

1999
IBEW

Scholarship

WINNERS



International Officers and staff meet with the Scholarship Selection Committee as it begins its deliberations. (Left to right) Senior Executive Assistant to the International President Vincent A. O'Reilly; Railroad Department Director Dan L. Davis; Ken Peifer, vice president Labor Relations, CSX Transportation; Dr. Mary Hufford, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress; International President J.J. Barry and Frederic M. Smoak, managing director, Potomac Asset Management Company, Inc. Messrs. Peifer and Smoak and Dr. Hufford comprised the committee.

In keeping with the IBEW's long tradition of promoting educational opportunities and skill development for its members, International President J. J. Barry and International Secretary-Treasurer Edwin Hill are pleased to announce the 1999 IBEW Founders' Scholarship recipients.

The winners were chosen last May, after the Selection Committee carefully reviewed all applications. To meet the requirements, eligible candidates were asked to submit letters of recommendation, academic transcripts, SAT or ACT test scores, a personal resumé, and a 250- to 500-word essay titled "How the Founders' Scholarship Will Benefit the Brotherhood and the Electrical Industry."

Mark N. Gregory

While Operation Desert Storm was underway across the Saudi Arabian desert in 1991, Mark N. Gregory was a busy sailor maintaining and operating his ship's nuclear reactors and repairing weapons components that were vital to the ship's arsenal. Today, Brother Gregory is a journeyman electrician and an active member of Local 1141 of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He is studying for his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering at Oklahoma State University (OSU). Brother Gregory has been employed with Echols Electric since September 1996, where he completed the apprenticeship program and has been involved with a variety of construction projects.



Mark N. Gregory

When it comes to his union commitment, Brother Gregory is one who puts actions behind his words. He has volunteered for the Local 1141 Organizing Committee, vol-

unteered for the Organizing Open House, successfully completed the COMET class, volunteered for the Agreement/Bylaws/Constitution Class, served on the IBEW COPE Committee, volunteered for the local Habitat for Humanity and helped coordinate the Oklahoma City Food Bank.

Brother Gregory is also a passionate member who articulates the belief that union members must continue to pursue knowledge in order to carry the torch of leadership into the next century. "Mark's dedication is not only to the union, but also to community service," according to H. Marty Crain, Jr., Local Union 1141 business manager and financial secretary.

Brother Gregory's pursuit of a degree is an extension of his career with the electrical industry. His 4.0 grade point average for the past five semesters defines his approach to work.

Sharon Wright, head of the Division of Arts and Sciences at Oklahoma State University, says, "Mark is a real perfectionist who will revise his writing assignments until they suit his own exacting standards. Clearly, he takes great pride in workmanship, whether he is wiring a business or writing an essay."

William C. Hudson

Brother William C. Hudson, a member of Local 648, Hamilton, Ohio, since 1990, knows a thing or two about the need to be prepared through proper training. As a member of the Ohio National Guard for nine years, he has stood on alert during a civil war in Central America, assisted residents from flood-ravaged Shadyside, Ohio, and helped stem a riot at nearby Lucasville prison.

He has worked since 1995 as a journeyman electrician with the Department of Public Utilities' Power Plant at Hamilton, Ohio. Brother Hudson completed Apprenticeship Training there and for the past two years, has been a Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (JATC) instructor. In addition, he currently sits on the Board of Directors of the Local 648 Credit Union.

Brother Hudson has completed two semesters at Miami University of Ohio and plans to earn a bachelor's degree in computer science systems there.

Brother Hudson's dedication to the training needed to advance within the electrical-utility industry has led to praise from fellow electricians. "He has experience in every aspect of the electrical field," says Donald W. Vidourek, business manager of Local Union 648.

Robert Wroot, training director of the Butler and Warren County Electrical Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee at Hamilton, Ohio, says, "Besides working for the City of Hamilton and as an instructor for the J.A.T.C. Bill voluntarily serves on the Board of Directors of Local Union 648's Credit Union. He is the type of individual who always gives 110 percent."

William and Mary Hudson



Anne Humphich

The moment Sister Anne Humphich was sworn into Local 134, Chicago, Illinois, more than 20 years ago, she continued a family tradition that began before she was born. Her husband, father, mother, two brothers, both grandfathers and her father-in-law are either union members or have held union cards at one time. Sister Humphich, a parimutuel clerk with Hawthorne Race Course in Illinois, is currently working on an associate's degree at Robert Morris College in Illinois. She plans to further her studies and complete a bachelor's degree in computer science. Sister Humphich is the fourth Founders' scholar from Local Union 134, which is one of four local unions to produce that many scholars during the program's 34 years. The others are Local 11, Local 212 and Local 1457.

Despite her hectic academic schedule coupled with a full-time job, Sister Humphich finds the pace both challenging and rewarding. Her desire to learn has resulted in a consistent 4.0 grade point average. "There is something wonderful about being an adult student—each bit of knowledge gleaned is a treasure, and appreciated far more than when school was a mere fact of life."

She and her husband, both active union members, believe that getting involved with the union is the only way to make a difference if positive change is to be realized. That belief is echoed in the comments of Mary Ellen Foley, business representative of Local Union 134, who called Sister Humphich a dedicated worker who divides her energies between IBEW, job and academics. "Whenever I needed any union help, I could call upon her and she responded without reservation," says Foley.

According to Michael P. Hart, director of mutuels at Hawthorne Race Course, says her conscientious and reliable attitude has resulted in a series of promotions during the course of 25 years. "Ann maintains a 4.0 grade point average (in her academics) and still does an excellent job while at work."



Anne Humphich

Below, James Shook and family



James Shook

Brother James Shook is a journeyman wireman and foreman in Sioux City, Iowa, with Thompson Electric Company and a member of Local 231. His career goal is to graduate with a degree in electrical engineering from Iowa State University and open the first electrical engineering firm in Sioux City.

During a career as an electrician that has spanned two decades, Brother Shook has graduated from apprentice to master electrician. He finished near the top of his class every year of his apprenticeship and currently holds master electrician licenses in Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota.

Brother Shook's dedication to the union and the electrical industry has led him to successfully complete the COMET workshop, the NECA effective supervision seminar, the apprenticeship instructor seminar and a crew productivity workshop.

Elliot Rush, Local 231 business manager, says, "He was a better-than-average apprentice. He has been doing good work as a journeyman."

Local 231 President Dustin W. Small said "Jim is very aggressive and wants to receive a higher education to move up in the electrical industry. He also taught in our Apprenticeship Program for five years. I feel he is a great asset to the IBEW."