

# THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

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## Innovative Agreements Build Market Share in North Carolina

*This is the first article in a series about how local unions in different regions are using a comprehensive strategy to build market share.*

**N**orth Carolina's thick growth of furniture plants and textile mills was nearly clear cut a generation ago by outsourcing. Today, the Tar Heel state is on the rebound, ranked seventh in U.S. industrial growth, with \$20 billion of construction contracts scheduled for 2009.

The IBEW—with historically low market share in the state—is aggressively competing with open shop contractors to lead the industrial revival.

The union's recovery program paves the way for signatory employers to compete with nonunion contractors by encouraging them to hire workers in the newer job classifications of construction wiremen and construction electricians. CE/CWs are paid less per hour than apprentices or journeymen, but maintain high productivity on the non-journey-level duties that they perform.

Neal Harrison, business manager of Wilmington Local 495, has no signatory contractors based in his jurisdiction and an apprenticeship program that has been dormant for several years. That could be changing.

Harrison and International Organizer Gary Maurice have been working with Blackwater Electric, based in Chesapeake, Va., and Miller Electric, from Jacksonville, Fla., to land military



*Frank Visconti, left, a construction electrician, and construction wireman Jimmy Martin work on a project in Jacksonville, N.C. for Blackwater Electric.*

construction projects. The Pentagon's Base Realignment and Closure program is shifting more infrastructure to the Carolinas.

Miller Electric has put approximately 50 IBEW members—including 25 CE/CWs—to work building a new Spirit Aerospace parts manufacturing plant in Kinston. And the company is in the running for three substantial proj-

ects at the Camp Lejeune facility in Jacksonville.

Jeff Brown, one of Miller's construction electricians, left an open shop job in May and says, "It's one of the best moves I could have made." He says Miller is a great employer. He's learning a lot from his journeyman and looking forward to his union benefits kicking in.

Blackwater employs 23 IBEW members on multiple sites at Camp Lejeune. Nineteen are CE/CWs. The company has just moved into an

**MARKET SHARE IN N.C. continued on page 2**

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## Market Share

office in New Bern. That's good news to a local with a future that once seemed dim.

Three other contractors are working with Local 495 to strengthen the signatory footprint in nonunion territory. Austin Electric—based in Norfolk, Va.—completed a long-term project at Camp Lejeune. White Electric, headquartered in Atlanta, completed a fire alarm project at the Marine Corps Air Station at Cherry Point and a sizeable contract at New Hanover Hospital in Wilmington. Chicago-based ABCO South remodeled several Food Lion supermarkets.

## The program helps employers to compete with the nonunion sector.

All three contractors participated in industry nights, conducting interview sessions with local electricians. Maurice praises the support of Ron Thoreson, assistant chapter manager of the Atlantic Coast Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association for helping to organize the gatherings.

"We used to be a stronger local," says Harrison. That was until major industrial corporations—those that historically employed Local 495 members—turned work over to the nonunion subsidiaries of large contractors like Bechtel and Fluor-Daniels that had signatory relationships with the IBEW up north.

While the Small Works Agreement was originally envisioned as a way to land small commercial jobs, in the South—where union density can be nearly nonexistent—the concept has been applied to large-scale projects.

Harrison is amazed by the dynamic re-industrialization that offers potential for growing his local union. A firm from India has taken an option on land to build a \$120 billion textile plant. While plans for the plant have been temporarily tabled, even the talk of such a project was unheard of a decade ago.

Local 495 is planning on reviving its apprenticeship program in the fall and is planning more industry nights to introduce nonunion electricians to the IBEW and signatory contractors looking to bid on new work like hospitals and medical offices. ■

# AFL-CIO Leadership Ticket Includes IBEW's Shuler



**A**FL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Richard Trumka announced his candidacy to replace John Sweeney—who is retiring as president of the labor federation—at a rally in Washington, D.C. on July 9.

Trumka's team includes Arlene Holt Baker, the federation's current executive vice president and Liz Shuler, executive assistant to International President Edwin D. Hill, who is campaigning for secretary-treasurer.

Pledging to recruit millions of young workers into the labor movement, Trumka, in his firebrand style, said, "I'm running because I know, just like you, that even though it wasn't organized labor that created the God-awful mess our country's in, we are the people who can lead America out of it."

A third-generation coal miner and graduate of Pennsylvania State University and Villanova Law School, Trumka promised to listen and learn. "The best ideas and activism," he said, "bubble up from the grassroots, and are not handed down from the mountaintop."

President Hill introduced Shuler, who will be vying for votes against Gregory Junemann, president of the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers at the AFL-CIO's 26th Constitutional Convention in Pittsburgh Sept. 13-17.

"When you think about what Liz has achieved in her relatively young career in the movement, it gives you a sense of the possibilities for success she can have in communicating to a new generation of workers," said President Hill.

Shuler, 39, who began working at the IBEW International Office as a legislative and political representative in 1998, stressed the need for using new information technologies to connect to workers. "Friend me," said Shuler, in a reference to the popular Internet tool Facebook. She recounted her first involvement in the labor movement as the daughter of a member of Portland, Ore., Local 125.

Working summers at the Portland General Electric utility during college, Shuler observed how her mother and other unorganized clerical workers needed the protection of a union like that enjoyed by her father, a lineman. She helped to organize the clerical workers and led the local union's efforts to stop utility deregulation in Oregon in the wake of the Enron scandal.



(Top) Liz Shuler, executive assistant to International President Edwin D. Hill, announces her candidacy for Secretary-Treasurer of the AFL-CIO.

(Bottom) Ricky Oakland, IBEW Director of CIR/Bylaws and Appeals, joins other IBEW members and leaders at a rally called to announce the Trumka, Shuler, Holt Baker ticket.

"I'm here today and running for Secretary-Treasurer because the times have changed, the labor movement has changed, and because Rich Trumka is committed to communicating those changes to a new generation of Americans," added Shuler.

"[Trumka, Shuler and Holt Baker] touched me," said Nieshia Harris, a second-year apprentice in Washington, D.C., Local 26, who attended the rally with several local members. Harris says she encourages all of her friends to check out the IBEW apprenticeship program.

"This ticket is a new beginning, a fresh start," said Jennifer Alvarez, legislative and political director of the National Association of Letter Carriers. "We are now better-positioned to go after the Employee Free Choice Act and health care reform," she said.

Holt Baker, one of seven children who rose from poverty in Dallas to become a leading political organizer for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, thanked retiring President John Sweeney for "the dignity and decency [that] have sustained us as few could have."

Recalling how her relatives in Texas—who were members of unions—always stayed ahead of those who were unorganized, Holt Baker said, "That's our cause. To make life better for our members and a new generation that deserves a better shake than this economy is giving them."

All three candidates addressed the essential need to build unity among working people. Speakers paid tribute to Trumka's courageous challenge to those who questioned Barack Obama's fitness for president during the 2008 presidential campaign on the basis of his race. A YouTube video of Trumka's speech on the danger that racial divisions portend for organized labor has been visited by 500,000 Internet users. For video coverage, go to [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org). ■



# Seattle Local: Apprentices Can Buoy Nation's Shipyards

**W**hen Celia Brooks started her IBEW apprenticeship two years ago, she wasn't expecting to do complex electrical work on a 400-foot-long Coast Guard icebreaker before she topped out of her program. But last month, she helped put the finishing touches on upgrades to the electrical system onboard the Polar Sea, one of the military's largest vessels.

**"I never thought I'd be doing something this cool this soon in my training,"** said Brooks, 22, who has worked at the Todd Shipyard in Seattle for six months. "It's been an awesome experience so far."

That pleases IBEW leaders at Seattle Local 46. Since 2005, the local has worked with the state government to employ greater apprentice utilization on prevailing wage marine projects. Washington law now mandates that a certain percentage of workers on maritime projects are apprentices—allowing budding electricians to accelerate their skills as they move into high-demand, high-wage careers.

**Apprentices like Brooks are getting on-the-job training and better wages than they would on the nonunion side.** And the state's shipbuilding industry—facing a critical shortage of skilled labor as an aging work force faces retirement—is getting the jolt it needs to stay viable. Before the law came into effect, Washington had 8,000 apprentices in the work force. Today, that figure has more than doubled.

"Getting apprentices into the field is going to save our shipyards," Local 46 Business Representative Brett Olson said. "People like Celia are the next generation of skilled trade unionists keeping our industry strong."

**Success with using apprentices at the state level has prompted Washington IBEW leaders to ramp up their efforts** and take the proposal national. Olson has spent the last year and a half pitching the concept to aides of key lawmakers on Capitol Hill. "We've seen apprenticeship utilization work in our state, and we know it can work across the country," Olson said. He hopes to spur passage of legislation that will help bring a fresh crop of workers into the maritime sector who can learn on the job



*IBEW members' quality work at Todd Shipyard in Seattle ensures that Coast Guard ships like the massive Polar Sea, center, remain in peak performance.*

from journeymen with decades in the trade. "The industry is in a crisis. We're on the politicians' doorsteps hoping that they'll make the right decision and help the yards."

**In the late 1970s, the shipyard industry saw a boom in its work force.** On the West Coast, employment swelled to an all-time high of 75,000 employees—a third of whom worked in Washington's Puget Sound area building naval vessels.

Things began changing in the late '80s when the Navy started decommissioning ships and technological advances made it possible

for one ship to do the work of many. In 1987, the Navy had nearly 600 ships in the water. Today, numbers have dwindled to less than half of that. Such a decline in production has left the shipyard work force at less than 5 percent of what it was three decades ago. The average age for a shipyard employee is now 53, and workers are retiring in droves.

**"It's not just a jobs issue," Olson said. "It's a national security issue."** With China and Russia building up their fleets at record speed, lawmakers are once again fighting for a strong sea presence. The House

Armed Services Committee—chaired by Rep. Gene Taylor (D-Miss.)—is trying to help the Navy build up its vessel count to 313 ships by 2024. To do this while replacing ships that are being decommissioned, 12 new boats must roll off the production lines every year.

**"If we can get an agreement that puts apprentices to work increasing the Navy's fleet,** thousands and thousands of jobs will be created and we can help maintain our naval presence," Olson said.

One way to help do this is by recruiting men and women who have recently finished terms of military

service and are looking to get into the work force. Touting a new program called Veterans in Construction Electrical—or VICE—Olson hopes to help servicemen and women apply their skills to a union job in the marine sector. The initiative is akin to the Helmets to Hardhats program, which recruits former military members into the construction trades. "After Vietnam, vets came back and they didn't have jobs," he said. "We can help change that."

**The program has been a boon to Local 46 apprentice Ken McMillan.** He spent seven years in the Marines and Army and joined the IBEW in 2006. State laws encouraging the use of apprentices have opened doors for McMillan. The MD Marine Electric employee is currently working on wiring a ship that rescues crews and vehicles that get stranded at sea.

"People with experience in the Navy, Coast Guard and other branches often have a lot of skills that can transfer into the trade," McMillan said. "Career wise, it's a no-brainer, and we're helping increase the readiness of the ships in our fleet."

**Local 46 leaders are looking to Rep. Adam Smith (D-Wash.) to introduce legislation** in the new congressional session to use more apprentice labor on marine projects. "I look forward to speaking on the Hill about this, and I'm optimistic that things are going to go well," Olson said. ■

## Calif. Utility Commission OKs Major Solar Project

**I**n a big step forward for solar energy in California, the state Public Utilities Commission approved a plan proposed by Southern California Edison for the largest solar project of its kind in the United States.

Under the proposal, the utility will install, own and operate solar panels to be placed on top of city buildings across southern California, amounting to 250 megawatts of solar generating capacity, creating hundreds of new good-paying green jobs. (See "Solar Projects, Training Green Sector Growth for IBEW," Winter 2009, IBEW Journal).

Diamond Bar Local 47 agreed to a project labor agreement with SCE to make sure the work is done by trained IBEW members.

It's estimated that it will create as many as 800 skilled jobs by the time the project is completed in the next five years.

"Solar is the wave of the future and we're on the front edge of it," said Local 47 Business Manager Pat Lavin, who represents the Seventh District on the International Executive Council.

The agreement is unique in that it allows the 17 inside locals in SCE's jurisdiction to be covered under provisions negotiated by Local 47, a mostly

outside construction local. "Approximately 80 percent of any solar job is made up of inside wiremen and the rest come from the outside branch of the Brotherhood," Lavin said.

The IBEW is working to make sure that all workers on the job will be fully trained and certified in photovoltaic technology.

"The brother locals in southern California work hand in hand with each other to ensure the best results," said San Bernardino Local 477 Business Manager John Brown.

Last fall, SCE completed the first of what will be approximately 150 projects, installing 2 megawatts of solar energy onto a 600,000-square-foot private warehouse in Rancho Cucamonga. More than 180 IBEW members worked on the job.

Currently more than 80 members are at work on a second installation, a 1-megawatt array in Chino.

Under the agreement approved by the PUC, competitive solicitations will take place for the remaining roof leases.

"We're cutting carbon emissions and bringing in needed work for two branches of our Brotherhood, so it's a win-win proposition," Lavin said. ■



# One Team, with One Mission

## Cooperation Key to IBEW's Membership Development Program



Credit: UCM Photo Services.

Maintenance workers at the University of Central Missouri voted to join the IBEW in May.

**W**hen maintenance workers at the University of Central Missouri voted in favor of IBEW representation this summer, the celebration stretched from the school's campus outside Kansas City, Mo., all the way to Washington.

"This is a big win, a great win," said Terry Akins, business manager of Kansas City Local 124.

The campaign to organize 240 campus employees was the latest in a string of victories for IBEW locals, for the union's Membership Development department in D.C. and for the department's Professional and Industrial organizing program. The two-and-a-half-year old initiative combines the expertise of professional organizers at the international and district levels with the hard work of local members from across the U.S. and Canada.

With nearly 40 people working under him, Professional and Industrial Membership Development Director Brian Ahakuelo said one of his top priorities over the past two years has been to instill confidence in his team. "It's important to show them they can win," he said.

And they have been winning,

again and again. The program, put to work in about 60 organizing efforts last year, helped the IBEW score victories in three out of every four of those campaigns. The union is on track to beat that number in 2009, helping to recruit 1,000 new members into the Brotherhood so far this year. In 2006, the year before the program started, only about half the campaigns were winners. (In 2007, the National Labor Relations Board said the win rate in the U.S. was about 60 percent.)

resources we simply don't have here," said Akins of Local 124, who added that International Representatives helped him negotiate the contract for the University of Central Missouri workers.

The Missouri victory points to one of several innovative strategies membership development is employing—in this case, focusing on organizations, even non-electrical ones, that seem ripe for union membership. The maintenance workers

**"The IBEW has a lot to offer and it's up to us to show people that we can help their families. If we can do that, this program and this union will be successful well into the future."**

— Brian Ahakuelo, Professional and Industrial Membership Development Director

The International Office provides local unions with organizing expertise and, in some cases, much needed financial support. Vice Presidents offer additional assistance to the campaign when requested. Local union members do the bulk of the on-the-ground work, often meeting face to face with the potential members.

"It's very helpful to get the

had already formed their own employee association, a group of workers with little legal backing when it came to conflicts with their employer. Because they were already semi-organized, they were more willing to learn about the additional protections the union would provide.

The Professional and Industrial program is still evolving. Its initial focus, on smaller campaigns recruiting less than 100 workers at a time, is now being supplemented with longer-term organizing efforts designed to net bigger gains. Some of the current campaigns focus on workplaces with 500 to 1,000 workers.

Even campaigns that are not successful teach valuable lessons.

Organizing teams, at all levels, take away insights that will be helpful as they move forward. The campaigns leave behind something Ahakuelo said can be priceless. "What's important is getting our name into these communities. Win or lose, people in local communities are hearing and recognizing the name IBEW. We'll have that going for us next time around."

The key, according to Ahakuelo, is working as one team with one mission: to improve the lives of working families and make the Brotherhood stronger in the process.

"The IBEW has a lot to offer and it's up to us to show people that we can help their families," he said. "If we can do that, this program and this union will be successful well into the future." ■

## New Federal Employment Director Visits IBEW

**A**fter years of contention between unions and government appointees over work rules and pay standards governing federal workers, President Barack Obama, in March, appointed the top federal personnel job to a friend of the labor movement.

Office of Personnel Management Director John Berry was recommended for the new position by the American Federation of Government Employees. He is a former legislative director to Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-Md.) with extensive experience in federal employee management and was a key participant in development and passage of the Federal Family and Medical Leave Act.

On June 30, representatives of the IBEW and other unions in the government sector met with Berry at the



Director John Berry, Office of Personnel Management

IBEW International Office. Labor organizations represented at the meeting included the machinists, mail handlers, laborers and firefighters.

Dennis Phelps, International Representative, IBEW Government Employees Department, welcomed Berry, recalling their experience working together when Berry served in Hoyer's office. While AFGE represents the majority of federal workers,

Phelps told Berry, "We want you to think of us as federal unions, too, and to include us in discussions of policy."

Berry outlined short- and long-term goals for the OPM, including increasing diversity in hiring, reducing health care costs, recruiting and promoting more veterans, revamping pay schedules to be more competitive with the private sector and improving performance evaluation and disciplinary procedures. He called for a partnership with all unions representing government employees to take initiative on personnel policies.

"We have a two-year window to make significant progress together," said Berry, who pledged to move beyond the bitter conflict that erupted when the prior administration proposed the National Security Personnel System.

A large coalition of unions challenged the NSPS in court and in Congress, winning judicial and legislative support for their contention that the proposed personnel system unlawfully obstructed the collective bargaining rights of federal workers.

Before the parties engaged in a frank discussion of issues facing federal unions, Roger Blacklow, representing the mail handlers and laborers told Berry, "It's great to finally hear an OPM director say the word 'union' without prefacing it with the word 'damn.'"

"Our meeting with John Berry was a significant and hopeful first step in improving the relationship between all government workers and their managers," says Director Chico McGill, IBEW Government Employees Department. ■



# Retooled Education Department Boosts New Leaders' Skills

**W**hen Dominic Nolan took the helm as business manager of San Mateo, Calif., Local 617 last year, he had a set of office keys, a backlog of paperwork and only the faintest idea of what to do next.

"When you're first starting out in this job, there's no way you can know what you're getting into," Nolan said. "I'd already been a business representative for seven years, and it was still overwhelming."

But Nolan had help. Instructors from the Education Department at the International Office guided him through the recently revamped New Business Manager Training program. Activities focusing on campaigning, organizing and contract negotiations weren't just academic, Nolan says. "I was able to put what I learned into practice when I handled my first negotiation."

In less than a year on the job, Nolan bargained with employer Bombardier to secure a five-year contract for 55 Local 617 members working for the company, including four extra vacation days and decent wage increases throughout the life of the contract.

"I was apprehensive at first," Nolan said. "But then that training kicked in and helped me get our members what they deserve."

Success stories like that drive leaders in the Education Department to constantly refine and reinvigorate their teaching strategies. First formed in 1988 under International President J.J. Barry, the department runs various training programs, including Construction Organizing Membership Education Training (COMET) and Code of Excellence Training and Steward Training. The department is now going through another growth spurt by assigning seven International Representatives working out of the department to coordinate, streamline and maintain similarity with all trainings across the U.S. (Canada will not be affected by the restructuring.)

"This is a monumental change," Education Department Director Jan Schwingshagl said. "Having the quality personnel that we do, it's easier to carry out President Hill's objective of offering rigorous and comprehensive training to educate leaders and members of the IBEW."



Tenth District leaders participated in the New Business Manager Training program in Chattanooga, Tenn. last year.

Part of the group of new trainers, International Representative Debbie Harget knows that consistency is the watchword for success.

"We need to reach out to locals in areas that don't have the same density as, say, the Northeast," said Harget, who services locals in Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Utah,

Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico and part of Texas. "This restructuring shows that everyone is equally important and that everyone needs the same level of education. We're going to be doing a better job of getting everyone on the same page."

With a worker-friendly president and Congress, "it's definitely

an exciting time to be getting out the message for the IBEW," Harget said.

Nolan met newly elected Vallejo, Calif., Local 180 Business Manager Dan Broadwater at last year's New Business Manager Training. The two have maintained a strong working relationship since, calling each other frequently to dis-

cuss issues such as how to better communicate with rank-and-file members in their respective locals.

"The more we are able to share our stories, the more effective we will be as leaders," Nolan said. "This strengthens the union and the membership at large."

Broadwater emphasizes the need for clear communication. "The trainers from the Education Department reinforced the fact that transparency with all the members is extremely important," he said. "It's better to give members too much information as opposed to keeping it all to yourself. The more information members have, the better decisions they can help you make."

Nolan, Broadwater and Harget all see the new changes in the Education Department as key to maintaining union strength from the ground up. "We're not a 'top down' organization," Broadwater said. "We need to hear from our rank and file so that we can make constructive choices. They're the foundation of our union. They're the reason we do what we do." ■

## New York City Building Trades Sign Historic Agreement to Save Jobs

**I**n a groundbreaking effort to help get New York City construction workers back to work, the city Building and Construction Trades Council and their management counterparts have agreed to a historic project labor agreement that could save more than 10,000 jobs.

The pact, signed in June, is expected to stimulate more than \$2 billion in construction activity by cutting costs and adopting new work rules that will increase productivity.

"It's going to put our members back on the job," said New York City Local 3 Business Manager Christopher Erikson. "In these tough times, you need to find ways to keep the work going."

The Economic Recovery Project Labor Agreement, which came out of months of intensive labor-management negotiations, is expected to reduce building costs by an average of 16 to 21 percent.

Under the pact, the building trades have agreed to a no strike-pledge and the maximum utilizations of apprentices whenever possible to save on labor costs. Labor also committed to a strict adherence to the highest standards of excellence on the job.

"It's not a major change, it alters only about 20 percent of our current contract language," Erikson said.

In return, union contractors agreed to freeze wages for management personnel, reduce profit margins and pledged against lockouts.

"Labor and management are not content merely to wait for a national

rebound," New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg told New York Construction, a city trade publication. "(The) agreement is an important step to get stalled projects going again."

One of those projects is the Beekman Tower in lower Manhattan, designed by the renowned architect Frank Gehry. Construction on the 867-foot tower, which is slated to be completed in 2011, came to a halt last spring. "There was serious speculation that the 76-floor tower would be capped at 40 floors due to the economic downturn," Erikson said.

"Starting last fall, banks starting demanding a 40-percent down payment from developers instead of their usual 15 percent before they would give out loans," he said. "Some owners were talking about filling in their holes with sand."

But thanks to the savings made in labor costs by the new agreement, the tower's developer, Forest City Ratner Cos., resumed construction in June.

The agreement applies to 12 high-rise projects; developers of more than a dozen others in financial risk have applied for coverage. The agreement will run through the summer of 2010.

"We will reevaluate where we are at in a year, but our contractors and members are now glad to be back on those projects that were in serious jeopardy," Erikson said.

"We have two problems in New York: the financial crisis and creeping nonunionism," John Cavanagh, chairman emeritus of the Contractors Association of Greater New York, told New York Construction. "This will help both." ■

# Texas Local Helps Expose Corrupt Contractors

**D**avid Adamson, the business manager of Austin, Texas, Local 520 and president of the Austin Central Labor Council, already knew that the nonunion electricians in his jurisdiction—mostly Hispanic immigrants—were often exploited by unscrupulous contractors, putting downward pressure on the wages and working conditions of union members.

So when the Workers Defense Project, an organization that promotes fair treatment for such workers, contacted Adamson asking for his help in surveying electricians about their pay and working conditions, he assigned two organizers to the project.

Local 520 organizers Philip Lawhon and Juan Marez helped assemble data that is cited in *Building Austin-Building Injustice*, an alarming report released in June on working conditions in Austin's construction industry. And, true to the mission of the IBEW, the organizers have recruited some of the workers they surveyed into the union.

Directly after the study's release, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration announced the agency would increase the number of inspectors assigned to workplaces in Texas, one of the report's recommendations.

Austin has quickly become the second fastest-growing urban area in the country. But construction workers have not prospered at the same rate as workers in other industries.

The report finds that 45 percent of surveyed construction workers earned poverty level wages. One in five workers reported being denied payment for hours worked. Seventy-six percent of construction workers lack health insurance; 81 percent are without pensions. Sixty-four percent lacked basic health and safety training. In 2007, approximately 140 construction workers died in Texas, more than any other state in the country.

Jointly funded by the Workers Defense Project and the University of Texas, the construction report will be useful far beyond the workplace. The

defense project and the AFL-CIO are incorporating facts from the report in a draft ordinance to be introduced before the Austin City Council setting tougher standards on wages and working conditions for construction employers.

The research report has helped point out the differences between fair contractors and unfair employers, says Adamson. Unscrupulous contractors often misclassify workers as independent contractors instead of employees, thus stripping them of their rights to overtime pay, workers' compensation coverage and benefits while shifting the burden of payroll taxes to workers.

Adamson's expertise in construction as we work on policy recommendations flowing from the construction report," says Lauren Cox, research coordinator of the Austin-based Workers Defense Project which has, in addition to its work with the IBEW, helped steer workers to the Sheet Metal Workers and the Ironworkers.

As the membership of Local 520 grows, more immigrant workers are starting their electrical careers as construction electricians or construction wiremen. The local currently has 250 members in those classifications. Exposing contractor abuse continues to grow the local.



Juan Lopez



Welgin Mendita

**"I now feel safer on the jobsite working for a union contractor."**

— Esteban Rocha, Local 520

Exposing contractor abuse has stimulated activism that benefits organized labor. "When local clergy hold candlelight vigils outside the home of corrupt contractors, people take notice," says Adamson. Several vigils have been organized after contractors have failed to pay substantial sums for work performed.

"The Workers Defense Project has done amazing work," says Adamson. Project advocates, he says, have successfully encouraged some of the workers they assist to agree not to take jobs painting or installing dry-wall below a certain rate of pay. These workers are often more cohesive than long-time members of organized labor, says Adamson.

"We will rely upon David

Local 520 recently stripped 10 electricians out of one nonunion shop. "They were treated so badly that they came over to us as soon as we asked them," says Adamson. The union's safety and training programs are key to growth.

Esteban Rocha spent years working as a nonunion electrician after arriving in the U.S. from Mexico 26 years ago. Rocha, a U.S. citizen, joined Local 520 two years ago.

"I now feel safer on the jobsite working for a union contractor," he says. Just as importantly, his signatory employer helps him develop his electrical skills. Rocha has completed seven of eight courses offered by the union and has also finished the local's eight-week solar photovoltaic course. ■



North of 49°

# Green Horizons Emerge in the West

*This is the second article in a series about the growth of green energy in Canada.*

**A**lberta is best known for its huge oil sands projects, but Albertans are starting to take a look at adding alternative energy to the province's energy portfolio.

While Alberta's green power industry is still only in its infancy, Edmonton Local 424 is getting ready to begin renewable energy training at its new 14,000-square-foot training center. The local hosts a 9,000-watt solar array—one of Alberta's largest.

"The government is essentially dominated by oil companies so it has been slow to respond to changing energy priorities, but even here in Alberta we are beginning to see a shift by the public toward green power," said Edmonton Local 424 Business Manager Tim Brower.

IBEW members have also been working closely with the Greater Edmonton Alliance, a progressive network of labour, religious and community organizations, to retrofit homes in the Edmonton area to make them more energy efficient.

While Alberta's move to renewable energy has been slower than in many parts of Canada, the labour movement is preparing its members for green jobs, hosting David Foster, executive director of the Blue-Green Alliance in the United States at the Alberta Federation of Labour's convention in April. The labour federation also recently issued a joint report on green jobs with the Sierra Club.

"(Alberta) can become a leader in...the development of a new green economy," said the study.

Neighboring Saskatchewan is also beginning to see the emergence of a new green economy. Recently it has become one of the largest producers of wind power in Canada, which is translating into green work for the IBEW.

The first wind power project in the province debuted in 2002 and since then, three more wind farms have opened. The farms are owned by SaskPower, the provincial utility that employs 1,500 members of Regina Local 2067. Through this relationship, the IBEW won an agreement to maintain and operate the turbines.

More than 10 Local 2067 members began maintenance on the Cypress Wind Power facility last year. The wind farm, located more than 300 kilometers west of Regina, is made up of 16 turbines, and produces enough energy for 9,000 homes.

An agreement to maintain more than 80 turbines at the Centennial Wind Power facility in southwestern Saskatchewan—which supplies 64,000 homes annually—will kick in in 2011, but staffing for maintenance will start next year.

"We never negotiated a wind turbine maintenance agreement before this, so we turned to other IBEW locals that had experience with it for help," said Local 2067 Business Manager Neil Collins. Some of the locals that assisted 2067 in negotiating agreement language were Diamond Bar, Calif., Local 47; Des Moines, Iowa, Local 499 and Madison, Wis., Local 965.

Collins is hopeful the experience Local 2067 has developed working with wind turbines will make it a resource for other locals across Canada looking to break into wind. "We're looking at setting up a wind turbine maintenance training program in the near future," Collins said. "We've really cut our teeth and we look forward to having other locals that are developing their first wind agreements turn to us for help."

Nuclear power could also soon become part of the province's energy portfolio. "(We're) optimistic about the opportunity in Saskatchewan for a new nuclear plant that could create employment and reduce greenhouse gas emissions," said Duncan Hawthorne, Chief Executive Officer of Bruce Power, one of Canada's largest nuclear power companies.

Local 2067 entered an agreement with Bruce Power in April that states that if the company gets permission from government officials to build a







## Circuits

### Linemen Praised for Braving Storm, Restoring Power

Eleven members of Springfield, Ill., Local 193 netted accolades for restoring power and providing other city services in the wake of a devastating ice storm last winter that crippled the southern part of the state and western Kentucky.

Journeymen linemen Don Baumhardt, Lance Barnard, Jack Burchi, Andrew Dhabalt, Rob Hester, Kirk Jacobs, Brian Kramp, Mike Mheidze, Charles Riner, Bart Schmulbach and Jeff Nemecek working for Springfield City Water, Light & Power, received commendations in June from the city of Metropolis—near the Illinois-Kentucky border—and the Illinois Municipal Utilities Association. The men were dispatched to the town as part of the utilities' mutual aid program, a coalition of employees who respond to emergencies.

Working 17-hour days for two weeks straight, the workers cleared downed trees, reset poles and strung wire that had been leveled by the storm. Power finally came back on for Metropolis' 15,000 residents after the crew rebuilt distribution lines—a daunting task complicated by the frigid temperatures.

Time afterhours provided little relief, as the workers' hotel had no power. Flashlights, cold showers and frost on the windows characterized the scene.

"We had a strong motivation to get out there and get the job done," said job supervisor Don Baumhardt. "There were little kids freezing in their houses. It was like something back in the Great Depression."

For their efforts, the men also received personal letters of thanks from Metropolis Mayor Billy McDaniel and IBEW International President Edwin D. Hill.

"Undoubtedly, it was a job made even more challenging given the ice, extreme cold and other severe weather conditions during that time," McDaniel said. "I as well as all the residents of Metropolis thank these employees for lending their time, talent and services during a time of need." ■



Members of Springfield, Ill., Local 193 battled frigid temperatures and numerous hazards to bring back power to the town of Metropolis.

### Virginia Local Greens Its Training

Norfolk, Va., Local 80 is the latest IBEW local to join the national push for renewable energy. Last January, the Tidewater Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee began the New Year with the installation of a 250-volt photovoltaic system that not only provides power for the center but allows both apprentices and journeymen to develop their skills in solar technology.

"By training our apprentices and journeymen in solar photovoltaic systems today, we are letting our contractors know they can pick up the phone and get the manpower they need to install any job," said Michael Iacobellis, training director for the Tidewater Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee.

The center offers an upgrade course in solar photovoltaics that covers all aspects of PV systems. The 30-hour, four-week course allows participants to qualify for the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners' solar certificate program. The certification allows individuals looking to get into the solar field a way to show they have achieved knowledge comprehension of key terms and concepts of photovoltaic operations.

"With the resources just within Local 80's jurisdiction, in both solar

and wind, we need to be prepared to man this work," said Local 80 Business Manager Matt Yonka.

Local 80 is also looking to develop courses in wind turbine installation by 2010. The Tidewater region of Virginia, which borders the Atlantic Ocean, has been labeled by the Department of Energy as one of the top wind producing regions in the state. ■

### Member Teaches Electrical Safety by Bringing It to Life

How does Syracuse, N.Y., Local 97 member Steve Capirici make electricity so entertaining for 90 third graders that their jaws are literally hanging open while he is talking? Easy: He brings in a model with boats and trucks, has real life sparks and fire simulations, and he

uses terminology and examples that are age appropriate.

"You could see the kids' faces light up when a spark ignited," Capirici said.

He is able to hold the third graders' attention for 45 minutes with a portable demonstration that includes transmission poles and wires and other things children see every day. The 2x5' table-top model also includes a house, some vehicles, a pool and a kite. All of these objects combined demonstrate 11 cautionary tales he describes in his presentation. The scenarios ranged from a doll flying a kite that hits a wire, to a wire falling into a pool. The dolls get electrocuted in every scenario.

Capirici, a service representative at National Grid, is the latest messenger in a public outreach program that has been presented to grade school kids by the utility and its predecessor, Niagara Mohawk Power, for 25 years.

Each scenario that is represented in the model was a real life incident. One was a husband and wife pulling an antenna on their roof with a rope. The antenna touched a wire; both people were electrocuted. Because the antenna was touching the house, the house caught on fire. Capirici exemplified this by having a red and yellow light in the house to simulate a fire.

The main audiences that



Sauquoit Elementary school third graders watch as Syracuse, N.Y., Local 97 member Steve Capirici demonstrates the importance of electrical safety.



## Washington Update

Capirici presents to are children in grades first to sixth. "I am really proud to be involved in these kids' lives by teaching them how to be safe in their homes when it comes to electricity," said Capirici, who brings the clothing he wears on the job, tools and his personal protective equipment, along with the model.

Steve Roby, a senior safety representative for National Grid, who helped develop the demonstration and trained Capirici, sat in on one of Capirici's presentations. "Steve had good eye contact and was very relaxed with the kids," he said.

Both Roby and Capirici hope other members will start to replicate what this local is doing in their own communities. Capirici says, "My main goals are to teach kids safety and help my community." And he's not finished yet. Capirici plans on going back to Sauquoit Elementary school again next year. ■

### Introducing Working Green

The green economy will play a vital role in both reducing our carbon footprint and putting people to work.

Our new Web site section, Working Green, will help keep members, contractors and others looking to break into the new energy economy updated on the latest news about the IBEW's role in the green revolution.

From news stories about IBEW members working in solar, wind, biomass, nuclear power and clean coal, to information about green training and how to find work in the renewable energy sector, Working Green will be a one-stop spot for those who want to make sure green job will be good jobs.

"Green power offers us the chance to not only halt climate change but to rebuild the middle class," said IBEW International President Edwin D. Hill. "Working Green is the place to let everyone know that our members have the skills and training needed to make it a reality."

To check out the site, click on the Working Green tab on the IBEW homepage or go to [www.ibew.org/WorkingGreen/index.htm](http://www.ibew.org/WorkingGreen/index.htm). ■



*The IBEW disagrees with the bill's carbon dioxide emissions goals.*

### Climate Change Bill Passes House; IBEW Eyes Senate for Improvements

Congress on June 26 took the first step in setting long-term policy to slow climate change.

The package, which passed the House of Representatives in a close 219-212 vote, sets higher efficiency standards, encourages increased use of alternative energy and sets stricter limits on the amount of carbon dioxide emissions from vehicles, manufacturers and power plants.

While the bill contains many provisions favored by the IBEW, like Davis-Bacon prevailing wage protections, promotion of additional electrical transmission capacity and incentives for the development of clean coal technologies, the IBEW could not wholeheartedly support the bill due to what we consider to be unrealistic carbon dioxide emissions goals. Specifically, the legislation calls for a 17 percent reduction from 2005 levels of CO<sub>2</sub> releases by 2020.

One of the U.S.'s greatest natural resources is coal, which supplies 50 percent of America's electricity. In a letter sent to members of Congress before the vote, IBEW International President Edwin D. Hill expressed his concern for the timetable in the bill.

"Renewable energy alone is not enough; we must include coal, using carbon capture and storage technologies now in development, and expand nuclear energy generation as a part of the U.S. energy mix," Hill said.

IBEW members have been on the forefront of the new technologies that make wind, solar, biomass and tidal power viable alternative options today. These, plus hydro, nuclear and clean coal, are all vital sources of energy that must be considered to fill an ever-growing need for electricity.

"If we do not use all the energy resources and technology available to us, Americans will either still be contributing to global climate change by 2020 or forced to accept a diminished energy-producing capacity, with the accompanying economic disruption and job losses that will make the current recession look tame," Hill said.

An Electric Power Research Institute analysis concluded that by 2020, with aggressive research and development, carbon capture and storage would be commercially available. The report also said to be successful in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, the United States needs 42 new nuclear plants, 200 advanced coal plants and 100,000 wind turbines.

Hill also registered his concerns over the lack of strong language to protect U.S. international competitiveness. The bill contains language drafted jointly in 2007 by the IBEW and AEP that seeks to provide incentives for the country's trading partners to reduce their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by requiring them to adopt their own cap and trade program or to purchase carbon credits to sell their products in the United States. However, this language doesn't take effect until 2020. The IBEW believes that our industries cannot wait until 2020; the IBEW's position is that the international provision should start a year after the bill is enacted.

"Our steel plants in the United States are some of the most modern in the world, but they would not be able to compete with China if the U.S. has a carbon cost and our trading partners do not," said Utility Department Director Jim Hunter. "We have a legal right to be concerned about the CO<sub>2</sub> footprint to create those products and sell them in our country."

IBEW leaders are hopeful that these provisions are changed when the Senate takes up the bill. Policy makers in that chamber are already drafting proposed legislation.

"The IBEW recognizes the science of global warming, but we insist on realistic legislation to address the problem that preserves both jobs and the environment," Hill said. ■

### Members Rally for Quick Reform of U.S. Health Care

IBEW members from across the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic marched on Capitol Hill in June to send an urgent message to Congress: fix the nation's ailing health care system now.

"We've got thousands of people here saying we've run out of time. We need health care reform right away," said Liz Shuler, Executive Assistant to IBEW International President Edwin D. Hill.

Doctors, politicians and workers from a dozen labor unions rallied against insurance companies and in favor of a publicly-funded option for Americans who lack health insurance. Health Care for America Now, a coalition of more than 1,000 organizations, sponsored the event. HCAN says health care costs in America rose by 120 percent over the past decade. Fifty-two million Americans are uninsured, according to the group.

"I know that we can do better and we must do better," Emmy Award-winning Actress Edie Falco told the crowd. Falco, a breast cancer survivor who now plays "Nurse Jackie," joined in the call for affordable medical coverage.

Pittsburgh Local 5, which sent journeymen and apprentices to Washington for the rally, said health care is now the top priority during contract negotiations, as employers try to pass more of the cost on to workers. For video coverage of this story, go to [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org). ■

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 <p><b>Dreams of Dignity</b> Hardback Book Price: \$5.00 History of the IBEW.</p>	

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# Local Lines

## Members Mobilize to Serve

L.U. 6 (c,i,st&u), SAN FRANCISCO, CA—In April, Local 6 members mobilized to better their community. Partnering with Rebuilding Together, 70 members renovated 14 projects, including schools, community centers, and homes of those in need. Many of our contractors donated service vans and material toward the effort. This outreach is a proud annual tradition for our local and our industry. Steve Powers, Jim Reed and Tom Burrows are commended for organizing the logistics, as are all the volunteers who worked so hard to improve the lives of others.

Local 6 continued our commitment to the community in May with the annual Motorcycle Charity Run. Members rode to Yosemite, spending the weekend at Camp Mather. Riders toured the majestic valley floor and breathtaking waterfalls of Yosemite. This event benefits the St. Anthony Foundation, which provides comprehensive services to those in need. Thanks to Steve Passanisi, Rich Reesink and all the riders for a fantastic weekend benefiting a great cause.

Work in the city continues to be slow. It is encouraging to see our brothers and sisters standing strong and supporting each other during this difficult time.

*Phil A. Farrelly, Pres.*

## 'An Icon Retires'

L.U. 8 (as,em,i,mar,mt,rts,s&spa), TOLEDO, OH—A Local 8 icon has retired! Congratulations to Bro. Roy C. Grosswiler, who recently retired after many years of dedicated service to our great union. He served in many capacities over the years: as teacher, officer, business agent, delegate, organizer, political campaign worker/organizer, and member at large! (Just to name a few.) His many contributions will not be forgotten. Hopefully we can learn from his loyalty and do our part to make our great union even better. Thank you, Roy. Enjoy your retirement—you deserve it!

Looking for a good time on Lake Erie? Consider joining us for the annual perch tournament on Aug. 29. Contact the hall to reserve your spot and get further details. Also the summer picnic/Labor Day parade is coming up. Please plan on attending. After the parade, a picnic will be held back at the hall. The food will be great and the children will have plenty to do, to give the rest of us time to visit. Enjoy the summer!

*Ben "Red" Tackett, P.S.  
Jim Kozlowski, B.M.*

## Stewards Meeting

L.U. 24 (es,i&spa), BALTIMORE, MD—On May 5, members serving as shop stewards, and potential future stewards, attended an informal meeting to discuss ways to improve their abilities as representatives on the job site. Implementing safe work practices and a review of overtime procedures also were discussed.

The Local 24 Members & Guests Golf Outing was May 31. The Captain's Choice venue allowed participants of all skill levels to play and have a good time. It was a beautiful day for fun, food and socializing with union brothers and sisters.

With great sorrow we mourn the loss of the following brothers thus far in 2009: John Bissinger, Charles Brazezicki, James Crowley, Malcolm Dunn, Kenneth Fitzberger, John Herbert, John Lusco, Thomas Simmons, Marvin Smith, James Synodinos, John Taylor, Robert Tester and William Zimmerman.

The Local 24 Annual Family Picnic is Aug. 9 at Conrad Ruth's Villa. Activities will include children's games, swimming, clowns, bingo, door prizes, dancing, great food and refreshments. I hope to see you there. Have a safe summer.

*Gary R. Griffin, B.M.*

## Scholarships Awarded

L.U. 26 (ees,em,es,govt,i&mt), WASHINGTON, DC—Hopefully you've requested tickets to this year's picnic to be held Sat., Aug. 29, at Camp Letts. If you have not and wish to attend, you may come by the hall in Lanham and purchase them. Again this year, the picnic will incorporate a health fair and 5k run/walk. No tickets are sold at the gate.

The Scholarship Committee made their selection, and this year's winners are: Daniel Bates and Christopher Coghill. Daniel is the son of Bro. Timothy Bates; he plans to attend Virginia Tech and study aerospace engineering. Christopher is the son of Bro. John Coghill; he hopes to attend St. Mary's College of Maryland and plans to study political science. Congratulations to Daniel and Christopher, and best wishes to all the very deserving applicants.

The following brothers passed away since our last article: William Capar, William Edwin Jeffers, Otis Pitt, Gary Figgins, Ernest C. Stone, Michael A. Murphy, Julian M. Cannaday Jr., Whitney L. Winegard and Thomas F. Davis.

Best wishes to recent retirees: Gary Annan, Towe Aston, Neddy Harwood, Vernal Holbrook, Steve Kemp, Dennis Holsinger, James Mason, Francisco Montano, Kenneth Weddle Sr. and Bernard Miller.

*Charles E. Graham, B.M.*



*Local 38 members installed a new Cleveland State University solar array system. From left are: Mike Juliani, Craig Hurley, Jeff Rudy, Jarrod Amberik and Tom Grabowski working for Ullman Electric. Shown in the background is the new \$40 million CSU student center being wired by IBEW members with Lake Erie Electric.*

## Service Awards Presented

L.U. 32 (i&u), LIMA, OH—At the recent retirees meeting Bus. Mgr. Jerry Dickrede presented Cloyne Stauffer with his 50-year service award, and Homer Vance with his 60-year service award. After the awards presentation, the retirees socialized and reminisced about past jobs they worked.

We also congratulate recent Local 32 retirees: John Stump, Dave Copus, Ron Gross, Terry Thompson, William Teeters, Larry Axe, Mick Baughman, Don Podlesnik, Florian Smith and Dan Goetz. We thank these retirees for their many years of loyal service to the local and wish them much success in their retirement.

Our annual Local 32 Golf Outing was held at the Oaks Golf Club on June 27. Thanks to all who participated and helped make it a success.

At this time work is slow in our jurisdiction, and as always we appreciate the opportunities other locals have given our members.

Our condolences go out to the families of brothers who passed away in recent months.

*Jerry Dickrede, B.M.  
Doug Beining, P.S.*



*Local 32 retirees Cloyne Stauffer (left) and Homer Vance display their service awards.*

## Solar Project at University

L.U. 38 (i), CLEVELAND, OH—IBEW Local 38 members installed a new solar photovoltaic system on top of the new Cleveland State University parking garage in downtown Cleveland.

Two solar arrays were installed on the project by Local 38 contractors Ullman Electric and Midwest Cable & Wireways. One was a 15 kw, 236-foot-long array and the other a 13 kw, 207 foot-long array.

CSU also recently set an experimental vertical axis wind turbine on one of the university buildings being wired by Workbest Electric.

Other renewable energy projects now under way or completed in our area include a solar array and a wind turbine at the Tri-C Metro Campus by Bay West Electric, and solar arrays located at the Great Lakes Science Museum and Progressive Ballpark by Contemporary Electric.

Also at CSU, the new \$40 million student center is being wired by Lake Erie Electric.

Local 38 extends sympathy to the family of Bro. Ed Shingary, who passed away June 5. Ed was a 60-year member and a well-respected business agent of Local 38 from 1967 to 1993.

*Dennis Meaney, A.B.M.*

## Training Classes

L.U. 58 (em,i,rtb&spa), DETROIT, MI—Our local has seen a loss in work that we traditionally have performed for the auto companies, supporting the industry with building factories, doing line changes and performing shutdowns, which employed a large part of our membership for years. Now our local is working toward finding new possible opportunities in the information technology, solar photovoltaic and instrumentation fields.

These new fields will require us to obtain new

## Trade Classifications

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

*Please note that 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.*





Local 96 graduating apprentices are honored at June banquet. From left: VDV technician graduates Peter Panagopoulos and Artur Jedrzycki; Bus. Mgr. Leo Miller; and journeyman wireman graduates Matt Ladden, Erik Keller and Jim Burke. Apprentice graduates not pictured: VDV technician Daniel Flynn; electricians Nathan Anderson and Jeffrey Soderman.

skills by taking training classes to better prepare for and adjust to the possibility of new work. This is where our Electrical Industry Training Center is a real asset. Classes are offered day or night so that members can, at their convenience, increase their skills or meet job safety requirements.

In the spring, day classes were offered in BICSI, Photovoltaic Training and Instrumentation Part A, to prepare members for the exams leading to obtaining certifications needed for these jobs. The trade school also held a welding class to prepare members to pass the welding exams, and held an OSHA 10/30 with NFPA 70E class to cover the safety requirements.

If you have not yet taken any of these courses, the next time they are offered you may want to consider upgrading your skills.

Michael Curran, P.S.

## IBEW = Green Jobs

L.U. 90 (i), NEW HAVEN, CT—In May Local 90 showcased our building and training center for the IBEW green-jobs open house. Ten booths were set up for green energy and green jobs. The training center was manned for tours and examples of our apprentice and journeyman training. All Connecticut state and federal legislators were invited to attend. The NJATC's green energy training for our membership was the flagship of the open house. We feel getting in the front of this industry is very important for our members and the planet. We received our state's political dignitaries in fine form, the IBEW way. All attendees including U.S. Sen. Joe Lieberman and U.S. Rep. Chris Murphy, along with representatives from the offices of U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro and U.S. Sen. Chris Dodd, were impressed with all they saw and heard.

Officers from all IBEW locals in the state also attended along with IBEW International Representatives. We thank all who helped put the day together. Thanks to the Local 35 and Local 90 instructors who manned our booths and the school, and to Local 35 Apprenticeship Dir. Carl Difazio for his help. Special thanks to Second District Int. Rep. Brian Maher and Local 90 Apprenticeship Dir. Paul Costello, who put in many hours and drove this event home. IBEW = Green Jobs.

Sean Daly, V.P.

## Downtown Union Rally

L.U. 96 (i), WORCESTER, MA—Local 96 elections were held June 1. Congratulations to elected officers and board members: Bus. Mgr. Leo E. Miller Jr., Pres.

Robert M. Fields, Vice Pres. Paul A. West, Rec. Sec. Timothy G. West, Treas. Luke E. Carpenter; Executive Board members David W. Haigh, Jerry L. Johnson, John L. Ledger Jr., Joseph R. Messier; Examining Board members George V. Carpenter Jr., David A. delaGorgendiere, Thomas V. Keller, Michael E. Thayer and Michael P. Vizzo. Thank you to Election Judge Richard Borjeson and Tellers Wayne Gentile, Harry Hart, Raymond Looney and Samuel McQuoid.

Graduating apprentices were honored and perfect attendance awards were presented at the annual apprenticeship banquet in June. [Photo above.] Featured keynote speaker was Marty Aikens, IBEW Local 103 business rep and Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust governing board member.

Area building trades, including members of Local 96, conducted a rally at the Crowne Plaza in downtown Worcester to raise awareness and show opposition to construction work at the hotel being completed by out-of-state, nonunion contractors and workers. It is hoped the hotel chain will consider in-state union trades for future construction projects. Thank you to all members who attended the rally.

Reminder: the annual golf tournament is Sept. 25. Additional information is available on our Web site [www.ibewlocal96.org](http://www.ibewlocal96.org).

Luke E. Carpenter, Treas./P.S.

## Helmets to Hardhats

L.U. 102 (c,catv,i,it,o&t), PATERSON, NJ—Recently some of our union brothers were working in a switch gear room for a local refinery. The area they were working on was shut off. Close by in the same gear room, there was an arc flash explosion causing a fire and smoke. In the confusion of the moment Bro. Mark Conforti kept his composure as he helped his partner, Robert Flippo, a 40-year member, get out safely. Also he saw another brother disabled and lying on the floor of the smoke-filled building. Mark returned to the switch gear room and then carried Bro. Tom Cangiamila out to safety. Brother Robert Flippo made the 911 call for help. It was later learned that Tom had broken his ankle. Bro. Mark Conforti is a true hero and we are glad to have him within our ranks. Mark and Robert served our country honorably in the U.S. Army. After their tour of duty they completed their apprenticeships and have worked with us as IBEW members since their discharge. We at 102 thank them for their service to our country and for their gallant efforts on the job. We also wish Tom Cangiamila a speedy recovery.

Ed Fredericks, P.S.

## Decatur Celebration in August

L.U. 146 (ei,i&rts), DECATUR, IL—Once again IBEW Local 146 members will "power the party" at the Decatur Celebration. The free three-day celebration runs Aug. 7–9 in downtown Decatur and everyone is invited. We also volunteered at the Macon County Fair and held our annual golf outing. Check us out on Facebook.

We graduated 10 apprentices in May. Our newest inside journeyman wiremen are: Co-Apprentices of the Year Brian Wright and Jerry Greenburg; Dustin Brown, John Murphy, Luke Nohren, Damian Poe, Nicholas Probst, Jason Smith, Scott Tondello and Jonathan Wiley. Congratulations to all on a job well-done. The 2009 class had a combined grade point average of 92.08 percent.

We mourn the loss of retired members Matt Wrigley, Melvin Steele and Donald Rex Snider. Our sincere sympathy goes out to their families. They will truly be missed.

Congratulations to Larry Fehling on his recent retirement.

Everyone should remember in these economic times that an economy built on our values is an economy built on prosperity.

Rich Underwood, R.S.

## Bro. Tom Raven Dies

L.U. 150 (es,i,rts&spa), WAUKEGAN, IL—We recently lost a fine man and good brother when retired member Tom Raven passed away. Tom was a longtime member of Local 150. He was involved with the apprenticeship program for many years and became the local's first full-time training director in 1979.

At that time we were located in downtown Waukegan in the old Morrie Mages Sports Store on Genesee Street. This was the first property the local ever owned and was bought in 1979 also. Tom continued as training director until his retirement in 1986 and helped lay the foundation for what our training program has grown into today.

He served in the U. S. Army during World War II and saw combat in Europe with the U.S. Army 44th Division. He retired from the U.S. Army Reserves as a master sergeant. He had many other interests: hunting, fishing, golfing, the Green Bay Packers, and time with his friends. He was a member of the Elks, VFW, Danish Brotherhood, Knights of Columbus, American Legion and the Moose. He is survived by his wife, Alice; son Patrick; daughter Marialice; and many other relatives. I, for one, will miss him. Godspeed, Tom.

The golf outing is scheduled for Sept. 13.

Wendy J. Cordts, P.S.

## Celebrations

L.U. 180 (c,i&st), VALLEJO, CA—On March 24, the Local 180 Retirees Club held a 100th birthday party for its oldest member—a lovely, charming and elegant lady named Gertie Kinney. Her late husband, Ray Kinney, was a wireman at Mare Island. In keeping with the centennial theme, Bus. Mgr. Dan Broadwater presented Gertie with 100 lottery tickets. Gertie reminisced about heartwarming events with Local 180 members and their families, including inspiring stories about helping people during the Great Depression and life before the radio!

On April 25, hundreds gathered at our Old Timers' Awards Dinner to honor those who have proudly served our Brotherhood. A total of 141 mem-

bers received service pins for service of 20 years and more. Two brothers received 70-year service pins—Lorin Gillespie, who still helps run his company, Union Electric; and retiree Harold Herrmann. Bros. Ed Parker and Gene Watson received 60-year pins and are still in the field practicing their craft and providing wisdom that comes only with enduring experience in the trade.

With one member marking an eventful century of life, many marking a half-century of service, and the upcoming graduation of 35 apprentices, Local 180 has much to celebrate.

Michael Smith, B.A.

## Work Picture Slow

L.U. 196 (govt,mt,o,t&u), ROCKFORD, IL—Our work picture is bad and we do not see much happening anytime soon. As of this writing, the state government cannot get a budget passed, so the governor will not sign the \$29 billion capital construction bill—so the workers suffer once again.

We are still fighting some other trades who encroach on our IBEW work instead of going out and stopping the nonunion people doing their work. We will continue to fight with everything we have to defend our work. Our own members need to stand strong in unity with our union to retain our work. This is our fight to win or lose. Keep up the fight and we will prevail in the end.

Edgar R. Mings Jr., B.M.

## Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 234 (i&mt), CASTROVILLE, CA—Our local proudly announces the graduating class of Inside apprentices: Ruth Dean, Scott Harris (honored as Outstanding Apprentice), Raul Marin, Jose Melgarejo, Nicholas Preglovick and Michael Stevenson. We also proudly announce the graduating class of Residential apprentices: Miguel Huerta, Michael Magana, Israel Rosas and Richard Acevedo. After their years of hard work in a rigorous program, we are pleased to present them as Inside and Residential journey-level electricians. Congratulations and thanks to each of them for their years of study and training. We welcome them to an industry where their skills and contributions will be needed to help meet ever increasing and constantly changing demands.

Once again we offered scholarships for graduating high school seniors in our jurisdiction. The winners were: Samantha Steele, who will attend Cal Poly San Luis Obispo; and Veronica Arizmendez, who will attend Monterey Peninsula College.



Among Local 234 graduating Inside apprentices attending the graduation dinner and ceremony are, from left: Ruth Dean, Nicholas Preglovick, Michael Stevenson and Scott Harris.



Local Lines



Local 246 welcomes 12 new apprentices indentured at May 27 meeting.

Honorable mention scholarships were awarded to Jessica Gamber and Tempestt Edward. This spring our local sponsored the annual Castroville Artichoke Festival. We also provided volunteer support for this popular community event.

Stephen Slovacek, P.S.

**New Apprentices Welcomed**

L.U. 246 (ees,i,rts&spa), STEUBENVILLE, OH—As of this writing, our work is slowing after a very busy year. We thank all the traveling brothers and sisters as well as our own members for the professionalism shown on the First Energy, W.H. Sammis site. The

job is a \$1.2 billion scrubber/SCR project that is expected to finish in 2010.

We also congratulate the 12 new apprentices who were indentured at our regular meeting on May 27. We wish them the best of luck in their careers. Our newest apprentices are: Stephen Badgley, Michael Bell, Michael Butto, Dustin Crawford, Donald Hipkiss, Matthew Keller, Tyler Kelley, Lance Lucarelli, Chuck Nemeth, Josh Richardson, Michael Robinson, Christopher Scammell and Greg Whiting.

We look forward to our family picnic set for Saturday, Aug. 1, at Brooke Hills Park in Wellsburg, WV. There will be lots of food, fun and camaraderie.

Phil Diserio, Pres.

**Apprentices ‘Shine’ for Local**

L.U. 280 (c,ees,em,es,i,mo,mt,rts&st), SALEM, OR—Our apprentice graduation banquet in Albany on May 30 honored 58 new journeymen for a job well done! Guest speakers included Oregon Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian, Bus. Mgr. Tim Nicol and Harvey Platt, of Platt Electric. Apprentice graduates listed below with an asterisk (\*) by their name were “Outstanding Achievement” winners.

Inside—Casey Aiello, Nathan Albertson, Scott Bruce, Thaddius Crevier, Joseph Dassen, Mark Esbshade\*, Marvin Fredrickson, Nathan Gehring, Wade Gregory, Ian Jagels, Tony Jones, Dean Jones, Craig Langan, Richard Lay, Mitchell Martin, Kyle McKern, Jeremy Miller, Christopher Parker, Anthony Perkins, Ted Pugh, Justin Rochefort, Mark Sliper, Jeffery Thompson, Jon Train, Donstrato Vega, T.J. Vetkos, Benjamin Weber, Casey Westlake, Adam Zurcher.

Residential—Shane Barton, Joshua Beachy\*, Jordan Branch, Chad Clark, Brandon Crawford, Casey Davis, Clint Holmes, Ryan King, Travis Kuiper, Mark Scheid, Noah Williams.

Limited Energy—Jon Abbott, James Bolton, Brandon Briggs, Andrew Bryson\*, Shelly Cooper, Jim Kirkland, Kory Klein, Adam Kojoian, Larry Majors, Melisa Martinez\*, Paula Montaque, Christopher Perkins, Phillip Purington, Craig Saunders, Michael Schmunk, Benjamin Shinn, Michelle Spade, Shawn Varner.

With sadness, the local mourns the loss of Bros. Scott Hurst and Ron Meyers Sr.

Please work safe and remember the picnic on Sept. 12 at Timber Linn Park in Albany. Bring your family and friends!

Jerry Fletcher, Pres.

labor, business, human rights and politics. Users will also find information about upcoming events and calls to action.

People interested in joining the union can easily submit an inquiry via the Web site. For the first time there will also be information about the electrical apprenticeship and solar training offered at the hall.

Members are invited to visit the Web site at [www.ibewlocal300.org](http://www.ibewlocal300.org).

Matthew Lash, P.S.

**‘Load vs. Layoffs’**

L.U. 306 (i), AKRON, OH—Energy saving lamps and increased appliance efficiency haven’t had a big impact on total electrical consumption in the United States. Decreased auto, steel and related production in our part of the nation reduced total utility load by 17 percent in the first quarter of the year. This sent the utility scrambling to reduce costs. The utility chose to eliminate employees, raises and benefits while still paying a \$2.20 per share dividend to investors! This impacts our IBEW members, their families and the local economy in a most negative manner. Perhaps this “load vs. layoff” scenario could be helped by the Renewable Energy Initiative. Wind, solar and water-driven generating equipment could fill in the valleys and trim the peaks while providing employment for skilled IBEW workers.

We send best wishes for a happy retirement to Bros. Steve Gurski, Dave Hinkle, Russ Ciancio, Ron Trent, Steve Schilling, John Kee and Larry Borth.

We mourn the loss of retired Bros. Thomas Bosso and Thomas Washcoe and send our sincere condolences to their families.

Work safe and have work!

Bob Sallaz, P.S.

**Career: Up. Tuition: Down.**

IBEW has partnered with Excelsior College to give IBEW members access to college degrees and significant savings on tuition and fees.

College is more affordable than ever for all IBEW members.

IBEW members may transfer in credits already earned at other accredited colleges and universities, credit for evaluated industry training, such as NJATC and NUAP, and ACE-evaluated military training.

Start today. Visit us on the web at: [ibew.excelsior.edu](http://ibew.excelsior.edu) OR To speak to an admissions counselor, call us toll free at: **1-888-285-8649**



After just finishing their journeyman examinations, Local 280 apprentices “shine” in their fluorescent green shirts at their last-day-of-class barbecue held May 16.

**Local Unveils New Web Site**

L.U. 300 (govt,i,mt&u), MONTPELIER, VT—The Local 300 Web site recently received a makeover. Union staffers Matt Lash and Holli Vidal, and apprentice Matt Murphy teamed up on the new creation.

“A distinctive Web presence is more important now than ever,” said Lash, the union’s marketing and business development director. “Our site combines modern technology and ease-of-use, enabling us to more effectively communicate with the community.”

The site has special sections for members, such as a form to re-sign the referral over the Internet. It also features links to Local 300’s blogger, MySpace, Facebook and Twitter pages.

“We are excited to dive into social networking, particularly to interface with young people,” Lash said. “To my knowledge, IBEW Local 300 is the only Vermont labor union with a significant presence on these sites.”

Nearly every weekday, material is posted on Local 300’s Twitter and Facebook accounts, as well as its blog. Much of it consists of news items about

**Wyoming Apprentice Graduates**

L.U. 322 (govt,i,it,lctt,o&u), CASPER, WY—On May 29, the WJATC turned out 14 new journeyman wiremen: Wes Wilkerson, Lisa Boyles, Jon Culhane, Steve Hoyer, Nick Maxfield, Lucy Lineweber, Jon VanMeter, Shawn McCartney, Kirk Lindsay, Kel Dishion, Kasey Brown, Aaron Dykes, Nate Wollman and Moseley Middleton. Congratulations to all the new brothers and sisters!

The work picture remains steady in the Inside and Outside branches. This summer is a busy one with several local union activities taking place. The Casper picnic was June 27. Members in the Jackson and Casper areas participated in Fourth of July parades. The local has a team in the Aug. 7 Relay for Life event in Casper. And the local’s 75th Anniversary and Pin Presentation event takes place Aug. 15.

Chris Morgan, P.S.

**JATC Apprentice Graduates**

L.U. 332 (c,ees,i&st), SAN JOSE, CA—Local 332 and the Santa Clara County Electrical JATC congratulate the 66 graduates in the class of 2009. Graduation was held at the Fairmont Hotel in San Jose on June 5. The event was well-attended and Foothill College Pres. Judy Miner was a guest speaker.

Thirty-seven inside wireman apprentices graduated: Russell Balderama, Matthew Bishop, Melissa Both, Armando Cabrales, James Cheek Jr., Hamza Crnogorovic, Robert Dalla, Stephen Donovan, Gary Fife, Alejandro Garcia, Faustino Gomez, Per-Ola



Grubb, Josh Gutierrez, Charles Hambelton, Paul Holden, Eric Hull, Eric Latona, Sean Lockard, Jeremy Maestas, Matthew Maloney, Mark Martinez, Ryan McCabe, Ryan Muzinich, Marcos Nuno, Eduardo Padilla, Ronald Rodriguez, Manuel Sandoval, Humberto Santana, Peter Seaberg, Sara Sha, Nathan Shelton, James Staffaroni, Ricky Stepp Jr., Jorge Suarez, Joseph Tarango, Richard Welch III and Christian White.

Twenty-nine residential apprentices graduated: Richard Acevedo, Jose Batres, Nermin Bubic, Scott Casem, Jose Chavez, Eugene Delaney, Trancito Estrada, Paul Jason Fajardo, Richard Farley, Gregory Faucher, Carlos-Torres Fernandez, Erik Fernandez, Robert Garcia, Jose Gonzalez, Miguel Huerta, Lawrence Lombardo, Gustavo Lopez, Daniel Lorenzana, Antonio Marquez, Ryan Mason, Sergio Monzon, Arturo Ortega, Jason Perez, Israel Rosas, Joshua Rose, Roberto Santiago, Pedro Semas, Julio Urrutia and Ben Wagner.

The committee also recognized Top Inside Wireman Apprentice Christian White and Top Residential Apprentice Scott Casem.

Gerald Pfeiffer, Pres.  
Daniel Romero, JATC Dir.

## Unprecedented Times

L.U. 340 (i,rts&spa), SACRAMENTO, CA—Just one year ago, the Local 340 work picture was bright. Our membership was growing and we were looking forward to several more years of bountiful work.

Last fall that all changed. Construction dried up and jobs were cancelled, scaled down or postponed. As is the case in many areas, our work at this writing is still slim but we will have some work for our members by end of summer. Members who are out of work are utilizing their time off by salting, attending upgrading classes, renewing their state certification and helping out at the local as often as they can; but they are also, some for the first time, having to find ways to make ends meet through services provided through United Way, Union Plus, Health Fairs and the federal stimulus program created by our friend, Pres. Barack Obama. Most of us have been there...no work and no idea when work will break. I appreciate all the IBEW members for their understanding, support and commitment to the IBEW during these unprecedented times and I believe it will get better!

We are saddened to report the passing of: Bros. James Muck, Norman Grothe, Michael Kee and John "Jack" Wyman.

Have a safe Labor Day weekend.

A.C. Steelman, B.M

## Workers Memorial Day

L.U. 364 (catv,ees,em,es,i,mt,rts&spa), ROCKFORD, IL—April marked our Workers Memorial Day ceremony, at which fallen unionists who were killed or injured on the job are honored. Four union members were tragically killed on the job last year in northern Illinois.

Bro. Paul Williams addressed the crowd regarding the day years ago when he was injured and another brother was killed on the job. A strap used for moving a generator was severed, causing the object to lunge and hit them. He remarked that not a day goes by when he doesn't think about that day, and said he hoped this tragic incident would be remembered so it would never happen again.

The IBEW played a major role insuring the ceremony commenced without a hitch. Sister Trisha Welte planned the event. Bro. Steve Bjork coordinated the color guard, which included our members Bros. Paul

Happach, Patrick Elliott and Spencer D'Augustin.

Two monuments exist commemorating our fallen brothers in Illinois. On our memorial are these words: "This Memorial is dedicated to the men and women of Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin who are members of organized labor and died while at work in their chosen occupation. Let them always be remembered."

Ray Pendzinski, P.S.

## Train-the-Trainer Class

L.U. 388 (em,i,rts&spa), STEVENS POINT, WI—Local 388's election was held and newly elected officers were sworn in at the July meeting. The local thanks members who stepped up and ran for office; it is a big commitment, but well worth it.

The work outlook in our jurisdiction is a little grim and no big projects are on the horizon at this time. We can only hope that other locals around the country start getting busy.

Local 388 officers will take Code of Excellence training. The COE is another tool to help regain market share. If promoted right the COE shows that IBEW members are the best trained and most qualified electricians in the industry—and that choosing the IBEW for your next project "Is the Right Choice."

The five-day train-the-trainer for solar class was held in July for IBEW members from around the state. We are fortunate to have use of the Midwest Renewable Energy facility, a state-of-the-art facility for solar and wind training in Custer, WI.

The local thanks member Steve Faucher's son, Spc. Patrick Faucher, for his service to country and we wish him a safe deployment while serving overseas. We also thank all Local 388 members who have served their country honorably and returned safely.

Guy LePage, P.S.



Local 388 members Jesse Krayecki (left) and Adam Lepak were the two lucky winners of the Union Sportsmen's Alliance gun raffle held at the June 4 union meeting.

## KCP&L Memorial Service

L.U. 412 (u), KANSAS CITY, MO—Union Bro. Chris Dame, apprentice mechanic at La Cygne Generating Station, is leaving for a year on deployment to the Sinai Peninsula in Egypt. Chris is in the Army National Guard. We wish him a safe return.

On May 20 at a KCP&L Employee Memorial Service, employees stopped to honor our lost brothers and friends, men who were husbands, fathers and sons...men who went to work one day and never went home. There are 58 names on the memorial now. These men lost their lives while performing their jobs. Like most utilities, the former Aquila facilities have suffered through times of loss. Those names have been added to our memorial.

Each person lost had a story. This year we saw some of those stories. We learned which ones were



IBEW Local 494 active members and retirees volunteer their skills for community service project.

linemen, electricians, mechanics, operators, laborers, plant helpers or foremen. Some were journeymen. Some were apprentices. We saw that some left a spouse and children. We read how they lost their lives...contact with an energized line, a fire, a fall from a ladder, breaker explosion, or steam line rupture. Some worked for KCPL a few months, some for years. All are missed. We remember them.

Deborah Kidwiler, P.S.



IBEW Local 412 members were among those who attended a KCP&L employee memorial service.

## Scotsford Refinery Work

L.U. 424 (as,ees,em,es,i,mo,o,ptc,rtb,rts,spa&u), EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA—After a very slow fall and winter, work started to pick up in early June. Many economists say we are at least out of the recessionary "free fall." Now the question is the pace of economic recovery.

Our contractors on Shell's Scotsford Refinery expansion are calling for larger numbers of apprentices and journeymen, often two or three days a week. The project is still far from "peak" manpower yet, but at least many of our members are starting to be able to get off the books and back to work. We hope the project ramps up in earnest after summer holidays.

Other good news: The Keephills Thermal Generating project should also start taking off by the fall. If so, it should all work out well for both the workers on the job sites and production factors for the clients. That is because the trend in recent years here in the "Great White North" has been for "late" below normal cold springs, but also "late" fall seasons with above average temperatures. If that trend continues, there will a longer period of warmer weather when the projects start to peak. Keephills, with a large percentage of the work mostly "inside," will actually be a good job during winter.

At this writing we were looking forward to Local 424 summertime social events such as a family picnic, golf tournament, exhibition pancake breakfasts, (in both Edmonton and Calgary) and the anniversary banquet and dance (Members' Appreciation Night).

Dave Anderson, P.S.

## 'Paying It Forward'

L.U. 494 (em,i,mt,rts&spa), MILWAUKEE, WI—Shea Electric & Communications sponsored member Dan Shea to attend a Chamber of Commerce function called Leadership Fond du Lac. One criterion was to complete a community service project. Dan, with his group, then formed Team "1st on the Lake." Their team decided to assist the Association of Retarded Citizens of Fond du Lac. They would paint the facility, replace the outside sign and do a complete energy lighting upgrade.

Shea Electric purchased material at half the cost and applied for a "Focus on Energy" incentive grant for the rest. Team "1st on the Lake" approached Local 494 members and asked them to consider donating their time and talent on a Saturday for the cause.

On Saturday, March 14, some 20 union journey wiremen representing all of the Kettle Moraine area signatory contractors showed up at 8 a.m. to begin the project, which involved 170 light fixtures. By 10:30 a.m. the job was 100 percent complete, the work area cleaned up, trucks repacked, and the old ballasts and lamps removed for disposal.

Hopefully, paying it forward on projects like this will change attitudes and open some eyes toward our local and its contractors.

John Jacobs, B.R.

## Fundraiser for Injured Brother

L.U. 502 (c,em,i,it&t), ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA—Local 502 members are coordinating several fundraisers including a giant yard sale in support of Bro. John Dunn, who was severely injured in an auto accident. Bro. Dunn will be traveling to California for therapy training which is not covered by insurance.

After several months of instruction at our new training center, seven Local 502 members passed their Interprovincial Construction Electrical Licenses. Congratulations to Bros. John Brennan, Joe Brennan, Rick Brown, Paul Charlton, Ben Keenan, Darcy Oickle and Jamie Roberts. We look forward to maximizing the use of our training center in coming months.

At our May regular meeting Local 502 was pleased to welcome four new members to our union: Stuart MacDonald, Jason MacRae, Jason Rector and Jeff Thompson.

The Point Lepreau Nuclear Station refurbishment and Canaport LNG continue to employ the bulk of our membership. We look forward to a busy 2009 with major work coming at the Irving Oil Refinery and the Potash Corp. mine in Sussex.

Congratulations to IBEW 502 contractor Jacobs Industrial on securing the maintenance contract for the Canaport Liquefied Natural Gas Terminal. We look forward to continued employment growth at this new plant.

We mourn the passing of Bro. Jacques Leblanc.

Dave Stephen, P.S.



## Local Lines



Local 520 apprentice graduates, joined by fifth-year Instructor Billy Hanson (front row, right), dedicate memorial plaque.

### Congratulations, Graduates

L.U. 520 (i&spa), AUSTIN, TX—Congratulations to the 2009 Austin Electrical JATC graduating apprentices: Garrett Aery, Joshua Brantley, Christopher Cox, Luis Gonzales, Shannon Gutierrez, Cody Himmelreich, Christa Lee, Adrian Martinez, Rafael Martinez, Luis Rivera, Aurelio Ruiz, Richard Sandoval, Christopher Tindall and James Westover. Outstanding Apprentice of the 2009 graduating class was James Westover. In honor of fellow classmate Bro. Guy Horanzy, who tragically lost his life last year in a job site accident, the 2009 graduating class built a horseshoe pit with a marble plaque in his memory. [See photo.]

Congratulations also to the first photovoltaic class for Local 520, partnering with Imagine Solar. Local 520 is pleased to announce that 30 members completed the 40-hour course in preparation for their NABCEP entry examination.

Lane Price, P.S.

### 'First Solar' Agreement

L.U. 530 (i,o&rtb), SARNIA, ONTARIO, CANADA—As reported in the May issue of The Electrical Worker, Local 530 earlier lost the work building Canada's largest solar farm while it was still in its infant phase. [See North of 49°—“Ontario Locals Gear Up for Green Energy Act,” May 2009 Electrical Worker, pg. 4.] Since that report, we have reached an agreement with the new owners of First Solar, formerly OptiSolar Farms Canada Inc. Hopefully by the time this article is published, we will have our licensed IBEW electricians and apprentices in the field, the way it should be.

With a great deal of unemployment in Sarnia at this time, we are hoping some of the upcoming projects will help elevate this situation. When the jobs will break and how many members they will take is little comfort with a long list.

With next to nothing going on as far as new construction, several of our members are on the road and we'd like to thank Kitchener Local 804 and Sudbury Local 1687 for these work opportunities.

Local 530 is excited to host the annual slow-pitch tournament this September. We look forward to seeing all players and teams and showing them a good time.

Local 530 is saddened by the recent passing of Bro. Ted Jackson.

Al Byers, P.S.

### September Union Events

L.U. 538 (i), DANVILLE, IL—As of this writing many of our members and apprentices are unemployed, with continued hope for the economy to turn around soon. Recently, Local 538 accepted the retirement applications of Reggie Mullins, George McKinney and Terry Starr. We wish them well in future endeavors and thank them for their service to the electrical construction industry.

The JATC wishes to announce the newest journeyman inside wiremen. Kevin Goepfner and Matt Hinchee recently completed

their apprenticeship and will participate in upcoming graduation ceremonies. Congratulations on an excellent performance both on the job and in the classroom, Kevin and Matt!

The Danville and Westville Labor Day parades will be Monday, Sept. 7. The Danville parade starts at 10 a.m. Please bring your family out to support labor.

The Local 538 annual picnic is Saturday, Sept. 26, at Forest Glen State Park. Please bring the family out to spend time with old friends and meet new ones.

Kathie Porter, Tr. Dir.



Local 538's newest journeymen are Kevin Goepfner (left) and Matt Hinchee.

### Graduating Apprentices

L.U. 540 (i), CANTON, OH—We here in Local 540 congratulate the graduating apprenticeship class of 2009. Good luck to all our new journeymen.

A workplace safety reminder: When wearing a safety harness while working at an elevated height, remember that the manufacturer recommends that for a 6-foot person with a 6-foot extendable lanyard, you must be tied off at least 18 feet above ground. If you are tied off at less than 18 feet above ground, get a shorter lanyard and be aware of your tie-off point.

Another big safety item is arc flash. If you are not sure of the proper personal protective equipment (PPE) to wear when working on or near energized parts, find out. OSHA and NFPA70E have the answers for all your arc flash questions.

Work safely out there!

Jerry Bennett, P.S.

### JATC Graduation Banquet

L.U. 558 (catv,em,i,mt,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), SHEFFIELD, AL—North Alabama JATC held its Apprentice Graduation Banquet on May 22. Guest speaker for the event was IBEW Fifth District Int. Vice Pres. Joe

S. Davis. We appreciate and extend our thanks to Bro. Davis for his kind participation.

The lineman class had three members graduating: Roy D. Dowdy Jr., Tyler W. Poag and James A. Puckett. The wireman class had 20 members graduating: R. Andrew Brimer, Joshua R. Brooks, J. Adam Carroll, Timothy R. Cleveland Jr., Robert J. Dotson, Marcus D. Hankins, Troy C. Jones, W. David Kimbrough Jr., Robert E. Lynn, Eric W. McMurtrey, Joshua A. Patterson, Benjamin D. Quinn, Brandin R. Roberts, Brian K. Rogers, Brian K. Tripper, Noah M. Vickers, Chadwick P. Walker, Jason W. Williams, Matthew C. Williams and Bradley Wilson.

The Outstanding Apprentices for 2009 are Marcus Hankins (wireman) and James Puckett (lineman). Congratulations to all for their hard work and thanks to our instructors for a job well-done.

Steve Crunk, Pres.

### Going Solar in Tucson

L.U. 570 (i,mo,spa&u), TUCSON, AZ—Local 570 and the JATC congratulate the first participants in Tucson to complete the NJATC Photovoltaic Systems course. [Photo below.] It is an excellent course to prepare journeyman wiremen for all tasks associated with installation of solar photovoltaic systems. We also thank Chris Brevick for his help in starting our solar program. Dan Chavez, Photovoltaic Systems instructor, brought forth leadership and contagious enthusiasm for learning this challenging, complex subject in eight six-hour classes. At the end of the 48-hour course, 17 photovoltaic students took the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) certification exam. The NABCEP credential is being referenced by an increasing number of state agencies. We salute the journeyman wiremen who completed this course.

Scott Toot, Organizer

### Green-Job Open House

L.U. 606 (em,es,i,rtb,spa&u), ORLANDO, FL—Several politicians scouted out the latest green-jobs training at the Central Florida JATC during an open house event held Memorial Day weekend.

Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer, U.S. Rep. Alan Grayson and Florida state Rep. Geraldine Thompson were among the many elected officials who showed up to see how IBEW members are being trained locally for current and future green jobs.



Local 570 recognizes IBEW journeyman wiremen who completed the NJATC Photovoltaic Systems course. From left, kneeling are Clinton Ponder-Gilby and Donald T. Berry; standing, front row, Javier Soto, Mike Brookshire, Russell Wind, Instructor Dan Chavez, Johnse Good, Mike Barnes, Tim Cotton, Don Kunzler; back row, Bill Wimer, Kim Dean, Alex Urias, Frank Febbo, James Lynch, Mark Ashe, Reuben Lugo, Troy Genzman, Bruce Denniston and Bus. Mgr. Jack Scott.

The apprentices led the tours and spoke about the training and the benefits of the apprenticeship program. Lead Instructor Juan Santos gave a presentation on the working solar system attached to the JATC classroom.

Even though the JATC has provided alternative energy training for many years, Pres. Obama has brought greater focus on green-energy jobs. We expect there will be a flood of new work in these areas. As always the IBEW/NECA will be the leader in educating our members.

Janet D. Skipper, P.S.

### Welcome to New Instructors

L.U. 640 (em,govt,i,mo,mt,rts,spa&u), PHOENIX, AZ—Local 640 welcomes our new full-time instructors in our new facility. Jeff Ficcardi graduated in 2006 as apprentice of the year and Stephan Cole graduated from the apprenticeship program in 2004. We are proud of these guys for stepping up and taking on the important task of training our future apprentices. Thanks, guys, and keep up the good work.

Frank Cissne, B.R.



Local 640's new full-time instructors are Jeff Ficcardi (left) and Stephan Cole.

### Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 654 (i), CHESTER, PA—Congratulations to all the fifth-year apprentices who are graduating to journeyman status this year. Their work over the last five years in the classroom, on the job and in the community is greatly appreciated. We look forward to their continued involvement in the local. Graduating are: Joseph Conroy, Steve Devenney, Mike Everett, Sidney Freeman, Joe Gibbons, Mike Hagner, Aaron Jeter, John





**Local 700 congratulates recent JATC apprentice graduates. From left are: JATC Chmn. Carl McPeak, graduate Michael Cusick, fifth-year instructor Larry Newman, and graduates Bryan Taylor and Roger Ellis.**

Keenan, Mike Murphy, Dave Smagala, Jason Snyder, Matt Thompson, Frank Toth and Jason Vandenbraak.

I am sad to report on the passing of retired Bro. Harry Bolt. Harry was initiated into the IBEW in June 1974. He retired in July 1994 and moved out West to Arizona. Our deepest sympathies to Bros. Keith and Dave Bolt, sons of Harry and active Local 654 members, as well as the entire family.

*Jim Russell, V.P.*

## Code of Excellence Meeting

L.U. 684 (c,i,rt&st), MODESTO, CA—On June 3 a Code of Excellence meeting was held for everyone at the Gallo Center for the Arts in Modesto. A video presentation, COE PowerPoint, and comments from area contractors were featured. Fifty-three members received certificates for completing required training classes, OSHA 10, Electrical Project Supervision 1, and CPR/First Aid. Foreman classes require OSHA 30, EPS 2 & 3, NFPA 70e, and Harassment Training. Also attending the June 3 meeting were officials from area school districts, government and industry.

Our JATC offers these same courses as well as OSHPD hospital, test instruments, Hilti tools, photovoltaic systems, motor control and transformers, and many others in its continuing education series for inside journeymen. Join us to update your skills.

On Aug. 22, our annual picnic will be held at Hagaman Park along the banks of the Merced River and we're doing the cooking. Service pins will be awarded at the picnic.

On Aug. 14, fifth-year apprentices graduate: Anthony Bond, Erik Calef, Raymond Carrera, Andrew Harrison, Thomas Ludwig, Justin Lytal, David Marujo, Clayton McClanahan, Rod Fulerson, Michael Mendoza, Jonathan Pound, Brandon Strohmeyer, Erika Watson and Pete Zamaripa. Welcome aboard to all. May the wind always be at your back.

*Torrey Newton, P.S.*

## Three-Year Agreement

L.U. 688 (em,i,t&u), MANSFIELD, OH—On April 2, a reception was held for seven state representatives elected to the Ohio State House. We are proud to have supported these elected officials and look forward to working with them for years to come.

The Jefferson Jackson Celebration was held April 25. Brian Addington, Mike Crider, Dan Lloyd and Carl Neutzling represented Local 688 at the dinner. The food was delicious and the speakers were entertaining and insightful.

Healthy Life Screening provided ultrasound screening to detect health problems such as blockages or aneurysms. There was so much interest, a second day was added.

Local 688 negotiators are pleased to announce a new three-year agreement was reached with Embarq.

Willie Thompson and John Wallery donated time and expertise at Raemelon Therapeutic Equestrian Center to repair fixtures.

Local 688 wishes Bros. Danny Converse and Jim Herrick well on their retirement. Congratulations to Malcum Salyers and Tony Barclay, who each have new grandchildren.

We are sad to report the loss of Bros. Fred Balduff, Dan Goodwin and Roger Young. We send our condolences to their family.

*Dan Lloyd, P.S.*

## 2009 Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 700 (em,i,o&spa), FORT SMITH, AR—Local 700 and the Fort Smith Electrical JATC hosted a graduation ceremony April 25 to honor our newest journeyman wiremen. [Photo above.] Graduates are: Michael Cusick, Roger Ellis and Bryan Taylor. Michael Cusick received a plaque and a new set of tools for being the outstanding apprentice for his class. Outstanding apprentice certificates were also awarded to the following apprentices: Forrest Walker (4th year), Damon Gregory (3rd year), Steven Russell (2nd year) and David Jones (1st year). We are very proud of these young men. They are an asset to Local 700.

*Debbie Carter, P.S.*

## Storm Recovery Work

L.U. 702 (as,c,catv,cs,em,es,et,govt,i,it,lctt,mo,mt,o,p,pet,ptc,rtb,rt,se,spa,st,t,u,uow&ws), WEST FRANKFORT, IL—On April 30, Local 702 member Mark Fromm, age 49, died on the job while working aloft for Verizon. Bro. Fromm leaves behind his wife and two children. Mark, with his positive attitude, will be sadly missed by all.

Frontier Communications has made acquisition to purchase Verizon Telecom in 14 states including Illinois. Local 702 as well as the other IBEW locals will file to intervene.

On May 8, an "inland hurricane" hit southern Illinois leaving over 40,000 people without power, telephone, and in some cases water. Local 702 wishes to express our appreciation to the more than 2,000 linemen and tree trimmers who worked in our area to restore power. All IBEW members worked safely and efficiently to help our communities that were declared disaster areas by Gov. Pat Quinn.

*Marsha Steele, P.S.*

## Daytona Work Picture

L.U. 756 (es&i), DAYTONA BEACH, FL—The sun is shining bright...but the work picture is slow. Daytona is still struggling with unemployment. The economy has impacted all tradesmen very negatively. We are not exempt from the toll of the past eight years of

corporate greed and exploitation. However, there appears to be a light at the end of the tunnel with the progressive leadership we have elected.

The next generation of space flight—the Constellation program at Kennedy Space Center—will require many man-hours of work for all trades. Signatory contractors are in place to bid some of these upcoming projects. Unfortunately, many non-signatory contractors are also poised to bid these same projects. At least with the new Obama administration, we can rely on strict enforcement of the Davis-Bacon Act, which was almost completely ignored during the reign of the Bush regime. Some of our commercial contractors will be working on school projects during the summer. This should provide a little relief for our members and keep our signatory contractors busy for a few months.

Our JATC is also in the process of training instructors for the new photovoltaic installations. These future "green industries" are rapidly emerging. The next struggle will be insuring these new green-power generation installations are properly classified as electrical work.

*Daniel Hunt, P.S.*

## Apprentice Wyndham Mourned

L.U. 776 (i,o,rt&spa), CHARLESTON, SC—Our apprenticeship class was devastated this year by the tragic loss of second-year apprentice Robbie "Slim" Wyndham III to an automobile accident. Robbie was a third-generation member, behind his grandpa Robert "Shine" Wyndham and dad, Robert "Slick" Wyndham Jr. Robbie will be remembered by his classmates and our local union.

On a brighter note, the CJATC is proud to announce our two graduates this year. Doyle Yandell has been working for Allison-Smith Company. Josh Snider has been working for Cache Valley Electric. Congratulations to Bros. Snider and Yandell on becoming journeyman wiremen. Always continue your education and upgrade your training.

*Chuck Moore, B.M.*



**Charleston, SC, Local 776 recent apprentice graduates are Josh Snider (left) and Doyle Yandell.**

## Hockey Team Champs

L.U. 804 (i&o), KITCHENER, ONTARIO, CANADA—Congratulations go out to our hockey team, who gave an excellent performance and showed fine form by winning the "A" division championship in the first OPC tournament ever held outside of Canada. Local 3 put on a great tournament.

Once again congratulations to team members Gary Boudreau, Darryl Burns, Jason Scott, Steve Correia, Neil Morgan, Derek Scott, Greg Nichol, Matthew Scott, Jay Wettlaufer, Scott Eby, Ben Snell, Jason Radbourne, Tim Yantzi, Dave Brooks, Brad



**Local 804 hockey team wins OPC tournament "A" division championship.**

Hackert, Gary Ring, A.J. McGeoch and Craig McInally, as well as coaches Rick Floto and Richard Hertner.

*Glen Hicks, P.S.*

## Photovoltaic Training

L.U. 968 (catv,i,mt,o,rt,spa&t), PARKERSBURG, WV—IBEW 968 is excited to announce the completion of our first Photovoltaic Systems training course. Mark Holbert, Dave Lamp, Chris Furr and Doug Spears worked together to plan and teach the 10-week course. A combination of 17 journeymen and apprentices, as well as the instructors, received their certificates. We have also been in contact with local government officials about several alternative energy projects and our desire to help them maximize any green technologies funding our area receives.

Congratulations also to our fifth-year apprenticeship class. Jason Blue, Josh Blue, James Carpenter, Kent Elliot, Jeffrey Hively and Tyler Pitts recently advanced to become journeyman wiremen. The Parkersburg Joint Electrical Apprenticeship Committee also recognizes Josh Blue as the fifth-year class outstanding apprentice.

As with most local unions, we continue to endure the fallout from the recession, and our work picture has been very slow. Several of our large local industries have been directly affected by the automakers' woes, but hopefully the citizens of this great country can learn the importance of buying American and supporting those who support domestic manufacturing!

*Jeff Fox, B.M.*

## TEP Training

L.U. 1116 (em,lctt&u), TUCSON, AZ—Congratulations to recent apprentice graduates. The new journeymen are: Brad Baron - electronics; Walter Bryant - relay technician; Jose Orta - metering; Aaron Grelle, Gerhard Muehle, Brian Seelow and Ryan Russell - ERTF; Chris Peru and Jesse Shirey - substations; Alawnzo Brown, Casey Dills, Gary Fiscella, Enrique Lopez, Joseph Goerke, Lance Mitchell and Neil Mitchell - line construction. Good job!

Tucson Electric Power fleet repair shop service technicians have been receiving additional training; the company has brought in manufacturing reps and also had classes away from the shop. It's a good investment for in-house union craft workmanship.

Congratulations to our Unisource Gas members, who ratified a new three-year labor agreement in June. We are currently in contract negotiations with Southwest Energy Solutions-Tucson, SES-Meter Reading, SES-Springerville and Asplundh Tree Experts.

*R. Cavaletto, P.S.*



Local Lines



Local 1316 congratulates recent apprentice graduates. From left are: Macon Electrical JATC Training Dir. Ralph Snowden; fourth-year apprentice Sean Faulkner; recent apprentice graduates Halley Duncan, Tony Stephens, Kevin Williams and Kareem Rouse; and NECA Exec. Mgr. Ronnie Strickland.

### Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 1316 (i&o), MACON, GA—The Macon Electrical Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee is proud to announce the graduation of a new class of journeyman wiremen. The new journeymen are: Halley Duncan, Kevin Williams, Tony Stephens and Kareem Rouse. Halley Duncan received the Morgan Bowen Award for outstanding performance during the five-year period of apprenticeship training. A graduation dinner was well-attended by the new journeymen, their families and committee members.

Michael Gardner, Org./P.S.

### Annual Hockey Tournament

L.U. 1928 (i,o&u), HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA—IBEW Local 1928 held its annual hockey tournament March 27-29. Eight teams took part this year. The tournament was held at the County Rick in Coxheath, Cape Breton, and was hosted by the members at the Lingan Generating Station.

Congratulations to the members from "Western Line" for winning the 2009 IBEW Local 1928 Hockey



Local 1928 officers present trophy to "Western Line" hockey champs.

Tournament. The event was a success and enjoyed by everyone who took part.

Mike MacDonald, B.M./F.S.

### Elections Completed

L.U. 1944 (t), PHILADELPHIA, PA—Elections for the local were accomplished with the following results: Bus. Mgr./Pres. Mary Lou Lane (New Castle), Vice Pres. Yvonne Baney (Altoona), Fin. Sec. Cindy Wolfe (New Castle), Treas. Donna Hall (Philadelphia) and Rec. Sec. George Greiner, III (Altoona).

Installation of officers was held in July and all the newly elected officers and Executive Board look forward to a great working relationship, working together as well as working "for" the union members.

The New Castle Unit of Local 1944 and AT&T are still working out the complete contract and I hope to have more information for the next article. Please keep our sisters at AT&T in your thoughts for a good working contract.

George Greiner III, R.S.

### Springfield Tech Graduates

L.U. 2324 (t), SPRINGFIELD, MA—On May 31, 17 members of Local 2324 graduated from Springfield Technical Community College.

The graduates were all enrolled in the Next Step Program, an educational benefit negotiated with Verizon in the 1990s that provides enrollment in a four-year program at local colleges to IBEW and CWA members. Each graduate received an associate degree in Applied Science, Telecommunication Technology. Local 2324 congratulates all the graduates and wishes them continued success.

Joe Floyd, P.S.



Local 2324 members graduate from Springfield (Massachusetts) Technical Community College. From left are: Carl P. Marangoudakis, Sylvan John Hoyte, Steven Jesse Thomas, Thomas E. Ramsdell, Martin J. Feid, Jeffery T. Lincoln, Daniel H. Knights, Ray E. Gilman, Richard A. Annear, Tina M. Murphy, Robert C. Sheperd and Aaron S. Chappell. Graduates not pictured: Patrick H. Allen, Harry Rolon, Erin Lee Stacey, John Yurek and Coreen Demers.

# IBEW MEDIA WORLD

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

### www.ibew.org

From breaking news to video news stories, our updated Web site has information not available anywhere else.

### IBEW on the Huffington Post

International President Edwin D. Hill has a new blog on the Huffington Post. Read it monthly at [www.huffingtonpost.com](http://www.huffingtonpost.com).

### IBEW on Twitter

President Hill has joined the latest social networking scene. Find out what's on his mind at [http://twitter.com/IBEW\\_IP](http://twitter.com/IBEW_IP).

### YouTube

The IBEW has its own channel on YouTube, devoted exclusively to videos about the IBEW and its members. [www.youtube.com/user/theelectricalworker](http://www.youtube.com/user/theelectricalworker).



### HourPower

This month on the IBEW's online video magazine, see IBEW locals compete for bragging rights at the IBEW Hockey Tournament, held for the first time in the United States. [www.ibewhourpower.com](http://www.ibewhourpower.com).

### ElectricTV

For building owners and contractors, ETV has a show about building automation, brought to you by the NECA-IBEW team. [electricTV.net](http://electricTV.net).





# In Memoriam

## PBF Death Claims Approved for Payment in June 2009

Local	Surname	Amount	Local	Surname	Amount	Local	Surname	Amount	Local	Surname	Amount	Local	Surname	Amount
1	Bresnan, D. J.	3,000.00	58	Parka, T. M.	3,000.00	231	Schmidt, R. H.	3,000.00	520	Kyser, H. W.	1,474.80	1186	Ishimoto, R. Y.	3,000.00
1	Huether, A. E.	3,000.00	58	Smith, D. E.	3,000.00	242	Johnson, G. J.	3,000.00	527	Schmidt, E. G.	3,000.00	1199	Curto, G. P.	3,000.00
1	Krueger, H. V.	3,000.00	58	Thornton, M. D.	6,250.00	245	Powers, R. C.	3,000.00	532	Olsen, K. L.	3,000.00	1212	De Ieso, M. G.	6,250.00
1	McGrogan, J. T.	3,000.00	64	McCurdy, J. W.	2,921.50	258	Viggers, J.	3,000.00	551	Davis, C. H.	3,000.00	1245	Erickson, A. R.	3,000.00
1	Qualls, G. E.	1,464.00	66	Hayslip, F. W.	6,250.00	258	Wallace, P.	6,250.00	553	Weatherford, J. M.	1,000.00	1245	Tuck, W. E.	3,000.00
3	Constantine, E. E.	6,250.00	66	Hibbard, B. R.	3,000.00	265	Robison, G. E.	2,935.98	557	Bussell, A. V.	3,000.00	1253	Fucciolo, J. R.	3,000.00
3	Dalzell, G. W.	3,000.00	68	Harris, J. S.	3,000.00	275	McComb, F. L.	3,000.00	558	McCasland, B. M.	3,000.00	1319	Kardolly, J. J.	3,000.00
3	Farrell, G. M.	3,000.00	68	Hart, N. H.	2,956.79	292	Barth, E. E.	3,000.00	558	Sloan, R. M.	3,415.00	1340	Farley, B. R.	3,000.00
3	Georgioudakis, G.	4,945.00	68	Mount, C. E.	6,250.00	292	Fredell, S. D.	6,250.00	568	Baillargeon, Y.	1,430.08	1379	Ray, D. G.	3,000.00
3	Isaacs, I. E.	2,918.58	71	Good, C. B.	6,250.00	292	Klukken, M. J.	3,000.00	568	Bastings, F.	3,000.00	1393	House, R. W.	3,000.00
3	Mazeau, S. E.	3,481.92	73	Bentz, E. E.	3,000.00	292	Whitney, W. J.	2,930.38	568	Wauthier, O.	3,000.00	1393	Telford, E. E.	3,000.00
3	McMeekin, T. J.	12,500.00	76	Kyle, Z. M.	2,896.00	295	Murdaugh, R. H.	3,000.00	569	Burns, R. L.	2,370.80	1393	Tharp, H. K.	3,000.00
3	Meckel, M.	3,000.00	77	Bryant, P.	2,938.38	303	Cyr, J. G.	3,000.00	569	Cleveland, R. F.	3,000.00	1426	Edwardson, E.	2,933.18
3	Nickelsen, W. H.	1,427.19	77	Jordan, K. C.	2,948.00	304	Fazel, J. E.	3,000.00	569	Drago, W. A.	3,000.00	1426	Hennig, C. A.	2,880.00
3	Ponger, C.	2,948.79	77	Keller, L. C.	3,000.00	305	Boesch, C. P.	6,250.00	569	Harker, D. S.	2,923.46	1525	Hilligas, L. E.	3,000.00
3	Ryan, F. M.	3,000.00	77	Searle, E. A.	3,000.00	305	Minier, B. W.	12,500.00	569	Kramer, C. R.	3,000.00	1547	Hansen, S. M.	3,000.00
3	Schuessler, R. E.	3,000.00	82	Yarnell, J. E.	4,441.90	306	Washcoe, T. M.	3,000.00	569	Mc Millon, K.	3,000.00	1547	Sanderson, S. P.	3,000.00
3	Sopata, J. S.	2,784.00	84	Coleman, D. K.	6,250.00	309	Huff, H. A.	3,000.00	569	Modica, S. A.	3,000.00	1547	Schene, A. J.	3,000.00
3	Spiaak, R. A.	6,250.00	86	Boheen, G. J.	2,916.78	313	Barker, C. N.	3,000.00	570	Field, D. M.	3,000.00	1547	Thompson, G. L.	3,000.00
3	Sutherland, W. F.	3,000.00	98	Fiocca, G.	3,125.00	313	Kenney, J. J.	3,000.00	584	Lawson, R. L.	3,000.00	1547	Yerton, W. G.	3,000.00
3	Tito, J. P.	3,000.00	98	Rockwell, A. J.	3,000.00	313	Schranck, J. C.	6,250.00	586	Gordon, J. W.	6,250.00	1579	Allen, H. J.	2,928.00
3	Vaccaro, S.	3,000.00	99	Day, P. T.	2,640.00	317	Williamson, D. E.	3,000.00	602	Willis, C. L.	6,250.00	1579	Yaun, F. N.	3,000.00
4	Chuckray, M.	3,000.00	102	Cade, J. E.	3,000.00	325	Pickard, R. F.	3,000.00	606	Evans, T. F.	3,000.00	1749	Klopfenstein, C. E.	2,950.39
5	Custer, R. R.	12,500.00	102	Nuding, B.	3,000.00	329	Perkins, T. W.	3,000.00	606	McMahon, K.	2,000.00	2085	Howanyk, D.	3,000.00
5	Krauth, W. A.	6,250.00	102	Wickham, W. E.	3,000.00	332	Brint, D. D.	1,000.00	606	Raulerson, S. B.	2,936.00	2104	Dean, W. B.	2,791.92
5	McDonough, F. J.	3,000.00	103	Farley, R. E.	3,000.00	332	Walker, G. M.	6,250.00	611	Duffy, P. G.	3,000.00	2166	McGraw, L.	6,250.00
5	Stirling, J. C.	3,000.00	103	McKinnon, R. J.	3,000.00	340	Grothe, N. L.	3,000.00	611	Faul, W.	3,000.00	I.O. (110)	Werden, R. T.	3,000.00
6	Johnson, W. E.	3,000.00	103	Medeiros, J. E.	6,250.00	347	Brough, C. B.	3,000.00	611	Loddy, G. G.	1,500.00	I.O. (111)	Johnson, J. E.	6,197.00
6	Lindstaedt, R. F.	2,881.58	103	Spinney, H. H.	3,000.00	347	Callender, A. D.	3,000.00	613	Cordle, R. A.	2,769.00	I.O. (134)	Morris, S.	6,250.00
6	Lopez, J. L.	6,250.00	104	Clark, H. B.	5,794.72	349	Carpenter, C.	6,250.00	613	Thurman, N. G.	2,950.39	I.O. (134)	Poland, M. J.	6,250.00
9	Austin, G. S.	6,250.00	104	Swiecicki, S. J.	2,958.39	349	Davison, R. W.	3,000.00	617	Clements, P. K.	6,250.00	Pens. (637)	Scott, C. H.	3,000.00
9	Cirino, J. J.	3,000.00	106	Butts, N. R.	3,000.00	349	Hadden, J. A.	3,000.00	636	Winik, S. P.	3,000.00	Pens. (835)	Deming, A. R.	3,000.00
9	Duren, J.	3,000.00	110	Demko, D. B.	3,000.00	349	Hamasse, R.	6,250.00	640	Garland, E. L.	3,000.00	Pens. (840)	Lilyea, R. M.	3,000.00
9	Rose, S. A.	6,250.00	110	Jorgensen, W. H.	1,474.39	349	Prado, F.	6,250.00	640	Hooks, H. G.	3,000.00	Pens. (840)	Steimle, J.	3,000.00
11	Cruiger, T. J.	3,162.09	110	Nimis, T. E.	1,000.00	349	Robison, J. J.	6,250.00	640	Jongert, M. T.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Baker, J. O.	2,935.98
11	Guerrero, G. G.	3,000.00	110	Ramberg, H. V.	2,937.59	349	Sigman, E. G.	3,000.00	640	Meixsell, D. E.	6,250.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Bennett, M.	2,328.00
11	Olsen, J. D.	2,767.95	110	Schmidt, R. W.	2,953.59	351	Kaminski, L. F.	3,675.81	659	Brown, L. B.	2,946.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Breidinger, R. H.	3,000.00
11	Tapie, S.	3,000.00	112	Linn, S. C.	2,940.84	351	Shaiko, J.	2,878.36	659	Miller, J. L.	6,250.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Brown, J. I.	2,824.98
16	Decker, C. F.	3,000.00	112	Trim, B. J.	3,000.00	353	Akehrst, P. A.	3,000.00	666	Garner, M. L.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Carignan, E. L.	3,000.00
17	Beemer, K. R.	3,000.00	124	Baumli, J. D.	3,000.00	353	Cleland, B. T.	3,000.00	667	Kindell, G.	1,500.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Carlton, R. S.	3,000.00
17	King, A. R.	2,271.84	124	Oneal, H. J.	1,500.00	353	Day, A. R.	3,000.00	668	Criswell, D. M.	3,190.58	Pens. (I.O.)	Dobb, D. B.	3,000.00
18	Obregon, A. O.	2,769.54	124	Pace, S. L.	3,000.00	353	Fava, C. J.	3,000.00	673	Buck, R. W.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Ellis, D. G.	3,000.00
18	Stratford, A. B.	3,000.00	125	Cooper, L. D.	2,772.00	353	Muhm, W.	3,000.00	673	Hall, J. J.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Frey, J. J.	2,817.00
20	Bishop, M. F.	12,500.00	125	Groves, J. M.	2,000.00	353	Smylie, C. L.	6,250.00	676	Sanders, C. E.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Gilliland, B. L.	3,000.00
20	Warwick, P. O.	3,000.00	125	Twiggs, G. W.	3,000.00	353	Sonmez, A. D.	5,566.00	683	Ervin, G. D.	5,680.56	Pens. (I.O.)	Goble, J. E.	3,000.00
20	Worsham, H. E.	3,000.00	134	Aguilar, L.	3,000.00	353	Thompson, G. L.	3,000.00	683	Pattin, R. A.	2,942.39	Pens. (I.O.)	Goertzen, E.	3,000.00
22	Archer, G. A.	3,000.00	134	Cremin, J. E.	3,000.00	354	Petersen, R. A.	3,000.00	684	Caldwell, R. P.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Hauer, R. M.	2,875.18
24	Silling, G.	3,000.00	134	Hobby, J. D.	3,000.00	357	Blankenship, M. J.	6,250.00	697	Bahls, B. E.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Henry, A. L.	1,500.00
25	Cook, W. J.	12,500.00	134	Linehan, J. K.	3,000.00	357	Corrao, J. A.	12,500.00	697	Knapik, J. A.	2,943.99	Pens. (I.O.)	Jackson, C. M.	3,000.00
25	Knight, P. R.	3,000.00	134	Oshanna, J. A.	3,000.00	357	Grant, S. J.	3,000.00	702	Cavins, R. G.	1,500.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Kane, J. P.	3,000.00
26	Deiss, K. M.	12,500.00	134	Papendick, D. G.	3,000.00	357	Peltier, A. A.	2,957.00	702	Ripperdan, F.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Kelly, W. H.	3,000.00
26	Dixon, T. F.	6,250.00	134	Prelac, G. S.	3,000.00	357	Wescoatt, E. E.	2,935.86	712	Gorgas, T. J.	4,166.66	Pens. (I.O.)	Kresge, R. D.	3,000.00
26	McCabe, J. J.	1,500.00	134	Rea, S. T.	1,500.00	363	Cavallo, A.	2,964.35	712	Morgan, J. L.	6,250.00	Pens. (I.O.)	McDevitt, M. J.	3,000.00
26	Murphy, M. A.	3,000.00	134	Rossi, D. L.	1,500.00	363	O'Reilly, R. A.	3,000.00	716	Hall, R. J.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Milligan, E. G.	3,000.00
26	Sheriff, W.	2,594.00	134	Villareal, T.	3,000.00	369	Vincent, A. J.	3,000.00	716	Ritchel, J. H.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Moore, R. L.	3,000.00
26	Tallia, J.	3,000.00	134	Witz, S.	3,000.00	375	Deitz, E.	3,000.00	728	Bauer, N. C.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Morse, C. M.	3,000.00
35	Luurtsema, K. A.	2,866.00	136	Dillon, E. D.	1,000.00	379	Annas, B. U.	3,000.00	728	Casoria, P.	2,796.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Murphy, C. E.	3,000.00
38	Brown, W. E.	3,000.00	136	Johnston, J. E.	3,000.00	387	Carroll, T. J.	2,947.19	738	Knight, T. E.	2,968.84	Pens. (I.O.)	Peak, R. E.	3,000.00
38	Dorenkott, W. A.	3,000.00	139	Overacker, W. B.	3,000.00	400	Walker, G. W.	3,000.00	760	Cross, R. A.	12,500.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Pearce, C. L.	3,000.00
38	Herbster, T. W.	3,000.00	141	Miller, H. C.	2,916.00	412	Gengler, J. D.	3,000.00	760	Ensley, K. E.	2,891.18	Pens. (I.O.)	Peretz, F. V.	3,000.00
38	Wexberg, P.	3,000.00	145	Logsdon, T. A.	6,250.00	424	Marchand, J. W.	6,250.00	760	Walker, B. J.	2,948.84	Pens. (I.O.)	Perkins, L. L.	3,000.00
40	Ellis, L. E.	2,905.59	146	Snider, D. R.	3,000.00	428	Edmondson, J. E.	6,250.00	768	Russell, S. K.	2,954.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Peters, E. F.	3,000.00
41	Carollo, D. A.	2,956.00	146	Steele, M. D.	5,981.44	428	Guillory, R. G.	3,000.00	774	Winter, G. W.	2,796.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Peterson, R. H.	2,801.56
42	Nuhfer, W. S.	3,000.00	160	Voight, W. L.	6,250.00	429	Castleberry, J. K.	6,250.00	804	Stubbs, G. A.	6,250.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Richardson, D. L.	3,000.00
43	Keating, R. J.	2,916.46	163	Schwab, J. L.	2,949.08	449	Sant, J. R.	6,250.00	824	King, A. L.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Roberts, R. W.	1,500.00
46	Mittelstadt, T.	3,125.00	164	Warner, L. A.	1,500.00	453	Kimble, D. E.	3,000.00	841	McDanal, B. N.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Sabine, M. E.	3,000.00
46	Peterson, A. L.	3,000.00	176	Keating, A. J.	3,125.00	453	Robberson, R.	3,000.00	852	Layton, C. W.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Secrest, W. D.	2,766.00
47	Bean, J. E.	12,500.00	177	Westervelt, W. A.	3,000.00	453	Walker, C. F.	3,000.00	855	Bustos, A. L.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Skinner, E. L.	2,871.96
47	Mitchell, D. W.	3,000.00	191	Ware, D. L.	2,967.45	466	Brown, W. H.	3,000.00	861	Bowles, T. E.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Smith, R. W.	2,864.00
48	Lindstrom, K. A.	3,000.00	193	Arnold, D.	3,000.00	473	Coghill, H. F.	3,000.00	861	King, C. W.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Trapani, N. N.	3,000.00
48	Primmer, J. W.	3,000.00	193	Prewitt, W. A.	3,000.00	474	Guy, W. D.	3,000.00	915	Clark, W. S.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Ward, K. O.	3,000.00
53	Anderson, M. W.	12,500.00	213	Goodwin, R. W.	4,666.00	479	Burton, V. R.	6,250.00	932	Pigott, C. L.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Williams, O. E.	3,000.00
53	Parrish, J. H.	3,000.00	213	Martin, L. J.	2,888.00	479	Foster, F.	3,000.00	934	Brooks, C. H.	6,250.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Wiggins, D. H.	3,000.00
58	Coleman, A. W.	3,000.00	213	McNeil, D.	3,000.00	494	Fenner, E. B.	6,103.00	953	Toraason, L. P.	2,941.20	Pens. (I.O.)	Wright	





International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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

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**Lindell K. Lee**  
International  
Secretary-Treasurer

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## FROM THE OFFICERS

## The Future is Ours to Win



**Edwin D. Hill**  
International President

Call your attention to the article on page 6 of this issue about Austin, Texas, Local 520's good work in exposing a corrupt nonunion contractor and the exploitation of part of the construction work force in that city. I wish I could say that this is an isolated case, but it isn't.

Playing workers off against each other, and squeezing every hour of work out of a person with as little compensation as possible is as old as the history of mankind. And our fight against such practices is a never ending one. We saw it in New Orleans when former President George W. Bush suspended Davis-Bacon and allowed his buddies to bring in people from outside the U.S. to do the work while the hard pressed citizens of the hurricane-ravaged area were kicked off jobs. We beat that back.

We see it in some projects where employers misuse the H-1B visa program, claiming they are bringing in people to perform specialty jobs and then having them do our work.

There are employers out there who would make this the norm for the future, and they might get their way. Unless, that is, we do something.

When I call for our construction locals to go after all projects in their jurisdictions, I am not doing it to hear myself talk. Only when we wake up and realize that no job is too small or beneath us and start winning back the total market in our respective area can we ensure that fair wages, decent benefits and high standards of safety become the norm and not the province of a shrinking base. Look on page 1 to see what some locals are doing in this regard. They are getting it right. The future is ours to win, or lose. ■

## Liz Shuler Making Us Proud

In September, Liz Shuler, executive assistant to President Hill, will proudly stand before America's labor movement as candidate for Secretary-Treasurer of the AFL-CIO alongside Rich Trumka and Arlene Holt Baker.

As the daughter of an IBEW member, Liz Shuler truly represents the kind of future that we want for all of our sons and daughters.

In introducing Liz at a rally to kick off the campaign for the AFL-CIO leadership ticket, President Hill noted the surprise that accompanied his 2004 selection of Liz Shuler as his executive assistant. "Everybody liked her," he says. "But some thought she might be too young, not experienced enough and was a break with the way things had always been done."

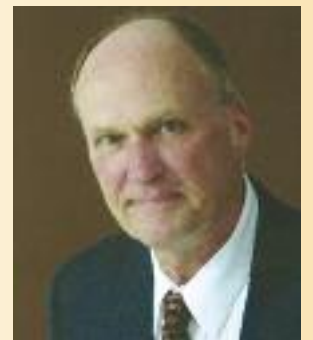
Since her appointment, Liz Shuler has won respect across the IBEW and from a range of members and leaders in other unions, confirming the wisdom of her selection. We are confident that Liz will be elected in September. We will miss her. But we take deep satisfaction knowing that she will carry her enthusiasm, her talents and her IBEW roots to all of organized labor. She will be the first IBEW member to hold one of the top positions in the AFL-CIO and its predecessor organization, the American Federation of Labor, another point of special pride to the Brotherhood. (After launching a challenge to the slate, IFPTE President Greg Junemann, candidate for Secretary-Treasurer, dropped out in late July and threw his support to the ticket.)

After several years of lobbying Congress and working in the grassroots political trenches with IBEW members across the country, Liz says, "Bringing the stories of our members to the halls of Congress was and is still my passion."

All too often, our unions have been slow to adapt to new changes in our nation's workplaces. As Rich Trumka says, "Nostalgia for the past is not a strategy for the future. We want to become a movement that can listen as well as it can talk, a movement that makes sense to young people. ..." The selection of Liz Shuler—at 39, the youngest candidate ever to stand for election as the AFL-CIO's Secretary-Treasurer, and only the second woman to run for that position—sends a powerful message of change. It shows that labor leaders are listening.

Old barriers are falling. Last year, millions of Americans voted for Barack Obama because they knew in their hearts that our nation needed young, dynamic leadership. Today, that same excitement is returning to our labor movement with Rich Trumka, Arlene Holt Baker and Liz Shuler.

Liz, you have done us proud. We wish you the best always. ■



**Lindell K. Lee**  
International Secretary-Treasurer

**HOW TO REACH US**

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

**Send letters to:**

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

Or send by e-mail to: [media@ibew.org](mailto:media@ibew.org)

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## Letters to the Editor

### Fresh Leadership

With newly elected officers Business Manager Joe Griffin and President David Corn, the spirits around Charleston, S.C., Local 398 have never been higher. Membership attendance is up and so is morale, welfare and recreation. The local has outings every quarter with a tremendous amount of participation. The local has a sense of statement and power. Brothers Joe and David have brought back unity in our union. This union is run from the ground up; every voice is a valued voice! With contract negotiations upon us, we have a great deal of confidence with Joe and David at the wheel.

*Chuck Howard  
Local 398 member, Charleston, S.C.*

### A More Sustainable IBEW

I am proud to be a member of a union that is taking sustainability seriously. As shown by the May issue of The Electrical Worker, the IBEW understands the need to take renewable energy and environmental issues not as some kind of fad, but as what will be the new economy.

To further better the lives of everyone in the electrical industry, the IBEW will increasingly have to side with either the polluting industries of the past or the cleaner ones of the future. Sadly, we all know what happened with the United Auto Workers. For years they fought alongside their bosses for the same outdated technologies and against fuel-efficiency standards. As a result, they have had years of deep concessions and layoffs and are now facing a near total collapse of their livelihood.

The IBEW can take a different path and throw its weight behind construction projects that make the U.S. meaner, leaner and greener. To promote so-called clean coal or dangerous nuclear at this point would be like the UAW promoting the re-release of the original Dodge Dart.

*Jakob Juntunen  
Local 48 member, Portland, Ore.*

### Outreach for War Veterans

Service in the military poses potential long-term—as well as immediate—risks to the health of soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen. Some health conditions may not appear until years later. That's why the Vietnam Veterans of America and dozens of other health care and advocacy organizations have created the Veteran's Health Council to assist veterans with health problems stemming from service.

Through the Web site [www.veteranshealth.org](http://www.veteranshealth.org), the VHC seeks to inform veterans about health issues and the related benefits available. More than 75 percent of veterans do not use the Department of Veterans Affairs for their health care needs and the majority do not belong to a veterans' organization. The reality is many veterans are not aware they may have conditions that entitle them to medical care and compensation from the VA.

The VCH Web site provides information on health conditions associated with military service and links to other health sites related to specific diseases associated with Vietnam, the Persian Gulf War and the global war on terror. The site also offers information on how to file a claim for disability compensation. If a veteran has a service-connected medical condition or a surviving dependent believes that the veteran died from such an illness, the site provides a link to a locator service for accredited veterans' service representatives who can assist them in filing a claim for VA benefits.

*John Rowan  
President, Vietnam Veterans of America*

### Goodbye, NASCAR

I have to agree with John Klingelschmitt (The Electrical Worker, July, Letters to the Editor). I will not support Toyota or any other foreign company in ANY type of racing. NASCAR has more Toyotas than any other car so I have stopped watching it on TV. Foreign companies that buy up American properties and build factories and send the profits back to their home country are the reason we will continue to lose jobs. I hope that Toyota's money has not influenced the IBEW.

Sometime last year I read how Toyota and Honda plants in the U.S. are undermining union wages and benefits. What has changed?

*Howard Kirby  
Local 300 member, Montpelier, Vt.*

## Who We Are

If you have a story to tell about your IBEW experience, please send it to [media@ibew.org](mailto:media@ibew.org).

## Extending a Hand

**W**hen Washington, D.C., Local 26 apprentice instructor Kevin Burton finished her invocation at the 2008 Women's Conference, many delegates had tears in their eyes. "We are here because somewhere a woman made a sacrifice for us," said Burton, who cited Scripture, "To whom much is given, much is required."

Burton is carrying the baton of the veteran unionists she saluted in her invocation as a mentor to young members entering the electrical trade.

A National Guard veteran and a student at the University of Maryland, Burton, 30, maintains a 3.6 average and has been on the dean's list since 2007. "I'm always trying to improve. You can never have too much education," she says.

Trained as a radar repair specialist in the service, Burton answered a classified ad after her discharge in 1999 for a commercial electrician trainee. "I knew nothing about unions, I just needed a job," says Burton, who was raised in Lanham, Md.

Dave McCord, Local 26 JATC director, observed Burton move from commercial electrician into the apprenticeship. "She's very even-keeled," says McCord, who offered Burton a part-time instructor position when she topped out of the apprenticeship in 2006. McCord knew he made the right choice when Burton asked him what she could do to become a more effective instructor. He encouraged her to enroll in the National Training Institute, sponsored by the IBEW and the National Electrical Contractors Association.

Eleven months later, Burton became a full-time instructor, the first Local 26 woman to fill that position. "Kevin brings connectivity to the younger population," says McCord, who appreciates her helping him to understand the perspective of younger apprentices and residential trainees.

With 12 years separating her and high school graduates just entering the apprenticeship, Burton already feels some distance, but she works at staying current in new technologies while grappling with an



*Kevin Burton, a Washington, D.C., Local 26 apprentice instructor, is a mentor to younger people. "I really don't have a choice," she says. "I must...help others as I have been helped."*

education gap that has left many younger workers in need of classes in basic math and tool identification.

"Some students get turned off about the prospect of doing manual labor for the rest of their lives," says Burton, who tells them that opportunities are endless in the IBEW for all kinds of work, using herself as an example.

Brian Benjamin, a telecommunications apprentice, says, "Kevin's the best teacher I've had, period." He laughs at Burton's promise to put aside her dietary preferences and eat steak and cheese whenever an entire class scores 100 percent on a test.

Violet Quick, a Local 26 business agent, worked in the field with Burton before she became an instructor. "Kevin gives students something to strive for," says Quick. Despite her own tight schedule,

Burton works extra hours helping students who are struggling and lends a hand with events at the union hall. "She goes beyond her call of duty," says Quick, a 14-year member and journeyman wireman.

Growing up, Burton said she found most of her mentors outside her family. Her father died when she was a toddler and her mother had problems with addiction and moved around a lot. "I saw a lot of things that I knew I did not want to grow up and imitate," says Burton, who has delivered three sermons at her church.

Because so many people supported her along her journey, says Burton, "I really don't have a choice. I must serve my community. I must extend a hand and help others as I was helped. I must do my best. I owe it to the universe." ■



# Give It Your Best Shot



## Enter the 2009 IBEW Photo Contest Today!

Each year we get a window into the breadth and scope of our diverse organization through the eyes of our fellow members. Last year, for the first time, IBEW members chose the winner. It's time for the 2009 contest, so take a moment to look around your workplace with a fresh eye. This year's winning image could be the one that you capture.

Like last year, a panel of judges will narrow down the entries to 15 finalists, which will be posted on [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org). Keep an eye on future issues of The Electrical Worker and the Web site for announcements on when the judging will begin.

**DEADLINE: November 30, 2009**

### Prizes to be awarded in each category:

First Place.....	\$200
Second Place.....	\$150
Third Place .....	\$100
Honorable Mention .....	\$50

### PHOTO CONTEST RULES:

1. The contest is open to active or retired IBEW members only. The person submitting the photo must be the person who took the photograph. Members may enter more than one photo.
2. International Officers and staff are not eligible.
3. Photo submissions can be submitted as digital files of at least 300 dpi, in color or black and white, on slides or glossy prints. The preferred print size is 8x10.
4. All submissions become the property of the IBEW Media Department.
5. Photo entries must have an IBEW theme of some sort, with IBEW members at work, engaged in a union-related activity or subjects conveying images of the electrical industry or the union.
6. If members are featured in the photo, they should be identified. If large groups are pictured, the name of the group or the purpose of the gathering (e.g. a safety committee, a lineman's rodeo, a union meeting) can be submitted in place of individual names.
7. Photos previously published in the IBEW Electrical Worker or Journal are not eligible for submission.
8. All entries must include a completed contest entry form. *Please note that photo entries and forms may be submitted through the IBEW Web site at [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org).*
9. Please fill out the contest entry form and affix it to each photo you submit for the contest and mail it to the IBEW Photo Contest, 900 Seventh Street NW, Washington, DC, 20001.

### IBEW Photo Contest Entry Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City and state \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip code \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number \_\_\_\_\_  
Local union number \_\_\_\_\_  
IBEW card number \_\_\_\_\_