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## PLAs IN THE CROSSHAIRS

# In Calif., D.C., the Right Pushes ABC's Agenda



The jobs of thousands of IBEW members are on the line, as anti-union ABC campaigns to outlaw PLAs proliferate across the country.

In the past year, two California municipalities have passed anti-union initiatives that have many construction workers throughout the state worried about their jobs and future.

Proposition G, passed this June, prohibits Chula Vista—a small city south of San Diego—from using project labor agreements on government-funded projects, giving low-wage nonunion contractors an advantage over union ones.

“This is a blow that will reverberate across the country,” said San Diego Local 569 Organizer/Political Director Jennifer Badgley.

Southern California is ground zero for the open-shop Associated Builders and Contractors’

legislative campaign against PLAs, a campaign which is increasingly taking on national dimensions as Republican candidates running for office across the country—from the state house on up—pledge to end the use of PLAs on both federal and state projects.

PLA opponents have been successfully tapping into voters’ concerns about tight government budgets and declining revenues to convince many of them that taxpayers can’t afford PLAs. Proposition G was spearheaded by ABC and the Coalition for Fair Employment, an anti-union group run by GOP operative and

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## PLAs IN THE CROSSHAIRS

former George W. Bush fundraiser Eric Christen.

Chula Vista is ABC's second big win after Orange County voted to ban PLAs last year. And now the group is gunning for bigger victories.

The San Diego Board of Supervisors has placed an anti-PLA initiative on the ballot for November, and Christen boasted to the Los Angeles Business Journal that he is planning to target Los Angeles and Long Beach in 2012.

"If [ABC] wins [in Chula Vista], they will have momentum going into other fights in California, and you can rest assured that we will see this strategy replicated in short order in other states," said Building Trades President Mark Ayers in a letter to union leaders shortly before the June vote.

### You Get What You Pay For

For more than 60 years, project labor agreements, project-specific, pre-hire collective bargaining agreements, have been a vital tool for contractors and managers—both public and private—to provide cost-efficient, high-quality, on-time construction.



ABC's strongest ally in Congress is House Minority Leader John Boehner.

And for construction workers, both union and nonunion, PLAs maintain decent wages and benefits, while ensuring a steady supply of highly-trained and professional tradesmen.

"Project labor agreements make sense for public works projects because they promote a planned approach to labor relations, allow contractors to more accurately predict labor costs and schedule production timetables, reduce the risks of shoddy work and costly disruptions, and encourage greater efficiency and productivity," wrote



PLAs are project-specific, pre-hire agreements that provide high-quality, on-time construction while creating good, middle-class jobs.

Cornell University researcher Fred Kotler in a 2009 study of PLAs.

While PLAs are not automatically union—as often misrepresented—many do in fact include collectively bargained wages and benefits. Those wages and benefits—which average \$13 more per hour than nonunion scale; \$28.35 when benefits are included—not only boost workers' paychecks, but also translate into increased productivity and reinvestment in the community.

A report by labor researchers Maria Figueroa and Jeff Grabelsky analyzing construction unionization in Massachusetts found: "Unionization in (construction) not only increases the incomes of workers but also yields economic benefits that ripple through the economy."

PLA opponents routinely denounce union labor for higher wages, but Figueroa and Grabelsky find that low-wage nonunion labor has widespread and indirect costs.

The authors write: "There are economic and social costs associated with the lower quality of the training provided to nonunion workers, and the consequent higher number of occupational injuries they endure ... Labor costs savings, however, can translate into costs being shifted onto taxpayers and society as a whole, when employers fail to pay appropriate levels of payroll taxes and workers' compensation premiums."

Many nonunion contractors

don't provide health insurance, so medical bills in the risky industry are often borne by the state. And many nonunion employers misrepresent their employees as independent contractors, cheating the government out of millions in taxes.

Decent wages also translate into higher productivity and lower accident rates.

The hidden costs of the ABC "low-road" model are currently on display in Reno, Nev. Management at the Hyatt Place hotel at the Reno airport had to bring in local union workers to fix the shoddy work done by an out-of-state contractor, who was awarded the job back in 2008 after underbidding union contractors and using poorly paid, lower-skilled employees.

"The contractor that did the work is bankrupt," said Paul McKenzie of the Northern Nevada Building and Construction Trades Council. "They've gone out of business and so they have to bring another person in to redo the work they did because they had an inferior product."

He estimates that it will cost the owner nearly double his initial bid to have the work redone.

### From California to Capitol Hill

ABC's efforts in California are only one part of the group's strategy to

eat away at union market share in construction.

The private construction industry has been hammered hard by the recession, making government-funded construction projects, particularly federal ones, some of the only big jobs at the moment.

But an executive order issued by President Obama in 2009, which reversed a Bush-era rule banning federally-funded PLAs, has made it harder for low-wage contractors to get their foot in the door.

So ABC is keeping a close eye on the 2010 midterm elections and hoping the results will elevate one of their strongest congressional allies—Ohio Rep. John Boehner (R)—into the speaker's chair.

ABC has been a top donor to the GOP minority leader since he started his congressional career and Boehner has returned the favor, even introducing a resolution in June honoring the group.

More importantly, he has promised to take up ABC's agenda if the GOP picks up enough seats to form a majority this November. "I will run Congress differently than it is being run today," he said at ABC's legislative conference in June.

Part of that agenda includes ending federal encouragement of PLAs—which is denounced on Boehner's blog as a means to "reward union bosses"—and defeating proposals to establish "high-road" contracting standards, which would require federal contractors to maintain certain wage and benefit levels.

The message has also percolated to the right-wing media, with Fox News and TV host Glenn Beck taking up the anti-PLA agenda, denouncing them as special-interest giveaways.

"ABC is making this political because they don't want people taking a closer look at their workplace model," said Building and Construction Trades Department, AFL-CIO, spokesman Tom Owens. "It's a low-road model that provides no career opportunities, lousy benefits and that ends up being a drain on the larger community."

Local 569's Jennifer Badgley says the building trades are gearing up to mobilize their members and community allies to push back against ABC's efforts this fall.

She points to last year's successful multi-million dollar PLA between the

building trades and the San Diego Unified School District—which is renovating and expanding school facilities—as an example of how PLAs can increase productivity, save time and money and create good job opportunities. "The bids were competitive and came in under the school's budget."

The IBEW in California is also focusing on the hotly contested gubernatorial race between former Gov. Jerry Brown and former eBay chief executive Meg Whitman, building grassroots support for the pro-labor Brown.

"November is a big organizing campaign for us, because the future of our jobs and this union are going to be decided in Sacramento and Washington, D.C.," Badgley said.

"It's clear that ABC and open-shop forces are betting on a GOP majority to enforce their race-to-the-bottom model on the industry," said International President Edwin D. Hill. "It's vital that every member do their homework and see where their representatives stand on the issue, because it's our jobs that are at stake." ■

### The Obama Administration and PLAs

**One of President Obama's first official acts in office was his 2009 executive order encouraging federal agencies to use project labor agreements in federal construction projects.**

- Covers \$3.73 billion in construction work, providing thousands of good, union jobs from coast to coast.
- Reversed ban on federal PLAs put in place by the Bush administration.
- Executive order says, in part, "Large-scale construction projects pose special challenges to efficient and timely procurement ... The use of a [PLA] may prevent these problems from developing."

#### He also:

- Stopped contractors from using federal funds for anti-union activity.
- Gives workers employed by a federal contractor first-bid rights on their job if another company takes over contract. ■

# Oregon Local Lobbies for Responsible Transition from Coal Power

**W**ith only one power plant running on coal, Oregon would seem an unlikely place for a major effort by environmentalists to shut down coal power. But Portland General Electric's 585-megawatt power plant is embattled, with some in the environmental lobby pushing to shut the plant down in 2015. They even opposed a public utility commission meeting in the plant's surrounding community to allow residents and workers to voice their opinions.

Representing 125 bargaining unit members at the facility, Portland Local 125 is conducting a grassroots campaign to urge a balance between reducing carbon emissions and the need for a reasonable transition to other sources of energy—one that properly weighs the needs of both workers and consumers.

Members have attended public meetings and are busy circulating petitions and writing letters to utility commissioners and newspapers.

"If they haven't already, other locals could soon be facing the same situation that we are here," says Boardman control operator Josh Hagel, noting that the plant first went online in 1980, making it newer than many of the more than 600 other coal power plants across the country. "This is a sought-after job," says Hagel, who has worked at Boardman for 11 years. The plant, in the state's eastern quadrant, he says, accounts for nearly 40 percent of Morrow County's tax base.

"Our members fish and hunt and are concerned about the environment like other citizens," says Marcy Putman, Local 125's political affairs representative. But, she said, the 2015 shutdown date being proposed by some in the environmental lobby is not realistic. Many backers of the closure, she says, have never seen the plant and are driven by industrial revolution images of pollution, despite the fact that PGE—which is proposing a 2020 shutdown—has installed scrubbers and precipitators to reduce emissions and is prepared to spend much more. When they visit,



critics have, says Putman, "been amazed at how clean the facility is."

PGE has a reputation for cognizance of environmental concerns. The utility supported the state's 2007 renewable energy standard in the legislature, requiring that Oregon's largest utilities acquire 25 percent of their electricity from new renewable energy sources by 2025. The company is investing more than \$1 billion in the Biglow Canyon

*Portland, Ore., Local 125 member Pat Winter, above left, with fellow unionists Brian Williams, Doug Shaffer and Dave Richards, at right, are advocating for a responsible transition from coal power to other energy sources.*



*Environmentalists are pushing for a 2015 shutdown of the Boardman Power Plant that would leave large energy users without sufficient power to run their enterprises.*



small businesses if regulators force a premature shutdown. In addition to IBEW's bargaining unit, 25 contractors and 225 seasonal maintenance workers' jobs are tied to the plant.

Oregon's high unemployment rate makes an orderly plan for Boardman's closure even more essential. One of the new members of Local 125 at Boardman, for instance, was hired after he

Environmental Quality. The improvements would lower mercury and nitrogen oxide emissions and permit the burning of lower-sulfur coal.

Under its new 2020 shutdown proposal, the company is looking to make many of the same improvements, while simultaneously developing renewable and natural gas resources to replace the Boardman plant's capacity. New transmission lines, essential to delivering the new power to customers, are part of the company's plan.

Steven Corson, PGE spokesman, gives special recognition to the IBEW as one of the main stakeholders—along with economic development groups, business associations and customer groups—in helping regulators understand the need for a reasonable plan for Boardman.

PGE is under pressure to move the company's proposed shutdown date to 2018.

"We will keep working with the company," says Putman, "but our independent, grassroots lobbying will be decisive in seeing that an unrealistic date is not imposed.

"We are not supporting anything sooner than 2020, and maintain that 2040 is appropriate if the pollution controls are installed," says Putman. ■

Wind Farm—located in the Columbia River Gorge—which will supply 450 megawatts when complete. Last year, PGE ranked eighth in the nation—and fourth in the West—for total solar power generation, according to the Solar Electric Power Association.

"Our advocacy for keeping Boardman Power Plant open isn't just about the IBEW, it's about the economy of our state," says Putman. With long lag times for permits, engineering and other technical considerations, Oregon will not be able to replace the essential utility capacity that would be lost in a 2015 shutdown.

In a May letter to the Public Utility Commission of Oregon, Local 125 expressed concern for the job security of workers employed in energy-intensive industries as well as

lost his job when Boise Cascade shut down a paper mill in St. Helens several hours away.

The IBEW's need to compete with other voices in the debate over Boardman's future was punctuated by the Sierra Club's opposition to IBEW's request that the state public utility commission hold a hearing on the plant's future in Boardman, where many of the facility's workers reside. The commission agreed to hold the hearing, defeating the Sierra Club's questionable argument that citizens in Boardman are not customers of PGE.

PGE originally planned to close the plant in 2040 and, in the interim, invest up to \$560 million in pollution controls to comply with rules of the Oregon Department of

## Seattle Local Joins Neighbors' Lobbying Efforts

**M**irroring Local 125's efforts in Oregon, Seattle, Local 77 is challenging plans for a premature closure of Washington's only coal power plant in Centralia.

Bob Guenther, Local 77's lobbyist, is marshalling efforts to extend the life of the TransAlta coal plant until 2025. Environmentalists are pushing for a 2015 shutdown.

"Many of the 300 jobs [in Centralia] pay an average of \$88,000 a year and will not be easily replaced," says Guenther, who is visiting legislators and meeting with Gov. Christine Gregoire, advocating a responsible transition from coal power to other forms of energy. ■

# Stimulus Dollars Fuel Wis. Plant Expansion



Seven years ago, Milwaukee Local 2150 organized a 320-member bargaining unit at Waukesha Electric Systems, a manufacturer of medium-sized transformers. A long and challenging organizing drive left labor and management employees alike wondering whether they could move forward, improve relationships and build a more successful enterprise.

All of their doubts were put to rest with a May announcement by SPX Corporation, Waukesha Electric's parent company. SPX announced a \$70 million, 140,000-square-foot expansion of its Waukesha manufacturing plant using \$12 million in advanced energy manufacturing tax credits from the federal stimulus.

Adding capacity to the 292,000-square-foot plant will meet the growing demand for transformers needed to transmit power generated by wind turbines and photovoltaic systems to distant load centers. Set to open in the fall of 2011, the expanded plant will add 250 new jobs. Two hundred will be bargaining unit positions.

"This expansion is good news for SPX, the city of Waukesha and all workers in the plant," says Local 2150 Business Manager Forrest Ceel. "We aim to build the world's best trans-



More than 300 workers at Waukesha Electric Systems have helped the manufacturer attract major federal and local stimulus dollars for expansion.

formers right here in Waukesha," says Ceel. That is no idle boast.

Waukesha's growing footprint is geared to producing some of the largest transformers available, including units rated at 500 megavolts and up to 765 megavolts. The transformers, which weigh hundreds of tons, will sell for between \$2 million and \$10 million each.

Large power transformers are extremely sensitive to contamination. The new facility will include a state-of-the-art clean room for final assembly.

Ceel and Todd Scrima, chair of the bargaining unit that has grown to 380 members, say that Waukesha's management team, led by President Tom Brockley and Vice President David Goodwill, worked hard to develop a workplace culture more capable of taking on the challenges of

a tough market for electric equipment.

"We do a lot of internal auditing of products and procedures that helps us locate problems with the quality of the product," said Scrima, an 11-year employee who began winding coils and now works as a quality specialist.

In addition to federal stimulus dollars, SPX will receive \$9 million in tax-incremental financing from the City of Waukesha and \$4 million from the state.

Broad support was essential to win necessary financing, says Ceel. Key partners in the advocacy effort include Gov. Jim Doyle; Phil Neuenfeldt, Secretary-Treasurer of the Wisconsin State AFL-CIO; former Waukesha Mayor Larry Nelson; Gale Klappa of Wisconsin Energy and John Procaro of American Transmission Company. ■



North of 49° | Au nord du 49° parallèle

## IBEW Fights to Uphold Red Seal Standards

For more than half a century, the Red Seal has been a benchmark of excellence for Canadian tradesmen, serving as a national recognition of high skill and training for more than 50 different crafts.

But a new effort by the federal government to reform the program's assessment standards is drawing opposition from the building trades and many contractors, who are concerned that the proposed changes will water down the Red Seal and weaken national training standards.

For more than a year, the Canadian Council of Directors of Apprenticeship, which is made up of the heads of each provincial and territorial apprenticeship program, has been conducting a review of the Red Seal program. The council's initial recommendations—published this spring—are troubling, says Barry Stevens, political action/media strategist for the First District.

Currently, journeymen must graduate from a recognized apprenticeship program and pass a written test in order to receive Red Seal certification, which in most provinces is more demanding than the standard trade certification. But under the council's suggested guidelines, alternative assessments such as work reviews, oral interviews and employer recommendations could be accepted in lieu of a written exam, which Stevens says, opens the door to abuse by unscrupulous contractors.

"We're talking about a very vague grading system that leaves a lot up to the employer, so it would be hard to tell what you're getting with the Red Seal," he said.

The government's suggested reforms come just as the program is losing some of its power to influence the labour market. Previously, Red Seal certification was needed to work across provincial boundaries. But last year's changes to the labour mobility clause in the Agreement on Internal Trade now allows any worker certified in their own province or territory to

practice their trade anywhere in Canada, even if their home jurisdiction has lower certification standards than the province in which they work.

"The effect will be to exert downward pressure on credentials, because it forces local governments that demand higher standards to accept workers far below the skill and training it calls for," said First District Vice President Phil Flemming.

The weakening of existing training standards is part of Prime Minister Stephen Harper and the ruling Conservatives' broader agenda to deregulate the labour market, driving down wages and working conditions, say union leaders.

"I think the Conservatives are trying to make workers and companies fight for the lowest common denominator," said Alex Lolua, director of government and public relations for the IBEW's Construction Council of Ontario.

The temporary foreign worker program is one example, Stevens says. Created in response to a national worker shortage, the program allows employers to bring in foreign nationals to work on a short-term basis, which critics charge makes them vulnerable to abuse.

"These measures were designed to enable unscrupulous employers to bring more foreign workers into the market, which would result in reducing the costs of labour at the expense of Canadian workers," he wrote in his July column for the Toronto Local 353's newsletter.

And some federal officials agree. Government documents acquired from the Canada Immigration Office by New Democrat Immigration Critic Olivia Chow states that temporary foreign workers have had a negative impact on wages and employment.

"Employers are using temporary foreign workers as a way to suppress wages and working conditions and to avoid legitimate unions," Alberta Federation of Labour President Gil McGowan said in a statement. "We should be ensuring

## IBEW MEDIA WORLD

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

### IBEW on the Huffington Post

President Hill has a blog championing good jobs and more. Read it at [www.huffingtonpost.com/edwin-d-hill](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/edwin-d-hill).

### HourPower

Two Omaha, Neb., Local 22 journeymen give us an "old school" job tip about fixing a broken head inside a pipe during a wire pull. Check it out, and enter the Hour Power awards on [www.IBEWHourPower.com](http://www.IBEWHourPower.com).



### YouTube

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

### ElectricTV

A founder of Greenpeace, Dr. Patrick Moore advocates for a return to nuclear energy. We sit down to talk safety, viability, economics and more—on the latest edition of [electricTV.net](http://electricTV.net).



Canadians are properly trained first, so they can take advantage of existing job opportunities.”

Anti-worker governments in Western Canada have also joined the campaign to drive down labour standards. Gordon Campbell's Liberal government in British Columbia has gone the furthest. Soon after taking power in 2001, that administration deregulated much of the trades, eliminating mandatory certification

for many skilled jobs.

In 2007 the governments of British Columbia and Alberta signed the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Act, a trade bill which places many provincial regulations, including worker qualification tests, at risk of being declared a barrier to free trade.

Harper and corporate lobbyists have also been pushing for a free-trade agreement with the European Union—the Canada-European Union

Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement—which would make it even harder for provinces to maintain their own training programs.

Labour leaders and contractors are calling on the government to maintain the Red Seal's current assessments and for the program to become the qualifying benchmark in every province—as it already is in Ontario and in many Maritime provinces—to prevent the construction industry from

being flooded with a low-skilled and easily-exploitable work force.

“We want to protect and uphold our certification standards, not weaken them in order to bring in less-skilled foreign workers to fill those positions,” said Wayne Peppard, executive director of the British Columbia and Yukon Building Trades.

Lolua of the Construction Council of Ontario points to the work of the National Electrical Trade Council—a

joint labor-management partnership between the IBEW and the Canadian Electrical Contractors Association—in developing national electrical training standards which could encourage labour mobility while maintaining a highly-trained work force.

“Without mandated national standards, workers and contractors will end up on a downward spiral,” Peppard said. ■

## La FIOE mène une lutte afin de maintenir les normes interprovinciales Sceau rouge

**D**epuis plus d'un demi-siècle, le Sceau rouge représente une norme d'excellence pour les personnes de métiers au Canada, assurant la reconnaissance de leurs compétences et de leur aptitude professionnelle à travers le pays; plus de 50 différents métiers sont désignés Sceau rouge.

La nouvelle tentative du gouvernement fédéral visant à réformer le programme d'évaluation des normes suscite des réactions parmi les métiers de la construction qui sont opposés à une telle réforme craignant que les changements proposés ne visent qu'à diluer le système du Sceau rouge et affaiblir les normes nationales pour les métiers spécialisés.

Depuis plus d'un an, le Conseil canadien des directeurs de l'apprentissage, regroupant des directeurs provinciaux et territoriaux de l'apprentissage, conduit une analyse sur le programme du Sceau rouge. Selon le confrère Barry Stevens qui agit à titre de coordonnateur de l'action politique et de la stratégie médiatique pour le Premier District, les premières recommandations du Conseil parues ce printemps sont plutôt inquiétantes.

Actuellement, les personnes de métier doivent compléter un programme d'apprentissage reconnu et avoir un certificat d'aptitude professionnelle avant de passer un examen écrit pour obtenir la mention « Sceau rouge »; dans la plupart des provinces, cette mention est beaucoup plus difficile à acquérir que la classification de métier habituelle. Toutefois, suite à certaines directives

suggérées par le Conseil, d'autres moyens d'évaluation tels que l'habitude de travail, les entrevues orales et les recommandations de l'employeur pourraient être envisagés, en remplacement de l'examen écrit; le confrère Stevens craint que l'application de cette alternative n'ouvre la voie aux entrepreneurs sans scrupules.

« Nous parlons d'un système de classification très vague, qui reposerait en grande partie sur l'évaluation de l'employeur; il serait donc difficile de reconnaître les avantages que procurent le Sceau rouge », dit-il.

Les réformes suggérées par le gouvernement surviennent juste au moment où le programme est en voie de perdre de son influence sur le marché du travail. Avant, le travailleur devait avoir le Sceau rouge pour aller travailler dans une autre province. Mais les changements apportés l'an dernier à la clause sur la mobilité de la main-d'œuvre dans l'Accord sur le libre-échange interprovincial, permettent à tout travailleur qualifié au titre de compagnon, selon les normes de certification de sa province respective ou de son territoire, de pratiquer son métier partout au Canada, même si ces normes de certification ne sont pas aussi élevées que celles en vigueur dans la province où il travaille.

« Ceci aura pour effet d'exercer une pression à la baisse sur les qualifications car les gouvernements régionaux exigeant des normes plus élevées seront contraints d'accepter des travailleurs n'ayant pas les qualifications et la formation qu'ils exigent », déclare Phil Flemming, Vice-président du Premier District.

Selon les dirigeants syndicaux,

une des priorités à l'agenda du Premier Ministre Stephen Harper et des Conservateurs est l'affaiblissement des normes actuelles dans le but de déréglementer le marché du travail, ce qui entraînerait une baisse des salaires et des conditions de travail.

« Je crois que les conservateurs veulent que les travailleurs et les compagnies se battent pour le plus petit dénominateur commun », dit Alex Lolua, directeur en relations publiques et gouvernementales pour le Conseil de la construction de l'Ontario de la FIOE.

« Le programme des travailleurs étrangers temporaires en est un exemple! » ajoute le confrère Stevens. Créé afin de faire face à la pénurie de main-d'œuvre, ce programme permet aux employeurs d'avoir recours à des ressortissants étrangers pour venir travailler à court terme; les critiques se plaignent que ces derniers deviennent ainsi plus vulnérables à l'exploitation.

Dans le bulletin d'information de juillet de la S.L. 353 de Toronto, il écrivait : « Ces mesures avaient été prévues afin de permettre aux employeurs sans scrupules d'amener encore plus de travailleurs étrangers dans le marché, ce qui aurait pour effet de réduire les coûts de la main-d'œuvre au détriment des travailleurs canadiens. »

Des fonctionnaires fédéraux sont d'accord avec son énoncé. La critique du NPD en matière d'immigration, Mme Olivia Chow, a obtenu des documents officiels du Bureau d'Immigration Canada indiquant que le recours aux travailleurs temporaires étrangers a eu un impact

négatif sur les salaires et l'emploi.

Gil McGowan, Président de la Fédération du travail de l'Alberta, déclarait dans un communiqué: « Les employeurs se servent des travailleurs temporaires étrangers afin d'abaisser les salaires et les conditions de travail et d'éviter les syndicats légitimes. Nous devrions d'abord nous assurer que les Canadiens ont les qualifications et la formation nécessaire pour profiter des opportunités d'emploi actuelles. »

Les gouvernements anti-travailleurs de l'Ouest canadien ont aussi participé à cette campagne visant à abaisser les normes nationales de travail. C'est le gouvernement libéral de Gordon Campbell, en Colombie-Britannique, qui est allé le plus loin. Dès son arrivée au pouvoir en 2001, son administration a déréglementé la plupart des métiers, supprimant ainsi le certificat de reconnaissance obligatoire pour plusieurs emplois spécialisés.

En 2007, les gouvernements de la Colombie-Britannique et de l'Alberta ont signé l'Accord sur le commerce, les investissements et la mobilité de la main-d'œuvre, une loi sur le commerce selon laquelle plusieurs réglementations provinciales, incluant celle sur les examens de qualification des travailleurs, courent le risque de constituer un obstacle au libre-échange.

Harper et des lobbyistes pour les entreprises ont également fait pression en faveur d'un Accord de libre-échange avec l'Union européenne—l'Accord économique et commercial global Canada-Union européenne—lequel rendrait encore plus difficile le

maintien des programmes de formation dans chaque province.

Les dirigeants syndicaux et les entrepreneurs demandent au gouvernement de maintenir la reconnaissance professionnelle actuelle du Sceau rouge et d'en faire le niveau de qualification dans chaque province, comme c'est le cas actuellement en Ontario et dans plusieurs provinces maritimes. Le but de telle requête est d'empêcher l'industrie de la construction d'être inondée par une main-d'œuvre peu qualifiée et facilement exploitable.

« Nous voulons protéger et faire respecter nos normes de certification; elles ne doivent pas être abaissées afin de pouvoir amener des travailleurs étrangers moins qualifiés pour remplir ces postes », affirme Wayne Peppard, Directeur exécutif du Conseil des métiers de la construction de la Colombie-Britannique et du Yukon.

Le confrère Lolua du Conseil de la construction de l'Ontario a souligné le travail du Conseil national des métiers de l'électricité (**National Electrical Trade Council**)—fondé sur le partenariat syndical patronal entre la FIOE et l'Association canadienne des entrepreneurs électriciens—qui a développé des normes sur la formation nationale en électricité. Ces normes vont encourager la mobilité des travailleurs tout en conservant une main-d'œuvre parfaitement formée et hautement qualifiée.

« Sans la reconnaissance des normes nationales, les travailleurs ainsi que les entrepreneurs seront entraînés dans une spirale descendante infernale », conclut Peppard. ■

## Transitions

### RETIRED Joseph F. Lohman



Sixth District International Vice President Joseph F. "Jeff" Lohman retired effective Sept. 1.

Initiated into Local 481 in Indianapolis, Ind., as an inside wireman apprentice in 1966, Lohman was elected vice president, serving from 1978 to 1981. When his business manager asked him to be a business agent, Lohman, at first, resisted. He agreed to try the job for a year. "Thirty-two years later, I'm retiring," he says.

Elected Local 481 business manager/financial secretary in 1983, Lohman served for five years until his appointment as International Representative. Among his proudest accomplishments were helping to develop the COMET (Construction Organizing Membership Education Training) program and being the first Indiana graduate of the B.A. program at the National Labor College in 1988.

In 1991, Lohman was assigned organizing coordinator for the Sixth District. Under his leadership, the union's market share increased from 45 percent in 1995 to 70 percent in 2000.

Lohman—who served as secretary of the Indiana State Building Trades and as a board member of the Central Indiana Labor Council—was named assistant to Sixth District International Vice President Pat Curley in 2002. He was appointed Sixth District International Vice President in 2005, upon Curley's retirement, and elected in 2006.

"I have very mixed emotions about my retirement," says Brother Lohman who, most recently, served as a member of the IBEW Committee on Diversity and Inclusion. "I'm excited about starting a new chapter in my life. But I'm struggling a little bit with what I'm leaving."

Looking forward to traveling and fulfilling a long-held desire to go back to school, Lohman also plans to volunteer his time to two organizations.

The officers, staff and members of the IBEW wish Brother Lohman a

well-deserved, healthy and happy retirement. ■

### APPOINTED Lonnie R. Stephenson



IBEW International President Edwin D. Hill has appointed Lonnie R. Stephenson as Sixth District

International Vice President, effective September 1. He succeeds Joseph F. Lohman, who retired.

Brother Stephenson was born in Moline, Ill., graduating from Rock Island High School. He started his apprenticeship as an inside wireman with Rock Island Local 145. He was initiated into the Brotherhood in 1976.

Stephenson soon became active in the union and was elected vice president in 1984 and president in 1987. Less than a decade later, he was elected business manager, a position he held until his appointment as International Representative in 2002. He was

active in the community, serving on the executive board on the United Way, the Quad Cities Federation of Labor and the Illinois State Electrical Workers Association.

One of the biggest campaigns he led was a joint effort with local business leaders to pass a \$5 million bond initiative in Davenport, Iowa, to help renovate the city's waterfront area. And in 1998, Stephenson helped oversee the construction of the Quad Cities Electrical Training center.

As International Representative, he serviced locals throughout the upper Midwest. From 2003 to 2005, he served as organizing coordinator and then as the in-office representative for Vice President Lohman. "Jeff was a great mentor to me and helped keep the district moving in the right direction," said Stephenson.

As the new Sixth District Vice President, he will oversee IBEW operations in Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

"I'm looking forward to the challenge, and in this economy it definitely will be a challenge," he says. "But the Sixth District is very

lucky to have some great locals, great leaders and great staff."

The IBEW officers, staff and membership wish Brother Stephenson much success in his new position. ■

### RETIRED Gregory G. Shafranski



Sixth District International Representative Gregory Shafranski retired April 1 following more

than four decades of service to the IBEW.

Brother Shafranski initiated into Minneapolis Local 292 in 1972, a time when apprentices were required to rotate to a new contractor every year to ensure a well-rounded education and immersion into the profession, he said.

A Minneapolis native, Shafranski served on various committees in the local and was elected business manager in 1992. His activism on the local's market recovery committee during the recession of the early '90s was instrumental in securing bids for signatory contractors and man-hours for members desperate for work in the slumping economy.

Shafranski was appointed to the Sixth District office in 1997 by International President J.J. Barry.

As a field representative, Shafranski serviced utility, inside and outside construction locals throughout Minnesota and Wisconsin. He recently worked with the NJATC, its local branches and the International Office to establish a wind turbine training program out of Rochester, Minn., Local 343. The local boasts one of the first-built wind training towers on IBEW property in the Brotherhood.

"Many of our contractors now are requiring members to get trained in wind so we can stay competitive with the nonunion side," he said. "It's a lot of physical work—you're up 300 feet high in the air dealing with the elements, so we want to ensure that our members have the cutting edge on technical know-how and safety."

## Circuits

### Nova Scotia Local and Utility Sign Safety Charter

In early July, newspapers, radio and TV stations across Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton Island reported that IBEW Local 1928's Business Manager Michael MacDonald and Nova Scotia Power CEO Rob Bennett had reinforced their commitment to health and safety by signing a pact known as the CEO Health and Leadership Charter.

It was the first time a union and company jointly endorsed the pledge, signed by 250 organizations across Canada. While the symbolic signing promoted making safety the first priority in the workplace, NSP and Local 1928 accompanied their pledge with an active public awareness campaign warning against the dangers of electrical lines.

An Atlantic-TV news report that included interviews with MacDonald and an NSP spokesman opened by showing the aftermath of a 2005 accident where two men who were not employees of NSP in Sydney, Nova Scotia, were electrocuted when their bucket truck came in contact with overhead lines. It emphasized the need for residents to keep a 20-foot distance from power lines when pruning trees or performing other home projects.

MacDonald says that the charter signing and the awareness campaign follow a path of productive relations between Nova Scotia Power and Local 1928, which represents 850 workers including mechanics, linemen, steam plant operators, electricians, technicians, utility workers and others.

"Labor and management have parked their hats outside the door and partnered on health and safety for many years," says MacDonald.

A press release from NSP reported that the company had achieved a million

person-hours of work without a lost time injury in some areas of the province.

"Safety is non-negotiable in the utility industry. You can't compromise or cut corners in any way in our industry," said NSP CEO Rob Bennett. MacDonald says that he and Bennett promote safety by giving credit to exemplary workers out in the field.

Local 1928 members sit on numerous joint safety committees with NSP managers and the local union recognizes IBEW members with awards for safety excellence. Because Local 1928 has developed a good overall relationship with NSP, says MacDonald, "There is more time to focus on the job and task at hand rather than other issues between us."

Union and management efforts on safety were praised in a luncheon where Nova Scotia Minister for Labour and Workplace Development Marilyn More announced that Workers' Compensation Board claims between 2004 and 2008 had dropped 7 percent.

In late July, the Cape Breton Post published an ad placed by the Nova Scotia Department of Labour showing MacDonald and Bennett signing the safety charter.

The ad says, "NSP and the IBEW understand the value of partnership in occupational health and safety, and they're showing Nova Scotia's employers and employees how to do it right." More, pictured in the ad behind Bennett and MacDonald, writes, "I challenge employers and workers to find three ways to cooperate on workplace safety, and to implement these plans before the Thanksgiving holiday." ■

## In Memoriam

### Members for Whom PBF Death Claims were Approved in July 2010

Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death
1	Akers, G. W.	6/12/2010	24	Williams, D. D.	4/7/2010
1	Eudy, B. D.	5/6/2010	25	Anderson, R. C.	5/25/2010
1	Lintner, K. A.	6/4/2010	25	Blanck, D. A.	1/19/2010
1	Teuber, E. A.	5/6/2010	25	Castonguay, L. G.	6/20/2010
1	Warner, T. D.	6/3/2010	25	Grant, K.	12/28/2009
3	Baldwin, W. J.	5/17/2010	25	Kelly, J. J.	6/22/2010
3	Bannard, D. J.	5/25/2010	25	Nichols, B.	6/12/2010
3	Bardoville, T. A.	6/5/2010	25	Roberts, W. H.	6/2/2010
3	Baron, A.	4/5/2010	26	Hannon, J. E.	6/21/2010
3	Brown, R. L.	6/19/2010	26	Hahn, W. F.	6/7/2010
3	Burbes, W. T.	5/17/2010	26	Smith, B. C.	6/19/2010
3	De Leo, C.	6/5/2010	26	Waybright, G. L.	5/14/2010
3	Degrosa, R.	6/17/2010	32	Benham, N.	4/12/2010
3	Ehrenfreund, B.	5/19/2010	34	Shay, P. D.	5/3/2010
3	Fischer, V. J.	6/30/2010	34	Smith, F. D.	6/8/2010
3	Fumagalli, V.	6/25/2010	34	Swardenski, G. A.	6/2/2010
3	Iacono, C. V.	5/19/2010	35	Brousseau, D.	5/25/2010
3	John, V.	10/27/2009	35	Goodale, R. L.	6/2/2010
3	Judd, T. R.	6/28/2010	38	Fortenbaugh, R. B.	6/21/2010
3	Kuzmak, J.	9/6/2009	38	Picha, J. A.	4/22/2010
3	McCormick, R. B.	6/1/2010	41	Burkhardt, J. C.	12/9/2009
3	McGuire, R. J.	6/12/2010	41	Smith, W. F.	4/17/2010
3	Nacincik, D. E.	6/12/2010	43	Bensing, R. F.	5/4/2010
3	Naya, J. A.	6/25/2010	43	Davis, R. J.	6/21/2010
3	Orlando, B.	6/6/2010	43	DeSalvo, A.	6/30/2010
3	Pacello, M. A.	6/24/2010	43	Long, V. L.	4/30/2010
3	Pontillo, A.	6/17/2010	43	McKee, T. P.	6/7/2010
3	Rozakis, N. P.	6/11/2010	45	Kopp, L.	3/26/2010
3	Schnipper, W.	6/30/2010	46	Betha, W. C.	12/10/2009
3	Schroeder, W. D.	5/18/2010	46	Saunders, R. J.	6/26/2010
3	Schweizer, J. W.	6/19/2010	48	Black, R. C.	6/17/2010
3	Sharples, R. A.	1/29/2010	48	Dials, M. A.	5/27/2010
3	Soltren, C.	3/22/2010	48	Sullivan, W. R.	6/22/2010
3	Stein, J.	5/26/2010	48	Willis, G. L.	6/8/2010
3	Student, J. M.	5/14/2010	51	Kritz, J. L.	3/23/2010
3	Tarantal, S.	5/30/2010	51	Lavender, W. F.	5/15/2009
5	Shoemaker, F. M.	5/21/2010	51	Spikes, B. P.	5/2/2010
6	Butte, W. F.	6/23/2010	55	Baker, D. A.	6/9/2010
6	Derner, B. P.	4/25/2010	57	Lindley, R. W.	6/1/2009
6	Lera, M. M.	5/1/2010	58	Baytarian, P.	6/4/2010
6	Schneider, M. M.	5/23/2010	58	Brewer, A. K.	6/12/2010
8	Donofrio, J. T.	6/5/2010	58	Cloutier, W. E.	3/20/2010
8	Smallridge, H. W.	5/16/2010	58	Coen, J. D.	9/24/2009
9	Bodkin, F. J.	9/19/2009	58	Edie, L. W.	5/14/2010
11	Alarcon, J. H.	4/26/2010	58	Langlands, R. C.	5/4/2010
11	Carroll, F. W.	4/2/2010	58	McCabe, M. J.	5/29/2010
11	Emami, M. H.	5/25/2008	58	Salk, P.	6/29/2010
11	Foley, D. B.	3/11/2010	58	Scott, J. A.	7/29/2007
11	Fuertsch, C. R.	5/25/2010	58	Szyniszewski, H. B.	6/17/2010
11	Gingerich, W. E.	6/16/2010	58	Thompson, W. C.	6/10/2010
11	Graeff, D. E.	5/25/2010	58	Trueman, J. W.	6/10/2010
11	Jennex, M. M.	2/24/2010	60	Walters, R. S.	5/31/2010
11	Mears, R. A.	6/27/2010	68	Jackson, C. L.	3/26/2010
11	Neff, K. A.	5/21/2010	68	Mettam, P. M.	2/23/2010
11	Neumann, N. D.	6/8/2010	68	Nordlander, J. T.	5/15/2010
11	Stowater, R. R.	5/5/2009	68	Zajac, D. A.	9/21/2007
11	Treize, C. M.	6/14/2010	70	Clark, D. E.	5/20/2010
11	Zauss, H.	5/31/2010	70	Jackson, C. E.	6/27/2010
13	Harl, J. R.	5/10/2008	77	Carlson, M. G.	4/9/2010
16	Rexing, M. T.	6/16/2010	77	Cook, S. F.	7/1/2007
17	Armstrong, R. G.	4/30/2010	77	Johnson, L. V.	12/6/2009
17	Munck, D. C.	5/6/2010	77	Liapis, G. S.	6/6/2010
18	Humphries, R. A.	9/15/2008	77	Myers, C. B.	11/3/2009
20	Baker, Z. C.	5/22/2010	77	Smith, E. N.	7/6/2010
20	Carlen, C. H.	6/4/2010	83	Knickerbocker, N. H.	5/7/2010
20	Dillard, B. A.	6/19/2010	86	Conrad, S. P.	3/1/2010
20	Gilbreath, T. A.	5/25/2010	86	Ferry, L. P.	5/19/2010
20	Johnson, D. B.	6/3/2010	89	Simmons, F. R.	4/26/2007
20	Mueller, H. W.	3/8/2010	90	Valenti, E. F.	5/26/2010
20	Terry, A. C.	4/12/2010	95	Long, G. V.	1/1/2008
22	Hand, B. D.	5/1/2010	97	Berecka, E. J.	6/5/2010
22	Howell, H. J.	5/24/2010	98	Leach, J. A.	6/23/2010
22	Svoboda, D. J.	5/1/2010	102	Flanagan, A. J.	2/3/2009
24	Campbell, C. F.	6/16/2010	102	Havison, H.	1/9/2007
24	Daniel, J. L.	3/27/2010			
24	Ovelgone, W. T.	4/23/2010			

MEMORIAM continued on page 20

In the late 1960s, Shafranski served four years in the Navy as an aviation electrician working on aircraft that flew reconnaissance missions monitoring Russian submarine activity along the Atlantic and European coasts. He earned a two-year degree in electrical construction from Minneapolis Technical College after his naval experience and joined

the Brotherhood soon afterward.

His family includes his wife, Vonnie, three children, seven grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Life in the labor movement is a family affair. His son, Reed, is a journeyman lineman with Minneapolis Local 160. Both of Shafranski's daughters are married to union members—one a fellow 160 member

and the other a plumber. Shafranski looks forward to spending more time fishing and hunting.

"My time in the IBEW has provided me with a better life than I might have had otherwise," he said.

The staff, members and officers of the IBEW thank Brother Shafranski for his service and wish him an enjoyable, well-deserved retirement. ■

## IBEW On Duty

### Close Call Caps Member's Third Tour in Middle East

Staff Sgt. Jesse Davis was in the middle of a workout at his base in northern Afghanistan when he heard the explosion. He dropped his weights and looked at his fellow soldiers in the makeshift gym, wondering if they were all thinking the same thing: Another mortar attack?

But it was far worse. A suicide bomber disguised as a police officer had breached security and blown himself up near the doorway of the main barracks at the Dand aw Patan base. Five U.S. Airborne Infantry troops were injured in the blast that obliterated part of the structure. For the second-year apprentice and Salt Lake City Local 57 member, it was a chilling close call.

"I'm usually in that building on the Internet chatting with my wife at that time of night," said Davis, 29. "If things had gone differently—if I hadn't decided to go to the gym, I'm sure I would have been seriously hurt."

The February bombing only added to the daily dangers Davis faced in his three tours of duty, including deployments to Iraq in 2003 and Afghanistan in 2005. Davis' boots hit the sand in June of last year for his final mission: training scores of enlistees in Afghanistan's fighting forces. From his arrival through October, he helped lead nearly 100 new Afghan army soldiers through their training at Forward Operating Base Orgun-E.

He was reassigned to Dand aw Patan the next month, where he logged time instructing the country's



Salt Lake City Local 57 apprentice Jesse Davis served in Iraq and Afghanistan.

fledgling border patrol troops along the northern boundary between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Davis worked as a second-in-command when planning logistics for daytime missions. He dodged gunfire on patrols and emerged unscathed from random roadside bomb explosions. Away from combat, he headed up ad-hoc construction projects at Dand aw Patan, building outhouses, shelving units and the gym area he was in when he narrowly averted disaster.

About a week after the bombing near his barracks, Davis came home to a hero's welcome that included a parade through his town of Spanish Fork—about an hour's drive south of Salt Lake City.

Reunited with his wife, children and stepchildren, he is back on the job at utility Rocky Mountain Power. As his tenure in the military drew to a close in July, he can now devote himself full-time to his career as a union lineman.

"The IBEW has been a real benefit to my family," Davis said. He joined the Brotherhood in May 2007 and appreciates that his employer and the union have allowed flexibil-

ity in his trek toward journeyman status. "I didn't think I would get treated so well. The company and the local worked together to make sure I had a job when I got back. I got to keep my seniority, too."

Davis signed up for the Army in 2002, partly for the economic security it offered.

"I'd done construction, worked on oil rigs—but I got tired of always being laid off," he said. "I have a wife and kids and needed more of a steady paycheck. I'd also always been interested in being in the military, ever since I was younger."

Even with the recession's adverse impact on the trades, Davis feels secure in his transition from soldier to union lineman. He draws parallels between the camaraderie he felt on missions and among union members in the trade.

"In the military, it's partly about the friendships you make while working together as a team," Davis said. "We can say we made it through some challenges together. It's the same on a tough job. If some car in the middle of the night knocks a pole down, you and your crew have got to bust your butts to get the power back on. There's tons and tons of work that goes into it. So, again, it's nice to look up and say, 'We did that.'"

"Jesse's a hard worker, and he's going to make a really good lineman," said Local 57 President Larry Walker, who is Davis' general foreman. "We have good attitudes around the shop, and he contributes to that."

"We're glad he's home and appreciate everything he's done," said Business Manager Byron Nielsen. ■

# Local Lines

## Unity Rally in St. Louis

L.U. 1 (as,c,ees,ei,em,es,et,fm,i,mt,rts,s,se,spa,st &ws), ST. LOUIS, MO—On June 15, a rally was held at St. Louis' Forest Park by building tradespeople from across the area, joined by IBEW Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill and leaders of eight other trade unions.

Attending the 3,000-strong rally were union electricians, laborers, bricklayers, sheet metal workers, painters, sprinkler fitters, plumbers, pipefitters, and cement masons.

The rally was held to protest the Carpenters "union" in St. Louis. The Carpenters' "leadership" is organizing nonunion electrical contractors in St. Louis and performing electrical work under the "Local 57" umbrella. The attack on IBEW Local 1 in St. Louis is also being fought by other building trades across the country, as the Carpenters try to take the work of other trades. The St. Louis rally was just the start of an AFL-CIO national campaign to stop the Carpenters from raiding the work of other trades. Thanks to all Local 1 members who attended. [See "IBEW, Allies Fight Carpenter Competition," *The Electrical Worker*, August 2010; and videos on IBEW Web site [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org).]

We mourn the death of members: Gregory Jones, Daniel Heeney, Ahmed Hamada, Edward Schoenbein, Joseph Lupicki, Bernice Sapp, Harvey Heidemann, Joseph Novogoratz, Daniel Specker, Harry Baird, Tilford Griffis, Donald Bradshaw, John Rufkahr Sr., Bernice Forir, Donald Sebacher, Clifford Lindsey, Walter Lallis, Arthur Kemp, Carl Bock, James Prunty, Brian Eudy, Erhard Teuber, Charles Foster, Louis Duchinsky, Thomas Warner, James Foerster, Kirby Lintner, Matthew Ervin, Kenneth Jennewein.

*Matt Gober, P.S.*

## Rally for Jobs and Justice

L.U. 11 (i,rts&spa), LOS ANGELES, CA—Thank you to our organizing committee members, elected officers and staff who rallied to challenge bureaucrats to hasten stimulus spending and adopt project labor agreements. These efforts and more have resulted in good paying jobs in our community. Adopting such measures ensures a level playing field for our contractors and promotes local hiring at key projects. Your dedication to this worthy cause is greatly appreciated by everyone who benefits from these projects.

The 12th Annual IBEW Local 11 Local-Wide Picnic is scheduled for Sat., Oct. 9, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.—at the L.A. Police Revolver and Athletic Club, 1880 N. Academy Dr., Los Angeles. There will be games, prizes, food, bingo and fun for the entire



*IBEW Los Angeles Local 11 members attend jobs rally.*

family. Don't miss this opportunity to reconnect with old friends and make new ones. Bring your lawn chairs! No pets allowed. No alcoholic beverages may be brought to the picnic. Beer and wine may be purchased at the picnic. Donation of \$6 per person. Children 10 years and under are free. Be sure to get your ticket request with payment into the Local 11 office by Friday, Sept. 17. We hope to see you there.

*Bob Oedy, P.S.*

## Safety Medal Awarded

L.U. 15 (u), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—On July 19, newly elected Local 15 officers were sworn in. Congratulations to Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dean Apple, Vice Pres. Terry McGoldrick and Rec. Sec. Christine Watkins on their re-election, and to Treas. Tom Christ on his election. Congratulations also to our elected Executive Board members: incumbents Tom Tibbles, Joe Alvarez and Jose Rodriguez, and newly elected, Tom Hinspeter, Richard Lewis, John Gavin and Ricky Johnson.

Local 15 announced that 10 \$500 scholarships will be awarded to Local 15 members or their families. Application forms and guidelines are available at our Web site [www.ibewlocal15.org](http://www.ibewlocal15.org).

Exelon Nuclear received the prestigious Green Cross Safety Medal from the National Safety Council, in recognition of efforts in safety, community service and corporate citizenship. Congratulations to our IBEW members at Exelon.

Our members at Midwest Generation continue in the right direction on safety. Will County Station is approaching 1 million man-hours without a DART injury, and Powerton Station set a station record of more than 577 days without a lost-time accident.

Their benefits package expired June 15 and talks have started on a new package.

The pole hauling arbitration is finally settled, with negotiations resulting in the return of the work and establishing 12 new jobs.

Local 15 held new steward training in May; all Local 15 stewards have now attended steward's school.

*Doug Vedas, P.S.*

## Promoting Values of Unionism

L.U. 21 (catv,govt&t), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—Local 21 member Brian Mellenthin was awarded the Robert E. Gibson Community Service Award in June. The award is named for the Illinois AFL-CIO's first director of community services, who went on to become a president of the state federation and who was committed to community service throughout his 32-year association with the Illinois AFL-CIO.

Among Bro. Mellenthin's numerous volunteer activities: he adapts and adds switches to toys so children with physical and intellectual disabilities can enjoy the toys. Brian Mellenthin is one of the much-appreciated human beings of the world, fulfilling the values and decency of pure volunteerism. Congratulations, brother!

On July 4, member Mark Evans completed a massive effort, arranging delivery of pizzas for our troops in the Middle East and other countries, on five different continents! This is Evans' third year of providing a slice of home for our troops. He's enlisting your help. If you would like to know more, please visit his Web site [www.pizzas4patriots.com](http://www.pizzas4patriots.com). IBEW Local 21 supports Mark in his efforts.

Stay informed by attending monthly unit meetings and signing up for news updates and e-mail action alerts at [www.ibew21.org](http://www.ibew21.org).

*Thomas Hopper, P.S.*

## United Way Award

L.U. 29 (u), PITTSBURGH, PA—We are proud recipients of the United Way Paul Stackhouse Sr. Award. The late Paul Stackhouse Sr. was a former president of the Allegheny County Labor Council who truly believed in the United Way. The award recognizes the local's involvement in contributing to the United Way campaign and its dedication to community service. The award was presented to Bus. Mgr. Jeff Davis.

The always highly anticipated annual golf outing was held in June. Local 29 members and friends gathered for a day of golfing followed by dinner.

Community Services donated two HDTVs to the Holy Family Institute. The institute is temporarily housing orphans from the earthquake-torn island of Haiti.

Scheduled for September is the second annual gun-bash. This event raises money used to help those in need in the community. A special thank-you to members Mark Benkart and Bill Webb for making sure this event takes place and getting the help to where it is most needed.

Please remember safety at all times, on the job and at home.

*Kim Washburn, R.S.*

## A Career of Service

L.U. 41 (em,es,govt,i,se&spa), BUFFALO, NY—A fond farewell to Local 41 Pres. Michael J. Franey. After 31 years as president of the local and 41 years as an IBEW member, Mike announced his retirement effective July 1, 2010. He gave a heartfelt message about his years as president, and the membership responded with a standing ovation. Best wishes, Mike!

The Executive Board of Local 41 appointed Matthew J. Hilmey to fill the vacancy of president. We all wish Matt well in his new position.

Local 41 proudly announces the 2010 graduating class of Inside and Residential wiremen. Joining our ranks are Raymond Ayala Jr., Kevin Bacon, Joshua Braunscheidel, Matthew Cercone, Michael Forant Jr., Karl Kulu, Nicholas Macheltski, Mark Mahoney, James Pike, David Strianese, Jeremy Vito, Joseph West, Thomas Donohue, Thomas Ryan, Charles Shanahan and Matthew Tisdale.

*Anthony S. Coppola, B.M.*

## Work Picture Improves

L.U. 43 (em,i&rts), SYRACUSE, NY—The work picture for our area improved dramatically through July and August. School work was slow to start but once it

## Trade Classifications

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

*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.*



got rolling the members took advantage of it. There are some future projects that should carry through the winter months at St. Joseph's Hospital, the Veterans Hospital and Onondaga Community College. Also the James A. Fitzpatrick nuclear plant has a refuel outage planned for September.

We held our apprentice graduation dinner this year at Coleman's Irish Pub & Restaurant. Unfortunately, I could not access their photos in time for the print publication. Congratulations to the new journeymen: Frederick Eaton IV, Joshua Fagan, Bradley Galton, Kevin Mullen, Nikolay Senkiv, Patrick Twomey, Jerrett White and Joseph Wilcox.

*Jim Corbett, P.S.*

## Organizing Success

L.U. 47 (lctt,mo,o,u&uow), DIAMOND BAR, CA—Happy Labor Day! With fall approaching, work at our Outside Line Construction is beginning to pick up. Work at Southern California Edison remains steady, but several of our municipal utilities continue to struggle.

Organizing continues to be a bright spot for the local. In addition to organizing electrical utility contractors, we are in the process of organizing the few remaining line clearance contractors in our jurisdiction.

We are gearing up for the November elections and encourage all our members to register and vote.

We have a new Executive Board member, Tyrone Chamois, an SCE journeyman lineman; and a new recording secretary, Chris Avila, a trouble shooter from the City of Riverside.

The 2010 SCE/Local 47 Lineman's Rodeo was held June 12. Overall winner in the journeyman team: Ryan Araujo, Andy Cervantes and Juan Romano (SCE). The winning senior team was Bruce Thompson, Dale Lorz, and Richard Jimenez (SCE). The winning apprentice was Aaron Wirt (SCE), and the winning groundman was Chris Sanchez (SCE). Congratulations to all the competitors!

We are sad to report the passing of Kent Greathouse, Mark Cassidy and Bruce Balderas. Live safe, live well, work union!

*Stan Stosel, P.S.*

## Local Holds Elections

L.U. 51 (catv,lctt,o,rtb,t&u), SPRINGFIELD, IL—On June 4, Local 51 election ballots were counted. Congratulations to our elected officers: Bus. Mgr. Jim Bates, Pres. John Powers, Vice Pres. Walter Westfall, Treas. Julie Brandt and Rec. Sec. Deb Perry. Elected to the Executive Board: Tom Kane (Wood River unit), Bill Toohey (Clinton unit), Dusty Swanson (Galesburg unit), Corey Stone (Springfield unit), Paul Behl Jr. (Lincoln unit), Chris Blount (Construction unit), Bob Colby Jr. (Champaign unit), Mike Scott (Bloomington unit), Dennis Trowbridge (Jacksonville unit), Dan Smith (Peoria unit), Tom Hocking (LaSalle unit), Roger Beran (Baldwin unit), Rodney Montague (Decatur unit) and Josh Mibbs (Havana unit).

Thanks to election judge Jason Carl, alternate judge Dick Wood and all the tellers who helped.

With the amalgamation of former Local 1306, an additional unit (Decatur Clerical) will be added after the membership approves a bylaw change.

Congratulates to our golf outing scholarship winners: Robert Stockham, son of Havana unit member Randy Stockham; and Bryanna McDormand, granddaughter of member Carol McDormand, a Clinton Power Station employee. Winners received \$500 to further their education.

Another \$500 scholarship will be awarded at our Sept. 18 annual picnic at Clinton Lake.

At this writing, work remains slow for construction unit members.

Work safe; give a good day's work for a good day's pay; and attend union meetings.

*Dan Pridemore, Bus. Rep.*



*Local 51's 2010 Golf Outing Championship team, from left: Charlie Barre, Tim Foran, journeyman lineman, Ameren-IP; Curtis Hayes, journeyman lineman, Ameren-IP; and Kyle Dines.*

## Contracts Ratified

L.U. 57 (lctt,mo,o,t&u), SALT LAKE CITY, UT—The local recently completed negotiations on two contracts. A one-year agreement with the City of Idaho Falls was ratified by the membership. A newly organized group with Fairpoint Communications in St. Anthony, Idaho, ratified their first contract. We welcome the new members to the IBEW.

As of press time the work picture is currently slow, but steady. At this writing, the Populus to Terminal 345-kV line is winding down, with completion slated for late August. The light rail expansion underway in the Salt Lake Valley should continue for a couple of years. The consensus is that work should pick up in late summer or early fall.

At a recent AFL-CIO Convention in Idaho, the delegates had the opportunity to meet with Jim Klatt of the Union Sportsmen's Alliance (USA). The Alliance is doing great things across the country, working with local unions, in conjunction with state wildlife departments and conservation organizations. If you have an opportunity to visit with USA or check out the Web page, [www.unionsportsmen.org](http://www.unionsportsmen.org), do so. Union members are already working with these organizations, but are not getting wider recognition for their service. This is one way to show our communities who we are. Join USA and get involved. The strength is in the numbers.

*Scott Long, P.S.*

## Projects Move Forward

L.U. 103 (cs&i), BOSTON, MA—Two major projects that will be a great benefit to our members, both in construction and permanent jobs, and to our area continue to move forward. The Cape Wind project and the casinos have been discussed and debated for several years. Both, hopefully, will come to fruition.

A major reason these jobs may start soon is the tireless effort of Local 103's officers, members and their families. Both projects, despite their environmental and economic benefits, have met with staunch opposition. Local 103 must be even more steadfast in our resolve to get these projects off and running. Please keep up the great work.

*Kenny Tallent, P.S.*



*Local 145 congratulates the recent apprentice graduating class. From left are: Michael Harl, Cory Neff, Ryan Skoff, Steve Clark, Matt Siebel, Tom Allardyce, Jake Ortiz, Zachary Smith, Danny Hankner, Tony DeBaillie, Joel Catour, Jarrid Griffith, Mark Hessman, Craig Weeks, Tony Ortega, Rod Perrin and Rob Adams. Not pictured: Chad Sieverding.*

## Annual Meeting & Training

L.U. 125 (lctt,o,t&u), PORTLAND, OR—Local 125's annual meeting and shop steward, unit chair, and unit recorder training were held June 11-12 in Portland, OR. More than 130 participants attended either unit chair/recorder training or one of two shop steward classes—basic and advanced. The annual meeting was well received by those who attended, and members have requested that we plan another meeting for 2011. In an effort to improve attendance by avoiding conflicts due to graduation season, the local is looking at hosting the next meeting in April 2011. Local 125's section of the Northwest Labor Press August issue will feature details and photographs from the training and meeting.

At this writing, Local 125's annual golf and softball tournaments were scheduled for Aug. 13-15 in Bend, OR. Proceeds from each event benefit the Oregon Burn Center. For more information, please visit [www.ibew125.com](http://www.ibew125.com).

The local's new Web site has been launched. To access members' only information, you need to have a log-in and password. If you have not registered for a log-in and password yet, please go to [www.ibew125.com](http://www.ibew125.com) and follow the registration instructions.

*Marcy Putman, P.S.*

## Brighter Work Picture

L.U. 139 (i&u), ELMIRA, NY—Recently, Local 139 elected officers for a three-year term. Elected were: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Ernest Hartman, Pres. David Patton, Vice Pres. Joshua Benjamin, Rec. Sec. Jerry Steed, Treas. Brett Patton. Executive Board: Steve Spaziani, Steve Janeski, William Corbett, Robert Holden and Glen Decker. Examining Board: Daniel Staub, Jeff Reynolds and Brian Jones. Alternate to the Convention: Dave Blauvelt. Officers were sworn in at the July meeting.

Over the summer, members helped with Habitat for Humanity projects. As of press time, a current project in Corning, NY, has kept our members busy, thanks to Johnny Balch and retired member Mike McLaughlin; the service has been completed and rough-in has begun. At this writing, more work was scheduled for upcoming weekends. Many thanks to all volunteers.

Work in the jurisdiction has brightened. The CVS Distribution Warehouse project was awarded to a union contractor back in December, only after Local 139 discovered undocumented workers working for a Tennessee ABC contractor. Local 139 worked with local officials to have CVS remove the nonunion contractor and hire a union contractor. As of this writing, the union contractor has employed 40 brothers and sisters for the past six months, and

that is phase one. Phase two should begin soon with the same union contractor in charge.

*Dave Blauvelt, P.S.*

## Apprentices Graduate

L.U. 145 (em,i,o,rts,spa&u), ROCK ISLAND, IL—Our local proudly announces the inside journeyman wireman graduating class. [Photo above.] Congratulations, graduates! After five years of hard work, you have earned the status of journeyman wireman. We welcome you to an industry where your skills and contributions will be needed to help meet the ever increasing and constantly changing demands.

Local 145 wishes to acknowledge the passing on June 22 of member Paul Lartz. Paul was a dedicated union brother who served as our apprenticeship coordinator for 13 years. A stalwart representative for the apprentices in his charge, Paul oversaw the education of scores of future JWs. He was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in early 2010. Our prayers also go out for all of our recently deceased members and their families.

Summer events for Local 145 included the QC Blues Fest during the Fourth of July weekend—plus our Local 145 annual picnic, held July 31 at Loud Thunder Forest Preserve. As always, there were lots of picnic activities for children, bingo for adults, door prizes, great food, plus service pins awards. Thanks to the members who volunteered their time to make these events possible and a great success! We look forward to great participation again this year in our upcoming Labor Day parade and picnic.

*Steve Long, P.S.*

## 'Jobs for Jacksonville' Drive

L.U. 177 (bo,ees,i,mo,o&pet), JACKSONVILLE, FL—Our Membership Development Volunteer Committee (MDVC) participants—the driving force behind "Jobs for Jacksonville"—are still attending city council meetings twice a month and asking questions about the city's contracting policies. Hopefully, in the future we will be able to get some legislation insuring the use of local workers for city projects. The MDVC is currently working to educate the public about the IBEW and unions. The MDVC also is making plans to volunteer at future events. The committee is looking for more volunteers and invites the members to attend MDVC meetings every first Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. at the union hall.

As I talk to our members who are running out of unemployment compensation or can't make it on the dismal amount of unemployment compensation we have in Florida, I remind them to let their congresspersons and senators know just how bad it really is and ask the public officials if they support

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our issues important to working people. If they don't, then let's elect someone who will.

Our work picture in northeast Florida is still very bleak; I thank all the other IBEW locals that are able to employ our brothers and sisters in these tough times.

Alan Jones, Pres.



IBEW Local 177 Bros. Steve Serago (left), David Bryant, Allen Hester, Bill Stuart and Julius Chick, wearing "Jobs for Jacksonville" T-shirts, stand in front of the Jacksonville City Hall and invite everyone to join in for the city council meetings.

### Veca Electric Lifesaving Award

L.U. 191 (c,i,mo,rtb&st), EVERETT, WA—On the morning of May 26, member Bob Gilmore felt some chest pains and went to see his steward, Charlene Clack. He wanted the address of the nearest clinic that opened at 8 a.m.

Charlene initially insisted that she drive him to the clinic and Bob reluctantly agreed. Charlene then noticed Bob sweating profusely and looking pale. She asked him how he felt and he said his fingers were tingling and he had chest pains.

Thanks to Charlene's close observation, she saw that something was severely wrong—and she quickly took appropriate action. She convinced Bob to go to the emergency room at the hospital where they were working on a Veca Electric project.

Sometime after Bob was rushed into the emergency room, the doctors informed Charlene that Bob had told them to treat her like family. After surgery the doctors told Charlene she had saved Bob's life. She received a Lifesaving Award from Veca Electric.

Charlene later passed a card and the hat around the job site, with approximately 150 wiremen on the job. She also organized a group of wiremen to finish a fence and various other household jobs at Bob's residence. Charlene said it best, "The Brotherhood is still alive and it shows." Thanks to all who helped a brother in his time of need. It's greatly appreciated.

Rob De Velder, P.S.

### Open House for New Hall

L.U. 193 (i,lctt,o,rts,spa&u), SPRINGFIELD, IL—The open house for the new hall was quite the 193 event! Int. Sec.-Treas. Lindell K. Lee and Sixth District Int. Vice Pres. Joseph F. Lohman were guests of honor. Retired Bro. Tom Rachford, age 100, and Int. Sec.-Treas. Lee cut the "wire" to open the fabulous new hall!

Six new first-year apprentices were hired. The work scene has some jobs starting in Local 193's



Local 197 members and officers attend a Workers Memorial Day ceremony on the campus of Illinois State University. From left are: Gary Eichleberger, Zeke Paire, Bus. Mgr. Lance Reece, Pres. Rich Veitengruber, Terri Spencer, Dustin Hall, Derek Bauer, Mark Wagner, Scott Wissmiller, J.R. Gordon, Mike Raikes, Brian Graves, Matt Strupp and Al Longworth, ISU foreman.

jurisdiction for the following projects: Scheels Sporting Goods, District 186 Schools, Springfield Sanitary District, St. Johns and Memorial Hospitals, as well as "cutback detail" at the Illinois State Fair.

The Local 193 softball team will enter the IBEW State Tournament. The Annual Rick Ross Memorial Golf Outing at Greenview was held Aug. 21.

This current Illinois economic downturn can turn into a job-filled recovery anytime soon.

Please be advised of the passing of Bro. Ralph Webber.

Don Hudson, P.S.

### Labor Day Parade & Picnic

L.U. 197 (em&i), BLOOMINGTON, IL—We are happy to report that Bro. Sean Tibbs has made it home from Afghanistan. Bro. Tibbs is a teledata apprentice and had spent the last nine months fulfilling his Marine Corp obligations. Thanks to Bro. Tibbs for fighting the war on terrorism. Be sure to welcome him home; as of this writing, he is going back to work for Zeller Digital.

We are still waiting for the work to pick up. There are a few projects that were supposed to be staffing up by this time. Hopefully soon we will get all our brothers and sisters back to work.

The November elections are approaching and it is very important to get out and vote for candidates who back organized labor. Without our friends in Springfield, IL, and Washington, D.C., our fight will be that much more difficult.

Sadly, we report Bro. Jack Klem has passed away. Let's keep his family in our thoughts.

We hope to see all members at the Labor Day parade and picnic. Local 197 officers and members attended a Workers Memorial Day ceremony. [Photo above.] Remember, stay involved in your local union!

Mike Raikes, P.S.

### First Camp-Out of the Season

L.U. 237 (i), NIAGARA FALLS, NY—The local enjoyed our Family Camp-Out over the Fourth of July weekend at the beautiful Allegany State Park. Everyone enjoyed canoeing, hiking nature trails, fishing and nightly camp fires. Our annual camp-outs include the Kids Camp-Out, the Couples Camp-Out and the Stag Camp-Out, but due to a schedule conflict at the park we had to combine the Kids Camp-Out with the Couples Camp-Out, thus the Family Camp-Out. It was an overwhelming success; we may have started a new tradition in our lineup of camp-outs! The Stag

Camp-Out will be in November. If you're in the area and like to camp in the wilderness, come join us!

Our Annual Golf Tournament is Sept. 11. It is a "stag" event. Several members are excellent golfers and some participate just to enjoy a day of brotherhood, laughter and good food.

The local held elections in June. Congratulations to new officers: Pres. David Naus; Executive Board members Jeffrey Davis, Paul Pawlak, Fred Dumais; and Rec. Sec. Josh Hagar. And congratulations to incumbents who were re-elected: Bus. Mgr. Russ Quarantello, Vice Pres. Larry Krueger; Executive Board members Mike MacDougall, Joe Bielec III, Randy Shepard; and Examining Board members Dennis Schmidt, Jeff Janese and Ken Smith.

Also, a sincere thank-you goes to all outgoing officers for their countless hours of support to our local union.

Russ Quarantello, B.M.

### Members Help Injured Veteran

L.U. 257 (em,i,rtb,rts,spa&t), JEFFERSON, MO—Members of the Local 257 helped wire Army Staff Sgt. Robert Canine's new handicapped-accessible house. More than 30 of our retirees and journeyman wiremen helped work on this wonderful house to get it ready for Sgt. Canine. Bus. Rep. Jim Winemiller helped coordinate the labor effort for the "Homes for Our Troops" nonprofit organization. Jim got workers from the pipefitters, bricklayers, plumbers and sheet metal trade unionists to help in the effort. Thanks to all Local 257 members and other union trades who helped make this a great blessing for Sgt. Robert Canine and his family.



Local 257 members assemble to work on a "Homes for Our Troops" project. From left are: Rick Stokes, Bob Kauffman, Joe Rowland, Chris Schaefer, Joe Winemiller, Jerry Rehagen, Jim Winemiller, Rob Kemna, Glenn Bruemmer, John Krchmar, Ryan Buschjost, Randy Surls, Bart Pendelton and Jonathan Chott.

In June we held our election of officers. Elected were: Bus. Mgr. Don Bruemmer, Pres. Greg Schrock, Vice Pres. William Cunningham, Rec. Sec. Nancy Giofre and Treas. Dave Hurst. Elected to the Executive Board were: Jim Winemiller, Mike Fanning, Glenn Bruemmer, Frank Wansing, Mike Winemiller, Dave Apperson and Don Hurst. Elected to the Examining Board: Sam Luebbering, Bill Luebbert and Daniel Murphy. Thanks to all members who voted.

Work is steady in the central Missouri area. We are hopeful for a few more big projects to go union to clear off our books. Our Local 257 meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. Support your local unions so we can keep our unions strong.

Ryan Buschjost, P.S.

### Labor Day Tribute

L.U. 343 (i,spa&st), LE SUEUR, MN—As of this spring writing, our local has high unemployment like many other construction locals. At press time, our contract is presently being negotiated. By Labor Day we hope to have a fair contract in place and employment increasing.

The phrase "global economy" seems to be becoming more of a reality. With the help of our union leadership, we as individual members must continually work at being more knowledgeable, better trained and more innovative.

This Labor Day let us again remember and appreciate the brothers and sisters who have gone before us. They banded together and worked for better wages, better benefits and better working conditions for all working men and women.

Phil Heim, P.S.

### Election of Officers

L.U. 347 (em,i,mt,rtb,rts&spa), DES MOINES, IA—Our local held a runoff election for the office of business manager/financial secretary, and Kevin Clark won the election. Assistants are Jerry Kurimski and Bob Thomas. Elected as our new president is Pat Wells. Randy Tucker was elected as the new recording secretary and Jason Ballard was re-elected to the position of treasurer. Executive Board members are: Doug Buchman, Scott Farnsworth, Chris Keiser, Mike O'Brien, Dave Reid and Doug Wolf. Delegates to the Convention are Doug Buchman, Scott Farnsworth and Doug Wolf. We wish the new local officers well and realize that they have their work cut out for them.

We also call to mind the efforts of all the brothers and sisters in the military, and we especially recognize Travis Bougher, as he deploys for the third time to the Middle East. Godspeed, Travis.

*Mike Schweiger, P.S.*

## Kudos to Class of 2010

L.U. 415 (c,govt&i), CHEYENNE, WY—This summer our work picture finally began showing some relief. After a tough winter, we now see some movement. Gillette area contractors have a couple of projects moving forward, as well as some movement in Cheyenne. Please call Local 415 if interested; our dispatcher will be helpful.

We achieved some legislative success as well, with passage of bills that will require public bid openings on all projects funded with state monies. Congratulations and thanks to all who worked to help bring integrity back to the construction industry in Wyoming.

Congratulations to the outstanding Class of 2010 graduates on a job well done. Our apprenticeship requires extensive travel away from home as well as rigorous attention to academics. The graduates and their families should be proud! Class of 2010 graduates: Ben Nordvick, Ryan Scott, Jayson Willson, Ryan Terry, Antonio Gonzales, Jared Talkington, Jeremiah Brown, Art Hansen, Scott Rorabaugh, Dave Hurlbert, Bill Fliris, Eric Mann, Bradlee Hooper, Mike Collamer, Jesse Roseberry and Jordan Gose. We look forward to working with you.

Jordan Gose, a fine young brother in the class of 2010, was tragically killed in an automobile accident. Our condolences go out to the Gose family. Bro. Jordan was third-generation IBEW, and the Gose family has a long history of service to the IBEW.

*John M. Voytko, P.S.*

## Fortunate Work Picture

L.U. 449 (catv,em,i,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), POCATELLO, ID—So far this year we have been very fortunate with work in our local. We have about 65 to 70 traveling brothers and sisters working and we thank them for helping us staff the work. At this writing it seems that work for the summer will be good, but still unsure about the winter. It appears that we will have some bigger projects coming in the future so we are crossing our fingers.

We just went through our elections and have some new officers; we are excited for some more member involvement.

Congratulations to our completing apprentices: James Smith, Dustin Chandler, Jared Trimble, Sean Roberts, Russell Smythe and Chet Cawley.

We also congratulate Bud Schrand and James Weimer for reaching that goal that we all want to reach someday and that they have worked hard for. Happy retirement, brothers.

We extend our condolences to the family of Bro. Steve Uttich, who passed away.

*Rodney James, Pres./Organizer*

## Tribute to Longtime Contractor

L.U. 453 (govt,i,rtb,rts&spa), SPRINGFIELD, MO—Philip Leon Roper passed away June 30 at 89 years of age. Mr. Roper owned and operated Roper Electric for the past 60 years, providing many broth-

ers and sisters with a fair and decent wage over the years. Our condolences go out to the Roper family.

At press time, our local is still at full employment with recent powerhouse calls going into Book II. Don't forget to thank our traveling brothers and sisters for helping us staff our work. Work looks slow after the powerhouse finishes, so hopefully everyone will be able to prepare for possible hard times.

With contract negotiations ongoing we should try to make our regular meetings so we can have some input on our future. Meetings are the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Please try to attend.

*Kevin McGill, P.S.*

## Election of Officers

L.U. 459 (ees,em,govt,so&u), JOHNSTOWN, PA—Local 459 held its election of officers and Bro. Donald J. Hoak was re-elected as business manager/financial secretary. Other elected officers: Pres. Kenneth L. Richards, Vice Pres. Paul L. Cameron, Rec. Sec. Mary M. Perdew and Treas. Kevin N. Poling.

Elected as Executive Board members: Robert L. Ashbaugh, Tony Henry, Larry D. Himes, Donald M. Hull, Ronald D. Itell, Keith G. Kinsman, Joseph L. Oliver, Jay S. Schlegel III and Joshua A. Young.

Congratulations to all the newly elected officers. Local 459 thanks Michael S. McGuirk, who served as judge of elections, and the entire Election Committee for their many hours of hard work.

*Kenneth L. Richards, Pres./A.B.M.*



*Three BNSF Railway employees receive awards. From left are Maintenance (BMW) welders Paul Siewing and Mark Rogers, and IBEW Local 547 member John Reinert, telecommunications.*

## Awards for Rescue Assistance

L.U. 547 (rr), GALESBURG, IL—It was roughly 22 below zero on the day that Paul Siewing, Mark Rogers and John Reinert, an IBEW Local 547 member, assisted survivors of a fatal car accident.

The three Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway employees noticed a pick-up truck that had left the snowy, icy roadway in Montana and rolled. All four occupants of the vehicle—teenagers on the way to school in Hinsdale—were ejected from the vehicle. After determining that one of the truck's occupants was fatally injured, the three BNSF Railway employees took action to provide warmth, comfort and first aid to the three survivors. Emergency responders arrived and transported the youngsters to regional hospitals for treatment.

The three BNSF Railway employees recently were presented with awards by CEO Matt Rose in Fort Worth, TX.

*Terry R. Pind, R.S.*



*IBEW members gather at the job site of the Local 551 Humboldt Bay Power project.*

## Power Plant Job Completed

L.U. 551 (c,i&st), SANTA ROSA, CA—Congratulations to class of 2010! To all of our brand new Inside journeyman wiremen and Sound and Communications installers, we wish you the very best!

Also congratulations to re-elected Bus. Mgr. Jack Buckhorn. And to all of our new officers, we know that all of you will do the hard work it takes to run Local 551. Elected are: Pres. Jim McQuaid, Vice Pres. John McEntagart, Rec. Sec. John Lloyd; Executive Board—Gary Giuliani, Larry Metz, Mitch Clarey and Patrick Wheeler. Delegate to International Convention—Denise Soza. Examining Board—Charlie O'Neil, Thomas Ritch and Steve Stobel. Thank you for serving this great local!

Local 551 has partnered with Green Ray LED Lighting. Their technology will save commercial and residential structures 50 percent to 60 percent on their lighting usage. Organizer John Lloyd is working to get lighting retrofits to create much-needed jobs for our local, at the same time greening our economy.

Thank you to all the brothers and sisters who completed the Humboldt Bay Power project. This was a great job for Local 551. We had close to 100 union electricians on board. We were even able to put some of our travelling brothers to work. Thanks to all for the help! [See photo.]

*Denise D. Soza. B.R./P.S.*

## Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 573 (as&i), WARREN, OH—Our local recently held its elections for all offices including president, vice president and business manager. Local 573 congratulates all its newly elected officials and wishes to thank their predecessors for their time of dedicated service.



*Local 573 congratulates graduating fifth-year apprentice class members, from left: Michael Pawcio, Raul Sanchez, James Mackenzie and David Bush Jr.*

Our hall also recently held its graduation for our fifth-year apprentice class. We congratulate our brothers and look forward to working with them in the field as journeymen.

*David Bush Jr., P.S.*

## Railroad Local Reports

L.U. 589 (rr), JAMAICA, NY—Local 589 is celebrating its 75th anniversary. Local 589 was chartered on April 18, 1934, and represents more than 800 members employed by the Long Island Railroad and AirTrain. Our members keep the LIRR on schedule. It is the largest commuter railroad in the country with thousands of commuters a day. Local Union 589 members are very dedicated and proud IBEW members playing a vital part in the transportation system in the New York City metropolitan area. We thank all of our members for their hard work and dedication.

*Augie Maccarone, R.S.*

## Pres. Obama Visits Jurisdiction

L.U. 595 (c,govt,i&st), DUBLIN, CA—I recently attended my 30th "pre-job" markup meeting in an eight-week period, all resulting from the successful negotiation of project labor agreements. We work closely with our allies in local agencies and with elected officials to reach agreements that protect both the customer and the workers. Our work situation remains difficult in this deep recession.

We held celebrations in June for 66 graduating apprentices from our Inside and Sound and Communication programs in Stockton and Alameda County. Congratulations to all new Inside wiremen and installers. We are starting a new class of 1st bracket Inside apprentices in Alameda County, the first in two years.

Our organizing department has been working hard to set up the CE/CW guidelines for Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill's Market Advancement Initiative. We hope this program helps our contractors regain markets and put more members to work.

Great summer activities included: a retirees barbeque, our annual union picnic and the Ninth District softball tournament.

Lots of activity is underway for November elections. With our crucial governor's race, and with Sen. Barbara

## Local Lines

Boxer and Rep. Jerry McNerney up for reelection, our members are busy. Our COPE leader, Greg Bonato, led a successful voter registration drive and attended campaign school sponsored by the state federation. Thanks to Greg and the volunteers.

We thank Pres. Obama for his words of encouragement when he visited the Solyndra solar manufacturing plant being built in our jurisdiction, and we welcome the signing of the partnership of Tesla Motors and Toyota at our old NUMMI plant to manufacture electric cars here in America.

Tom Mullarkey, B.R.

## Service Pins Awarded

L.U. 601 (i&rtb), CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, IL—Seven apprentices were indentured at the July 6 Local 601 union meeting. In addition to recognizing the achievement of our apprentices, four members were presented service pins: E. L. Ruthstrom for 60 years, Joseph Berbaum for 55 years, and Chuck McCartney and Ronald Weidner each for 50 years of service.

The Local 601 annual softball tournament was held Aug. 14-15 with 16 teams from across the state of Illinois competing. This is a family event with members' families and friends coming out to cheer on the Local 601 team and to enjoy the cookout.

At press time the annual golf outing was scheduled for Aug. 22 and the annual clay shooting competition for Aug. 28.

Work is still slow with 65 members on Book One and 493 travelers on Book Two. At this time, there are no apprentices on the Book.

Dan Hatter, P.S.



Local 601 Bus. Mgr. Micheal Herbert (right) presents IBEW 50-year service award to Bro. Chuck McCartney.

## Work Picture Slow

L.U. 611 (catv,es,govt,i,lctt,o,spa,t&u), ALBUQUERQUE, NM—In the July issue of The Electrical Worker, a photo submitted with the Local 611 article did not appear in the print edition (because it was not sufficiently high resolution for print publication.) However, if you wish to see the picture online, go to IBEW Web site [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org); click on the July 2010 issue of "The Electrical Worker"; then click "Local Lines" and scroll down to the Local 611 entry.

This year's picnic was once again a success—lots of food, great prizes, fun for the kids and a great turnout. Again the picnic committee did a fantastic job as always. [See photo, at right.]

As of this writing, work has been slow except for an occasional call to Eunice.

Local 611 extends condolences to friends and families of members who passed away: Joseph E. Lynch, F. Glenn Frazier, Luis S. Maez and Tony W. Bruce.

Darrell J. Blair, P.S.



Attendees enjoy the Atlanta Local 613 picnic at Stone Mountain Park.

## IBEW 613 Annual Picnic

L.U. 613 (em,i,o,rts&spa), ATLANTA, GA—The work situation in Atlanta is about the same as around the country. Jobs are slowly coming in, contractors are not winning many bids, and this does not mix well during our contract negotiations. At a recent meeting, we had more than 300 in attendance who voted almost unanimously to freeze our wages and benefits for two years and add 55 cents to our H/W fund.

Though things look a little bleak, smiles were on every face during our annual picnic. On July 17, nearly 3,000 members enjoyed a fun day at Stone Mountain Park. Each year members get a chance to win valuable prizes. Bus. Mgr. Gene O'Kelly started the drawing off by pulling the winning ticket for a 65" television, won by 38-year member Arthur "Bobby" Searles. Some of the prizes were donated by our contractors. The prizes included: Dewalt 18" cordless drills, iPods, large boom boxes, surround sound systems, five-piece Dewalt sets, socket sets, laptops, microwaves, 46" televisions and many more.

All attendees received a wristband that allowed them to enjoy every amenity the park offers. They could ride the train around the mountain, take the sky lift up the mountain, play golf, ride the riverboat, climb the ropes, play in the sand, and top it all off by staying for the fireworks. Each year gets better and better.

Beatrice Andrews, A.B.M.

## Hospital &amp; Wind Farm Projects

L.U. 625 (ees,em,i,mar&mt), HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA—Hiring at the Truro Hospital finally started in June after a 14-month delay in awarding the contract. The members in Unit #2 had a long wait for this project to finally start. Work on two wind farms in Unit #2 and a third in Unit #5 will be carried out this summer.

On behalf of Local 625, I wish to thank Bro. Greg Gaudet of IBEW Local 529 for the calls to our local for travellers. In these slow times, every job helps. Thank you.



Attending Local 611's annual picnic are, from left: Bill Thompson, Hunter Wood, Alan Jander and Patrick Pollard.



Local 681 congratulates recent apprentice graduates, from left: Dustin Stone, James Wolf, Matt Wachsmann, Daniel Walker, Kenneth Cates, Kenny Ochoa, James Riley and Ryan Graham.

I would like to make very special mention of those members who recently received their journeyman status in the construction electrician trade: Bros. Dan Jordan, Howard Pancura, Trevor Wilson, Scott Malloy, Jonathan Hart, Matthew Rafuse, Robert Handley, Jasper Jordan, Mike Smith, Peter "Luke" Duggan, Daniel Henneberry and Tyler McMahon. Congratulations on your great achievement! The local is proud of you for completing the apprenticeship program.

Retiring in the first half of 2010 are Bros. Richard Pyne and Robert Salsman. Congratulations and best of health in your retirement years.

Tom Griffiths, Pres.



Local 673 members suited up for work on the Dry Cask Fuel Storage Facility project at the Perry Nuclear Power Plant are, from left: Joe Berninger, Bob Horesh, Mark Rutkowski and Brian Coons. Not pictured: Dan George.

## Perry Power Plant Project

L.U. 673 (catv,i,rts,spa,t&u), PAINESVILLE, OH—Work at the Perry Nuclear Power Plant, Dry Cask Storage Facility project, was recently finished. This project employed Local 673 wiremen for more than seven months.

Congratulations to elected officers: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. David C. Thomas, Pres. Robert M. Gamiere, Vice Pres. Joseph P. Gamiere, Rec. Sec.

Gretchen A. Bryan, Treas. Craig M. Egeland; Executive Board members Mike Kubacki, Rory Breedlove, Brian Gillespie; and Examining Board members Mark Rutkowski, Chuck Dedich, Andy Erickson, Sean Mcvoy and Dave Parisi. Delegate to the International Convention—Daniel A. Lastoria. Alternate delegate—Gretchen A. Bryan.

Looking forward to seeing all members at our annual Local 673 Golf/Clambake, to be held Sept. 25 this year.

Mark A. Rutkowski, P.S.

## Hope for Work

L.U. 681 (i,o&spa), WICHITA FALLS, TX—Work has slowed around the jurisdiction but there is some hope for the future. Some projects are scheduled to happen in the upcoming year, and we are working with as many contractors as we can to secure these jobs. On a brighter side, we recently turned out another group of new journeymen to the trade. We had eight apprentices graduate, all of them with a journeyman license in their pocket. James Wolf was the Outstanding Apprentice for the group.

Leland Welborn, A.B.M.

## Graduating Class of 2010

L.U. 683 (em&i), COLUMBUS, OH—Local 683 congratulates the graduating apprenticeship class of 2010. The new journeyman wiremen are: Alison Berens, Jeremy Boomershine, Jeffrey Bowling, Gregg Divelbiss, De Quincy Fields, Adam Frost, Christopher Gearing, Joe Gockenbach, Ryan Hartman, Richard Kohler, Michael Lamar, Jordan Mills, Keith Moton II, Randall Priestas, Eric Roth, Varghese Samuel, Dale Schmidt, Guy Schooley, Jonathon Stenson, Anthony Stepp, Justin Thirtyacre, Andrew Totten, Jared Troyer; and Installer Tech Phillip Lawless. The topping out party was May 14. The emcee was Apprentice Dir. Steve Lipster; speakers included Local 683 Bus. Mgr. Mario Ciardelli and Andy Maciejewski, Ohio Apprenticeship Council.

Thanks to Malcolm Giffen and Dillon Isaac, co-chairs of the May blood drive.

Congratulations to local members who took their local union pension effective May 1, 2010: Robert Bray, Ronald Coleman, Richard Herrell, Richard McPommell, Daniel Morris and Steve Scheel.

The retirees had a busy summer with the annual picnic, a breakfast meeting and a trip to Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

Condolences go to the family of recently deceased member Joe D. "the Roper" Wright Jr., a 47-year member.

Please see Local 683 photo on pg. 13.

Rick Deime, V.P./P.S.

## NFPA Arc Flash Training Class

L.U. 697 (c,es,i,mt&se), GARY, IN & HAMMOND, IN—Local 697 provided a National Fire Protection Association 70E Arc Flash training class for apprentices and journeymen July 7-8 at Dynasty Conference Center. In cooperation with Sargent Safety, the class was designed to educate members to the dangers of arc flash. The training seminar was formatted to

define responsibilities within a safety program, analyze electrical hazards and train those working with potential arc flash situations to utilize the proper tools for safe work and identify the proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

The course provided information about the hidden dangers in the design of specific equipment within the Flash Protection Boundary established by the NFPA 70E and procedures for safe working clearances.

The fact that more than 2,000 workers are admitted to burn trauma centers every year, coupled with the knowledge that arc flash can create temperatures of up to 35,000 degrees Fahrenheit, speaks to the need to make sure that injuries due to arc flash are prevented, through the training of all electrical workers to provide knowledge of the hazards.

On July 3, a group of 12 members from Local 697 provided water to participants running in the Annual Hobart, IN, 5-Mile Brickyard Run. It was a beautiful Independence Day weekend.

*Dave A. Soderquist, P.S.*

## First Comcast Election

L.U. 827 (catv&t), EAST WINDSOR, NJ—Local 827 recently won a first election with Comcast in the cable industry. [See "Comcast Workers Choose IBEW Local 827," *The Electrical Worker*, April 2010.] These new members from Fairfield, NJ, will, for the first time, involve themselves in putting together their collective bargaining demands. Because this is a new CBA, the task ahead will be a challenge. Since the election, our new members have met and started the process of putting forth demands and have elected who will represent them locally in negotiations. Bus. Agents Rich Spieler and Bill Laing and Chief Steward Dennis Slaman chair the bargaining. Local 827 currently represents two other Comcast locations in New Jersey. Bargaining began May 21, 2010.

Local 827 obtained a settlement with Verizon over a pending lawsuit dealing with subcontractors doing buried fiber service wire. The agreement defines language, eliminates subcontracting, and provides new work into our bargaining unit. The second item dealt with the New Jersey Fiber Solution Center (NJ FSC). Our NJ FSC members will be given first priority routing to deal with New Jersey customers. This center is an area where our membership declined, due to layoffs last year. These negotiations also protect the two titles in the NJ FSC. The Fiber Customer Service Analyst and the Fiber Network Technicians cannot be laid off prior to May 1, 2011. Our goal is to increase membership in this center. Currently calls are re-routed to nonunion FSCs around the country.

*Bill Huber, Pres./B.M./F.S.*



*Columbus, OH, Local 683 members meet on the battlefield of Gettysburg. From left are Terry and Sally Hassell, Dwayne Vanscoy and Brett Zwahlen. Rick Deime snapped the photo.*



*Local 915 congratulates the 2009-2010 JATC graduating apprentices, from left: Eric McCabe, Eric Fabiani, James Burdick, Nicholas Mora, Timothy Cline, Ryan Kroeger, Michael Hammond, Jeffrey Klein, Matthew Norton, Stephen Glover, Roberto Bruzos, Michael Slicker, Michael Maquire, Jonathon Daniels, David Jacobs, Moises Abreu, Michael Prevatt Jr., Donald Steele, Alexander Meadows, Shane Mullins and Chris Hallock.*

## JATC Graduation Banquet

L.U. 915 (i&mt), TAMPA, FL—The JATC Banquet and Completion Ceremony for 2009-2010 was chaired by Chmn. Bob Coopersmith. We had a combined class of 29 graduating to become Inside journeyman wiremen.

One graduating apprentice had perfect attendance for the entire apprenticeship: Nicholas Mora. Six graduates had perfect attendance for their fifth year: Eric Fabiani, Mitchell Hackney, Chris Hallock, Jeffrey Klein, Eric McCabe and Nicholas Mora.

We had two fifth-year year outstanding apprentices. The August 2009 outstanding apprentice is Jeffrey Klein, and the April 2010 outstanding apprentice is Nicholas Mora. They each received a plaque from both the JATC and Local 915, and also a tool set donated by Klein Tools as well as a certificate of achievement personally signed by Thomas Klein.

The Local 915 Brad Felker Award recipient is Timothy Cline. The Felker award goes to an individual who displays qualities consistent with the award's intent and who has taken on increased responsibilities, become an asset to the union and represents the IBEW in character.

Local 915 extends our best wishes for each of these graduates for a successful and prosperous career.

*Theresa King, P.S.*

## November Elections

L.U. 1049 (lctt,o,u&uow), LONG ISLAND, NY—In November, we will have the opportunity to elect a new governor and our representatives for Congress. It is imperative that those we elect support and understand labor's issues. Throughout the year our Governmental Affairs Committee strives to ensure that our members and elected officials are educated about the issues affecting labor. Currently the committee's voter registration drive is in full swing. The goal is to have 100 percent of the membership registered to vote.

The Long Island Power Authority recently sent out a request for formal proposals for the Maintenance Services Agreement. In those proposals, there is language that protects and ensures that the Local 1049 work force is and will be the work force going forward.

This fall we will begin contract negotiations on behalf of our members who work under our Waste Recycling Solutions Inc. collective bar-

gaining agreement. As of this writing we are currently in negotiations with National Grid Home Energy Services and Home Service USA. This year we will also be negotiating with our largest employer, National Grid.

With all that is going on, I encourage the membership to attend the general meetings. Using our state-of-the-art media center, we are now able to more effectively communicate all current information so the membership is thoroughly informed.

*Thomas J. Dowling, R.S.*

## Teledata & Inside Graduates

L.U. 1253 (i), AUGUSTA, ME—Local 1253's graduation was held June 18. [See photo below.] Teledata graduates are Dustin Campbell, Christopher Gray, Joshua Perry and Andrew Thurlow. Inside graduates are Chancellor Burris, Scott Cuddy, John Libby and Michael Meader. Congratulations to Scott Cuddy, who was voted Outstanding Apprentice. Also congratulations to Scott and wife Kate on the birth of their new son.

Local elections were held June 19. Thanks to all who participated in the process. Congratulations to all elected to serve as officers for a three-year term.

The local was pleased to host an AMPS meeting held June 29. All Maine IBEW locals were invited and participation was excellent. Thanks to all International Representatives for their coordinated effort.

*William Gifford, P.S.*

## Power Plant Member Retires

L.U. 1307 (u), SALISBURY, MD—Congratulations to Bro. Thomas Jackson on his recent retirement. Bro. Jackson started with Delmarva Power as a stock handler in the Cambridge District in 1973. He transferred to Vienna Power Plant as a laborer in 1974 and later worked maintenance helper and fuel handler jobs. In 1979, Tom was promoted to auxiliary operator. In 1980 he transferred to Indian River

Power Plant. He accepted a plant equipment operator position in 1981 before transferring back to Vienna Power Plant in 1985. He remained in that post until he retired April 1, 2010. We wish Bro. Jackson a long and happy retirement.

We ask those members who do not contribute to COPE to contact your steward and get signed up. COPE channels funds to candidates who support us on key issues affecting working people. In these turbulent times we need all the friends we can get in government. Big business contributes to help elect people who vote in their favor. COPE is our answer. If you are already contributing, thank you. If not, please reconsider. The job and way of life you save could be your own.

Save jobs, limit imports.

*Edward D. Sparks, P.S.*

## 'Show Me' Missouri

L.U. 1439 (u), ST. LOUIS, MO—Local 1439 and the other IBEW bargaining units on Ameren's Missouri property received the Edison Electric Institute Emergency Recovery Award for outstanding performance restoring power following the January 2009 ice storm in the Missouri Bootheel region and surrounding southeast Missouri. Recognition also was extended by both the Missouri House of Representatives and Senate. Additionally, recognition from U.S. Rep. John Dingell of Michigan (D-15th District) resulted in a certified U.S. flag, which was flown over the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.

As a result of intervening in the utility rate case, Local 1439 members will benefit by \$3.2 million. The money is specifically set out for hiring 13 new members, training, and an addition to the training center to address smart-grid related technology.

We welcome our brothers and sisters of IBEW Local 4, representing the broadcasting division, who recently moved into our offices. Their presence is welcomed and further fosters union solidarity in St. Louis.

*Ken Carroll, P.S.*

## Slots at Racetracks

L.U. 1501 (ees,em,mo,pet,rts&t), BALTIMORE, MD—Gov. Martin O'Malley is quoted as stating he would rather see slots at racetracks than at a mall in a residential area. His views are not shared by Dave Cordish, the Baltimore developer who won the license to build a casino.

At stake is a billion-dollar Arundel Mills Mall casino, which Cordish is determined to build despite community opposition. Those residents successfully petitioned the Anne Arundel County Council's slot zoning law, putting it on the November ballot allowing county residents to vote on it. Cordish went to court and had this taxpayer



*Local 1253 congratulates recent apprentice graduates. From left, front row: Josh Perry, Instructor Amy LeGasse, Andy Thurlow, Chris Gray, Dustin Campbell, Scott Cuddy, Chance Burris, JATC committee member Rick Broad, Instructor Bill Heavener, Instructor Ed Peteraf, John Libby; back row, Bus. Mgr. Jeff Rose, Instructor Pat Dauphinee, Instructor Mike Varney, Mike Meader.*

## Local Lines

petition ruled invalid, only to have the Maryland Court of Appeals reinstate it. Both sides realize this vote will have statewide impact. With the country in a recession, these endless delays have cost the state much-needed slot revenue estimated at \$100 million. Though Maryland approved five casinos, none have opened. It appears that the only people making money off slots in our state are lobbyists and slot machine manufactures, as the state had already approved the purchase of machines.

This is a fight no one wanted. The irony is that racetracks want slots, but the business community wants them near Maryland's largest mall as they think customers who frequent the mall will also visit their casino.

Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dion F. Guthrie states that the horse racing industry in Maryland—which includes our members at Amtote—needs help and we will continue to do everything possible to put slots at the racetracks.

Thomas J. Rostkowski, R.S.



IBEW Local 1523 members who volunteer for Westar Energy Green Team projects helped build a physical fitness obstacle training course at a high school in Clearwater, KS.

### Green Team Active in Kansas

L.U. 1523 (u), WICHITA, KS—A big thank-you to Local 1523 members Bob Rising, Jerod Vathauer, Chad Lynnes, Leo Rhea, Mike Branscum and Pete Winans, all from Wichita; and from Arkansas City, Jim Poynter, Shawn Stoner, Hughe Stewart, Andy Daughettee and Billy Bob Lemon.



## IBEW PHOTO CONTEST

See [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org) to enter

**DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 30, 2010**

These fine members volunteer for the Westar Energy Green Team, a group of employee and retiree volunteers who take on environmental projects across Kansas. [For more information about the Westar Energy Green Team see Web site: [www.westaren-ergy.com/greenteam](http://www.westaren-ergy.com/greenteam).] Coordinator Mike Nolan's phone rings off the wall with requests on all types of environmental projects—from building bridges, wind turbines and bird house kits to rescuing eagles.

One recent project involved construction of an obstacle training course built using 20 60-foot poles milled by Green Team members from recycled poles. The course will be utilized as a physical fitness ropes course at Clearwater High School in Clearwater, KS. It will also be used for training by Kansas City area firemen.

The Green Team recently celebrated its 20th anniversary. After tornados in Greensburg and Chapman, KS, the team set up three-year projects to plant trees in those two towns. The team is committed to building a better environment throughout Kansas. Hats off to all Local 1523 members who participate in this program.

Congratulations to Mike Jones for his promotion to substation foreman. Be safe.

Candy C. Cruz-Dodd, P.S.

### Working Families

L.U. 1579 (i&o), AUGUSTA, GA—When we look at the work situation in the Augusta area, we feel fortunate compared to other locals in the state. We must acknowledge that a lot of our work would not have

been possible without the help of our working family friendly politicians.

If you watch the news or read your local newspaper, you are reminded every day that Election Day is right around the corner. As Nov. 2 gets closer, go ahead and do some research on these candidates. Check to see if a candidate is going to benefit your family and community by supporting good paying jobs in your area. Call your local union and find out who the IBEW is supporting. Vote for candidates who will support the interests of working families.

Condolences and prayers go to all IBEW members and their families who are out of work or in need.

Will Salters, A.B.M.

### Election of Officers

L.U. 1701 (catv,ees,i,o&u), OWENSBORO, KY—The local union held its election of officers in June. Officers elected are: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Gary Osborne, Pres. Larry Boswell, Vice Pres. Gary Brown, Rec. Sec. Tim Blandford, Treas. Steve Kaelin; Executive Board members Riche Cook, Joe Fulkerson, Cliff Greenwell, Byron Hunt, Ashley Payne, Mike Vanwinkle and Tim West; Examining Board members James Benningfield, Joe Brown, Tom Brown and Tim Howard. Bus. Mgr. Osborne is 1st delegate to the 38th IBEW International Convention to be held in Vancouver, British Columbia, in September 2011. Other convention delegates: Tim Blandford and Larry Boswell.

Results of Big Rivers Electric Generation election held in May: Chmn. Tim West, Vice Chair Donna Haynes, Recorder Jim Gregory and Executive Committee members Keith Harley, Ray Jenkins,



IBEW Locals 1739 and 1687 members display S&T Electric sign at the Nobel transformer job site.

Jerrame Swift and Jerry Wilson.

Results of Big Rivers Electric Transmission election held in June: Chmn. Tom Howard, Vice Chmn. Ron Tucker, Recorder Marty Hite, and Executive Committee members Danny Gish and Kenny Wright. Congratulations to our newly elected officers.

The Examining Board gave the journeyman wireman exam recently to Craig Wheatley. Chmn. Joe Fulkerson reports he passed. Congratulations, brother, and welcome.

In sadness we report the passing of retired Bro. James Weakley. Bro. Weakley served as treasurer for Local 1701 for approximately 36 years before retiring. May he rest in peace.

Tim Blandford, R.S.

### Nobel Transformer Project

L.U. 1739 (i&o), BARRIE, ONTARIO, CANADA—Shown in the accompanying photo are IBEW members from Local 1739 and Sudbury Local 1687 working for S & T Electric at Hydro One's Nobel Station transformer site in Ontario.

Approximately 30 IBEW members were employed on this job.

Frank Kastle, P.S.

### Midterm Elections

L.U. 1749 (u), NEW JOHNSONVILLE, TN—Congratulations to recent Student Generating Plant Operator graduates: Justin Maples, Chad Mitchell, Robin Taylor, James Andrews, Brian Minniehan, Tyler McMillan, Jessica Walker, Ronnie Watson and John Gamble.

Remember to update your voter registration (change of name, address, etc.) by Oct. 2 for the general midterm election! Or by Sept. 14, for early voting.

Remember these candidates:

- State Sen. Roy Herron, candidate for the U.S. Congress in Tennessee's 8th Congressional District, will preserve gun rights and is a pro-life, very moderate Democrat. He started Christians in politics in the state legislature and has published recommended books. He is a friend to TVA employees!
- Greg Rabadoux, candidate for U.S. Congress from the 7th Congressional District, is a professor at Austin Peay State University. He is challenging incumbent Marsha Blackburn, who supports big corporations, not working people.
- Ben Leming, retired Iraq war veteran, is running for the U.S. Congress from the 6th Congressional District, seeking retiring U.S. Rep. Bart Gordon's seat. It is very important to retain these seats.
- Kim McMillan, candidate for mayor of Clarksville, TN, is a friend to working folks.
- Mike McWherter, candidate for governor, is a businessman and good friend to TVA!

Candidates listed above are friends of labor—unlike the following: Ron Ramsey (who opposes workers' comp and prevailing wages and has cut firefighters, school teachers and police); Bill Haslam (owner of Pilot gas stations, who favors big oil and big banks); and Zack Wamp (no friend of working families).

Remember: We need three state House seats to regain control of the Tennessee legislature. A loss of seats would set working families back 20 years!

Mark J. DeJuliis, P.S.

### Advanced Steward Training

L.U. 1837 (rtb&u), MANCHESTER, ME—Stewards from eight of our represented companies enjoyed a day-long advanced training presented by Charley Richardson, an award-winning labor educator and former instructor for the University of Massachusetts-Lowell Labor Extension Program. IBEW Local 1837 stewards talked about some of the challenges and concerns facing our union, and they developed strategies we can all use to help deal with them.

Bro. Richardson led a great discussion about how the difficult economic landscape facing workers impacts all of us—even though we enjoy many benefits by belonging to a union. Stewards also explored the pros and cons of the grievance process. While everyone agreed that the grievance and arbitration process plays a vital role in the representation of our members and the defense of our collective bargaining agreements, they also recognized that resolving problems outside of the process can have real benefits on our relationships with employers and for actually building solidarity within our union.

“Charley Richardson's presentation was a clear call to action,” said assistant steward Anthony Zeli from WGME-TV. “Stewards must engage our members in new ways if we are to beat back the constant assault on our rights. We cannot wait for contract negotiations to activate the workplace.”

Matthew D. Beck, Organizer



Local 1837 stewards attend advanced training session.

# Retirees

## St. Louis Unity Rally

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 1, ST. LOUIS, MO—Local 1 retirees enjoyed their annual attendance at the St. Louis Cardinal's ballgame on May 13. Everyone had a great time. The Cards lost, but they are looking good this year.

The second Retirees meeting of 2010 was held May 19. The usual business was conducted, followed by lunch. The club also met on July 21, and upcoming meeting dates for 2010 are: Sept. 15 (luncheon) and Nov. 17.

A rain-shortened golf outing was held June 8. We all got wet but enjoyed the event. Funds were raised for the Local Relief Committee.

The job situation is still desperate and relief does not appear to be close. The new working agreement, recently signed, reflects the willingness of Local 1 to adapt to the changing economy, but makes the promise of renewed effort to insure a dynamic future for our craft.

A rally attended by thousands was held in St. Louis on June 15 to protest raiding tactics of the Carpenters union leadership. Many retirees were present, as distinguished speakers from many trades urged unity in a national effort to stop these policies of greed and dissension.

Don Appelbaum, P.S.



Local 1 retirees celebrate the camaraderie at a June 8 golf outing and fundraiser. From left are: V. Sims, L. Hepburn, M. Muckler and J. Callahan.



Local 3 Retirees Club, Westchester/Putnam Chapter, members enjoy a visit on the flight deck of U.S. aircraft carrier Intrepid at The Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum.

## Club Activities

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, WESTCHESTER/PUTNAM CHAPTER—Members visited The Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum in New York City. U.S. aircraft carrier Intrepid served in the Pacific Theater during World War II. The outing was hosted by chapter member Dick Mills and retired members of the Intrepid crew.

The Golf Classic in May was well attended and a good time for all. A golf outing is planned for October. Golf chairman is Gerry Pasquale.

In June the "Family Day in the Park" outing for Local 3 members, family and guests was a success.

A fishing trip is planned for Sept. 15. Fishing chairman is Dick Mills.

At this writing, plans were underway for an August trip to the Local 3 Educational Center in Cutchogue, Long Island.

At the June meeting, our chapter and members donated \$700 to the Sloan Kettering Research Fund in memory of Andrew White, former Local 3 apprentice director.

Results of the June election: Chmn. Dominic

Pironti, Vice Chmn. William Robertson, Treas. Dick Mills, Fin. Sec. Dominic Malandro, Rec. Sec. Martin Hogan, Sgt.-at-Arms John Wasilko, and Trustees John Hansen, Robert Cuneo and Vincent Panzarino.

Vincent Panzarino retired after 15 years as financial secretary. Job well done, Vinny.

Our chapter supports our military service men and women. We wish them home safe. And we hope job conditions improve for working members.

Edward A. Rubow, P.S.

## Annual Summer Luncheon



Local 11 apprentice instructor Harvey Fiederer, recently retired, attends the Retirees Club's annual luncheon.

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 11, LOS ANGELES, CA—The Local 11 Retirees Club held its annual summer luncheon at the Electrical Training Institute. Member Harvey "Butch" Bachand and his wife, Sharon, served a wonderful gourmet meal. The group enjoyed salads, salmon, tacos, chips and salsa, along with other traditional Mexican food.

Joanne Keller, assistant administrator for the Health and Pension Trust,

answered questions and greeted attendees. Don Davis briefed retirees on changes to the apprenticeship from night school to day school. Local 11 Pres. Joel Barton thanked those present and all the retirees for fighting for the conditions enjoyed by members today. Retirees Club Pres. Marty Cohen acknowledged all the volunteers who helped make the occasion a special one. Photos are available on the IBEW Local 11 Facebook page.

Congratulations to Harvey Fiederer, who recently announced his retirement after 40 years of service as an apprentice instructor. His dedication to the trade and the labor movement helped countless students lead successful careers. We all are grateful for his contribution. We wish him many years of health and happiness ahead.

Thank you to all retirees who remain active through the organizing committees. Your participation is appreciated.

Bob Oedy, P.S.

## Club Officers Elected

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 21, DOWNERS GROVE, IL—Officer elections for the Oak Forest Retirees Club were held in May. Members re-elected Brenda Howington as president and Rich Ratzel as vice president. Leonard Trentz was elected secretary-treasurer. Congratulations to all.

This has been a great year for our members and spouses. In June we enjoyed the musical comedy "Sugar" at Drury Lane Oak Brook, and enjoyed dinner at Papa Joe's in Orland Park. On July 26, we sizzled as we watched the red-hot Chicago White Sox defeat the Seattle Mariners.

By now, retirees should have received infor-

mation about the IBEW Local 21 Retiree Vision Program. Negotiated by our local union, the VSP Vision Plan offers a great value on your eye care and eyewear, and provides for many options, savings and other discounts. Please pass the word to other Local 21 retirees who may not know about the plan.

For more information about the Oak Forest Retirees Club, e-mail a request to [lu21ofretireclub@ameritech.net](mailto:lu21ofretireclub@ameritech.net). For other retiree issues or to establish a Local 21 retirees club in your area, contact Local 21 retiree liaison Larry Moeller at (630) 432-3836 or by e-mail at [lmoeller@ibew21.org](mailto:lmoeller@ibew21.org).

Thomas Hopper, P.S.



Attendees enjoy a Local 21 Retirees Club dinner at the Robert Morris Culinary College in April.

## Alaska Cruise in August

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 26, WASHINGTON, DC—At the Retired Members Club in September, we saw some fresh faces as we celebrated many years of service by awarding pins, jackets and plaques to longtime members!

Our fourth cruise for 2010 took more than 60 retirees and guests to Alaska in August! We look forward to sharing their excitement, photos and stories at the September meeting.

In October we will hold our Annual R.M.C. Crab Feast at Mike's Restaurant in Annapolis, MD, as well as a new steam train adventure and a tour of a Pennsylvania dairy farm.

We will soon be making plans for 2011. Our trip to the Amish Farmer's Market—followed by lunch on the Eastern Shore—is a delight and regularly sells out. It's never too early to add your name. So, contact our V.P. and travel guru, Rick Warner, for information about trips. Phone: (240) 472-0430.

If you wish to help with mailing our club meeting minutes, we generally meet at the hall the Tuesday following our meetings at 7:30 a.m. Coffee, donuts and laughter are usually our pay scale.

Special thanks to members who keep us connected to those who have not joined the growing number of e-mailers. If you would like a tutorial before you buy your first computer, just ask at a meeting!

Susan Flashman, P.S.

## News From The Great Lakes

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 38, CLEVELAND, OH—On this spring day, as I look out the window, I hear some hammers working in the distance on a new house being built. I hope this means work is picking up somewhat. At our retirees meeting last month, word was that things are getting better in this area—thank God.

Our retirees have many planned events and speakers scheduled at several of our meetings. At a

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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## MERCHANDISE



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**Right Choice License Plate Frame**  
"The Right Choice" chrome license plate frame featuring black panels with white IBEW initials.



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12 ounce coffee mug made from fired blue glassware and inlayed with 22k gold IBEW logo.



**\$100.00**

**Women's Silver Initial Watch**  
Women's silver tone watch with embossed IBEW initials. Quality stainless steel expansion band and backing.

These items and more are now available at your IBEW Online Store.

## Retirees

recent meeting we enjoyed our annual chicken dinner.

At our March meeting, we had our traditional corned beef & cabbage meal as well as Irish singers to entertain us. Very well done!

In April, we had a bountiful brunch at a local party center with our club president as the main speaker on events to come and our retirees' election.

We took a trip to Michigan in May. As of this writing, our 2010 picnic and clambake were upcoming.

As retirees, we hope that all you active IBEW members are finding more work in your area.

Till next time, God bless America, God bless our troops, and God bless our families. Peace be with you all.

Arthur Lesjak, P.S.

## Service Pins Awarded

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 99, PROVIDENCE, RI—Once again our local has supported the Retirees Club and hosted a May breakfast. It was well attended as usual, with visits from Lt. Gov. Elizabeth Roberts and state Rep. Peter Kilmartin.

Local 99 Bus. Mgr. Allen P. Durand and Local 99 Pres. John Shalvey assisted club Pres. Robert Pierce in awarding service pins and certificates to our honored guests, Michael Carty, Richard Irace, William Lepore Jr., Paul Forest and Gerald Trotter.

Bus. Mgr. Durand gave a brief report on the poor work picture in our state.

We are saddened to report the recent deaths of Robert Corry, Edward Davies, Thomas Finnegan, J. Edmund Brennan Jr., Michael Messier and Melvin Sarkisian. May they rest in peace.

As of this writing, Bro. Robert Beardwood was planning three fishing trips for the summer. These trips are always a great success.

We sincerely thank our local for all the support they give our group; surely the spirit of brotherhood has never been greater.

We hope everyone had a great summer with good health to all. Please note: Our next club meeting is Sept. 21 at noon.

Raymond Germershausen, P.S.

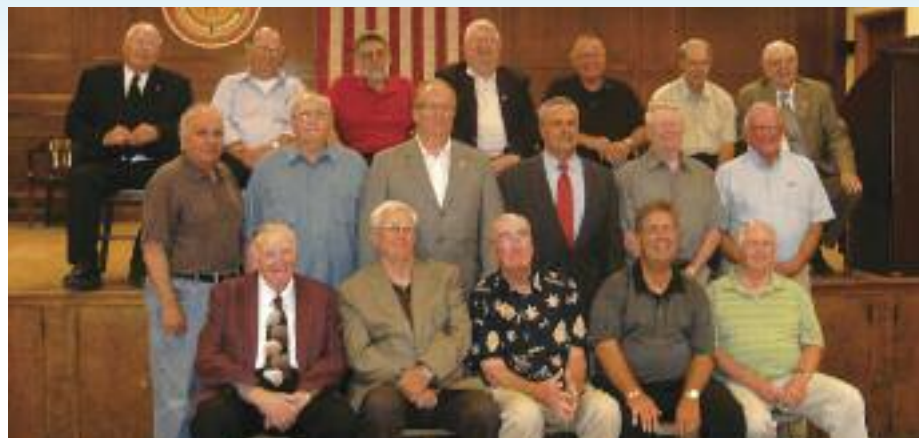
## Luncheon Celebration

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 104, BOSTON, MA—We had our tri-annual Retirees Club luncheon April 15, 2010, at Doyle's Café in Jamaica Plains, Boston. The nine brothers shown in the accompanying photo represent more than 450 years of service to the IBEW.

Bro. Edward Ellies was presented with his 55-year service pin at the April meeting. Everyone enjoyed a good time and lots of laughs this day; you wouldn't believe some of the stories shared by these guys.



Attending the Local 104 Retirees Club's April luncheon are: from left, standing, Chet Marsh, Ray Brady, Bob Salvati, Fran Fitzgerald, Armand Cabral, Charles "Mickey" Rooney; seated, Hugh Boyd Sr., Edward Ellies and Rich Rock Sr. (Photo by Hugh Boyd Jr.)



Local 134 Retirees Club pays tribute to longtime IBEW members.

We will hold our next Retirees Club meeting in October. Please contact the hall for time and location. As always your attendance at club meetings will ensure that the club will be able to continue for all of the retirees.

Chris Blair, P.S.

## Awards for Outstanding Service

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 130, NEW ORLEANS, LA—At the June 27 meeting, we awarded two plaques. Henry Daries received a plaque for 25 years of outstanding service and Harry "Buddy" Carver for 17 years of outstanding service.

Buddy Carver is out of the hospital and staying with his daughter through his recovery. We all wish him well.

We have new leadership: Durel Legendre, secretary and Michael Dupius, treasurer.

The officers scheduled a July 22 bus trip to the Hollywood Casino on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, and everyone had a great time.

The weather is finally cooperating and they have finally capped the oil spill, which has been contaminating our water for the last 85 days as of this writing. We pray every day that this procedure will work.

We are saddened to report the passing of: Bros. Alton "Bill" Raines, George Albert, Philip G. Creger, John Carey Jr., Joseph S. Barocco, Gregory C. Hoffman Sr., Herman A. Richard Jr., James E. Carter and Lloyd April. May they rest in peace!

Until our next reading, God bless America.

George Clesi, Pres.

## Longtime Members Honored

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 134, CHICAGO, IL—Anniversary greetings to all the 50-, 55-, and 60-year members of Local 134 Retirees Club. They are as fol-

lows: Thomas Bahde, Marvin Ball, John Burchall, Richard Casale, Edward Dewbray, Ervino Elmy, James Enright, Daniel Fegan Jr., Ronald Fibiger, James Flaherty, James Fliris, Richard Grove, Sam Guzzo, Michael Harris, Robert Hennessy, Richard Howe, John Jaeger, James Kassner Sr., Jerome Koch, Eugene Lewaniak, Steven Lindskoog, Robert Lobjoko, Ronald Marsden, Donald Meisinger, Daniel McCarthy, James McNamara, Robert Mersch, Henry Mueller, Kenneth Mueler, George Randle, Wayne Schroeder Jr., Gerald Thompson, James Walsh and Claude Wolcott.

Brothers, we are proud to honor and acknowledge your contributions to your union and country. Thank you for everything you have done and continue to do to make this a better Local 134 Retirees Club. You have Local 134 members' admiration and respect.

All enjoyed a wonderful luncheon and live musical entertainment. There are no strangers at Local 134 only friends we haven't met.

We welcome all retirees. The Retirees Club meets on the second Wednesday of each month. Noon to 1 p.m. is "greet & meet" time and the regular meeting continues until 2:30 p.m. at the union hall, 600 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago.

Louis Rodriguez, P.S.

## Proud & Active IBEW Retirees

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 164, JERSEY CITY, NJ—The long-standing Local 164 Retirees Association offers Atlantic City trips, golf outings, fishing trips, baseball trips, financial seminars, holiday parties and more.

We contribute to the Wounded Warriors Project, Bold, Brave & Courageous, and Habitat for Humanity.

This year we started a scholarship for retirees' grandchildren. Proceeds from our Oldies Show, Hawaii vacation raffle and other fundraisers enable us to give a total of \$15,000 to five recipients this year.

We have 250-plus members. Approximately 100, including spouses, attend our monthly luncheon/meetings. Treas./Sec. Tom Barry sends out a monthly newsletter. And we are proud of our Web

site [www.lu164retirees.squarepins.org](http://www.lu164retirees.squarepins.org), designed by Dave Judovin's daughter. It is updated often with news, events, photos and useful resources. Our e-mail group also sends notices of events, etc.

Seeing union friends at meetings, the camaraderie stands firm and stories fly—of fish caught, grandkids' graduations, etc. As retired IBEW electricians, we enjoy being together and we pray for everyone's well-being.

Retirees appreciate the support extended by Local 164, Bus. Mgr. Richard Dressel Dressel and Pres. John DeBouter. Retirees volunteer during critical elections and we teach the public about the IBEW. We worked hard as IBEW electricians, and we continue our union activism. We attend meetings, support union events and enjoy friendship. Being a part of this union was the best choice we ever made.

David Judovin, P.S.

## Community Service Project

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 223, BROCKTON, MA—On June 9, a combined business meeting/cookout was held with 43 people in attendance.

Treas. Dick Bradbury reminded the members that it is important for all members to pay their dues if the club is to become financially self-sufficient.

Pres. Bouldry told the membership that one of the purposes of the club is to be a resource to the community. He then introduced his wife, who spoke about a community service project that would serve the entire geographical area covered by Local 223. She hoped everyone would support "Gifts to Give," a nonprofit organization that provides clothing, school supplies and books to needy children in New Bedford, Fall River, Taunton, Brockton and Cape Cod. Several members signed up to participate in a three-hour work shift to be held this fall at Gifts to Give on Cove Street in New Bedford. Spouses who knit were asked to make children's hats and mittens, to be delivered to Gifts to Give.

The monthly raffle included a portable gas grill and clothing with the IBEW logo.

A moment of silence was held in remembrance of recently deceased members: Bruce Higgins, Richard Maxwell, Tom Peters, Albert Dumais, Donald Lajoie and Mrs. John (Joanne) Revil.

Burton Bouldry, Pres.

## 'Homes for Troops' Volunteers

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 257, JEFFERSON CITY, MO—The Retirees Club held a monthly luncheon/meeting Tues., July 27, at the Knights of Columbus in Westphalia, MO.

Officers were elected at our June 29 meeting. Our officers have done a great job and were re-elected by acclamation. They are: Pres. Jerry Rehagen,



IBEW L.U. 257 members and retirees volunteered to help with the Homes for our Troops project in Columbia, MO. From left are: Gary James, Bob Kauffman, Rick Stokes, Jim Winemiller, Danny Melloway, Jerry Rehagen, Emil Fischer and Herman Grothoff.





Local 291 Retirees Club members enjoy June lunch/picnic gathering at Settlers Park.

Vice Pres. Betty Nichols, Sec./Treas. June Lenger; and Executive Committee members Alice Murray, Bob Kauffman and Juanita Fischer. We appreciate their efforts planning our luncheons and activities.

Certificates were presented to members who volunteered at the Skills USA Competitions at Linn Tech, helping judge the electrical and VDV competitions.

The club is getting the float ready for the Labor Day parades in Mokane and Jefferson City. For November, Juanita scheduled our group to see a play at the Lyceum Theater. More activities will follow.

On June 27, keys to a new home in Columbia, MO, were presented to Army Staff Sgt. Robert Canine through Homes for our Troops. Volunteers and donations made the project possible. Labor unions that provided material and labor included: IBEW Local 257, Sheet Metal Workers, and Plumbers and Pipefitters. Many Local 257 members and retirees volunteered. Staff Sgt. Canine will re-join his family at their new home after he completes rehabilitation at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. We thank Jim Winemiller, of Local 257, who helped coordinate this project.

Delores Melloway, P.S.

### Spring & Fall Picnics

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 291, BOISE, ID—June is generally the time for an outdoor picnic. However, Mother Nature fooled everyone with a chill, which almost resulted in cancelation. But you know, the proud die-hard electricians of Local 291, who never let the weather stop them, showed up for hamburgers and

hotdogs. They were there to support the club, even in the cold. So we had our June lunch/picnic at Settlers Park in Meridian and everyone enjoyed the meal, even though they had to wear coats, as seen in the picture. Approximately 40 people attended. Local 291 supplied a retiree's license plate frame as a door prize, which was won by Roberta Stith.

Now we're preparing for our September picnic and hoping for warmer weather without coats. It will be held at Settlers Park, 12 noon, on Sept. 9, which is our normal second Thursday luncheon. I encourage all retirees to come and break bread while enjoying our fellowship. See you at the next meeting.

I hope everyone had a safe and healthy summer.

Joe Sirani, Pres.

### Service Award Honorees

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 313, WILMINGTON, DE—For our last spring meeting until September, Retirees Club Pres. Moe McKinley gave out service pins to all those eligible who attended.

The most notable were those who received awards for 50-, 55- and 60-years of service. We took a picture of the group, joined by the Local 313 president, the business manager and club Pres. McKinley. [See photo below.]

It should be noted that the service of these brothers was the glue that held our local together for many years.

Greg Stilwell, P.S.



Local 313 retirees, joined by officers, display awards for longtime service. From left are: Local 313 Pres. Paul Campbell, Steve DiSabatino (accepting the award for Olley DiSabatino, who was unable to attend), Thomas Clark, John Healy, John Kachmar, Raymond Ademski, Ray Burton, James Keating, Warren Snavelly, Retirees Club Pres. Moe McKinley, Richard Cutone, Local 313 Bus. Mgr. Douglas Drummond and Scotty Hudgton. (Retiree Vince Jankowski shot the photo.)



Attending April meeting of the Local 611 Retirees Club are, clockwise, from left: Glen and Wanda Frazier; Yolanda and Carl Brown; Harold and Christine Paschke; Vivian "Rainbo" Romero; Nap and Erlinda Duran. (Bro. Tracy Hall snapped the photo.)

### Charlestown, WV, Retirees

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 466, CHARLESTON, WV—The hills of West Virginia weep for the 29 miners we lost at the Upper Big Branch mines in early April. We send our condolences to all the miners and the families of those lost. Hopefully, elected officials will take major steps to make conditions safer for miners.

Our club's monthly meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. at our union hall. We also have a breakfast meeting at Suzi's, in North Charleston on 4th Avenue, on the third Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. Please come and share your memories with us.

The pictures I took at the golf outing are at the union hall if you wish to see them.

We pay our final respects to recently deceased members Wilbur Brown, Jackie Bennett, Jerry Mondy, Daniel Myres, Jim Meddings, Ross Stone, Manuel Legg Sr., Richard Holder, Arleigh Ellis, Arthur Ostrin and Dave Hardman; and also to long-time housekeeper Velma Reed.

At press time we were looking forward to the summer picnic. Also, remember the upcoming New Year's Eve dinner.

Larry Fogarty, Pres.

### New Members Welcomed

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 611, ALBUQUERQUE, NM—The accompanying picture (above) is a collector's item. Bro. Glen Frazier passed away on June 24, while two of the other brothers, Nap Duran and Harold Paschke, and

their wives were unable to attend meetings this year due to health problems. Members Carl Brown and Vivian "Rainbo" Romero are still active at our meetings, with only five of us left attending currently. We have changed our meetings to Fridays, hoping more retirees will attend. We need you younger members to attend and help us boost our membership. We welcome two new retirees: Jose Crespin and Robert Avery.

Did you know there have been 12 IBEW local unions in New Mexico? Two locals were organized before Local 611, but went defunct by 1909. There have been locals in locations including Albuquerque, Belen, Gallup, Hobbs, Roswell, Santa Fe and Silver City. Four locals merged with Local 611. Still active out of Albuquerque are: Local 611; Local 1199 (railroad) in Belen; and Local 1988 (Kirtland Air Force Base).

We extend condolences to the families of Bros. Michael P. Murphy, Ted A. Lopez, Joseph E. Lynch and Glen Frazier. Bro. Frazier was truly an asset in sharing his stories of the local's history for the upcoming 100th anniversary celebration.

Attend union meetings and stay in touch.

Tracy Hall, Pres.

### Tribute to Members

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 613, ATLANTA, GA—Our meeting was held June 17. We sadly mourn the following members: Bill Watson, Daniel Pickering, Bud Gentry, James Moody, Thomas Jennings, Earl Bartsch, James Walters, Jack Drew, John Hendrix, William Martin, Charles Rolling, Lamar Abbott Sr., Milton Clowers, James Williams, Thomas Hanekamp and Bruce Clark.

Blake McLeod, Pres.

### Fort Lauderdale Retirees



Fort Lauderdale, FL, Local 728 Retirees Club members gather for a club meeting at the union hall. From left, front row, Larry Duggar, Remie Hammond, Don Love, Willie Spangler, Mike Bogar, Hank Perry, Rosemary Inglis; back row, Norb Ritter, Steve Cunningham, John Meagher, Bob Cummings, Hugo Inigi, John Nydam, Harold Shrewsbury, Butch Grosenbaugh, Raleigh Masters and Carl Wuest.



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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**THE ELECTRICAL WORKER**

Editor

**Edwin D. Hill****C. James Spellane****Mark****Brueggjenjohann****Malinda Brent****Len Shindel****Carol Fisher****Alex Hogan****Lucas Oswalt****James H. Jones****Len Turner****Tim Prendergast****Curtis D. Bateman****John Sellman****FROM THE OFFICERS****Wanted: Reasonable Carbon/Energy Debate**

**Edwin D. Hill**  
International President

**F**rustration is growing as policy makers, energy companies and the public struggle for a responsible approach to reducing carbon emissions from coal-fired power plants.

Like Portland, Ore., Local 125, which is featured in this issue, many are facing unreasonable, pie-in-the-sky or downright hypocritical opposition from some environmental organizations.

We, too, want a safe environment for our children. Many of our members hunt, fish, hike, boat and enjoy camping. We are deeply engaged in wind, solar and other renewable energy technologies.

But instead of working with us on issues facing coal-fired power plants, some environmentalists are taking an undemocratic approach that is hostile to our members, our jobs, our communities and our nation's economic health.

There's no better example than the Sierra Club's opposition to a public meeting in Boardman, Ore., for workers at the state's only coal power plant to express their thoughts on the club's insistence that the utility shut the plant down by 2015. Let me restate that: they opposed a public meeting in the community that would lose its biggest employer.

This is not an isolated case. The Sierra Club is spending \$18 million and has deployed 100 lobbyists across the nation to challenge coal power.

The IBEW would rather be lobbying Congress, where citizens and unions have a voice for comprehensive energy legislation that would include building more nuclear plants.

But an energy bill isn't going to be passed anytime soon. So the executive branch of government has stepped into the vacuum. Now the Environmental Protection Agency is issuing unrealistic mandates on carbon emissions.

It would certainly make sense for environmentalists and conservationists to work with us on how these regulations will be implemented. Instead, we have more hypocrisy.

In March, I sent a letter to Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) supporting the building of a massive wind farm, consisting of 45 wind turbines on private land. The project—which would create hundreds of jobs—is being held up by conservationists who claim that turbines could be seen from 25 miles away on a federally-protected desert.

I want to thank IBEW members and leaders who are standing up for reasonable energy policy. Your efforts are in the best interests of your communities, our nation and our labor movement. ■

**We Need More Jobs, Less Lobbying**

**T**he U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the premier lobbying group for big business, announced earlier this summer that it would spend at least \$50 million on political races in 2010, a 40 percent increase from 2008. This money comes on top of the nearly \$800,000 a day the Chamber spent lobbying against President Obama on everything from "Buy America" provisions in the stimulus act to new regulations on Wall Street excess for the last two years.

That's a lot of cash—cash which would have been better spent creating jobs for someone else besides K Street lawyers and beltway lobbyists.

Despite the Chamber's endless complaints against Congress and the Obama administration that they are anti-business, corporate CEOs are doing pretty well these days. Corporate profits are now \$1.2 billion, higher than they were than before the recession, writes Washington Post business columnist Steven Pearlstein.

Columnist Robert Samuelson reports that industrial companies are sitting on a record reserve of \$838 billion, money that could be used to revitalize our manufacturing sector or rebuild the power grid.

But corporate America's newfound profits have yet to find their way into the pockets of working families. "Companies are doing much better than workers," Samuelson concludes.

Nearly one in six workers remains unemployed or underemployed. For those lucky enough to hang on to their jobs, employers are resorting to drastic pay and benefits cuts—large enough to have some experts concerned about deflation.

It's no secret that the Chamber is funneling most of its money to Republicans, but ironically it was the efforts of Obama and the Democratic Congress that helped rescue the economy, as economists Alan Blinder and Mark Zandi point out in a recent report. Those efforts led to business's rebound in profits—profits that corporate CEOs are now using to help Obama's GOP opponents take back Congress.

With unemployment still nearing 10 percent, the last thing we need is corporate America funding multi-million dollar ad blitzes in favor of candidates who have no solutions to our economic problems besides more of the same Bush-era policies that landed us in trouble in the first place. What we need is more investment in our economy, so we can put American workers back on the job again. ■



**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

### A November Plea

Please help me to convince all IBEW members to vote to prevent the Republicans from retaking Congress in November. Many are forgetting that it was their policies and overwhelming greed that got us in the mess we are now in!

*Dennis Stover  
Local 8 member, Toledo, Ohio*

### Credit Where Credit is Due

I really enjoyed the article "After the Flood, Union Members Help Re-energize Cedar Rapids" July 2010, The Electrical Worker. I would like to point out a couple of other guys that deserve the credit for the work that was done at Alliant Energy's Prairie Creek powerhouse. It was Local 405 member Garry Wagner who led the reconstruction on the powerhouse. He was on site the first day I arrived as soon as the water was down enough to safely work. I spent the next 11 months working for him. I stopped back a couple of months later and he was still leading the charge for Acme Electric—finishing up the minor details and doing all the extras that Alliant wanted. Garry also received additional help from Steve Hauschild during the project.

*Mike Mueller  
Local 159 member, St. Paul, Minn.*

### Retirement: A Primer

I am recently retired and have noticed some changes in my life. I have written down a few of my favorites. I hope you find the list entertaining. It brings smiles to the faces of everyone I share it with.

#### You Might Be Retired If:

1. You watch all four quarters of Monday Night Football
2. You put the trash out a day early
3. You forget where you put your lunchbox
4. You are watching "Regis and Kelly" while eating breakfast
5. You have refolded all of your sweaters for the second time
6. You have to buy your own wire nuts and electrical tape
7. You are being tailgated by someone with their high beams on
8. You use less sandwich bags and plastic wrap
9. You ran downstairs to get a tool, and when you get there, you forgot what it was
10. You have to buy your own Christmas ham
11. You forgot how to set your alarm clock

*David P. Ordakowski  
Local 24 retiree, Baltimore, Md.*

### Jobs for America

I feel that the jobs issue within Michigan and the United States needs urgent attention, so I sent a letter to Michigan legislator Kenneth Horn, a Republican. His response was weak and lacking any substantial direction. There is all kinds of talk about the United States from our members in Congress. So far, that's all it is, just talk. The "service economy" they speak of will not support the American worker's lifestyle.

We need to turn this thing around beginning yesterday, last week or last month! I know what we had and I know what we're losing. I am a retired member of Saginaw Local 557, master electrician, prior electrical inspector and former recording secretary, press secretary, treasurer, organizer, assistant business agent. I am currently the charter chairman of the Saginaw Union Label & Service Trades Dept. AFL-CIO, representative on the Saginaw Labor Council AFL-CIO and chairman of the Saginaw County Board of Canvassers.

*Michael R. Smith  
Local 557 retiree, Saginaw, Mich.*

## 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).

# Illinois IBEW Legislator Lisa Dugan: 'My Journey is Our Journey'

**F**ew of the delegates at an early morning session of the IBEW Women's Conference had heard of Lisa Dugan, a sister journeyman inside wireman.

But they cheered Dugan, a four-term member of the Illinois House of Representatives, after IBEW Human Services Director Carolyn Williams listed some of her accomplishments during decades of public service and pro-worker activism.

"This has not just been my journey. This is our journey," said Dugan. A member of Joliet Local 176, who has served on the boards of dozens of non-profits, Dugan has been recognized as legislator of the year by several business and labor groups.

Long before entering her apprenticeship in 1979, encouraged by three senior union men she calls her "journeymen angels," Dugan was faced with a choice between the advice of her grandmothers who said she should follow her dreams—regardless of what society thought—and others who, she says, needed to be taught to "take the blinders off and open up to a society that is inclusive for women and minorities." "My journeymen angels didn't tell me about the other guys," said Dugan, laughing. On her first job, a general foreman told her: "If you ask me, Missy, you should be home taking care of your children and cooking dinner for your husband."

"I didn't ask you, and my name is Lisa," replied Dugan—who remembers digging "trenches to nowhere" and sweeping so many floors on construction sites that "I should have been in Good Housekeeping magazine."

One of only two women in her class, Dugan gained apprentice of the year honors in her second year. During her third year, while pregnant with her second daughter, Dugan advocated changing her local's bylaws on temporary disability to include pregnancy while continuing her pursuit of excellence and leadership in the trade.

She recalls opening her first meeting as superintendent on a 40-man project. Dugan told her startled male co-workers, some of whom



*Lisa Dugan, four-term member of the Illinois House of Representatives, is a journeyman wireman member of Joliet, Ill., Local 176.*

attempted to make her early years difficult, "It's fortunate for you that I am all about the IBEW," not about holding grudges for past slights.

A serious injury on the job in 1993 forced Dugan to leave the electrical trade. She deepened her community activism, taught a course on women in non-traditional jobs at the local community college and won a campaign for trustee in the Village of Bradley, 60 minutes from Chicago.

Her labor-management efforts were instrumental in pushing through a "Buy Local-Hire Local" resolution in Kankakee County.

In 2003, a member of the Illinois House asked Dugan to accept an appointment to finish the term of a legislator who had retired. She accepted.

"Politics is a strange game," says Dugan, "But there comes a time when labor needs to have a strong voice in government. And no one is better suited to speak for us than us." Making it through her apprenticeship was still her greatest accomplishment, says Dugan.

Dugan focuses on keeping close contact with constituents. She is often available for "coffee shop stops" up and down her jurisdiction. "I'm very hands-on and work 24-7," she says, often meeting at 6 a.m. with workers and farmers before they start the day's labor and she heads to her office.

In 2003, Dugan established a

Community Service Scholarship Program to recognize students who have taken a leadership role in their community. The scholarship provides financial assistance, donated from the lawmaker's salary, to one senior from each high school in her district.

Because union members live all over her district, they are a powerful force that truly "brings the team together," she says.

"Lisa is a great sister, a great friend and a true never-forgot-where-she-came-from union person," says Local 176 Business Manager Steve Magruder. Dugan, he says, was instrumental in winning responsible bidder legislation in electrical construction. And her advocacy helped win prevailing wage provisions and apprenticeship training requirements in enterprise zones where tax-increment financing is utilized.

Re-elected in 2004, 2006 and 2008, Dugan is currently facing a challenge from a Republican and a Green Party candidate. Despite the well-publicized troubles facing Democrats in Illinois and nationally, she is upbeat.

"We can fix Illinois and we can fix what America needs to move forward," says Dugan, who rips into those in U.S. politics who contend that a strong labor movement hurts the U.S. economy. Reality is reality, she says. "This country is built and will stay strong because of hard-working men and women." ■

