perhaps on our next trip to New York, I will take my wife on that walk from Pomonok to PS 200 past Electchester.

*Michael Peck, Local 449 retiree
Pocatello, Idaho*

An Example for Us All

This is just a quick note to say thank you for the terrific story on Teon Plater in the Who We Are column of the July 2018 issue ("DC Member's Path from Prison to Redemption").

It was great to read such an uplifting story, and I hope it inspires all of us to do the right thing as Mr. Fowler and Brother Scott did.

I needed a "good news" story like this.

*Blake Hottle, Local 45 member
Hollywood, Calif.*

A Long, Proud Career

I just received my citation and pin for 65 years of membership in the IBEW from Ted Skerpon, business manager of Syracuse, N.Y., Local 97.

I am proud of my years in the union and of the 15 years I served as president of Local 1385 and System Council U-11. It was a great time in my life.

*Ray Lefevre, Local 97 retiree
Syracuse, N.Y.*

We Want to Hear From You: Send your letters to media@ibew.org or Letters to the Editor, *The Electrical Worker*, 900 Seventh Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001.



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

Fighting Addiction, Saving Lives

[Responding to "B.C. Local Provides Life-Saving Overdose Training to Members, August 2018]:

At the IBEW Women's Conference in June, we participated in an informative session on opioid use. During the session, we heard from a mom who lost her beautiful son to this epidemic. She challenged all of us to stand up, be courageous and speak positively when someone is disparaging addicts. Her words will stay with me always. Thank you to the sisters and brothers in Local 213 for living the Code of Excellence. You make a difference!

*Joanne Nickerson, Local 37 member
Frederickton, N.B.*

Praise for the Brotherhood

I've been serving Local 302 since 1985. Thank you to all the sisters and brothers who built the IBEW. Because of the IBEW, I have been able to raise my standard of living, provide for my family and send my kids to college, all while keeping my dignity!

*Ron Bennett, Local 302 member
Martinez, Calif.*

A New New York Icon

UNION BUILT & WORRY-FREE

▶ **Continued from page 1**

In 2012, after 30 years of planning and more than 400 meetings, a replacement was agreed on and construction began.

Electrical work was split between three signatory contractors: Welsbach Electric, Schupp Line and LB Electric. Local 3 and New City Local 363 divided up the work nearly along the jurisdictional border which runs down the Hudson River.

To meet the tight cost targets and tighter confines, the winning contractors came up with an audacious plan: build the bridge in sections 100 miles north at the Port of Coeymans and float the pieces 20 hours downriver to the construction site.

Bridge piles, steel pipes three to six feet in diameter in 12-foot sections, were welded together — the longest was more than 300 feet long — at Coeymans. A

thousand of them were driven into the river bottom until they hit bedrock. Then they were drained and refilled with steel-reinforced concrete.

After the piles were laid, work began on the bright blue girders, 9 feet high and in sections a few dozen feet long. Ironworkers bolted them together upriver until they were hundreds of feet long and 40 feet wide. Then the wiremen took over, installing the substations, conduit, fiber optic communication and electrical lines for bridge lighting and components.

Instead of hanging 130 feet above wind and water, the IBEW wiremen did their work just over a ladder's climb from the ground.

"There were substations on the bridge and conduit work that was all attached to the girders while in Coeymans," said Local 3 Business Representative Tom Capurso. "If a girder was going to Local 3's side of the bridge, we did the work. When a girder would be on Local 363's side of the bridge, they did. It was all worked out in the project labor agreement before we started."

When the girder sections were complete, they were loaded on barges, ready to ferry thousands of tons of steel to the bridge site. As construction got into full swing, with more than 125 IBEW members working, there were always three barges on the river. One, laden, heading down, one unloading at the crossing and one on its way back north for more.

The essential tool that made it all possible was the massive floating crane known as I Lift NY, with a 360-foot-tall, 64-foot-wide boom that could lift nearly 2,000 tons at a throw. The crane has no equal in the Western Hemisphere and was sailed 6,000 miles through the Panama Canal after it finished work on the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge replacement.

Everything that made the new bridge came by boat, including the workers. The river was like a dancehall, with construction tugs, barges and worker tax-



The bridge at night (top), and new spans being floated downriver and lifted into place during construction (above). Right, an IBEW member unspools wiring for the main span.

All Photos, Credit: New York State Thruway

is weaving between first one, then two, then three bridge spans and the normal bustle of commercial shipping and pleasure boaters. Work only slowed when the river froze solid or wind whipping down from Canada covered the stairs and approaches with a glassy shell of ice.

"Some individuals were on boom lifts 120 feet in the air on the barges," Capurso said. "A boat throws off a 2-foot wash and the barge would rock with you out at full extension. All you could do was duck down and ride it out."

Much of the IBEW's work is invisible, except the 1,400 color-changing LEDs



that shine from the concrete pile caps floating the bridge on rays of light. The New York State Thruway Authority can change the colors of the lights to mark holidays or championships by any of New York's professional sports teams.

Unlike Boston's Big Dig — which started with a \$2.6 billion price tag and ended with a \$14.8 billion one — or the new San Francisco Bay Bridge, which started with a \$250 million estimated cost and ended north of \$6 billion, the Cuomo Bridge had an initial planned cost of a hair over \$4 billion and never budged.

All that's left is for the thousand-ton sections of the old bridge to be cut apart, lowered to barges and then dumped off the coast of Long Island, forming the foundations of ocean reefs that will help protect New York's coastline from the savagery of future hurricane seasons.

At the opening of the first span, Cuomo thanked the men and women on the job. "I thank them. Once again, the

7,000 workers who we pushed to work holidays and weekends, they did over 9 million hours in the cold, in the heat, in the snow, in the sleet, the union workers who built this project," he said.

"This is a 100-year guarantee bridge," Cuomo said, noting that it could have been done more easier and cheaply, like the Tappan Zee it replaced. "But our responsibility as parents and citizens is to leave this state a better state for you. And that's what was done for us, and this is our investment and our gift to you and to your children."

Despite the complicated planning process and decades of political hand-wringing and delays, the remarkable thing for Local 363 Business Manager Sam Fratto was how unremarkable the job was.

"It was a good job. It employed our members for a few years and showed what we can do," he said. "It was nice to get those calls from the contractors telling us how good our electricians were, but we knew. We know who we are." ■



Members of New York Local 3 and New City, N.Y. Local 363 shared the electrical work. Here, workers assemble conduit on a temporary floating platform.

GOV. MARIO CUOMO BRIDGE

BY THE NUMBERS

6.2 miles of roadway

\$3.8 billion

5 years 3 months – original timeline

4 years 10 months – time from main pile installation to opening

8 towers, 419-feet tall

700 miles of cable

74 million pounds of steel and concrete

18,000 commuters a day in 1955 when the Tappan Zee first opened

138,000 commuters each day now

\$1.2 billion in wages

100% American made steel

40,000 total jobs created

7,000 direct jobs

\$3 billion in primary and secondary wages

6 million hours without a recordable accident

1,400 multi-colored high-powered LED lights

7,000 sections of pre-cast concrete roadbed

THE FRONT LINE: POLITICS & JOBS

Supreme Court Nominee's Track Record: Corporations Win, Workers Lose

Judge Brett Kavanaugh has been ruling against workers' rights from the federal bench for more than a decade, notably deciding against an IBEW local in 2016 and siding in an earlier case with Donald Trump to crush a casino organizing drive.

Now nominated by President Trump to sit on the U.S. Supreme Court, Kavanaugh would fortify the court's big-business, anti-worker majority for years to come, squarely positioning all three branches of government against the rights and economic security of working people.

"Judge Kavanaugh has run roughshod over workers his entire career," International President Lonnie R. Stephenson said. "A seat on the Supreme Court would give him the ultimate power to rule against unions, against job safety, against affordable health care for people with pre-existing conditions — in short, against justice, fairness and decency whenever and wherever they conflict with the interests of the rich and powerful."

In the casino case, Kavanaugh was one of three Republican-appointed judges who voted unanimously to set aside an NLRB order requiring one of Trump's Atlantic City properties to bargain with the United Auto Workers. Similarly, he sided with billionaire GOP donor Sheldon Adelson in a labor dispute at the Venetian hotel in Las Vegas.

"Judge Kavanaugh has run roughshod over workers his entire career. In November, we have a chance to shift the balance of power."

— International President Lonnie R. Stephenson

"Kavanaugh, along with [Justices] Thomas, Alito, Gorsuch — and Roberts along for the ride — will comprise the most radical, anti-labor-law Supreme Court in my lifetime," University of Wyoming law professor Michael Duff, a former National Labor Relations Board attorney, told Bloomberg.

Kavanaugh was nominated July 9 to fill the seat of retiring Justice Anthony Kennedy, who was considered the court's swing vote in many 5-4 decisions.

Those include the devastating *Janus v. AFSCME* decision in June, allowing public workers to stop paying the fees that make it possible for unions to negotiate contracts, handle grievances and otherwise fight for all members of a bargaining unit.

Kavanaugh clerked for Kennedy in the early 1990s and later served in George W. Bush's White House. He was appointed to the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals in 2006.

His history on the federal bench is so solidly weighted in favor of corporate interests and deregulation that a leaked document shows the Trump administration urging industry lobbyists to pressure senators to confirm him.

The White House boasts to the business community in the memo that "Kavanaugh has overruled federal regulators 75 times on cases involving clean air, consumer protections, net neutrality and other issues," Politico reported.



Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh, whose hostility toward unions, workers and consumers has been a hallmark of his years on the federal bench, with Vice President Mike Pence at the U.S. Capitol.

In the Venetian case, the AFL-CIO said Kavanaugh reversed an NLRB ruling "that the hotel engaged in unfair labor practices when it requested police officers to issue criminal citations to union demonstrators who were legally protesting."

He attacked workers' free speech rights again in 2016, ruling for Verizon against Springfield, Mass., Local 2324.

The NLRB had ruled that workers had the right to display signs in their personal vehicles in the company parking lot that simply said, "Verizon, Honor Our Existing Contract." Kavanaugh decided the signs constituted an illegal picket in violation of the union contract.

He also has argued in favor of allowing the Secretary of Defense to abolish collective-bargaining rights, dissented from a majority opinion upholding a safety citation against SeaWorld after the death of a trainer and declared the structure of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau unconstitutional, an attempt to put corporate foxes in charge of the henhouse.

Though that decision was overturned, the Trump administration has effectively dissolved the agency, a watchdog established after the Great Recession to protect Americans from unscrupulous banking and investment practices.

Signaling its ongoing efforts to destroy Obamacare, the White House assigned pharmaceuticals lobbyist and former Republican Sen. John Kyl to move Kavanaugh through the confirmation process.

"Why would the White House put the nomination battle in the hands of a man who famously mocked the Affordable Care Act's requirement that health insurance cover maternal health by saying 'I don't need maternity care' — and who as recently as last year was a lobbyist for those fighting to keep drug prices high?" Washington Post columnist Dana Milbank asked. "Now it makes sense."

For workers, the *Janus* ruling and Kavanaugh's nomination are a one-two punch.

"Five Republican justices struck a blow against unions," UC Berkeley law school dean Erwin Chemerinsky said, writing about *Janus* in *The Sacramento Bee*. "They did so in a way that disrupts tens of thousands of contracts. They increased the vulnerability of government employees, many of whom will see a decrease in wages and working conditions as a result of this decision in the years ahead. Whether you agree or disagree with the court, it must be called judicial activism."

It's one more reason why November's midterm elections are so critical, Stephenson said.

"Restoring a pro-worker majority in both houses of Congress has never been more urgent," he said.

"Right now, all we can do — and must do — to fight Judge Kavanaugh's nomination is call our senators, and call and call again, to make the case that a Supreme Court majority cemented against working Americans isn't good for anyone."

"We know that winning this one is a long shot. But in November we have the chance to shift the balance of power. Our votes can ensure that our voice is heard in the next confirmation hearing, and all the other coming fights in Congress and statehouses that threaten our rights and our future." ■

IBEW Members Help Kill Right-to-Work in Missouri

In a resounding victory for the IBEW and working families, Missouri voters overwhelmingly rejected a right-to-work law on Aug. 7 that had been passed by the GOP-controlled state Legislature and signed by former Gov. Eric Greitens.

More than 67 percent voted "no" on Proposition A, which repealed the law passed in February 2017. The state's constitution allows for a referendum on any legislation passed by the General Assembly if approximately 100,000 voters sign petitions requesting one. Right-to-work opponents gathered more than three times that, setting up August's election.

"Missourians reaffirmed what we've known for a long time," said International President Lonnie R. Stephenson, who visited the Show-Me State and assisted with get-out-the vote push. "Right-to-work is

bad news for all working Americans, not just union members. That's the message you get when you put this issue in the hands of the people instead of the politicians.

"I am so proud of our members in Missouri and throughout the nation who helped make this a reality. It's a powerful reminder that when we work together, we achieve great things."

St. Louis Local 1 Business Manager Frank Jacobs noted the Legislature moved the vote up to the August primary from November because it thought it would help Proposition A's chances of passing. Instead, it was voted down in 99 of the state's 114 counties, most of which are dominated by Republican politicians. IBEW local unions worked long hours with their allies to help defeat the law.

"In our campaign, we never made it a Republican or Democrat issue," Jacobs said. "We never made it a union versus nonunion issue. We made it about the working men and women in the state of Missouri and what's best for them."

Right-to-work laws allow employees covered by a collectively-bargained contract to enjoy its benefits without paying their fair share to cover its costs. They also suppress wages. Missouri workers are paid at a higher rate than six bordering states with right-to-work laws.

The fight captured the attention of working people across the country, many of whom took part in phone-banking operations to get out the vote. They also put their money where their mouth was. Pro-corporate organizations like the Chamber of Commerce, which are accustomed to having a financial advantage, complained about not having as many resources as right-to-work opponents.

AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Liz Shuler, a member of Portland, Ore., Local 125, traveled to the state several times and was in Kansas City during the vote.

"The victory in Missouri follows a national wave of inspiring activism that is leading to life-changing collective bargaining agreements and electoral triumphs that remind America the path to power runs through the labor movement," AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka said.

Missouri political director Rudy Chavez, a former Kansas City Local 124 president, said the win will be even more significant if the momentum continues and voters vote out politicians who supported right-to-work and other measures that harm working families. Some Republican politicians have said they will bring right-to-work up again when the Legislature reconvenes in January.

"We voted our pocketbooks," Chavez said. "We need to remember in November." ■



International President Lonnie R. Stephenson and St. Louis Local 1 Business Manager Frank Jacobs knocked on doors the weekend before Missouri voters' resounding rejection of right-to-work.

NORTH OF 49° | AU NORD DU 49° PARALLÈLE

Calling All Canadians: Now Hiring in Georgia

The Plant Vogtle nuclear facility in Georgia needs hundreds of electricians, as well as welders and other tradespeople, in order to meet its construction deadline — and it looks like it's going to take a few good Canadians to make that happen.

"Construction is booming at unprecedented levels," said Fifth District International Representative Gene O'Kelley. "We anticipated this years ago. It took a little longer than expected, but there's no doubt that it's here now."

To meet the demand, Bechtel, the project contractor, has applied for H-2B visas for 350 journeyman wiremen and 150 welders to work on Units 3 and 4 of Plant Vogtle. The visas are given to foreign, non-agricultural workers coming for temporary work, such as a peak load need or on a one-time basis.

The call went out in July across Canada for available members willing to travel south this fall, where they'll get a per diem along with their regular pay. That's a good deal for a lot of reasons, said First District International Representative Paul Dolsen. For an out-of-work member, not only are they getting a \$450-per-week attendance bonus, they're being paid in American dollars, which are currently stronger than Canadian dollars.

With major projects winding down in Atlantic Canada and continued unemployment in some western provinces, including around Alberta's oil sands, there are a lot of members in need of work.

"Given some of the pockets of unemployment in our country and the winding down of those major projects, we shouldn't have any issues with getting enough members," Dolsen said.

While powerline technicians are able to cross the border without visas for work, often after disasters like Hurricanes Katrina or Maria, it's a different story for journeyman wiremen. That classification of Canadian worker must apply for a work visa. It's an issue the IBEW has addressed with both countries' governments. Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs Chrystia Freeland has also raised it in the current renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

"Our Red Seal journeypersons get the best possible training and can work anywhere in the country with that certification. There's no reason they shouldn't be able to offer their skills in the U.S. when it's needed," said First District Vice President Thomas Reid.

The IBEW is working with fellow trade union United Association, along with Bechtel, to secure the visas. The two unions represent the largest number of in-demand skilled craftspeople.

Prior to getting permission for Canadian members to work at the plant, O'Kelley says the IBEW hosted job fairs in Georgia, South Carolina and Florida. They also ran television and radio ads.

Part of the reason Georgia Power, Vog-

tle's part owner, has had trouble attracting workers is the comparatively low wage rate versus other booming parts of the U.S.

"The wages at Plant Vogtle are lower than they are in other parts of the state. ... A lot of these other jobs pay more incentives, so they do get more manpower before Vogtle," Augusta, Ga., Local 1579 Business Manager Will Salters told The Atlanta Journal Constitution.

The Vogtle project has drawn controversy for delays and for going over budget. Units 3 and 4 have been under construction since 2011 and were originally scheduled for completion in 2016 and 2017, with a \$14 billion price tag. Based on current estimates, they aren't expected to be done until late 2021 or early 2022, with costs likely to double.

Salters and O'Kelley say many of the delays were due to engineering issues and using subpar materials, which didn't always make it to the site on time.

"The delays never had to do with manpower," Salters said.

The units are the first to be built in



Out-of-work Canadian members could get the chance to work on construction of Plant Vogtle, a nuclear station under construction in Georgia, alongside members from Augusta, Ga., Local 1579.

the U.S. in decades. While they can be expensive to build, nuclear plants are prized for their zero-emissions energy and reliability, something that's become increasingly important as states scramble to meet emissions standards set by the

Environmental Protection Agency.

"That type of stability is vital to the grid," O'Kelley said.

If the delays continue, the public may further sour on the project, which could be detrimental to the future of nuclear power.

"The country is watching these two units," Salters said. "If things go OK, it could lead to more construction, and if so, there will be a lot of IBEW members in both countries to thank for it — and who will be trained for the next one." ■

Appel à tous les Canadiens : la Géorgie procède actuellement à l'embauche

À fin de respecter le délai fixé pour les travaux de construction, la centrale nucléaire de Vogtle en Géorgie a besoin d'une centaine d'électriciens, des électriciens-soudeurs et d'autres gens de métiers; et les Canadiens semblent être le choix pour y arriver.

« Les travaux de construction sont en pleine effervescence à un niveau sans précédent », dit le représentant international du Cinquième District Gene O'Kelley. « Nous l'avons anticipé depuis plusieurs années. Cela a pris plus de temps que prévu, mais il n'y a plus aucun doute que l'heure est arrivée. »

Pour répondre à la demande, le contractant du projet Bechtel, a déposé une demande pour des visas H-2B pour 350 compagnons électriciens et 150 électriciens-soudeurs pour travailler sur les unités 3 et 4 de la centrale de Vogtle. Les visas sont accordés à des travailleurs étrangers des secteurs non agricoles pour un emploi d'une durée déterminée, comme dans le cas d'une demande élevée ou à titre d'occasion unique.

L'appel a été fait au mois de juillet à travers le Canada pour les membres disponibles à voyager au sud cet automne,

où un per diem sera également accordé avec leur salaire. C'est un bon accord pour plusieurs raisons, mentionne le représentant international du Premier District Paul Dolsen. Pour un membre

sans emploi, non seulement qu'ils reçoivent une prime de présence de 450 \$ par semaine, mais ils se font payer en dollars américains qui est présentement plus fort que le dollar canadien.

Alors que d'importants projets prennent fin dans les provinces de l'Atlantique et la persistance du chômage dans les provinces de l'Ouest, y compris dans les sables bitumineux en Alberta, il y a beaucoup de membres qui ont besoin de travailler.

« Étant donné les poches de chômage dans notre pays et la fin de ces importants projets, nous n'aurions aucun problème à trouver des membres, » émet Dolsen.

Bien que les monteurs de ligne puissent traverser les frontières sans visa pour le travail, souvent à la suite des ouragans comme Katrina et Maria, c'est une autre histoire pour les compagnons électriciens. Cette classification de travailleurs canadiens doit faire une demande de visa pour le travail. C'est un problème que la FIOE a soulevé aux deux gouvernements de ces pays. La ministre des Affaires étrangères du Canada Chrystia Freeland l'a également soulevé dans les négociations de l'Accord du libre-échange nord-américain.

« Nos compagnons certifiés Sceau Rouge reçoivent la meilleure formation et peuvent travailler partout au pays. Il n'y a aucune raison pourquoi ils ne peuvent pas partager leurs connaissances dans les É-U lorsque c'est nécessaire, » affirme

Thomas Reid le vice-président international du Premier District.

La FIOE travaille en collaboration avec le syndicat United Association et Betchel pour obtenir les visas. Les deux syndicats représentent le plus grand nombre de gens de métiers qualifiés en demande.

Avant d'obtenir la permission d'offrir l'emploi aux membres canadiens pour travailler dans la centrale, O'Kelley a dit que la FIOE a participé à une foire à l'emploi en Géorgie, en Caroline du Sud ainsi qu'en Floride. Ils ont également diffusé des annonces publicitaires à la télévision et à la radio.

C'est notamment à cause d'un taux faible de rémunération que Georgia Power, copropriétaire de Vogtle a de la difficulté à attirer des travailleurs à comparer à d'autres parties des États-Unis et à d'autres régions en pleine effervescence.

Dans une entrevue accordée à Atlanta Journal Constitution, le gérant d'affaires Will Salters de la section locale 1579 située à Augusta en Géorgie explique que « Les salaires sont plus faibles à la centrale de Vogtle à comparer à d'autres parties de l'État. De nombreux emplois payent plus d'avantages, alors le nombre de leur main-d'œuvre est plus élevé que Vogtle. »

Le projet Vogtle a attiré des controverses pour les délais et pour avoir dépassé le budget. Les unités 3 et 4 sont en construction depuis 2011 et ont initialement été prévu pour 2016 et 2017, avec

une facture de 14 milliards de dollars. Selon les prévisions actuelles, on s'attend à les terminer à la fin de 2021 ou tôt en 2022, avec des coûts susceptibles de doubler.

Salters et O'Kelley avouent que les nombreux délais sont dus à des troubles reliés à l'ingénierie et l'utilisation de matériels inférieurs; d'ailleurs, ces pièces n'arrivaient pas toujours sur les lieux en temps voulu.

« Les délais n'ont aucun lien avec la main-d'œuvre, » soutient Salters.

Les nouvelles unités sont les premières à être construites aux États-Unis depuis des décennies. Alors que la construction peut s'avérer coûteuse, les centrales nucléaires sont réputées pour avoir une énergie à zéro émission et fiabilité, c'est une chose qui est devenue de plus en plus importante puisque les États se préparent à satisfaire les normes établies par l'Agence américaine pour la protection de l'environnement (Environmental Protection Agency).

Si les délais continuent de retarder, le public pourrait davantage bouder le projet ce qui pourrait nuire à l'avenir de l'énergie nucléaire.

« Le pays observe ces deux unités de près, » avise Salters. « Si tout se passe bien, cela peut mener à plus de travaux de construction, et nous devons remercier un bon nombre de membres de la FIOE des deux pays, tout en étant formés pour le prochain. » ■

TRANSITIONS

RETIRED

Carolyn Williams



Carolyn Williams, whose IBEW journey began in the granite underbelly of Atlanta as the city carved its subway system, retired in July

from her role as director of the Civic and Community Engagement Department.

A role model for a generation of women in the trades and union leadership, Williams was one of the first women to complete Atlanta Local 613's apprenticeship program as a journeyman inside wireman. Later, she became the local's first woman and person of color to serve as an assistant business manager.

Hiring Williams, says her former boss, was one of the best decisions he ever made.

"She made an impression from the beginning when she applied to be an apprentice," retired Local 613 Business Manager Lonnie Plott said. "Her demeanor, her intelligence, her ability to get along with people, her respect within the union and from employers, the business community, politicians — she's the total package."

Born and raised in Atlanta, Williams graduated from Spelman College in 1978 with a degree in psychology. She was headed reluctantly toward graduate school when she had a chance encounter with two young electricians.

"They asked me about my plans," she said. "I told them, 'I just know I want to go to work. I don't want to sit down.'"

Fresh out of Local 613 apprenticeships, the men said they'd graduated in the same class as the program's first woman. They asked Williams if she liked math. She did.

Her mother grumbled about money "wasted" on her college education while her father beamed at the idea of his daughter being an "electrical engineer" — not quite, she told him.

"There was some self-doubt — this was a man's world," she said, thinking back to the day she walked into Local 613's offices. "It was scary, but it helped knowing the first woman had already come through."

She was hired as a summer helper, assigned to a crew that plunged deep underground twice a day to manage power lines for miners blowing open future train tunnels.

Williams was laid off after four days — along with others, she thought — and sent to a construction site at the city's airport. She learned the truth when she started her apprenticeship that September.

"That job you worked on — that was a mock layoff. Everybody else but you came back to work on Monday," a union brother told her, explaining that a project supervisor had visited the site, seen Williams and ordered her gone.

His attitude turned out to be more exception than rule, Williams said, as her

career advanced. As a third-year apprentice, she was sent to an AT&T building site where, unbeknownst to her, a superintendent laid down the law the day before she arrived. She heard the story at the man's funeral a decade later:

"Mr. Honea came down to the job and said, 'Fellows, these pictures on the wall' — girlie pictures from magazines — 'I want them taken down. I've got a female coming tomorrow and I don't want her to have any problems.'"

Williams rose to be a job foreman, winning respect then and throughout her career with composure and dignity.

"She's a Jedi master," said Ann Peek of Toledo, Ohio, Local 8, who first heard her speak at an IBEW women's conference and agreed, at Williams' urging, to represent the Fourth District on the International Women's Committee.

"She has this aura around her," Peek said. "You see people who need to raise

their voice. She never has to raise her voice. She's very calm, but also very commanding, very powerful when she speaks. She's the strongest person I've ever known."

Williams joined Local 613's staff after Plott was elected business manager in 1996. Committed to hiring an African-American, he said only one construction local in the Deep South at the time had a black assistant business manager. He wondered if it was too soon to choose a black woman.

"I felt like it would have been easier to bring an African-American male on first," Plott said. "I evaluated, and I finally said, 'Carolyn's the most qualified. I'm kidding myself trying to find somebody else.'"

"In six months' time, she had gained the total respect and admiration of every business manager in the district."

Williams stretched her job description to include virtually anything — a new approach to member orientation, streamlin-

ing the dispatch process, taking charge of the newsletter and website, building labor and community coalitions and much more.

She'd been on staff a year when Georgia's governor asked her to join the board of the state's new transportation authority, the only member chosen from labor and the trades. "She brought a lot of prestige to the local," Plott said.

In 2002, the year after Plott was elected to the International Executive Council, he got a call from International President Ed Hill. "He said, 'Lonnie, I want to put a woman in the construction department and everybody tells me you've got the best.'"

Williams handled agreement approvals as an international representative in the Construction and Maintenance Department until 2006, when Hill promoted her to director of what is now the Civic and Community Engagement Department.

Building on the IBEW's commitment

to diversity, she created and strengthened programs and activities for women, minorities and younger members. Her efforts raised awareness throughout the union about civil and human rights issues, inspiring activism and community service.

Her persistence over the years led International President Lonnie R. Stephenson to establish the International Women's Committee and to preside over a resolution at the 2016 convention urging locals to launch their own. It passed unanimously.

With trademark humility, Williams says she's proud of her role in the emerging committees and the now-biennial international women's conference, both of which "are helping leadership understand what women bring to the table and how they support the IBEW and the work of the labor movement."

Her influence and contributions made a mark far beyond the IBEW. As director, she served on the boards of the

CIRCUITS

IBEW Leaders Push for Tougher Whistleblower Protections

IBEW officials joined with fellow transportation trades representatives in June to make an impassioned argument for stronger enforcement of federal whistleblower laws.

Alongside representatives from 31 sister unions and the AFL-CIO's Transportation Trades Department, the IBEW's Railroad Department gave a united presentation during a recent U.S. Department of Labor meeting about protecting whistleblowers from employer retaliation.

Railroad Department Director William Bohné offered a number of suggestions for ways that the agency could strengthen its protections of IBEW members in particular.

"We'd really like to see OSHA assess bigger punitive damages against companies that repeatedly retaliate against whistleblowers, for example," Bohné said. "Fines can't be some affordable price for breaking the law. We need to make employers think before they act."

The June 12 gathering in Washington, D.C., was organized by the Labor Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration. It brought together a number of organizations that represent the U.S.'s rail and trucking communities.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration was created by an act of Congress in 1970. Nineteen years later, Congress expanded OSHA's authority, under nearly two dozen federal laws, to safeguard the rights of employees who report violations of a variety of workplace laws and to protect from retaliation workers who report things such as on-the-job injuries and safety concerns.

"Too often," Bohné said, "managers aren't aware of — or, more likely, they just don't care about — what OSHA does and how it's supposed to protect workers."

A lot of employers would rather waste their time fighting whistleblower claims instead of just complying with the law in the first place, he said. "So, we'd like to see OSHA have the ability to compel employers to train their managers on how to comply with whistleblower laws."

Publishing on the web a list of repeat offenders also could help deter bad employer behavior, Bohné said.

The June meeting was the first in a series of OSHA-planned public-input gatherings, which the agency said were geared toward determining how it might better explain whistleblower laws and improve its customer service practices.

"The IBEW has long advocated for strong whistleblower protections that shield transportation workers from employer retaliation when reporting safety violations, accidents or injuries," Bohné said. "Such protections support workers and promote a safe work environment, but they're only successful when they're implemented properly."

Further, he said, rank-and-file workers need to be aware that they have rights when it comes to reporting bad employer behavior, and OSHA could lend a hand in rais-

"In a perfect world, companies wouldn't create an environment where whistleblowing was needed."

— William Bohné



OSHA's Whistleblower Protection Program was created to enforce protections for all employees — including those in rail and other transportation trades — who report violations of various workplace safety and health laws.

ing that awareness.

"When you consider the number of whistleblower cases that get dismissed or remanded," Bohné said, "we start to wonder whether workers have ready access to the tools they need for the timely filing of claims."

The filing process is already hard enough, he said, but it gets more complicated with the added worry that taking action and reporting violations could put a worker's job at risk.

"In a perfect world, companies wouldn't create an environment where whistleblowing was needed in the first place," Bohné said.

Whistleblower protection laws also cover workers' participation in safety and health activities as well as the reporting of work-related injuries, illnesses, or fatalities.

Federal law forbids employers from discriminating against workers when they exercise their rights by filing OSHA complaints, talking to inspectors, seeking access to employer exposure and injury records, reporting injuries, and raising safety or health complaints with employers.

In 2007, the Federal Railroad Safety Act was amended to transfer authority for railroad carrier worker whistleblower protections to OSHA and to include new rights, remedies, and procedures.

If you have been retaliated or discriminated against for exercising your rights, you must file a complaint with OSHA within 180 days of the alleged adverse action. Retaliatory actions can include firing, laying off, blacklisting, intimidation, and making threats. Visit whistleblowers.gov to learn more.

If you need assistance getting started, talk to your business manager or shop steward. And for help in filing a claim, contact an IBEW Federal Employees Liability Act (FELA) designated legal counsel. For details, visit ibew.org/railroad. ■

Coalition of Labor Union Women, the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists and the A. Philip Randolph Institute and chaired the NABTU's Committee on Women in the Trades, persuading them to establish an annual tradeswomen's conference.

Williams is returning to Atlanta after 16 years of making weekend trips home. When she moved to Washington, her husband, retired NFL linebacker Joel Williams, stayed in Atlanta to care for their aging parents.

She's misty-eyed about leaving her job and Washington-area friends but looking forward to having time to support the work of Local 613 and other labor and pro-worker political campaigns in her hometown. A body builder since college, she also plans to lift weights again on a regular basis.

The IBEW family thanks Sister Williams for decades of outstanding service and dedication to our union and wishes her a long and happy retirement. ■

APPOINTED

David Salazar



International President Lonnie R. Stephenson has appointed David Salazar director of the Support Services Department, effective Aug. 1.

Support Services brings together purchasing, order management, supply services, mail and document management for the International, district and local offices and protects the IBEW's trademarks, particularly the Brotherhood's logo. Salazar was appointed to replace Will Paul, who retired.

"Our support services team runs a great program, and I don't want that to change," Stephenson said. "David has been a key part of that for many years, and he's the right choice to ensure continued success for our members and staff."

Brother Salazar began at the IBEW in 1995 when he was hired as temporary data entry clerk. He was working as a contract system operator in Maryland for a county government when his employer lost the contract. The new contractor bid far less for the work and offered Salazar his job back with a massive pay and benefits cut. He'd just bought a house, and when a family friend suggested that the IBEW had an opening, he jumped at the opportunity. Salazar has been at the IBEW, and rising, ever since.

Salazar is a third-generation union member. His grandfather was a rodmann with the Iron Workers and his father, also David, was a member of the Carpenters.

"My dad always said I was being raised on union money. That always meant something," Salazar said. "He wanted me in a union, but not banging nails. He wanted something better."

As an employee of the IBEW, Salazar was a member of OPEIU Local 2. He was selected three times to serve on the

negotiating committee. Since he was appointed a supervisor in 2007, Salazar has no longer been a member of the bargaining unit but, he said, he has continued paying his dues and will continue doing so as director.

"Because I know where I came from," he said.

Under his leadership, Salazar said he hopes more locals will take advantage of his department's offerings.

"We do a lot more than just sell T-shirts off the web site," he said. "We are here to support the locals doing their work, to grow the union and change people's lives the way my family's life was changed by getting a union job."

On behalf of the entire membership and staff, the IBEW wishes Brother Salazar great success in his new position. ■

RETIRED

Jan Schwingshagl



International Representative Jan Schwingshagl retired, effective Aug. 1. From 2013, she worked as a regional trainer based out of the

International Office in Washington, D.C., to oversee the education and development of IBEW members in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas.

A native of Milwaukee, Schwingshagl began her career in 1975 with Wisconsin Electric Power Company, now known as We-Energies, as an accounting analyst in the company's finance department, where she joined the local division of the independent United Association of Office, Sales and Technical Employees union. Although Schwingshagl managed to survive the electric utility's 1993 downsizing, almost half of the local's members were not as fortunate. Those who remained voted to merge with the IBEW's Waukesha, Wis., Local 2150 a year later.

From the start, Schwingshagl had been active in developing and providing training programs for new members and stewards, and she continued to do so with Local 2150. She also served as an IBEW representative on a team that worked on a proposed merger of Wisconsin Electric and Northern States Power (now Xcel Energy), and in 2000, she developed and maintained Local 2150's first website.

"The better trained our members are — the more they understand about how their union benefits them, their employer and their communities — the better we are able to fend off baseless attacks and create more activists," she said. "That creates a stronger IBEW for workers and their families."

In 1998, Schwingshagl was appointed by then-Business Manager Timm Driscoll to be Local 2150's coordinator for education, research, and training.

She also served on the local's organizing and human rights committees, and

in 2000, she was appointed to serve as central registrar, helping to extend the role of education into the political and legislative process.

In addition to her considerable work with Local 2150, Schwingshagl served on the Wisconsin chapter of the AFL-CIO's state election coalition and education committee. She also found time to serve on the faculty advisory committee for the University of Wisconsin's School for Workers, and on the Laborfest and Union Label committees with the Milwaukee County Labor Council's.

"Without the knowledge of what your rights are in the workplace, you're pretty much at the mercy of the employer," she said. "And you can be sure they know what their own rights are."

In 2003, then-International President Edwin Hill appointed Schwingshagl to be an international representative and assigned her to head the education side of what was then known as the Education and Research Department. There, she developed and facilitated training programs in organizing and strategic campaigns. Three years later, when Hill split the department into separate units for education and research, Schwingshagl remained in charge of the Education Department, developing and implementing new training programs addressing membership development and political organizing.

"One of our first really big projects was the creation of the two-week long business manager training, still in use today," she said.

In 2013, Schwingshagl returned to her first love — hands-on classroom training — and became a regional trainer. "There's nothing more gratifying than standing up in front of a class and seeing light bulbs go on," she said. "That's the best part, when you realize you made a difference, and someone got it."

A member of the United Association of Labor Educators, Schwingshagl continued her education by taking classes at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, at Upper Iowa University, and at the National Labor College.

Although work travel has somewhat dominated Schwingshagl's life for the last five years, in retirement she plans to take on some pleasure travel, as well as spend time with her family and focus on getting healthier. "It's hard to eat healthy when you're on the road for work," she said with a laugh.

The Brotherhood wishes Sister Schwingshagl a restful, well-deserved retirement. ■

DECEASED

Patricia Cote



Retired International Representative Patricia Cote, a longtime leader in the telecommunications branch, died on June 9 in Easton, Mass.,

following a brief illness. She was 76.

"She was very dedicated and respected," said Broadcasting and Telecommunications Director Martha Pultar, who first met Cote in 1988. "Pat came along at a time when there were not a lot of women in leadership positions. She was always someone that I looked to for advice."

"She was passionate about the IBEW and was very outspoken about that to our membership. When someone speaks to you from the heart, you tend to listen."

Sister Cote was born in Eldorado, Ill., but moved with her family to Manchester, N.H., as a child and later attended the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City.

By 1969, she was employed in New England Telephone's accounting division and joined an organizing committee looking to join the IBEW. The effort succeeded and Cote became a member of Boston Local 2307 in September 1970.

Two years later, Local 2307 was amalgamated into Boston Local 2222 and Cote was named an assistant business manager. She also served on the policy committee during the IBEW's first national negotiations with AT&T in 1974 and on System Council T-6's arbitration committee.

She was appointed international representative in 1976, first working for the organizing department, primarily in the South. She was assigned to the Second District staff in 1987 — which included her home local — and remained there until her retirement in 2005.

Local 2222 Business Manager and International Executive Council member Myles Calvey said Cote "had this ingrained generosity to help people."

"I know it was tough for her being the only woman in the room a lot of times, but I've got to tell you, I don't think she had any enemies," Calvey said. "That's the type of person she was. Even in tough situations, she could get people to do great things because she just had a heart of gold."

Linda Harrison first met Cote when she was hired as a Local 2222 business agent in 1988. Harrison said she and several other staffers had no experience working in a local union office. Cote took her under her wing and the two remained close friends until her death.

Harrison said Cote shared many harrowing stories about the pitfalls of being a woman organizer in the Deep South, an area not known for being friendly to unions. That showed a degree of mental toughness few others could match, she said.

"She was a strong, confident woman," Harrison said. "You know what I learned from her? Not to let people treat you as some girl who doesn't know anything and how to be a representative of the union and make sure [companies] treated you with respect."

One way to do that, Cote taught her, was to never stumble when asked about the details of a contract, or to even have to stop and look it up. Harrison took her advice and would memorize every agreement involving Local 2222.

"People respected her and they feared her," Harrison said. "She knew

her stuff."

That wasn't all she was known for. Both Calvey and Harrison said Cote's extra effort to help members throughout the Second District was legendary. She was constantly making calls to make sure a member was being supported while going through a difficult time. She refused any attempts to be recognized for it, they said.

Harrison said Cote continued to try to do that even in retirement, often checking in with the Local 2222 office and old friends.

"I just always admired her," Harrison said. "She was so fun to be with. We always traded stories and mostly, she was just a good listener."

Cote listed "beach-bumming" as one of her favorite hobbies and she split her time between Easton and visits to Florida.

"I'll always remember her telling me, 'You can really take care of people and be nice at the same time,'" Calvey said. "Those were words to live by. She was just tremendous."

The IBEW's officers and staff send their condolences to Sister Cote's family and many friends during this difficult time. ■

DECEASED

Bonnie G. Crawford



Bonnie G. Crawford, who served manufacturing locals as an international representative in the South before retiring 20 years ago, died May 26

at age 84.

"He was dedicated to the Brotherhood," said Nathan Edgar, also a retired representative from the region that is now the Tenth District, formerly the Twelfth District. "That was the kind of man he was. He believed in his job and he believed in the work we were doing."

Crawford was involved in IBEW's organizing drive in the 1950s at Gould National Battery in Tennessee, where he worked after serving in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War.

In 1957, he was initiated into Memphis Local 1227, which no longer exists, and joined its executive board two years later. He was elected local president in 1967, a position he held until coming aboard the international staff in 1986.

Crawford retired in 1998, freeing him to spend time fishing and hunting. He was an active member of the Germantown Church of Christ in the Memphis area and had been married to his wife, Betty, also known as Nell, for 59 years. In addition to Betty, he is survived by three children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and five brothers and sisters.

While most of Crawford's colleagues from his era are gone, Edgar said, they held him in high regard. "He always did his best for the Brotherhood," he said.

The IBEW family extends its deepest sympathy to Brother Crawford's family and friends. ■

LOCAL LINES

Congratulations to Graduates

L.U. 1 (as,c,ees,ei,em,es,et,fm,i,mt,rts,s,se,spa,st&ws), ST. LOUIS, MO — IBEW Local 1's first graduating class with the new Skilled Trades Associate of Applied Science degree from St. Louis Community College proudly celebrated at a dinner on Thursday, May 31, at Favazza's Restaurant. The recent graduates are from our Inside, Residential and Communications apprenticeship programs.

Congratulations to the graduates: William Winkler, Kyle Mayfield, Robert Papin, Jason Boehm, Robert Rice, Darin Baker, Robert Hitchcock, Andrew Cassidy, Michael Semar, Shawn Walsh, Michael Brammeier, Nicholas Funke, Kyle Jakubs and Marquis Thompson.

You are eligible to receive your Skilled Trades AAS degree if you completed one of the Local 1 apprenticeship programs with the IBEW/NECA Electrical Training Center and complete the required classes at St. Louis Community College.

For more information about the program, please call the IBEW/NECA Local 1 St. Louis JATC at 314-644-3587.

We mourn the loss of Local 1 members who passed away in recent months. Regrettably, space limitations prevent our listing all their names in this article. Local 1 extends heartfelt condolences to their families.

Jan Bresnan, P.S.



Local 1 congratulates recent graduates. Back row, William Winkler (left), Kyle Mayfield, Robert Papin, Jason Boehm, Robert Rice. Front row, Darin Baker, Robert Hitchcock, Andrew Cassidy, Michael Semar and Shawn Walsh. Not pictured: Michael Brammeier, Nicholas Funke, Kyle Jakubs and Marquis Thompson.

Recent Staffing Changes

L.U. 15 (u), DOWNERS GROVE, IL — Greetings, brothers and sisters, from Local 15. We recently went through some staffing changes. Longtime business representatives Terry Cagney and Dave Sergenti have retired.

Terry became an IBEW member in 1971, serving as steward, chief steward, vice president and president of former Local 1539. After then-Local 1539 was amalgamated into Local 15 in 1994, Terry began serving Local 15 as business representative.

Dave became an IBEW member in 1982, serving as chief steward and business representative.

Local 15 wishes both gentlemen the best in their well-deserved retirement. Both Bro. Cagney and Bro. Sergenti served the membership at the highest level and will be missed.

New Bus. Reps. Ben Busser (nuclear sector) and Fabian Vela (clerical sector) fill the posts formerly held by Bros. Cagney and Sergenti. The new representatives started on April 30, 2018. Busser is a former chief steward from Byron Nuclear Station. Vela was a steward, a chief steward and then served the local as treasurer prior to moving into the business representative position.

The Local 15 Executive Board appointed Bro. George Longoria to replace Fabian Vela as the local's treasurer to fill the unexpired term of office.

Congratulations to all. Local 15 welcomes the new appointees and wishes them the best in their new roles.

Sam Studer, P.S.

'Elections Have Consequences'

L.U. 17 (catv,em,lctt,o&u), DETROIT, MI — As we approach midterm elections, it's time to reflect on what has happened to working people across our country and, specifically, here in Michigan.

A few years back, a Republican-controlled state House and Senate made Michigan a "right-to-work" (for less) state. This past June, those same folks repealed Michigan's prevailing wage law.

One month later, the conservative right-wing justice appointed by Trump tipped the scales on the Supreme Court enough to make the entire United States "right to work" for public sector employees. A lifelong appointment to the Supreme Court by Donald Trump continues the attack on all public-sector unions. **[Editor's Note: To read more, see news story "Supreme Court Ruling in Janus: An Attack on Every American Who Works for a Living," posted on the IBEW website at www.ibew.org/media-center/Articles.]**

They are taking one brick at a time, brothers and sisters. That's how they are attempting to destroy labor unions.

What will it take for us to unite behind labor-friendly candidates? What do we, and our families, have to lose before we vote anti-labor jerks out of office?

I am fond of the idea that one day I will retire with enough money to live comfortably. I, as will all of you, enjoy a solid middle-class lifestyle until that day comes. That is thanks to this great union — and I am willing, as many of you are, to fight like hell to keep it.

Brothers and sisters, elections have conse-

quences. Anti-labor attacks are harming our members and working people across this great nation. Please vote for labor-friendly candidates this November! Visit our website at www.ibewlocal17.org for a list of candidates who fight for our way of life!

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

Officer Transitions

L.U. 19 (u), AURORA, IL — Please join the members of Local 19 in congratulating our former Bus. Mgr./Pres. Christopher Harris on his recent appointment as an IBEW international representative assigned to the Utility Department at the International Office in Washington, D.C., effective July 1, 2018.

Bro. Harris, your perseverance, dedication, determination, and commitment to the members of Local 19 will never be forgotten.

We also congratulate Bro. Mark Klinefelter, who was appointed by the Local 19 Executive Board as business manager/president to fill the unexpired term of office until the local's next regularly scheduled election.

On behalf of Local 19 brothers and sisters, we wish Int. Rep. Harris and Bus. Mgr. Klinefelter the best of luck in their new positions!

Natalia Guzman, B.R.

Career of IBEW Service

L.U. 43 (em,i&rts), SYRACUSE, NY — As many of you have already heard, former Bus. Mgr. Don Morgan retired from Local 43 at the end of June, after 45 years with the IBEW.

We will miss him and his dedicated, devoted work for our local union and the labor movement. We will miss his morning and afternoon greetings to each of us as he passed us in the office hallway. We will miss his humor, and his willingness to listen to us — especially when we were facing some real obstacles. Thank you, Don, for that.

Many of you may not know that Bus. Mgr. Morgan also has served Local 43 as president, vice president and Executive Board member. He also served as trustee of the Pension, Annuity & Health Plans and Trustee of the Central New York Joint Apprenticeship & Training Fund. Thank you, Don, for all you have contributed to this organization.

We wish you well, Don. I know you plan to go hunting more, enjoy time with your family and grandchildren, and take plenty of walks on the beach with the sand between your toes. Retirement can hold the most meaningful years of life. You deserve all the best, Don. We wish you a healthy, long lasting retirement. Enjoy!

Alan Marzullo, B.M.

Steward & Safety Conference

L.U. 47 (lctt,mo,o,u&uow), DIAMOND BAR, CA — Greetings, brothers and sisters.

Over 600 attended the Stewards & Safety Conference on June 2. Int. Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson, Int. Sec.-Treas. Kenneth W. Cooper, and Int. Vice Pres. John J. O'Rourke were speakers. The participants included stewards, union safety representatives and union Safety Board members.

At Anaheim, negotiations continue with new engineering and management groups.

We are still bargaining the UtiliQuest cable locators and Irvine Ranch Water District contracts.

More new jurisdictional battles with LIUNA and IUOE have sprung up in solar and LA Mass Transit projects.

We lost the Southern California (SCE) planners election by 247-351 votes.

The Tribal labor relations order election took place June 27. Once certified, the tribe has agreed to the original three-year agreement and to give 90 days of back pay.

Our 18th Annual Local 47 Members Memorial Golf Tournament was July 27, and the picnic took place Aug. 11. Our 15th Annual Brotherhood Motorcycle Run is Oct. 6.

We are sad to report the death of several members: Kevin Smith, Jay Fisher, Jim Weir and Steve Armitage. Condolences and prayers to their loved ones.

Live free & safe — work & buy union.

Mitch Smith, P.S.



From left: Kevin Payne; Local 47 Bus. Mgr. and IEC member Patrick Lavin; Int. Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson; Int. Sec.-Treas. Kenneth W. Cooper; and Int. Vice Pres. John J. O'Rourke.

Father of the Year Award

L.U. 51 (catv,lctt,o,ptc,rtb,t,u&uow), SPRINGFIELD, IL — Chad Cornwell, Local 51 journeyman lineman working at EnerStar Electric Co-op in Paris, IL, was awarded Eastern Illini Electric Cooperative's "Illinois Country Living" 2018 Father of the Year Award.

After a series of family deaths and at the age of

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 email (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/media-center/IBEW-News-Media-Center/Submitting-Local-Lines. Please email 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	(rtb) Radio-Television Broadcasting	(tm) Transportation Manufacturing
(ei) Electrical Inspection	(mo) Maintenance & Operation	(rtm) Radio-Television Manufacturing	(u) Utility
(em) Electrical Manufacturing	(mow) Manufacturing Office Workers	(ws) Warehouse and Supply	(uow) Utility Office Workers
(es) Electric Signs	(mar) Marine		

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.

29, Bro. Cornwell became a legal guardian to his 13-year-old niece, Breanne. The life of a lineman can be a challenge while raising a teenager alone. Chad got Breanne ready for school each morning and cooked dinner at night. Between callouts, storm travel and a busy work schedule, he made sure Breanne was well cared for. He always attended her softball games, sometimes showing up in his lineman gear. Chad came to her prom for photos in his lineman gear, too. Breanne must have liked that look because she married a lineman, and she and her husband now have a baby boy. Bro. Cornwell married, and he now has three more young children. Congratulations on this well-deserved award, Bro. Cornwell.

Our 2018 Golf Scholarship Outing was June 2. The winning team shot a 59 and included Colton Beaman, Joe Bianco, Zach Overmyer and Walter Westfall.

Awarded \$500 scholarships were: Michael Beardsley (son of Mike Beardsley), Tony Biccoci (son of Beth Biccoci), Bryson Heiserman (son of Luann Heiserman), Brianna Buford (granddaughter of Sylvia Buford), Justin Dirr (son of Jill Dirr), Erick Crabtree Jr. (son of Erick Crabtree), Brandon Finn (stepson of Brad Wickell), Ian Smith (son of Katie Smith), Reanna Orr (daughter of Shari Thurman), Seth Manion (grandson of Peggy Younger), Aspyn Taylor (granddaughter of Ann Marie Hubbell), Victoria Morgan (daughter of Jenny Morgan), Madison Castelli (daughter of Mike Castelli), Kelsi Gortner (daughter of Mark Gortner), and Mackenzie Wilson (daughter of Randy Wilson).

Karlene Knisley, B.R.



At Local 53's 30th annual crappie tournament on June 9.

Poker Run Fundraiser; Annual Crappie Tournament

L.U. 53 (lctt,o,rts&u), KANSAS CITY, MO — On June 2, Local 53's riding group and members had a poker run to raise money for the NSUJL group. They had 22 bikes and raised \$1,740 that was donated to the National Sisterhood United for Journeyman Linemen.

I'm happy to report that we had 25 teams turn out for our 30th annual crappie tournament June 9. The first-place team, Garrett Sage and Luke Bailey, scored a weight of 11 pounds and 23 ounces. It was nice to see members and their families.

At this writing, we are finishing up contract negotiations for the Kansas City Board of Public Utilities (BPU) clerical and physical units, Sho-Me Power Electric Cooperative employees, and the City of Independence clerical & maintenance groups.

Brett A. Stone, B.M./F.S.

June 2018 Retiree Luncheon

L.U. 55 (c,lctt,o&u), DES MOINES, IOWA — This year's Retiree Luncheon was June 26. Approximately 40 retirees and family members attended. Terri Vitiritto, Rhonda Fucaloro and Fran Brownell planned the event. The food was great, and everyone had a great time visiting together.

Bus. Mgr. Mike Sawyer brought the dinner to order with a few comments. He discussed the value that our retirees have brought to our local. Without them, where would all of us be? Just think of the people they helped to train and the jobs they did. For

most of the retirees, there were no bucket trucks when they were working, just a pair of hooks and a very used belt.

Members recognized for longtime service included the following: 25-year member — Fran Brownell; 45-year members — John Baker, Robert Clarys, John Shypkowski and John Witcraft; and 50-year members — Richard Anderson, George Bandstra, Robert Burt, Paul Ellis, Carl Fox, Lloyd Jones and Doug Ridout. In total, they represent 555 years of IBEW service. Congratulations to each of them. Please take a moment to think of these longtime members and the safe work they did during their careers.

There are no shortcuts when it comes to safety. This has been a bad year for our local and we all need to keep an eye out for each other. Remember to wear your protective gear and always practice safety.

If you have ideas or suggestions for the contract negotiations, please call and let someone at the hall know. If any travelers are looking for work, please call our local.

Myron Green, P.S.

Annual Graduation Ceremony

L.U. 81 (i), SCRANTON, PA — On Oct. 25 last year, the IBEW Local 81 Scranton Electricians JATC held its annual graduation ceremony for the class of 2017.

Among the guests were: IBEW Third District Int. Vice Pres. Michael D. Welsh, NECA Exec. Dir. Jeffrey Scarpello, JATC committee members, Local 81 officers, graduates, current apprentices, and other representatives of local agencies including the Department of Labor.

Completion certificates were handed out and awards were presented. Timothy Leber received the class of 2017 Outstanding Apprentice Award. Tyler Chesko received the Frank O'Neil Jr. Award, which recognizes dedication, courage and commitment. We thank Klein Tools and IDEAL Tools for providing awards to help recognize our outstanding apprentice and award recipients. Congratulations to the class of 2017! [Photo, bleow.]

Michael Brust, P.S.

Service to Community

L.U. 97 (u), SYRACUSE, NY — In this article we would like to highlight examples of the compassionate work that our Local 97 members who work as service representatives for National Grid provide daily. Earlier this year, service rep Matt Weeg was investigating a location for unauthorized usage. He found a woman on oxygen and children who were in a dirty, unsafe environment. He facilitated contact with area Child Protective Services and Adult Protective Services agencies to intervene. Those agencies were then able to assist the customer in correcting the unsafe conditions and establishing electric service, and APS closed the case.

Also, earlier this year, service rep Guy Botten-

field was performing a disconnect order at a residence where the previous customer was deceased. The new occupant had run up a large unpaid bill. Guy was concerned for the occupant's well-being and helped facilitate a home visit by Adult Protective Services the next day. The occupant had mental challenges, but the APS worker was able to navigate a solution with him. Other company personnel spoke with the occupant's son and provided instructions to request a case worker from the area Office for Aging. This is what our members do daily — work for the benefit and safety of our customers. Congratulations to Matt and Guy for jobs well done!

Dan Machold, B.R./P.S.



At Fenway Park in Boston, a Local 103 & NECA sign with the IBEW logo is prominently displayed on the "Green Monster," the 37-foot-high left field wall.

Powering Fenway Park Union Night & Family Outing

L.U. 103 (cs&i), BOSTON, MA — Local 103 contractors and members have been providing all the electrical and telecom expertise needed to power Fenway Park for many years. This year is no different, except that IBEW Local 103 has taken on more of a partnership role with the Red Sox organization this season.

June 22 was Union Night and Local 103's Family Outing at Fenway Park. A few hundred Local 103 members and their families came out to the old ball park to enjoy dinner and drinks outside on the exclusive Vineyard Vines deck. We watched Bus. Mgr. Lou Antonellis throw out the ceremonial first pitch alongside Wally and NECA Boston Chapter Mgr. Glenn Kingsbury (a strike, of course). We were able to see, up close, the IBEW bug and union label on the Green Monster! We also held an equipment drive and collected new and used baseball/softball equipment as part of the Red Sox Baseball Tomorrow Fund for inner city kids. The Red Sox won a slugfest over the Seattle Mariners, 15-10. Everyone had a great time singing Sweet Caroline and dancing on the jumbotron.

You can win tickets for an upcoming Sox game at a Local 103 union meeting. The powering Fenway

partnership has really been a great way for 103 families to see their beloved Red Sox and see IBEW represented proudly in Fenway Park.

Jimmy Fleming, P.S.

Step Up for Your Union — 'There is Much We Can Do'

L.U. 113 (ees,em,i,mo&o), COLORADO SPRINGS, CO — During former Pres. John F. Kennedy's inaugural speech, he said: "And so, my fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you — ask what you can do for your country." I chose the Labor Day issue to echo his words and ask: What can you do for your union?

Too many of us are what I call "the silent majority." We pay our dues, do our job and are well-rounded members, but that is it. Most get comfortable with this routine and that is perfectly fine, or is it? If we are to be a stronger union, members must accept the need to do more. There is much we can do! It can be as simple as going to a union meeting and signing up for a committee or volunteering when asked to do so. We can start by giving back to a union that has been so good to us all.

Lastly, we must all, especially in today's political climate, be knowledgeable and educate others on politicians and affairs that affect us the most. No longer can we afford to install politicians who promise the world, only to find out their agenda is to destroy us.

In solidarity we trust.

Brian Putnam, P.S.



Local 113 recent retirees receive retirement watches. From left: Gary Rusk, Bob Driscoll, Steve Wells, Brian Bradley and Frank Sams. Not pictured: George Borman and Bob Nuss.

'Staying IBEW Strong'

L.U. 125 (lctt,o,t&u), PORTLAND, OR — Our local union is committed to the "I'm Staying IBEW Strong" campaign and hopes that all members are prepared to stand up and fight for the values our union was founded on.

As we enjoy our summer months, please take time to participate in some of our activities including shop steward training and fundraisers for the Oregon Burn Center. These are excellent opportunities to connect with your union brothers and sisters. We need all members, whether you work for a private or public utility, to promote solidarity and advocate for our membership. Think about it. Why should anyone care about our dues structure? The super PACs and their deep pockets simply strive to weaken our bargaining position. However, they cannot weaken our resolve. Please follow us on our Instagram account @IBEW 125 and pledge your support to Staying IBEW125 Strong.

Marcy Grail, A.B.M.

New Contract, New Building

L.U. 191 (c,i,mo,rtb&st), EVERETT, WA — IBEW Local 191 recently completed negotiations for our Inside Wire Agreement. Effective June 1, 2018, the three-year agreement features an \$11/hour increase for Zones 1, 2, 3 work and \$12/hour increase for Zone 4 work. Our members approved the contract by a large margin. The current amount on the check is \$44.95/



Local 81 congratulates class of 2017 apprenticeship graduates. Front row: graduates Timothy Leber (left), George Archibald, Ethan Norman, Tyler Chesko, Warren Jacoby, Justin Castellano, Michael Matisko, Kyle Rabiega, Joshua Stewart. Back row: NECA Exec. Dir. Jeffrey Scarpello; Fred Leber, JATC; Training Dir. Mike Brust; Eric Lewis, JATC; Bus. Mgr. Paul Casparro; Pres. Mike McDermott; Pat Hartman, Jerry Nichols, JATC; Int. Vice Pres. Michael D. Welsh; and NECA Rep. Tom McNulty.

LOCAL LINES

hour for the Zones 1, 2, 3 with total package of \$66.89. The current Zone 4 amount on the check is \$42.45/hour, with a total package of \$64.31.

Thank you to our negotiating committee, who worked right up until the final week to secure this package. The agreement also includes sufficient amounts to keep our medical and pension plans healthy.

Our other big news is that after months of searching and many presentations to our Executive Board and membership, we have voted to purchase property and build a new main office. The new location will have more parking, office space and room for training and social events. There is also space for a second building, should our JATC decide to collocate with us. We recently received I.O. approval to move forward on this project.

Lastly, special thanks go to all our many stewards and volunteers for doing the hard work on the ground of building the local. You are appreciated!

Please check the local's website and newsletter for information on the fall and winter social activities and political events. Better yet, come to one of the monthly meetings — it's a great way to connect with old friends and make new ones.

Bill Mirand, P.S.

'Make Your Voice Heard'

L.U. 193 (i,lctt,o,rts,spa&u), SPRINGFIELD, IL — A long, hot summer is in progress! We are used to that here in "The Land of Lincoln." We are not used to organized labor taking it on the chin from the anti-union factions in our state! Make your voice heard at the polls in November and take along a friend. Please pay attention to all the world around you. Remember: "All politics are local!"

Several City Water Light and Power linemen went to western Illinois and the St. Louis area after the heavy storms moved through in June to help get the electrical power back on.

Seventy members were organized at City Water, Light and Power under a Professional & Industrial Agreement. Agility Data Telecom Inc., along with six new members, has been organized. Lincoln Heating and Cooling became signatory to the Inside Agreement. Welcome to Local 193.

The Labor Day Picnic will be a combined event with Locals 51, 21 and 193 at the Anchor Boat Club. Come on out — like last year, it will be a good time for all.

Good luck to all the Cardinals, Cubs, and White Sox Fans out there.

Our sympathies go out to the families of Harold Booker, Gregory Fitzpatrick and Robert McAfee, who have passed since our last article.

Don Hudson, P.S.

Work Picture Updates

L.U. 245 (govt,lctt,o,rtb&u), TOLEDO, OHIO — On the generation side of the business, discussions between FirstEnergy and Olympus (the new owner of the plant) and Local 245 are ongoing and should conclude soon. On the other hand, the Davis-Besse power plant's future, for all practical purposes, is in the hands of our legislators and that is a scary thought.

On the energy delivery side, 19 new members were sworn in at the June union meeting — 15 line workers and four substation technicians.

Work on the outside is slow at this writing with several projects that are in the planning stages and expected to start manning in August or September. This fall, negotiations on the 71/245 outside contract will start.

Negotiations with newly organized Nelson Tree are progressing well at press time.

On the broadcast front, the local newspaper has reported plans for Gray Television Inc. to acquire Raycom Media Inc., which involves two of our TV stations, WTVG-TV 13 and WTOL-TV 11, and will require

one of them to be sold to avoid Federal Communications Commission (FCC) market duopolies conflict. We don't yet know at this time what impact this will have, if any, on our members.

This is an important year in politics with the midterm elections looming. If you're not happy about the way things are going politically, you have the ability and responsibility to facilitate change by voting. People have died preserving your right to vote, and you shouldn't waste it.

Till next time work safe and try to stay cool.

Ray Zychowicz, P.S.

'Farewell to a Friend'



Former Local 269 Bus. Mgr. Dennis Doyle (June 1951-July 2018).

L.U. 269 (i&o), TRENTON, NJ — The membership bid a sad farewell to a beloved brother with the passing of Dennis "Denny" Doyle in July of this year.

Denny will always be remembered as having a ready smile for those he greeted, and a stern look for those who needed it. Denny was born June 20, 1951, and joined the local in September of 1984. Always active in the local, he held a variety of positions, which culminated in his serving as business manager from 2007-2010. He retired from the local at the end of his tenure in 2010 and received his 30-year IBEW Service Pin in 2015. Throughout his life, he remained active among the local's group of retirees and was a familiar face at the monthly meetings.

Denny will forever be remembered for his hard work, dedication, and above all his unwavering commitment to the betterment of his local union and the welfare of its brothers and sisters. Goodbye and rest easy, brother.

Brian Jacoppo, P.S.

Work Picture Solid; Active RENEW Committee

L.U. 313 (i&spa), WILMINGTON, DE — The work picture remains solid, with multiple jobs needing IBEW travelers. Remember to make your out-of-state brothers feel right at home. While they are servicing the jobs in our jurisdiction, they are also away from their families. Thank you, brothers, and keep up the good work.

September brings with it a new class of first-year apprentices, as the graduating class of 2018 (pictured below) reminds them of what is in their future! We anticipate good things from our young men and women, and particularly with the RENEW Committee. With the leadership of Bro. Harry Beck on the RENEW Committee, new areas of interest and participation never looked brighter. Also, a thank-you to



Local 313 congratulates class of 2018 apprenticeship graduates.

Bro. Kevin Bryant for his years of service on the Entertainment Committee — and thank you to all who volunteer.

Among the objects of organized labor and the IBEW are: to strive for a higher and higher standard of living, and to elevate social and moral conditions of our families and dependents. Enjoying warm-weather days with family and friends is the reward for long hours on the job. We hope everyone had a happy, productive and healthy summer. Do not forget "me" time for yourselves.

Bruce Esper, P.S.

Transitions & Tributes — Lives of Service Remembered

L.U. 317 (i,o,rts,t&u), HUNTINGTON, WV — Greetings, brothers and sisters.

We would like to thank the National Sisterhood United for Journeyman Linemen (NSUJL), IBEW members and contractors across the country who came to the aid of the family of our late Bro. Shane Filkins. Bro. Filkins passed away tragically in a helicopter accident while working on a transmission job in Pennsylvania. Many reached out to the family to extend both emotional support and monetary contributions. Bro. Filkins will be deeply missed.

We thank Klein Tools for helping one of our apprentice linemen who is currently in the ALBAT program. The work tools of Bro. Tim Sparks went missing while he was working storm restoration in Florida, and he posted to social media for his friends to be on the lookout. It caught the attention of Kevin Klein, who sent nearly \$4,000 worth of tools to Tim.

It's with deep sadness that IBEW 317 also announces the passing of our former retired business manager Brent Grey. Bro. Grey passed away in May. In solidarity.

Danny Doss, P.S./Organizer



Local 317 Bro. Tim Sparks with display of Klein Tools.

November 2018 Elections — Support Friends of Labor

L.U. 343 (i,spa&st), LE SUEUR, MN — The Mankato training facility is fully functional for apprenticeship classes and occasional retiree luncheons. The new exterior stairs improve access to the lower level and the new patio. Local 343's brick and mortar presence in town will benefit organizing new members and let the city know who we are and what we stand for. We are an asset to and an investment in the community.

The summer was busy and prosperous for members filling calls off the book. The ride on the money train is unpredictable and the outcome of November 2018 midterm elections will determine if Minnesota labor organizations stay on track or

derail in a train wreck. Member Greg Graif, the political coordinator, has been educating and informing members about the importance of the upcoming election. Our unions' survival depends on voting for labor-friendly candidates. We must vote our paychecks. We all have interests outside the IBEW, but the security of working under a collective bargaining agreement (CBA) guarantees we can afford to participate in those other interests. One vote matters. Your vote matters. Vote to keep Minnesota from becoming a "right-to-work-for-less" state.

Keep America working. Buy "Made In USA."

Tom Small, P.S.

'Lopsided Political Power' — Vote for Working Families

L.U. 347 (em,i,mt,rtb,rts&spa), DES MOINES, IOWA — We in Iowa are suffering under the problem of a double trifecta.

At the national level, one political party now controls the U.S. House of Representatives, the U.S. Senate and the executive branch.

In Iowa, the same party is in control of the State House of Representatives, the Iowa Senate and the governor's office. This lopsided political control, at the state and federal level, is devastating for working people.

In Iowa, Medicaid was shifted from a well-functioning, state-run program and given to "for-profit" insurance companies that keep coming back to the state mid-fiscal year for more money. Funding for education, K-12 and state universities, is being starved in the budget process. University professors are leaving Iowa for better pay elsewhere. Teachers in K-12 pay for school supplies out of their own pockets. The Iowa Dept. of Human Services takes a slash-and-burn approach to staffing. With all the fiscal cuts demanded, the state government reduced income taxes by \$1.7 billion over five years — with major benefits going to corporations.

The federal government seems to be attempting to outdo the State of Iowa on backward politics. Witness efforts to repeal Affordable Health Care, to hollow out the Environmental Protection Agency, to advance bill-writing by lobbyists, etc. Additionally, the income tax rewrite favors big corporations and the wealthiest.

So, my brothers and sisters, please vote on Nov. 6. Please vote to assert our interests as laboring people. We need a government that responds to the needs of workers, who make the wheels of this economy turn. We must make our wishes known. With our votes, let's make beneficial bipartisan action mandatory.

Mike Schweiger, P.S.

Apprenticeship Graduation

L.U. 357 (c,i,mt&se), LAS VEGAS, NV — The Electrical JATC of Southern Nevada is pleased to announce that the 2018 annual apprenticeship graduation ceremony took place May 5 this year at the IBEW Local 357 union hall.

Guest speakers U.S. Rep. Dina Titus and IBEW IEC member Patrick Lavin addressed the apprentices and guests in attendance. A dinner sponsored by the Southern Nevada IBEW/NECA Labor Management Cooperation Committee (LMCC) followed the ceremony later that evening at the Culinary Academy of Las Vegas.

This year's Outstanding Apprentice Award went to Cory D. Roundy. The Mike Laux Award (for most union meetings attended) was presented to Josie R. Morales. The Clyde Green Sr. Memorial Award (for grade-point average) went to James Huynh. Perfect attendance awards went to Joshua A. Blagg, Paul-Robert Deitz and Slade L. Morgan.

Training Dir. Madison Burnett and Asst. Training Dir. Robert Buntjer were honored to present this year's 29 inside wiremen. The wireman graduates are: Gabriel J. Alderman, Mario C. Armenta, Richard



At the Local 357 class of 2018 apprenticeship graduation on May 5.

Baldinelli, Joshua A. Blagg, Montoria D. Burkett, Matthew Bustamante, Maurice Cooper, Patrick J. Cowie, Paul-Robert Deitz, Brandon Duffey, Edward B. Dulay, Kody J. Greenfield, Jason E. Harrison, Bret H. Hart, Edward Hernberger, James Huynh, Antwon D. Johnson, Rafael C. Jones, Benjamin I. Lopez, Vilitonu Mafi, Michael J. Magee, Jonathan R. McClone, Tyler N. Miller, Josie R. Morales, Slade L. Morgan, Ryan M. Polda, Kevin M. Rich, Cory D. Roundy and Jorge Toribio.

Madison Burnett, Training Dir.

Strong in IBEW Solidarity — ‘A Career & a Brotherhood’

L.U. 363 (catv,em,govt,i,t,u&ws), NEW CITY, NY — With everything going on today geared toward hurting labor



A view outside the entrance to IBEW Local 363 and the Hudson Valley NECA Regional Training Facility.

unions, I was thinking about when I first came to the IBEW 40 years ago. I was young and had nothing. I wanted to belong and be part of something that was strong and powerful. I wanted the strength and security of it and I said out loud that I would do anything for it.

I knew that the IBEW was not just a job. It was a career and a Brotherhood. The IBEW took me in and gave me that career I didn't have. The IBEW gave me wages and benefits I could never dream of earning otherwise. The IBEW educated me. The IBEW planned my retirement when I didn't even realize what a retirement was. The IBEW made me into a union electrical worker who could work and live with dignity. If you remember back to when you came to the IBEW, I will bet your story is very close to mine.

So, I ask you, brothers and sisters: What law could anyone ever pass now to make you reject the union? I say there is none and there never will be! God bless the IBEW!

Sam Fratto, B.M.

June 23 Membership Meeting

L.U. 369 (em,es,i,lctt,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), LOUISVILLE, KY — On June 23 this year, Local 369 held its monthly union meeting at the satellite office in Lexington. This was the first general membership meeting held in Lexington since former Local 183 was amalgamated into Local 369 in 1998.

Almost 100 brothers and sisters helped make this special day a terrific success. Former Local 183 was

chartered on Feb. 19, 1913, and was the home local that supplied electricians to help build the Toyota manufacturing plant in Georgetown, KY — Toyota's first wholly owned manufacturing plant in the United States.

Gene Holthouser, B.R.

Heroic Action Recognized — Honorary Membership Plaque

L.U. 429 (em,i,lctt,o,ptc,rtb&u), NASHVILLE, TN — On the early morning of April 22 this year, a mass shooting occurred at a Waffle House restaurant in the Antioch neighborhood of Nashville. Four people were killed and several more injured when a gunman entered the restaurant and opened fire with a fully loaded AR-15. If not for the heroic actions of James Shaw Jr., countless other lives could have been lost that day. When confronted with death, James Jr. acted, wrestling the gun away from the gunman and tossing it over the counter, preventing more lives being taken.

On June 13, at the IBEW Tenth District Progress Meeting, Local 429 Asst. Bus. Agent James Shaw Sr. was presented an Honorary Membership plaque for his son James Shaw Jr. Presenting the plaque to James Shaw Sr. was our IBEW Int. Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson.

On behalf of the friends, members, officers and staff of Local 429 — thank you to the IBEW for honoring our brother and friend. To James Sr., Karen, and James Jr., thank you all for who you are.

For more information about our new honorary member, Google “James Shaw Jr.”

Mark Poole, A.B.M./Organizer



Local 369's membership meeting on June 23 took place at satellite office in Lexington, KY.

Summer Celebrations

L.U. 375 (catv,ees,et,govt,i&mo), ALLENTOWN, PA — The summer months are always filled with brotherhood, starting with our Dorney Park Picnic on Memorial Day weekend in May. This year over 600 members and their families experienced the rides and catered barbecue for a fun-filled day.

For Father's Day in June, the District Youth Committee (DYC) organized a Lehigh Valley IronPigs baseball game at Coca-Cola Park. Members brought their families to delight in a close win and enjoyed some great food.

In July, the fifth-year apprentice graduates participated in a celebration of their completion of the apprenticeship program. Congratulations, graduates!

The summer will then wrap up in September with our annual members only clambake, which has been a tradition in Local 375 for over 60 years.

Justin Grimshaw, A.B.M.



Local 429 Asst. Bus. Agent James Shaw Sr. (right) with his son James Shaw Jr.

Organizing Blitz & Job Fair

L.U. 379 (i,lctt,o&rtb), CHARLOTTE, NC — It has been a great summer so far for Local 379. Work at our large jobs is fully ramped up and our small shops are busy as well. For those not familiar with our jurisdiction, we cover 15 counties in North Carolina, 13 counties in South Carolina and five counties in Georgia. We have two satellite offices, one in Hickory, NC, and one in Greenville, SC.

We recently conducted a very successful blitz and Industry Night/Job Fair in the Greenville area to help man work going on there. Organizers and volunteers hit 63 non-union jobs and turned out 54 prospects to the Job Fair. We organized 15 new IBEW members, getting them hired on to union jobs in that area.

We had our annual picnic in June and saw a great turnout of brothers and sisters and retirees. The biggest news coming out of the local is still in progress. We are in contract negotiations currently. Our negotiation team is working hard at press time and hoping for favorable outcomes. The market is certainly working in our favor as construction continues to boom and wages continue to rise.

Ashley Hawkins, Organizer

Welcome to New Organizers; Years-of-Service Awards

L.U. 449 (catv,em,i,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), POCATELLO, IDAHO — Greetings, brothers and sisters. As assistant business manager and dispatcher of Local 449, I would like to introduce the new organizers of Local 449, Craig McDonald and Dan Green. I believe they both bring a new approach to organizing. Best of luck to them both!

Brothers recognized for their IBEW years of service this year at our annual local union picnic: 50-year members — James R. Weimer, Ray D. Anderson, Scott J. Davis, Ronald L. Eccher, Lewis R. Frisk, Walter H. Johnson, Bud E. Schrand, James W. Trevey, Wallace O. Walker, Richard D. Webb; 55-year member — Elmer K. Detwiler; 60-year members — William D. Blake, Dean W. Gibson, Lowell McMurtrey, Paul E. Peak, Billy W. Wade; 65-year members — Frank C. Hulse, Norman W. Reno; and 70-year members — Edward D. Norby and Ralph E. Kidrick. Congratulations to all!

Congratulations to our recently retired brothers: Phil Colman, Thomas Dalquist, Bob Bodell and Mike Peace. Brothers, you have earned it — and best wishes to all of you for a happy retirement!

With regret we report the recent passing of several members. In memoriam: Bros. Gerald Geddes, Edward Norby, Donald Frugoli and Edward Slaugh. Our heartfelt condolences go out to their family and friends.

Clay Hirling, A.B.M.



Local 379 members respond to anti-worker ruling by U.S. Supreme Court in Janus v. AFSME.

IBEW MERCHANDISE



Moisture Management T-Shirt \$13.00

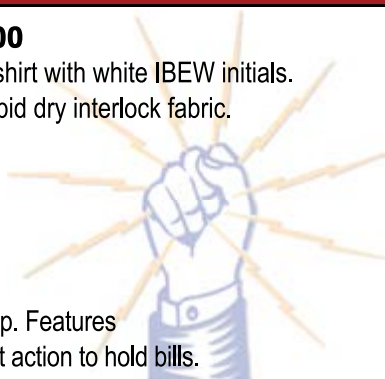
100% polyester, black moisture management t-shirt with white IBEW initials. Wicks moisture away from the body by using rapid dry interlock fabric.

Union Yes Lapel Pin \$1.50

Rectangular pin with gold-tone edge, 7/8" x 1" with IBEW initials and military grade clutch.

IBEW Wallet \$10.00

Slim Black leather wallet with magnetic money clip. Features embossed IBEW logo on front and strong magnet action to hold bills.



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LOCAL LINES



At Local 465 Member-to-Member workshop, members display signs stating: "I'm IN — I'm Staying IBEW Strong."

IBEW Members Say: 'I'm IN — Staying IBEW Strong'

L.U. 465 (lctt&u), SAN DIEGO, CA — We recently hosted multiple Member-to-Member workshops focusing on the threat of so-called "right-to-work" legislation and the recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Janus v. AFSCME.

[Editor's Note: To read more about the ruling, see news article "Supreme Court Ruling in Janus: An Attack on Every American Who Works for a Living," posted on the IBEW website at www.ibew.org/media-center/Articles.]

At the Member-to-Member workshops, we were honored to have Int. Rep. Tracey Prezeau from the I.O. Education Department, who shared personal stories about how the IBEW has changed her life and talked to our members about building power in the workplace and different ways to stay IBEW Strong!

Our member-organizers will be hitting the streets to talk to all 930 sisters and brothers we represent at the Imperial Irrigation District, and the 185 we represent at San Diego Metropolitan Transit System, about how IBEW Local 465 has improved their lives, helped them provide for their families, and given them a voice and dignity on the job. We must all stand united and say: "I'm IN, I'm staying IBEW Strong."

We will be working tirelessly to engage our members about the importance of keeping our union strong and working to build a strong network of workplace leaders who will be ready for anything that comes our way. Whether it is battling anti-worker legislation, a contract fight, or an organizing drive — our members are saying, "I'm IN!"

Nate Fairman, B.M./F.S.

2017 Storm Restoration

L.U. 499 (u), DES MOINES, IOWA — In September 2017, journeyman lineman Tyler Hansen, from Waterloo, Iowa, was one of several IBEW Local 499 members who were sent to Florida to help with storm restoration efforts after a big hurricane struck last year. Tyler was away for 11 days assisting in Florida and he snapped the accompanying picture (below) of utility trucks on the scene in Naples, FL.

IBEW Local 499 had several crews in Florida for various amounts of time assisting with restoration



Utility trucks on the scene in Naples, FL, in the aftermath of a September 2017 hurricane. Photo by Local 499 member Tyler Hansen.

efforts, and all returned home safely. Thank you to all the IBEW crew members involved for the great job they did. Thank you, Tyler, for sending us the picture and helping others out.

Sarah Faber, R.S.



Members of Locals 531 and 697 employed by Meade Electric are working on upgrading passenger railcars for the South Shore Line.

Railcar Upgrades

L.U. 531 (i), LAPORTE, IN — Rail companies across the country have been working on upgrading their equipment to comply with federal regulations. Members of Local 531 in LaPorte, IN, along with two members of neighboring Local 697, have been working on modernizing all 72 of the Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District (NICTD) railcars. The Positive Train Control (PTC), program is part of a mandated program designed to reduce accidents in locomotives and passenger railcars. The upgrades program needs to be completed by Dec. 31, 2018.

In other news, congratulations to the apprenticeship graduating class of 2018. We are proud of these new journeymen. The graduates are as follows: journeyman wiremen — Eric Cusick, Keenen Perry, Matt Cody, Shawn Servaty, David Patek II, Maxwell Kessler, Jacob Crawford, Brandon Wireman, Dean Tillema III, Robert Rodgers, Luis Acuna, Art Steward and Corey Casto; residential graduates — Nathian Jackson and William Witte; and voice-data-video graduates — Thomas McInerney, Scott Petersen and Taylor Tuholski. Congratulations and good luck to all of you.

Jeremy Woolever, P.S.

'Congratulations to All'

L.U. 569 (i,mar,mt,rts&spa), SAN DIEGO, CA — Earlier this summer, IBEW 569 and NECA graduated 96 hard-working union members from our outstanding



Graduates of the joint apprenticeship program of IBEW Local 569 and NECA San Diego class of 2018.

joint apprenticeship program! This is the second-largest class of graduates since we opened our doors in 1983! We are so proud of you, graduates! With the toughest graduation standards in the industry, our class of 2018 joins the ranks of being the best in the industry.

We also want to recognize our 2018 apprentice recipients of the IBEW 569 Union Strong Award, each of whom have stepped up to strengthen communities and change lives. Our awardees have also volunteered at countless union events and walked hundreds of miles to help elect candidates who support working

families! Congratulations to: Cristina Marquez, Rajali Walker and Christopher Cortez.

IBEW 569 extends heartfelt thanks and congratulations to our IBEW 569 members for their tremendous volunteer hours during the primary election — we won over 90 percent of our campaigns! Volunteers, you did great work and we're about to do it again for the Nov. 6 general election.

Mark your calendars and VOTE! Help pass a \$3.5 billion school bond with a project labor agreement (PLA) provision, and elect candidates who support our priorities such as local-hire policies, job creation, and investments in our communities.

Gretchen K. Newsom, P.S./Organizer

Tribute to A Life of Service

L.U. 595 (c,cs,govt,i,mt,se&st), DUBLIN, CA — It is with a heavy heart I report, on behalf of Local 595, that Bro. Thomas D. Mullarkey has passed.

Initiated in 1974 and a member for 44 years, Tom lived an exemplary life and was an inspiration to so many people around him. His dedication to his family and to his religious community proved to be one of many positive characteristics he demonstrated regularly in his professional life as a journeyman inside wireman.

After graduating from the inside apprenticeship program, Tom worked in the field as a journeyman, foreman and general foreman before accepting an appointment as Local 595 business representative in 2006. He proudly served Local 595 as business representative until his retirement in 2013. He is survived by his wife



Local 595 late Bro. Thomas D. Mullarkey (right) with his father, John Mullarkey.

of 36 years, Jane Drummond-Mullarkey, and his children, Elizabeth Pilara and Matthew Mullarkey. He leaves behind four adoring grandchildren, Juliana, Nico, Lilia and Luca Pilara as well as two sons-in-law, Ricky Pilara and Quincy Myers.

Jason Gumataotao, Org./P.S.

District Progress Meeting

L.U. 611 (catv,es,govt,i,lctt,o,spa,t&u), ALBUQUERQUE, NM — The IBEW Seventh District Progress Meeting, held at the Buffalo Thunder Resort in Santa Fe, was hosted by Local 611. The event took place May 15-18. Attendees included delegates from Arizona, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico. During the four-day event, we heard speeches from Int. Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson, Seventh District Int. Vice Pres. Steven M. Speer and Int. Rep. Gary Buresh. John Harriel Jr., a Local 11 member, gave a great speech on the topic of "Member-to-Member Mentoring" about the struggles he went through to become an IBEW member and the importance of working together and being a team member. Attending the Progress Meeting was a great experience for participants. A huge thanks to the staff and especially Santos Griego for putting together a great event.

Bennie Sandoval and Tom Davis, both Local 611 members, recently retired as Seventh District international representatives. Thank you, Bennie and Tom, for your years of service — we hope retirement serves you both well.

If you are not registered to vote and would like to register, please call the union hall so they can put you in contact with a registrar.

Local 611 extends condolences to the family of Bro. Overton H. Prather, who recently passed away.

Darrell J. Blair, P.S.



Local 611 member Mark Strand (left), Press Sec. Darrell J. Blair, Int. Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson and Local 611 Bus. Mgr. Carl Condit.

Local Celebrates 100 Years

L.U. 617 (c,i,mo&st), SAN MATEO, CA — Spring and summer have been a busy time for our local. The work picture continues to be strong, with most work running overtime. Not since 2000 have we experienced such growth. Thanks go to all our traveling brothers and sisters helping us man the work.

The local celebrated our 110th anniversary and pin party with a gala celebration on April 28. Over 400 members attended along with Ninth District Int. Vice Pres. John J. O'Rourke and his staff, and NECA contractors. Congratulations to pin-recipient Bro. Lin Cardelli for his 75 years of IBEW service. Thanks to our staff for helping make the event a great success. Everyone had a good time and enjoyed the celebration.



Local 617 Bus. Mgr. David M. Mauro (left) with 75-year member Lin Cardelli and his wife, Gloria.

On March 24, Local 617 participated in the 50th Homecoming Parade in San Mateo, honoring the 101st Airborne Screaming Eagles. Our Journeyman Motorcycle Club led off the parade, followed by veterans of 617 and supporting members.

Sister DJ Siegman was honored as the 2017 IBEW Instructor of the Year, at the April 2018 IBEW Construction & Maintenance Conference held in Washington, DC. Congratulations, Sister Siegman.

Thanks to our brothers and sisters who give up their free time to support and give back to our union's many events and community projects, including the "rebuilding together" project, the July 4 parade and more.

Kenn Perfit, P.S.

Building Market Share; Ironman Fundraising Tourney

L.U. 627 (u), FORT PIERCE, FL — The local hosted our 22nd Annual Ironman Fundraising Tournament. Despite the rainy Florida weather that week, the tournament was a great success! Good times with some good people, all while fundraising for our Community Affairs Fund. Thank you to all who participated.

Congratulations to the recent graduates of our Linemen & Substation Electrician Apprenticeship programs (pictured below). Local 627 remains committed to ensuring that the most highly skilled and safest workforce is provided through our apprenticeship programs.



Local 627 congratulates recent graduates of the Linemen & Substation Electrician Apprenticeship programs.

Recently, a resounding call to enhance our in-house expertise and acquire more work for the Local 627 workforce has been made. This is music to our members' ears as we are committed to being the preferred provider of labor, now and in the future. Working with our employers to ensure the proper training, tooling and staffing to perform the work is a strong demonstration of our Code of Excellence principles. We look forward to the challenge and welcome the opportunity.

Brothers and sisters, with storm season already upon us, please continue to be your "brother's keeper" — look out for yourselves and each other and always plan and incorporate safety into every task performed. Safety & Solidarity!

Fernando Salcedo, P.S.



The Local 697 Motorcycle Club gathers for the Miracle Ride fundraiser to benefit a downtown Indianapolis children's hospital.

Local 697 Motorcycle Club — 'Riding for a Good Purpose'

L.U. 697 (c,es,i,mt&se), GARY AND HAMMOND, IN — The IBEW Local 697 Motorcycle Club was launched earlier this year and participated in the Miracle Ride to raise money for Riley's Children's Hospital in downtown Indianapolis.

We raised \$3,125 for the event, strengthened our brotherhood with a group ride down on Saturday, June 2, enjoyed our stay in downtown Indianapolis, and respectfully patronized the local establishments.

Sunday, June 3, was the Miracle Ride, where we met participating brothers and sisters from IBEW Local 16 and IBEW Local 725. We also will be planning next year's ride in conjunction with them.

As part of the Miracle Ride, we went one lap around the Indianapolis 500 track, with most of us reaching speeds of 110 mph. Most importantly, the looks on the faces of the children, families and staff — as the Miracle Ride rode past the Riley's Children's Hospital — made the whole experience amazing.

Thank you to Local 697 Motorcycle Club Pres. Dirk Decker and Bros. Rich Apking, Scott Funk, Brion Grooms, Curt Hilligans, John Hiet, Jason Sankowski, Rich Sankowski and Jason Valasic for representing our local at this event.

Ryan Reithel, B.M./F.S.

COPE Golf Outing

L.U. 827 (catv&t), EAST WINDSOR, NJ — On Thursday, May 31, this year, Local 827 held its first COPE Golf Outing Fundraiser at the Pebble Creek Golf Club in Colts Neck, NJ. The local union plans to make this an annual event.

Approximately 100 golfers turned out for the event, which was arranged by Local 827 Treas. Glenn Puzo. After the golf, everyone enjoyed a barbeque luncheon at the club. There were many "silent auction" prizes such as 50-inch television and an iPad.

With the donations collected and raffle tickets sold, Local 827 raised over \$15,000 to put into the PAC Fund to support our local legislative issues. We would like to thank all our supporters for helping to make this a successful day.

Suzanne M. Wallin, R.S.

RENEW Committee Success: Food Drive & Highway Cleanup

L.U. 965 (em,govt,ptc&u), MADISON, WI — The month of May was very busy and fruitful for the IBEW 965 RENEW Committee. First up was the Adopt-A-Highway cleanup that took place in Portage, WI, on Highway 51. It was a solid turnout this year, which was followed by a gathering with food, drinks and laughs shared at a local park.

The second part of May was the inaugural Summer Hunger Food and Fund Drive for the Second Harvest of Wisconsin. With the help of the membership and Alliant Energy, the RENEW Committee was able to collect almost \$6,000 and 1,650 pounds of food! Put together, that provides 19,280 meals for people in need. The Food and Fund Drive was capped off by members going to grocery stores in Janesville and Beaver Dam to get donations from local patrons. A special shout-out goes to members who put in a lot of hard work for this event: Randy Jacob, Dillon Gorman, Tyler Bergstrom and Matt Tegt.

Roger Zimmerman, P.S.



IBEW Local 965 members and family volunteered for a highway cleanup project. The crew included: Tyler Bergstrom, Kyle McLaughlin and daughter, sons of Jeff Simonson, Jason Broome, Jeff Simonson, Brad Argall, Dylan Shifflet (kneeling), Denise Breunig, Steve Kohlhagen, Mike Pyne (kneeling), Randy Crawford and Matt Tegt.

Annual Fishing Tournament; Apprenticeship Graduation

L.U. 1205 (em,govt,i&u), GAINESVILLE, FL — The Annual W.S. Brown/Clayton Graves Bream Tournament held March 10 this year was a successful gathering of Local 1205 active members and retirees. The event was held at the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Landing just west of Gainesville, which provided the ideal location for our fishermen of all skill levels.

We would like to

give special recognition to the members who make this tournament fun for all attendees year in and year out. The day began with breakfast at dawn cooked by Warren Marshall, John Luke and Billy Marshall and coordinated by Richard Diffenderfer, Raleigh Veal, James Brown, Wayne Sparkman, Wayne Hinson, Letcher Worley, Charlie Ponder, Ray Yanke, Charles Worley and Jamie Weach.

On May 12, Local 1205 celebrated the graduation of its 50th annual graduating class. Dedicated to Marcia Foreman, who has been a staple of our apprenticeship for decades. Keynote speaker was Florida AFL-CIO Pres. Mike Williams. We wish these fine young graduates the best as they begin the next chapter in their lives. Congratulations also to Outstanding Apprentice Danny Boyd for excellence in the classroom. Graduates, we look forward to the positive impact you all will have on not only the industry but also the community at large.

Jonathan Howell, P.S.

Paper Mill Rebuild Project

L.U. 1253 (i&mo), AUGUSTA, MAINE — With the completion of the Sappi Paper Mill rebuild of its No. 1 machine, Local 1253 wishes to thank all the traveling sisters and brothers who helped our local sisters and brothers complete the job. Sappi had saleable paper coming off the machine at the end of May, which at times had seemed an impossibility. This was a tough job due to the lack of engineering — so thank you to all sisters and brothers, local and traveling, for your successful efforts to complete the project.

I hope everyone had a happy and safe summer. Work should be picking up as fall arrives.

Chuck Fraser, B.M.

Transmission Safety Week

L.U. 1347 (ees,em&u), CINCINNATI, OHIO — Safety week for our transmission department took place June 4-7 at the Duke Energy Shelbyville headquarters in Indiana. IBEW members from Local 1347 and Local 1393 attended. We had many demonstrations on "hurtman" rescue from tower lines, and confined-space tri-pod rescues. There were many examples of the operation of special boom trucks and equipment brought in by vendors. Many vendors had tents and booths showing all kinds of different equipment, etc., available.

Safety was the main objective for all participants, as we continue to strive to make our workplace safe and accident-free. Both Local 1347 and Local 1393 set up booths to give out all kinds of union apparel and gifts for the membership. Pictured in the photo below are some of those who attended the event.

Andrew A. Kirk, B.M./F.S.



IBEW members from Locals 1347 and 1393 attended Transmission Safety Week event in June 2018.

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LOCAL LINES

Registrar Training: 2018 Midterm Elections

L.U. 1501 (ees,em,mo,pet,rts&t), BALTIMORE, MD — On April 23 this year, Local 1501 Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dion Guthrie attended the IBEW Conference on Registrar Training held at the IBEW Local 26 union hall in Lanham, MD.

As we head into the fall midterm election period, we need to maximize our voting strength, and the only way to do this is to register as many of our members and their households as possible. Then get them out to vote. It will be our effort to get no less than 95 percent of our members registered. The April 23 session at Local 26 was excellent training for this all-out effort. Bus. Mgr. Guthrie stated that he was very pleased with Local 26 facilities and the union hall was extremely impressive.

James Boyd, F.S./P.S.



Local 1501 Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dion F. Guthrie (left) with Local 26 Bus. Mgr. George C. Hogan.

Local Union Election

L.U. 1579 (i&o), AUGUSTA, GA — Local 1579 held its election of officers in June. The officers were sworn in

at our July 16 meeting and we have a new vice president, recording secretary, treasurer and two new Executive Board members.

Elected officers are: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Will Salters, Pres. Rick Dubose, Vice Pres. Alonzo Ingram, Rec. Sec. Maggie Senters, Treas. Otis Sexton and Executive Board members Lee Buoy, Wes Young, Timmy Crabb, Chris Byrd, Tommie Crabb, Brian Giles and Chandra Fussell.

I am very appreciative of the support given to me during this election and look forward to working with all of these officers as we continue to serve our membership.

Until next time, God bless.

Will Salters, B.M./F.S.

Members Ratify Contract — ‘Standing Strong & United’

L.U. 1837 (rtb&u), MANCHESTER, MAINE — IBEW Local 1837 members at the New Hampshire Electric Co-op voted in May to ratify a new 3½ year contract agreement and end their 10-day strike. The contract includes wage adjustments for some classifications, annual wage increases for all bargaining unit members and improvements in the retirement plans for union employees.

Significantly, the final agreement does not include the company’s proposed language that would have given it the ability to modify or eliminate its contributions to employee retirement plans. It was that proposal from the company’s so-called “last and final offer” that was pivotal in the decision of IBEW members to overwhelmingly approve a strike at the NH Electric Co-op.

“The courage and determination of our members at the Co-op cannot be overstated,” IBEW Local 1837 Bus. Mgr. Dick Rogers said. “They stayed strong and unified throughout the strike and none of our members crossed the picket lines during the strike. They have earned our respect and admiration.”

Throughout the strike, community support for the 84 striking IBEW members on the picket lines was overwhelming. Countless numbers of people drove by the picket lines and honked their horns or gave a big “thumbs up” to show their appreciation for the people who have done so much to serve the Co-op’s customers.

Matthew Beck, B.R./Organizer



IBEW contingent picketed New Hampshire Electric Co-op’s headquarters in Plymouth, NH, every day during the strike earlier this year.

‘Walking the Safety Talk’

L.U. 2067 (o&u), REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN, CANADA — On June 13 this year, IBEW Local 2067’s commitment to safety was affirmed when the local was presented a third-place 2018 “Mission: Zero” Award, small-employer category.

Local 2067 qualified with high employee engagement in a safety survey, and an exemplary Workers Compensation Board injury-rate score. (In Local 2067’s case, this was zero injuries or fatalities in the past five years).

IBEW Local 2067 Bus. Mgr. Jason Tibbs was also

interviewed during the process and was required to answer four key questions regarding the local’s commitment to safety inside and outside the workplace. Mission: Zero, an initiative that launched in 2008 in response to Saskatchewan having the second worst injury rate in Canada, is promoted in part by The Saskatchewan Health and Leadership Charter. IBEW Local 2067 has been a signatory in the charter since its 2010 inception.

Bus. Mgr. Tibbs was pleased with the recognition for Local 2067’s achievements. He noted that: “This award is a positive reflection on IBEW Local 2067. IBEW was founded on safety, and we are advocates for safety on the jobsite every day. We expect our members to work safe every day, and our members should expect us to walk our talk.”

[CORRECTION: An editing error appeared in a Local 2067 “Local Lines” article in the July 2018 issue of *The Electrical Worker*. The job descriptions listed for two members were mistakenly inverted. Bro. Ryan Steinhauer is an electrical inspector, and Bro. George St. Amant is a gas inspector. We regret the error.]

Curtis Lizée, A.B.M.



Bro. Curtis Lizée (left) accepts “Mission: Zero” Award on behalf of IBEW Local 2067; presenting the award are Ryan Jacobson (center) of the Saskatchewan Safety Council and Gord Moker (right) of Safe Saskatchewan.

‘Spring Fling’ Event IBEW Service Awards

L.U. 2173 (em), LYNCHBURG, VA — A Local 2173 “Spring Fling” event was held June 13 at Delta Star Inc. in Lynchburg to thank all the workers and to recognize local union members for their years of service to the IBEW.

IBEW service award honorees included the following Local 2173 members: 45-year members — George D. Hudson, Gerald Payne Sr.; 30-year members — Dayton E. Morrell, Dennis R. Guill; 20-year members — Matthew M. Blake, Brenda Mitchell, Howard D. Tyree Jr., Jeffery L. Wade, David C. Wright, Frank K. Zatrepaek; 15-year members — Miranda G. Dunnemann, Kevin R. Knaver, Phillip P. Mann, Laurie J. Morris, Eric D. Wesley; 10-year members — Tyrone O. Yuille, Jason M. Wright, Nathan I. Wade, Robert Staton, Adam T. Sorrells, Dwight I. Sandidge, Christopher A. Robinson, Dennis W. Pugh, Alfonso W. Poe, Samuel A. McCraw, James T. King Jr., Peggy Hall; and 5-year members — Cordoro Walker, Timothy Vaughan, James Tolley, David B. Smith, Brandon M. Smith, Matthew C. Shelton, William A. Seufert, Roger D. Seufert Jr., Steven W. Purcell, Derrick K. Petty, Bryan A. Noble, Chad A. Needham, Joseph R. Mlaka, William N. Mayberry, Melvin D. Martin, Leslie A. Lewis, Kevin W. Lakes Jr., Phillip H. Jeter Jr., Alice Hubbard, Chris W. Henderson, Terry W. Foxx, Greg T. Campbell, Christopher P. Burnett, Johnny D. Blankenship, Marcus T. Blake, Ernest A. Barnett, Jason R. Barker and Nicholas R. Anderson.

Dayton Morrell Sr., B.M.



THE IBEW’s 2018 PHOTO CONTEST

Enter Today!
Deadline: Oct. 1

1st Place: \$200

2nd Place: \$150

3rd Place: \$100

Honorable
Mention: \$50

For two decades, IBEW members across the U.S. and Canada have been sending us the images that tell the stories of who we are and the work we do. We’ve been proud to share those pictures with you, and this year we’re celebrating a milestone — the IBEW’s 20th Annual Photo Contest.

A few of the rules have changed, but your task is the same: Show us what it means to be a member of the greatest union in the world, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

See official rules and submission instructions at ibew.org/photocontest.

Starting this year, entries **MUST** be submitted **electronically** via the Photo Contest link on IBEW.org. Please contact the Media Department at media@IBEW.org or 202-728-6102 with additional questions.

RETIREEES

Service Award Luncheon

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, NORTHERN NEW JERSEY CHAPTER — We enjoyed a wonderful spring and summer season of activities!

Several of our members were honored at the June Service Award Luncheon at the Joint Industry Board in Flushing, NY. Top honors went to Anthony La Bate (pictured in photo below, third from right), who received an 80-year award! Congratulations, Tony! Also honored were: 55-year award recipients Ronald DePaola, Edward Frisone and Marcus Lehman; and 50-year award recipients Stuart Finn, Kenneth Hillenmeyer, William Losquadro, William Porr, Harry Rigos, Arthur Saladino and Carl Soreco. Congratulations, everyone!

We enjoyed our spring luncheon at Bellissimo Restaurant and a fun summer picnic at Kruckers Picnic Grove. Several of us enjoyed a five-day bus trip to Toronto and Niagara Falls. And at this writing, we're looking forward to our trip to the Educational Center on Long Island! Wishing everyone a great fall season!

John Krison, P.S.



Local 3, South Jersey Chapter, Retirees Club officers, from left: Don Gallagher, John Adams, Lou Cohen, Anthony Savarese, Charles De Saro, Tom Viola, Robert Zawada and Paul Gross.

Our club's new officers include: Chmn. Anthony Savarese; Vice Chmn. Lou Cohen; Treas. John Adams; Rec. Sec./Alternate Vice Chmn. Charlie DeSaro; Trustees Don Gallagher, Tom Viola and Bobby Zawada; and Paul Gross, Dues Renewal. (See photo, above.)

Nancy Savarese, P.S.

Officers Sworn In

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, SUFFOLK CHAPTER — Our June meeting started with our newly elected officers being sworn in. Our new chapter chairman is Richard Duva. He was sworn in by IBEW Local 3 Bus. Rep. Richard Duva Jr. What a proud moment for both father and son. Local 3 Pension Dir. Maureen Steiger swore in the following: Vice Chmn. Andy Weis, Fin. Sec. Hank Schmidt, Treas. Mike Zoldak, Sgt. of Arms Michael Katz, and Rec. Sec. Steve Danielson. Trustees are: Nick Matonti, Frank Bono, Jack Foley and Allan Eimer.

John Schoenig chairs the Entertainment Committee, Barbara Serpe serves on the Sunshine Committee, and Harvey Goldman is the club's public scribe.

Chmn. Duva then presented a plaque on behalf of the chapter to Jack Foley to thank him for all his hard work as chairman for over 10 years. Jack received a well-deserved standing ovation.



Some of the Local 3, Northern New Jersey Chapter, Retirees Club service award recipients gather for a group photo.

New Officers

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, SOUTH JERSEY CHAPTER — We mourn the loss of Phil Pfister, who served as our chairman from 2000-2017. Bro. Pfister died in May 2018. We extend condolences to his family.

expected, we were almost able to break even, and still add a small amount to the Fisher House Fund. Hopefully, the weather for our fall outing will be better — the "golf gods" owe us one.

Dick Mills, Treas.

'Club is Going Strong'

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 26, WASHINGTON, DC — Our club is going strong! We have over 500 card-carrying members, although we mail to 1,500 retired members regularly.

On July 20, we attended the Nationals baseball game against the Atlanta Braves.

On July 30, we helped the Alliance for Retired Americans — to which our club belongs, in the Maryland/Washington, D.C. Chapter — celebrate the 53rd anniversary of Medicare! An important date for every retired American. And, on Aug. 16, we remembered the enactment of the Social Security Act of 1935!

Our regular events — such as the union picnic, the cruise to Alaska, the bus trip to the Amish Market and the crab feast — continue to keep the club busy though the summer, when we do not have regular meetings.

Join the Club's Annual Crab feast on Oct. 13 this year. If you plan to be in the Annapolis/Washington area, please join us. For details, please contact retired Sister Susan Flashman before Oct. 5 at flashmanbis-sell@aol.com. Attendance has grown, so if you have friends you wish to sit with, please let her know!

We are planning our next cruise — a 12-day trip to the Caribbean Islands. We already have 64 passengers! For information about our club's travels, contact our travel coordinator, retired Bro. Rick Warner, at 240-272-0438.

We regularly award service pins to our retired members, and this past year we had some special service awards. [See photo at bottom, right.]

Susan Flashman, P.S.

We then discussed the upcoming trip to the Long Island Educational Center, our September BBQ, and our December holiday party. The chairman then said those three magic words, "Lunch is served." Everyone enjoyed a wonderful lunch.

Harvey Goldman, P.S.



Local 3 Pension Dir. Maureen Steiger (third from left) swears in several of the Local 3, Suffolk Chapter, Retirees Club officers, from left: Vice Chmn. Andy Weis, Fin. Sec. Hank Schmidt, Treas. Mike Zoldak, Sgt. of Arms Michael Katz, and Rec. Sec. Steven Danielson.

Spring 2018 Golf Outing

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, WESTCHESTER/PUTNAM CHAPTER — On April 26, the Westchester/Putnam Chapter Retirees held our Spring Golf Outing at the Leewood Country Club, in Eastchester, NY. The original date was April 25, but the outing had to be postponed due to inclement weather. Besides causing the postponement, the weather was responsible for a drastic drop in the number of golfers participating. However, those who did come out on April 26 were able to salvage the day on a rather damp course.

Our resident "golf pro," Chet Maliszewski, won the chapter trophy again, for the best individual score. After the round, we enjoyed a barbecue lunch, and the awarding of prizes and raffle drawings. Even with the number of players only half of what we

Celebrating Camaraderie

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 35, HARTFORD, CT — Local 35 held its Members Outing on June 9. It was great to see so many retirees and old friends at the event. There were also a lot of younger members and apprentices in attendance. Everyone had a wonderful time, and some won some great raffle gifts.

Thanks to Local 35 for giving the Retirees Club tickets for the Hartford Yard Goats baseball games. The tickets were given out through a raffle at our Retirees Luncheon. Dunkin' Donuts Park is a beautiful all-union-built stadium.

Hope everyone had a great summer. Happy Labor Day!

Kenneth R. White, P.S.



Tee box sponsor sign on display at the Local 3, Westchester/Putnam Chapter, Retirees Club's spring golf outing in April 2018.



At a Local 26 Retirees Club presentation of IBEW service pin awards.

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RETIREES

Retiree Luncheon & Awards

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 53, KANSAS CITY, MO — Once again we went straight from winter to summer. Hope everyone stayed cool despite the heat and drank plenty of liquids. We need everyone to stay healthy.

Our retiree luncheon, hosted by Local 53, was May 3. We had a very good turnout, and everyone had a great time. We presented service pins to the following retired members: 50-year members Jerry Senter, Carl Terry and Donnie Wright; and 55-year members Joe Padilla and Mel Simmons. Congratulations to all. A big thank-you to Local 53 for hosting these luncheons.

On June 9, Local 53 held our 30th annual crap-pie tournament/fish fry. The fishing wasn't great, but we had enough for the fish fry. Participants had a great time.

There will be a celebration of life for late Local 53 retiree Robert "Shale" Sherman on Friday, Sept. 28, at 6 p.m. It will be held at the Milestones Barn, which is about 3 miles north of Warrensburg, MO, on Highway 13.

We have a group of retirees who meet at the Lumberyard Bar & Grill in Urich, MO, on the odd-numbered months at around 11 a.m. Please feel free to come join us.

Duane Pearce, P.S.

Projects to Serve Community

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 60, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS — With the club's approval at their Sept. 12, 2018, meeting, IBEW Local 60 and the Local 60 Retirees Club will be working in conjunction in the future, to help improve the livelihood of our community and surrounding counties. A committee of retirees and the RENEW committee have met to discuss future potential projects that will help improve our communities.

At the time of this writing, the club is taking a summer break. Meetings are the second Thursday of each month, starting up again Sept. 12, 2018, at 12 noon. The club meets at the Plumbers and Pipefitters training building at 3630 Belgium Lane. After a short business meeting, a themed lunch (depending on a holiday or special occasion for that month) is served. After lunch, attendees enjoy 10 games of bingo with modest cash prizes.

The Local 60 retirees wish to thank everyone who was involved in the golf tournament fundraiser held this past April. Without all the sponsors, prizes, and donations (cash and goody bag items), the tournament would not have turned out as well as it did. A special thanks to Betty Cannon and the volunteers who spent hours planning and working this event.

Sandy Rogers, P.S.

'Stop By & Join Us'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 82, DAYTON, OHIO — Greetings from Local 82 retirees. For most people, September and Labor Day represent the end of summer. For IBEW members, it is also a time for us to reflect on the many benefits that union labor provides for each of us and our families.

The Local 82 Retirees Club meets at the union hall on the first Wednesday of each month at 12 noon.

All retirees and spouses are welcome to stop by and join us. We have lunch and talk about the good times remembered, and make plans for future activities. This past summer we traveled to the Southern Comfort Grill in New Paris, Ohio, for a great lunch and afterward had dessert and coffee at the nearby home of Jim and Ginny Morgan. We also enjoyed the pin dinner in August.

On Dec. 7, there is the annual Retiree Christmas Dinner. Watch the Local 82 newsletter for more information. Hope to see you soon.

Denny Wells, Pres.

'Don't Wait — Participate'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 105, HAMILTON, ONTARIO, CANADA — Congratulations to our IBEW over 40 Hockey Team for winning the championship cup this year. It has been many years since we could call the cup ours again. Way to go, guys!

We closed the winter/spring season off with a pig roast complete with Karaoke. Let me tell you how much fun that was! Too funny is all I'll say, lol.

At a recent membership meeting we enjoyed a lovely barbecue. At the time of this writing, bowling and euchre have ceased during the summer months. In July, a group of retirees took a bus trip to the Grand River Raceway & Casino for a buffet dinner and fun! In August, a busload of retirees took in a visit to St. Jacobs Market, a lunch at Stone Crock restaurant in the town of St. Jacobs, and a play at the St. Jacobs Playhouse.

Remember our motto: Don't wait — participate! Please remember, all that we have and all the privileges of our events are all made possible by our hard-working local members and Executive Board, past and present. Our sincerest thanks to every one of you!

Eden McLean, P.S.

September Golf Outing

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 134, CHICAGO, IL — Our club's Annual John Cummins Memorial Golf Outing is Sept. 19 this year. Eighteen holes of golf with a cart for each golf team.

Our Annual Luncheon meeting honoring our members for IBEW years of service was June 13, held at our new Local 134 home. [See photo, at bottom.] We thank Local 134 for all they do to support our Retirees Club. We are so grateful for their support.

Honorees were: 50-year members — Stephen M. Catalano, Joseph A. Drelicharz, Richard A. Johnson, James G. McAra, Harrison J. Parker, Frank J. Stenson, David E. Chapman, Michael S. Hickey, William R. Keating, Michael D. Nugent, Thomas V. Schwab, Michael E. Davis, Louis Dato, Joseph R. Ippolito, Charles A. Malchiodi, Gerald P. O'Malley, Elmer W. Steinbeck; 55-year members — Daniel S. Dorsch, Frank W. Hauser, Lawrence E. Kulik, Raymond P. O'Donnell, Paul T. Wiora, Robert E. Fee, Gerald J. Krzywdzinski, Melvin C. Lemke, Robert E. Schwab, Norman Sheehan, George W. Fender, Anthony J. Manisco, Thomas J. Speck; 60-year members — Joseph F. Angelo, Thomas E. Guilfoyle, Raymond E. Omiecinski, Paul Voyne, William Dimoff, John J. Krueger, Ronald S. Sowizrol, Richard Eshoo, Edward J. Vale; 65-year members — John A. Carlin, Thomas R. Payton, Anton Schnauer, Charles M. Yeksigian, John Gluchman, Edward J. Polaski, Thomas W. Sinclair, Constanti Zaverdas, Sheldon R. Lerman, Lawrence J. Rutsay, Kamilus A. Urban; and 70-year members — Kurt J. Arantzen, Donald L. Mahoney and Thomas P. Felsenthal. There were 53 honorees for 2018.

Sue Kleczka, P.S.

'Vote Smart'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 212, CINCINNATI, OHIO — November elections are two months away — and the voters get another shot at correcting the imbalance of

our current political system.

One political party — with a pro-corporation, anti-government, anti-safety-net ideology — controls all three branches of our government.

We have a president, with no moral compass and no scruples, treating our friends as enemies and our enemies as friends.

Nothing is more disastrous for working people than what now passes as governance. Public service unions are under attack. Threats of privatizing the U.S. Post Office are in the air. We still wait for a healthcare proposal from those who have launched attacks on the Affordable Care Act and those who passed a one-sided tax reform bill that favors big corporations and the wealthiest.

Too many of our citizens struggle with the pain of making ends meet. Social Security, Medicare and pension protection are all important elements of a retiree's future. All will be on the chopping block if we retain the present political make-up. These observations are not meant as "scare tactics" but rather as a "wake-up call."

May God grant eternal rest to our recently departed brothers: 60-year IBEW member Charles Seymour; 49-year member Kenny Hoffman; 28-year member Wayne Brautigam; and two-year member Daniel Kincart.

Bob Schaefer, P.S.

Sarnia Happenings

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 530, SARNIA, ONTARIO, CANADA — At the time of this writing, regrettably, club Pres. George Mathieson was in the hospital having suffered a stroke. As of July, he had started rehabilitation, and we Retirees Club members send him our warmest wishes for continued progress in his rehabilitation program. We are all keeping him in our thoughts and pulling for his continued recovery.

We enjoyed a good summer and had the opportunity to attend many interesting events, thanks to the efforts of our executive.

On July 12, after our regular monthly meeting, 24 members enjoyed lunch at Victory Buffett. On July 18, we traveled to Grand Bend, to Huron County Play-

house for a performance called "Oh Canada 151." On Aug. 14, we traveled by bus to the famous Stratford Festival Theatre to see the musical "The Music Man," with dinner enjoyed on our way home.

Always on the first Wednesday in September, which this year is Sept. 5, we hold our annual golf tournament at Mooretown Golf Course, followed by dinner in the spacious dining room. All golfers enjoy the challenge of this course as it is an exceptionally fine course to play.

We are all trying our best to stay well and wish all of you good health also.

Nancy Stinson Philbin, P.S.



Local 611 members, assistants, guests and retirees attend Workers Memorial Day event at Workers Memorial Park in Albuquerque, NM, on April 28.

2018 Midterm Election

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 611, ALBUQUERQUE, NM — The Workers Memorial Day event in April, to honor our members who died on the job, was an inspiring occasion. It's something we should take part in every year if possible.

Well, the primary elections have taken place, and here's hoping the good candidates made it through.

It's now time to take the upcoming 2018 midterm election seriously. Except for health problems or important family issues, I can't think of any reason that we retirees should not be registered and vote in every election.

Remember to vote! Don't let someone else decide for you. We retirees do make a difference and must make our voices heard. Responsible voters took care of us when we were younger. Now it's time for us to vote to protect the future for our children and

grandchildren. They should not have to pay the consequences of our current mistakes.

We extend condolences to the families of our retirees who recently passed away: Alan B. Shepherd, Jerry S. Lynch, Charles Clevenger, Graham Smith and Danny F. McCarson. We also



Local 530 Retirees Club members at monthly meeting on July 12.



Local 134 retirees, attending June 13 luncheon meeting, were honored for years of service ranging from 50 to 70 years.



In Memoriam continued

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.

Table with columns for EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, and THE ELECTRICAL WORKER. Lists names and titles for various districts and roles.



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 email to: media@ibew.org

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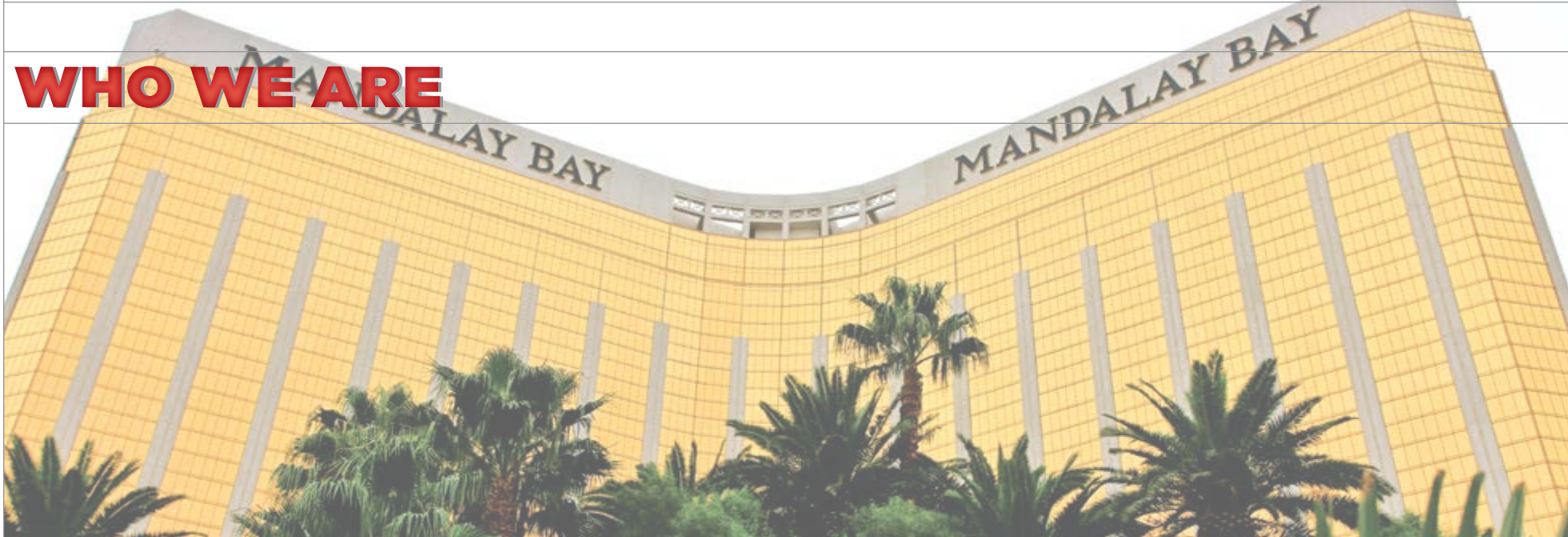
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Large table listing names, local union numbers, and dates of death for various individuals. Columns include Local, Surname, and Date of Death.

WHO WE ARE



For California Members, Heroism Under Fire

Five IBEW members have been honored for acting heroically to save lives last fall during one of the deadliest mass shootings in United States history.

“As we approach the first anniversary of last year’s tragic Las Vegas massacre, the IBEW is proud to honor these members, each of whom bravely put others’ safety before their own,” said International President Lonnie R. Stephenson.

On Stephenson’s behalf, Seventh District International Executive Council member and Business Manager of Diamond Bar, Calif., Local 47 Pat Lavin presented the union’s Life Saving Award to Local 47 members Collyn Berling, Justin Burton, Mike Hesselton, and Michael Robertson. Also honored was Jake Codemo, a traveling journeyman lineman member of St. Louis Local 2 who works under the jurisdiction of Local 47.

Fifty-eight people were killed and more than 800 were injured in the shooting that took place Oct. 1, 2017, near the end of the Route 91 Harvest country music festival, a three-day event held at the Las Vegas Village open-air venue near the southern end of the city’s world-famous casino “Strip.” Each of the honored IBEW members had attended the festival independent of the others.

Shortly after 10 p.m. that Sunday, a shooter barricaded himself in his 32nd-floor room in the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino, then used several modified assault rifles to rapidly fire across Las Vegas Boulevard and into the crowd of nearly 22,000 concert-goers. Although he seemed to have planned the

attack in detail, police have not been able to determine a motive for the shooting. Officers who forced their way into his hotel room found him dead of an apparently self-inflicted gunshot.

“The IBEW is proud to honor these members, each of whom bravely put others’ safety before their own.”

— International President Lonnie R. Stephenson

When the shots began during singer Jason Aldean’s festival-closing set, Hesselton was standing to the right of the stage with his wife, Cindy, and his teenage son, Noah. Burton said that he and his friends were about 100 feet from the stage when the first rounds came. Robertson, his wife, Paula, and their friends had made it a little closer to the stage; and Codemo and his group also were situated toward the front of the crowd.

At first, “we heard a lot of popping sounds,” Robertson said. When more gunfire soon followed, “I realized this is someone shooting,” he said, and he instinctively used his body to shield Paula.

The shots were fired from far enough away that they didn’t sound that threatening to Burton. But once he and other concert-goers figured out what was happening, everybody dropped to the ground, he said.

Hesselton, an Air Force veteran, pulled Cindy and Noah down and used his body to protect them from the gunfire. “As soon as I hit the ground, I got hit,” he said. A bullet grazed his back.

As Codemo and his friends ran for cover in the ensuing chaos, he spotted a seriously injured woman lying on the ground, helpless. As he carried her to a rapidly overflowing first aid tent, he thought

about his own wife. “I’d want someone to do that for her if she was alone,” he said. Codemo applied pressure to her wounds while they waited for medical attention.

Meanwhile, as Burton directed his wife, Jade, and a couple of their friends toward a gate near the venue’s south end, two bullets struck him in his lower back. Both narrowly missed his spinal cord, although he learned later that one cracked his pelvic bone. “I got really lucky,” said Burton, who safely shepherd-ed his group through an open gate.

Berling also was shot as he protected his girlfriend, Jill, from the gunfire. One bullet shattered when it reached bone, sending metal fragments throughout his hip and leg. Another grazed his ankle.

“As the rounds were going off, it felt like something hit me in the butt,” said Robertson, who estimated that the barrage lasted about 10 minutes. The gunshot “didn’t hurt a lot,” he said, so he was able to usher his wife and friends to a nearby exit. From there, Robertson was driven to a hospital in a sedan that had been pressed into emergency ambulance service. Hesselton had a similar experience, catching a lift to the hospital via some “good Samaritans” who eased him into their car.

Burton was placed into a crowded ambulance. When another arrived near the tent where Codemo and the critically injured woman had found refuge, he convinced the driver to take them both to a hospital. Because there was almost no room inside, Codemo had to stand in the back of the ambulance and hold her.

“Wounded people occupied just about every available space” at the hospital, Robertson said. There, he learned that a bullet fragment had sliced across his lower digestive tract. He spent almost three weeks in the hospital and underwent four surgeries, including an ileostomy that temporarily rerouted part of his small intestine to an external bag. The bullet wound healed, but complications kept doctors from reversing the ileostomy for several months. Robertson has not yet returned to work; his last surgery is scheduled for next month.

Doctors had to wait for some swelling to subside before removing shrapnel from Berling’s body. His painful injuries and subsequent rehabilitation kept the helicopter lineman off the job for several months. Burton’s doctors, meanwhile, judged it safer to leave the two bullets embedded on either side of his spine rather than risk permanent injury trying to remove them. After two days in the hospital, Burton was released, and he was back to work about a month later. “I have a little bit of a numb feeling, still,” he said.

Closing Hesselton’s graze wound required 20 surgical staples — with “no

Seventh District International Executive Council member and Diamond Bar, Calif., Local 47 Business Manager Pat Lavin (r) presented Life Saving Awards to five IBEW members who saved lives during last fall’s mass shooting in Las Vegas.

anesthesia,” he said. After a brief overnight hospital stay, Hesselton and his family returned home; he was on the job a week later.

Codemo took only a couple of days off after the massacre. “Work keeps me busy,” he said. “I’m not going to let it faze me.” The woman he rescued was released after about two weeks in the hospital, he said, and they have stayed in touch since.

Each of these Life Saving Award honorees said they have access to contract-provided employee assistance program benefits should they need counseling or other help.

Lots of IBEW members, of course, work in potentially dangerous situations and areas that can be out of easy reach of quick medical treatment. That’s why a good number of brothers and sisters prepare themselves to handle emergencies by taking first-aid, CPR and other safety training courses.

“Some of that training and quick thinking clearly kicked in for these honorees,” Stephenson said. “Without their heroic efforts, this already awful tragedy could have been even worse.”

Visit ibew.org/safety-health to learn more about IBEW’s Life-Saving Awards. ■

Powering the Padres

IBEW, Signatory Contractor Puts Petco Park atop the Majors

Thanks to the hard work and expertise of San Diego Local 569's members, the city's Major League Baseball franchise kicked off the 2018 season leading the league — at least when it comes to solar power.

Erin Brady is a native San Diegan and fan of his hometown Padres. But the Local 569 first-year apprentice admits he wasn't sure what he'd gotten into when he learned he was assigned to work at Petco Park.

"I went to one of my supervisors and thought it was a pet store," Brady said, mixing up the baseball stadium with its sponsor, the national pet food and supplies chain based in the city. "He said, 'No, we're going out to the baseball stadium.' It was really cool and unexpected."

That supervisor was journeyman inside wireman Cesar Chaidez, a 13-year employee of Sullivan Solar Power, the project's signatory contractor. Chaidez has been on more jobsites than he can remember, but he agreed with Brady that this one was special — despite the fact he grew up in Los Angeles rooting for the Padres' division rival Dodgers.

"I've been going [to Petco Park] since it opened in 2004," said Chaidez, a Local 569 member for 18 years. "What an awesome place."

Brady and Chaidez were two of the 27-person Local 569 crew that installed a 336,520-watt solar lighting system at Petco Park. Work started in late December and was finished by the home opener on March 29.

"As a baseball fan myself, being able to come to a game once the season started and saying to my friends, 'Those are the panels I worked on,' is kind of a dream come true," said Brady, 32, who worked as a bartender in the Washington, D.C., area for 10 years before returning home and beginning his electrical career last year.

The Padres are projected to save more than \$4 million in utility costs over the next 25 years due to the project. Petco Park now has more solar power than the seven other major-league stadiums that use solar combined, thanks to the work of Sullivan Solar Power, which is a longtime partner of the team and sponsored Padres Solar Day for the second consecutive year during a June 30 game.

"It was eye opening," Brady said. "It really confirmed that I made a good decision in joining the IBEW. When you work on a project like that, it opens your eyes to the scope of the work you can do as an electrician."

Sullivan's president, Daniel Sullivan, went through Local 569's apprentice-



Top: More than 700 San Diego-area union members attended IBEW Night at a Padres game. Right: Local 569 members install panels atop the Petco Park grandstand.

ship program and was a member until he started the company in 2004. He later taught the solar photovoltaic course at the San Diego Electrical Training Center.

"I founded Sullivan Solar Power 14 years ago to create a case study in San Diego, proving that we have the technology, financing and skill to fundamentally change the way we generate electricity," he said. "This project highlights that we are leading the solar energy revolution."

Working on a Major League Baseball stadium presented some additional challenges, Chaidez said. Large-scale solar installation often is done atop a relatively flat roof. Workers usually do not have to be tied off.

That wasn't the case at Petco Park. Sloping protective canopies were installed over the grandstand. The 716 solar panels — each with 470-watt Sunpower solar modules — were installed atop the narrow roof that juts out over it. Electricians were harnessed while installing the panels and often found themselves working on open beams. Sullivan Solar Power employees also had to install more than a mile of conduit.

"Working on open beams was different," Chaidez said. "We've never really done something like that. That was pretty interesting."

Other challenges included working while other events were going on in the stadium and figuring out a conduit patch



while working near the Western Metal Building, a structure more than 100 years old that sits adjacent to the stadium in right field and houses the Padres' offices and team stores.

"Safety is always the No. 1 concern," Chaidez said. "That's a little more difficult having to be tied off. We had to go out there with our safety contractor and figure something out. It didn't slow us down too much, and we made sure everyone was safe."

Brady thought working on open beams would be nerve-wracking. Instead, he learned he enjoys it and looks forward to continuing it throughout his career.

"Once you're out there, and especially if you have a task you're concentrating on, you know it needs to be done and you understand you're safe and tied off. You realize you're a lot more comfortable than you thought you might be," he said.

The project's benefits extend to the community, too.

The new panels will produce 12 million kilowatt hours over the next 25 years, according to Sullivan Solar Power officials. That is the equivalent of taking 1,200 homes off the electrical grid.

It also helps the city meet the goal of its climate action plan, which calls for

it to be using 100 percent renewable energy by 2035.

"This solar project reaffirms San Diego as the leader in solar and the city's commitment to 100 percent clean energy," Mayor Kevin Faulconer said. "We are leading by example for the country to see that solar power is the future today."

Yes, the project has an eye toward the future. But it also continues a long-standing IBEW tradition of securing good-paying, union jobs with the help of signatory contractors that have a strong commitment to the community.

Local 569 members and members of other IBEW local unions in the San Diego area saw it firsthand when they gathered for the annual IBEW Night during a Padres game at Petco Park earlier this season. More than 700 members attended.

"I must admit, I have a little more pride when I go to a game now because I know the amazing work our members did to finish that project on a tight deadline, all while doing it in a safe, professional manner," Local 569 Business Manager Nick Segura said. "Things like that make us so proud of the people we represent. We're thrilled by our association with Sullivan Solar Power and look forward to it continuing for years to come." ■

IBEW MEDIA WORLD

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

www.ibew.org

Get all the news for and about IBEW members, including the online version of The Electrical Worker, at IBEW.org.

YouTube

IBEW activists from around the U.S. came together recently to strategize ahead of the crucial 2018 midterm elections on Nov. 6. Learn more at [YouTube.com/TheElectricalWorker](https://www.youtube.com/TheElectricalWorker).

Vimeo

Hurricane Maria swept away the personal tools of many workers tasked with rebuilding Puerto Rico's electrical grid. Visit [Vimeo.com/IBEW](https://www.vimeo.com/IBEW) to learn how some IBEW members helped remedy that situation.



HourPower

Camaraderie and giving back: This year's IBEW East Coast Motorcycle Ride raised awareness of — and money to help fight — multiple myeloma. Check out IBEWHourPower.com to learn more.



ElectricTV

Women in the construction industry exemplify three pillars of the IBEW: hard work, solidarity, and diversity. Find out how on ElectricTV.net.



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