

# THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

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INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

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## IN THIS ISSUE

2 | *Nov. results spawn electoral divide*

3 | *Workers hope to avoid the squeeze*

*How to get involved*

4 | *Fla. school trains future members*

5 | *North of 49°*

6 | *Circuits*

7 | *Transitions*

*IBEW on Duty*

8 | *Local Lines*

17 | *In Memoriam*

18 | *Editorials*

19 | *Letters to the Editor*

*Who We Are*

## Fighting for Our Future: Putting Jobs First

**F**rom city councils to the U.S. Senate, newly elected officials across the country take office this month in the midst of the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. And while corporate America has restored its profit margins to pre-recession levels, working Americans continue to feel the pinch, battered by job losses, declining wages and rising health care costs.

Unemployment still hovers near 10 percent, with more than 15 million people out of work. And those are only the official numbers. The number of workers who have been unemployed for six months or more keeps rising, hitting 6.3 million in December—a new record.

For IBEW members in the construction branch, the numbers are even worse, running closer to 20 percent nationwide and more than double that in some particularly hard-hit regions.

America's No. 1 priority in the midterm elections was made clear in poll after poll: jobs, jobs, jobs.

That means every elected official has a mandate to cut through the partisanship to focus on jumpstarting the economy and getting America back to work.



*It is up to every IBEW member to let their lawmakers—from City Council to Capitol Hill—know that their priority must be jobs.*

There is a heated debate going on—from kitchen tables to state houses up to Capitol Hill—about what our country's priorities must be. Some lawmakers say that high levels of unemployment are here to stay. They say we need to focus on cutting programs like Social Security and Medicaid and hope that more tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans will do the trick. Some want to take away our right to a decent wage and freedom to join a union, driving down working standards even further.

Some want to kill major projects—like high speed rail—that would create thousands of new jobs—all in the name of austerity.

But for IBEW members and their families,

more belt-tightening isn't an option. The road to financial prosperity is new jobs, not longer unemployment lines. Across the country there are literally thousands of projects—from new power plants and energy efficient building retrofits to new schools and manufacturing facilities—that are ready to be built.

What is missing is the political will to make them a reality. Regardless of how you voted, it is up to every member of the IBEW to let their lawmakers know—through one-on-one meetings, phone calls, letters and rallies—that we want them to fight for jobs.

In the coming year, we will be featuring stories from IBEW activists who are mobilizing members on the ground to push for good jobs and policies that help working people—laying the foundation for a fairer and more prosperous economy and a stronger union. ■

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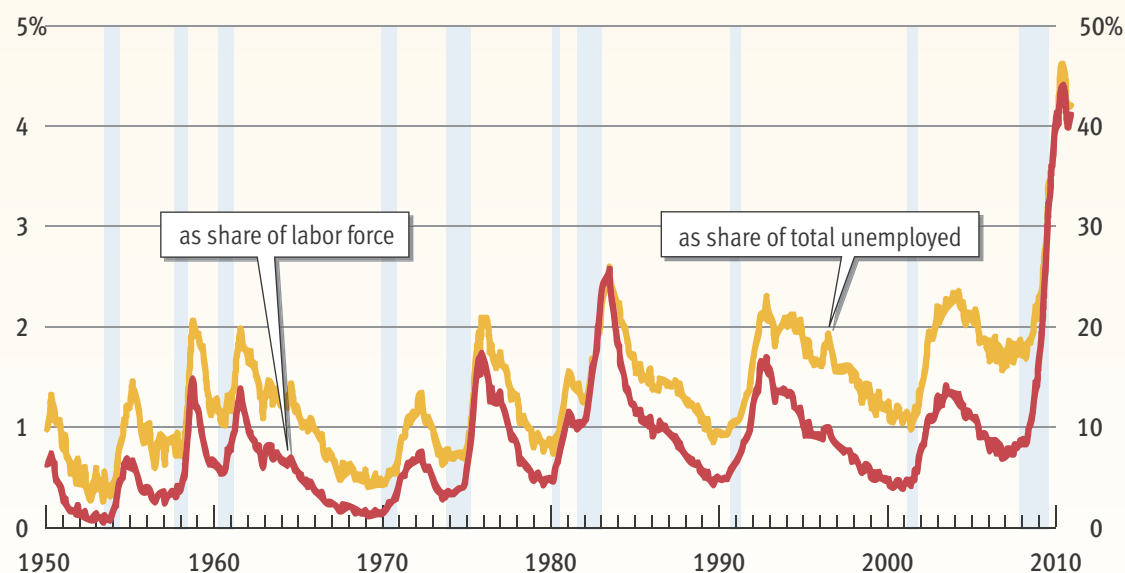
*Please recycle this newspaper.*

# Now What? How Will 'Wave' Election Affect Workers?

## Long-Term Unemployment

Share of labor force unemployed for 27 weeks or more

Share of unemployed population unemployed for 27 weeks or more



Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics and National Bureau of Economic Research

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities | cbpp.org

The midterm elections are over. Our nation's democratic process has resulted in divided government. On Capitol Hill, big money campaign contributors to candidates from both political parties have wasted no time knocking on doors asking for support from new legislators.

Everyone has a stake in the outcome of an election, but none more than working families. The question for all of us—no matter how we voted—is what will be done over the next two years to put our nation back on the road to good, family-sustaining jobs and economic recovery?

We don't claim to have all of the answers. But the IBEW, our members in every branch and the North American labor movement have generations of experience in what works for us and what doesn't.

In this issue of the Electrical Worker, we discuss the immediate tasks facing us and our elected leaders—building good jobs, defending our gains and promoting economic patriotism here at home by insisting upon fairness for workers, retirees and those who are still jobless.

Our government may be divided, but on the important issues of the day, we cannot afford to be. Let others speculate and bicker. We have work to do. ■

## Electoral Divide a Challenge to Working Families

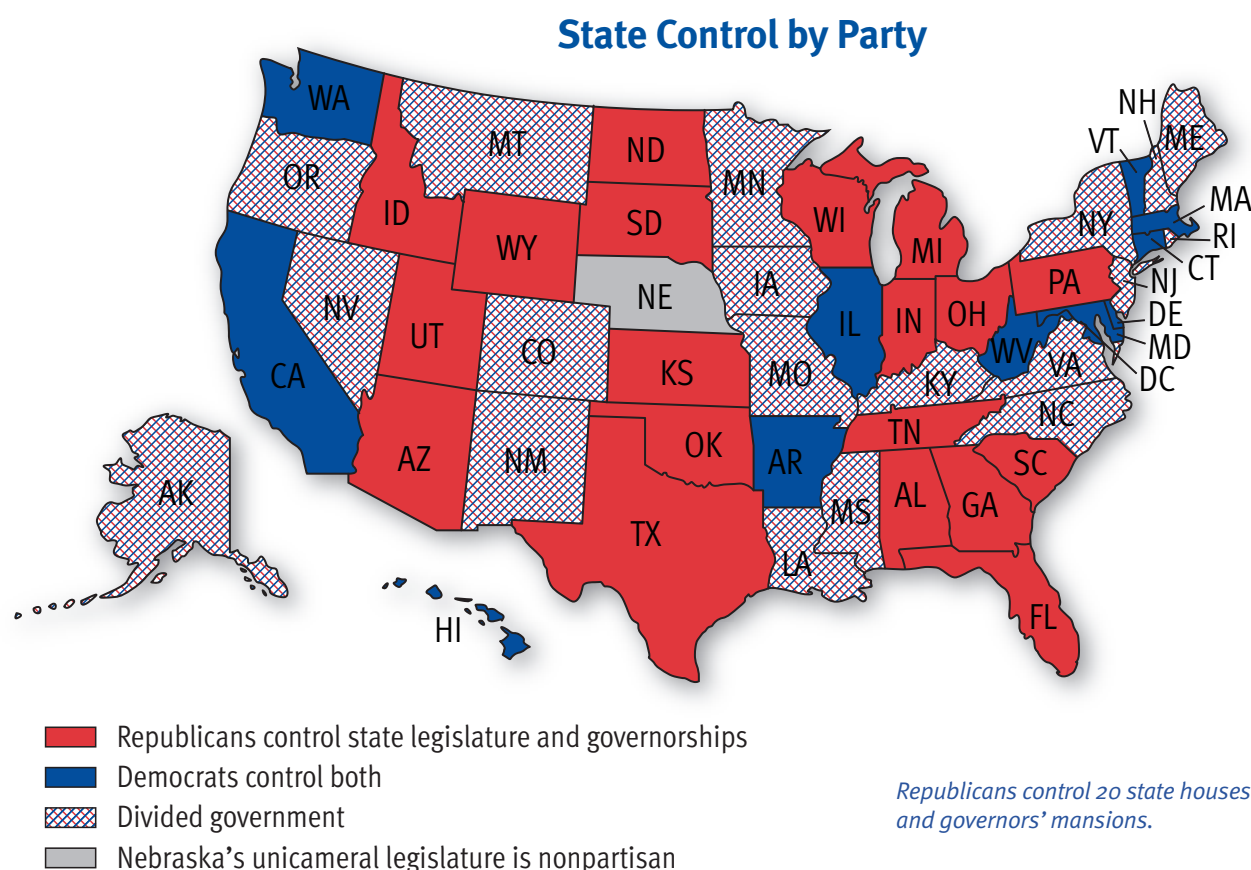
The “wave election” last November that precipitated the Republican takeover of the House of Representatives also resulted in a GOP takeover of both legislative chambers and governorships in 20 states, while the Democrats control all three in 10 states.

Some newly-elected leaders—mostly Republicans—pushed anti-worker proposals during their campaigns—like ending prevailing wage protections or initiating union-busting right-to-work laws. While the new political alignment could result in the enactment of these measures, International Representative Dan Gardner, IBEW Political and Legislative Affairs Department, cautions local unions against writing off opportunities for progress at the state level or “spending all of our time playing defense”—no matter which party is in control.

As an example, says Gardner, Republicans who campaigned pledging to reduce state and federal deficits should be urged to support legislation penalizing businesses that misclassify workers as independent contractors. Misclassification has hurt IBEW members in the telecommunications, broadcasting and construction sectors by creating an uneven playing field for wages and benefits and preventing workers from organizing (See “Cheating Workers Out of Rights, Benefits,” The Electrical Worker, June 2010).

Requiring unscrupulous businesses to start paying Social Security, Medicare and unemployment insurance taxes that they are now evading could bring up to \$8 billion of lost revenue into state budgets over the next decade and enable workers who are currently cheated out of rights to organize.

Gardner, who formerly served as Oregon's labor secretary, says that states have always been the proving grounds for federal legislation. When 40 percent of the states pass similar legislation, the federal government starts paying attention, says Gardner.



Keeping the ball rolling on job-creating projects is important.

Some newly-elected governors have already rejected federal stimulus funds for projects, including planned high-speed rail lines in Ohio and Wisconsin. Gardner said members should continue to contact legislators in both political parties for sup-

port. If they are serious about reducing deficits, says Gardner, they should support putting more money into school construction and transportation projects to put unemployed workers, including IBEW members, back to work, allowing them to contribute to our nation's economic recovery. ■



## Getting Involved Locally, 101

Whether it's in politics or collective bargaining, you're either at the table or you're on the menu. Nov. 2 is history—but people still need to get out there and raise their voices. Here's some practical advice from Brian Baker and Juanita Luiz of the IBEW Political/Legislative Department in Washington, D.C.

### Attend Public Meetings

Local meetings of groups like your city council are open to the public, and these are prime opportunities to get out the message of good jobs.

"These legislators in the state and city council, they're the same as us," said Baker, department director. "Rank-and-file members need to go to these meetings. This is a great opportunity to expose lawmakers to critical labor issues."

How? Say your city is going to put up a new building, and city hall wants public input. Go to meetings and ask the council, "Are you willing to use responsible builder language? Use a project labor agreement? Hire local labor?" Talk with your business manager to help craft your message. And



*Workers still need to make their voices heard.*

wear your IBEW shirt to the meeting.

### Get Face Time with Your Elected Leaders

When representatives and senators aren't on Capitol Hill, they're back in their local offices.

This is the time to talk with representatives one-on-one about the issues. If you're in construction, where we're facing high unemployment, they need to hear that the reason you're not working is because of the economy.

"You're who they represent, and they need to be reminded. Tell them that you come from this community,

that you vote here, that you have a family and a career here, and they will take you seriously," Luiz says. "Ask your lawmakers about their stance on unemployment benefits and remind them that you want to be working."

### Become Your Own Representative

There are plenty of opportunities for everyday people to become change agents in their communities, whether it's being active in local city councils, school boards, business clubs or charity organizations.

"We have several hundred IBEW members nationwide serving in local public offices," Luiz said. "And anything you can do to increase your own power—whether it's getting a spot on the city council or running for office of a local charity—is helpful."

### Change Begins at Home

"Members should always remember that the union is not the business manager or the International Office," Baker said. "The union is the people who make it work."

Still, it's always good to com-

municate with your business manager about how to flesh out your message and how to get support from fellow members.

"If you don't feel confident or prepared enough to go to city council meetings, that's OK," Luiz said. There are lots of things to do at the

local, like volunteering to help the registrar or—if your local union doesn't have a registrar—becoming one yourself.

*Do you have ideas about how to get active in your community? We want to hear from you! E-mail your thoughts to [IbewPoliticalDept@ibew.org](mailto:IbewPoliticalDept@ibew.org).* ■

## How NOT to Cut the Deficit

*Everyone is concerned about spending—but the wrong belt-tightening will squeeze working families harder.*

### CUTTING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS is not the answer.

Jobless Americans put this money directly back into the economy by paying bills, buying food and supporting businesses.

Every \$1 paid out increases the gross domestic product by \$1.60, a report by the U.S. Congress Joint Economic Committee said.

Unemployment benefits funneled \$225 million into our economy every day in 2010, according to a study by the California Budget Project.

### SLASHING SOCIAL SECURITY will only hurt the 51 million seniors, disabled citizens and children receiving benefits.

Much like unemployment insurance, nearly all of Social Security dollars are channeled back into local economies.

While some lawmakers talk about the system soon going broke, Social Security is fully solvent until 2037, even at today's retirement age and funding levels, according to a joint report by Demos, the Economic Policy Institute and the Century Foundation.

Among those 65 and older, Social Security is the major source of income for 57 percent of families, and amounts to only \$14,000 per year on average—barely above the poverty line for a household of two.

### CARVING UP MEDICARE won't save money.

Reducing the amount the government puts into Medicare will shift costs to elderly recipients.

The EPI states that the average senior is already spending 30 percent of their Social Security benefits on Medicare out-of-pocket costs. Cutting funding would drive that amount higher.

### RAISING THE RETIREMENT AGE will jeopardize worker health and safety.

If the eligibility for Social Security benefits is raised to 70, many workers will experience an undue physical and emotional burden.

It would also block the pipeline for younger workers who desperately need to enter the job market.

### EXTENDING TAX CUTS TO THE WEALTHY would increase the debt, not fix it.

The top 2 percent of Americans do not recirculate their tax savings back into the economy, as middle-class families do.

The Economic Policy Institute reports that the Bush-era cuts to the wealthy cost the treasury more than \$2 trillion over a decade. ■



## Jobs: A Good Investment

So what else can local unions and active members do to get Republicans and Democrats working together on jobs? "All local unions and active

members need to wade into the ongoing public debate over how our nation can recover from the current recession that is hurting so many families, including many IBEW members," says

International President Edwin D. Hill.

Reducing unemployment and our national debt are not opposing goals, says Hill. On the contrary, a recent report, "Investing in America's Economy," published by the Economic Policy Institute, discusses how America's powerful postwar economy that "enabled most workers to share in productivity gains" owed much to "investments in infrastructure, technology, public education, and housing—as well as monetary policy that facilitated low unemployment."

Whether by calling congressional representatives, or sending letters to the editors of town newspapers, local unions and active members, says Hill, should underscore the research, cited by EPI, showing:

- Each dollar spent in replacing or repairing bridges and drinking water systems creates \$1.57 in additional economic benefits.
- Each job supported in the construction industry supports two additional jobs. ■

## Mobilizing for Jobs in Calif., Ill.

In California, the IBEW is pushing lawmakers to get behind newly-elected Gov. Jerry Brown's plan to have the bulk of renewable energy used by residents and businesses to come from inside the state.

California's utilities are mandated to procure 20 percent of their energy supply from renewable resources by 2020. The IBEW is backing Brown's push to develop 20,000 megawatts of new, renewable energy inside the Golden State, which would put thousands of members to work installing solar panels and building wind farms and new renewable power plants.

"We are talking tens of thousands of new jobs across the state if this goes through," says Scott Wetch, the IBEW's chief lobbyist in Sacramento.

In Illinois, IBEW locals have waged a one-year campaign to win state support for a privately-owned \$3.5 billion coal gasification project, the Taylorville Energy Center.

Tenaska would be built in Central Illinois at a cost of \$3.5 billion, creating an estimated 2,500 construction jobs and hundreds of mining and engineering jobs in post construction.

The campaign has been led by Michael Carrigan, the state's AFL-CIO president, an IBEW member, and strongly supported by Sixth District International Vice President Lonnie Stephenson. ■

# Florida Middle School Electrical Academy Sparks Young Students' Interest

In a mostly-rural, farm economy of hard-pressed northwest Florida, good jobs and unions are scarce. But tough times have not kept residents from having dreams for their children. For parents like Dan Hart, a truck driver, and his son, Jon Micheal, an eighth-grader, the September opening of the IBEW Electrical Academy at Ernest Ward Middle School in Walnut Hill is keeping some of those dreams for a prosperous future alive.

Sponsored by Pensacola Local 676 and the Escambia County School Board, the academy (the first in the nation at the middle-school level) had its open house in October 2010. The academy is giving students the chance to apply what they are learning in math, science and language arts to developing skills that can lead to good-paying careers.

"As I've grown up, I always liked to fix things. In the academy, we get hands-on projects," says Jon Micheal, 14, who is already making plans to attend West Florida High School of Advanced Technology, where a higher-level electrical academy can prepare him to go to college to be an engineer.

Nancy Gindle-Perry, the school's principal, who taught at the high-school level for 15 years, knows firsthand how important the middle school experience is to later academic and career success. "This academy is perfect for this area," says Gindle-Perry. "When local industries such as chemical, energy, manufacturing, telecommunications, the paper industry and the military-industrial complex are expanding and need new employees, we will be positioned to fill the industry demand for good skilled employees."

Reagan McDaniel, Local 676 business manager, was aware of employer-sponsored technical academies at local high schools in his jurisdiction. When Dale Cope, the Local's JATC training director, approached McDaniel with a concept for an electrical academy that he had developed with Art Johnson, the school district's vocational center's cooperative education coordinator, McDaniel immediately committed the union's resources and experience to develop-

ing the plan, focusing on renewable energy. McDaniel realized the need to influence students at an earlier age to consider the IBEW as a viable alternative to a college career.

**The academy is giving students the chance to apply what they are learning in math, science and language arts to developing skills that can lead to good-paying careers.**

Training Director Cope had spent 17 years working as a traveler on journeyman wireman jobs. A supervisor for White Electric and Cleveland Electric, Cope bought a house in Las Vegas with no thought of returning to Florida, but after McDaniel called and asked him to come back home to help revitalize his local as an organizer, Cope agreed. For a time, Cope worked on the Florida Initiative, organizing nonunion electricians and contractors. Then he went to work as the local's training director and on strengthening the program, bringing in \$200,000 in grant money that was used to purchase a building for classes and two modular structures to train incumbent electricians in solar installations and welding.

Art Johnson is retired from Ford Motor Co. where he started out making radiators as a member of the UAW and ended up in middle management. Johnson, who has an engineering degree as well as an electronics background, spent four years teaching industrial arts at Ernest Ward Middle School before becoming the cooperative education coordinator, which led him to the local's apprenticeship.

"While working in the auto industry," says Johnson, "I realized the importance of post-secondary education, particularly the benefits of becoming a skilled craftsman. College is fine, but it's not for everyone. I wanted to introduce students, at a younger age, to what options are available to them other than college." Says Johnson, "There exists a great need to fill the increasing demand for

skilled workers within the building and manufacturing trades."

A few years back, Cope introduced and supervised the building of a program to do hands-on training in solar energy and basic electrical applications introducing prospective electricians to AC/DC voltage and Ohm's law, while acquainting them with math, science and language arts as it pertains to the skilled trades. He also applied for grant money from the local Workforce Board to start a hands-on residential boot camp.

When the grant was awarded, Cope assigned Richard Perry as the instructor for both courses. Both endeavors were very successful. The director of the local workforce Board applauded Cope for his innovative, progressive and successful program.

Then, says Cope, "we put on suits and ties and made a proposal to Principal Gindle-Perry to establish an electrical academy at her middle school." The Escambia County School Board approved the program by unanimous consent. The academy commenced at the beginning of the 2010 school year with Johnson serving as the main instructor.

Since opening, the academy has featured a hands-on lab once a week. Students are hooking up receptacles, says Johnson, but more importantly, they are learning physical science and the critical need for math. "Students who stay with me," says Johnson, "will attain a better understanding of the importance of core academics. They will have the discipline and attitude to succeed in the workplace regardless of their chosen path."

Jennifer Peebles was planning on moving away from Walnut Hill until her daughter, Liberty, a seventh-grader, convinced her mother to remain in Walnut Hill so that she would be able to complete the electrical academy's courses.

"I thought it would be fun to learn something new that I could use for the rest of my life," says Liberty, who enjoys hunting, fishing and softball. "Whether you are a boy or a girl, you need to take advantage of opportunities," she says. The math can be difficult, she says, but Mr. Johnson "makes it easier and fun." ■

## September International Executive Council Meeting

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

The regular meeting of the International Executive Council was called to order at 8:30 a.m., by Chairman Pierson, on September 10, 2010, in Los Angeles, California. Other members of the Council in attendance were Briegel, Calabro, Calvey, Clarke, Riley, Schoemehl, Lucero and Lavin.

#### International President Hill

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

#### International Secretary-Treasurer Lee

International Secretary-Treasurer Lindell Lee presented financial reports covering the IBEW Pension Fund and the Investment Portfolio of the Brotherhood both in Canada and in the United States.

#### Legal Defense

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

#### Financial Reports

The International Secretary-Treasurer's reports for the various funds of the Brotherhood were presented to the members of the International Executive Council, examined and filed.

#### Appointment of International Executive Council Member Conference Call—Thursday, July 15, 2010

In accordance with Article IV, Section 2, Paragraph 2 of the IBEW Constitution, International President Edwin D. Hill appointed, and the members of the council approved, the appointment of John F. Briegel, the Business Manager of Local Union 254, in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, to fill the unexpired term of office left vacant upon the death of Rick Dowling, for the IEC Member position of the Eighth District. President Hill, having the International Executive Council confirmation of the appointment of John Briegel, took the opportunity to swear Brother Briegel into the office as a member of the International Executive Council from the Eighth District at the all Canada Progress Meeting, on August 23, 2010.

#### Appointment of International Vice President Conference Call—Thursday, July 15, 2010

In accordance with Article IV, Section 2, Paragraph 2 of the IBEW Constitution, International President Edwin D. Hill appointed, and the members of the council approved, the appointment of Lonnie R. Stephenson, to fill the unexpired term of office left vacant by International Vice President Joseph F. Lohman's retirement, for the Sixth District's International Vice President's office. President Hill, having the International Executive Council confirmation of the appointment of Lonnie Stephenson, took the opportunity to swear Brother Stephenson into the office of International Vice President of the IBEW Sixth District, at the National Training Institute Graduation Ceremonies, on August 5, 2010.

#### Per Capita Objection Plan and LM-2 Reports

Members of the council discussed and completed their IBEW Reporting Forms for the Per Capita Objection Plan.

#### Investment Strategy

Members of the council requested, and

International Secretary-Treasurer Lee responded to the affirmative, to work with the investment advisors to craft a fund position of less risk after the market losses have been substantially recouped. In essence, to create a long term investment strategy with more guaranteed income, rather than that of a retirement fund. (Long term and with minimal risk.)

#### Local Union(s) Under International Office Supervision

International President Hill advised the council members that there are no local unions, as of this meeting, under the supervision of the International Office.

#### Article XX and XI Cases

There has been no activity under either Article XX or Article XXI in the second quarter of 2010.

#### Retirement of International Vice President

Joseph F. Lohman, International Vice President Sixth District—Effective September 1, 2010

#### Retirement of International Representative

Harold L. Higginbotham, International Representative Fifth District—Effective October 1, 2010

#### Retirement of Office Employees

Janice Lim, Secretary III, Grade 6 Utility Department—Effective October 11, 2010

Elbert Monroe, Accountant II, Grade 6 Accounting Department—Effective September 10, 2010

Nancy A. Taylor, Web Development Specialist Information Technology Department—Effective August 4, 2010

#### Charges Filed With the International Executive Council

Against Arthur R. Cirimele—Retired Member of Local Union 302, IBEW

On March 31, 2010, Brother Michael Yarbrough, Business Manager of Local Union 302, filed charges against Brother Arthur Cirimele, a member presently on pension in the IBEW.

These charges were pending and will be readressed upon receipt of additional documentation.

#### Reporting Requirements

Members of the council discussed certain changes the IRS has made to the reporting requirements of Form 990 and after a thorough review, implemented changes to IBEW policies to address and implement these reporting requirements.

#### The Next Regular International Council Meeting

This regularly scheduled meeting was adjourned, on Friday, September 10, 2010, at 2:00 p.m. The next regular meeting of the International Executive Council will commence at 8:30 a.m., on December 14, 2010, in Washington, D.C.

#### For the International Executive Council Patrick Lavin, Secretary September 2009

*The IEC acted on numerous applications under the IBEW Pension Benefit fund. For a complete listing, consult [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org), clicking on the International Executive Council link on the "About Us" page. ■*





North of 49° | Au nord du 49° parallèle

# Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro Project in the Works

**L**eaders from Newfoundland and Labrador and Nova Scotia reached a \$6.2 billion deal in late November that will make the long-proposed lower Churchill Falls hydroelectric generation project a reality.

The Churchill River in Labrador has been a source of renewable energy for years, with the Churchill Falls Generating Station—built in 1971—providing nearly 5,500 megawatts of power. Utility officials and provincial leaders had long wanted to expand production, but difficulties in reaching a transmission agreement with neighboring Quebec put future hydro development on hold.

But the new agreement between Newfoundland and Labrador and Nova Scotia allows the expansion to proceed, by building an underwater transmission link between the two provinces.

“The benefits of this project for our province will be enormous, including thousands of jobs and billions of dollars of activity,” Newfoundland and Labrador Premier Danny Williams said at the agreement’s announcement.

The first stage of the project is the construction of an 824-megawatt generating station at Muskrat Falls, followed by a larger facility upriver at Gull Island. The two facilities will have a combined capacity of more than 3,000 megawatts, says Nalcor Energy, the provincial crown corporation that operates the Churchill Falls plant.

Power will be transmitted to the island of Newfoundland through a \$2.1 billion underwater transmission link across the Strait of Belle Isle, which will move power to the province’s east coast.

Williams reached a deal with his counterpart in Nova Scotia, Darrell Dexter on Nov. 18, which calls for another transmission link across the Cabot Strait into Nova Scotia. That power will supply the province and others in the Maritimes and be sold in the northeastern United States.

The biggest clean energy project in North America means thousands of jobs for building trades members, including more than a 1,000 jobs for IBEW members from the inside, outside and utility branches.

St. John’s Local 1620 Business Manager Terry Rose estimates that transmission line work alone will require more than 500 members. Local 1620 represents outside workers at Newfoundland Power, one of the provinces’ electric utilities.

St. John’s utility Local 1615 and inside Local 2330 will also be party to the work. While a groundbreaking date has not been set, it is estimated that the project will provide 2,700 jobs at its peak in 2013, according to Nalcor Energy spokesperson Dawn Dalley.

The new project means the end of the oil-burning Holyrood Thermal Generating Station, which employs

more than 80 Local 1615 members, but Business Manager Robert Clarke says he is in negotiations with Nalcor Energy to train the workers to find new positions with the company.

“We want to make sure we start the training now so when the station shuts down by 2017, they are ready to start new jobs,” he says.

The energy industry has been a boon for the province, which has historically been dogged by a weak job market. The offshore oil industry helped rejuvenate the economy in the 1990s and the new hydro expansion is expected to make the province one of the fastest growing



*Energy generated from the planned lower Churchill Falls hydropower project will be transmitted through underwater transmission links from Labrador to the island of Newfoundland and on to Nova Scotia.*

*L'électricité du projet hydroélectrique du bas Churchill sera transmise par des câbles sous-marins du Labrador à Terre-Neuve et de Terre-Neuve à la Nouvelle-Écosse.*

energy markets in Canada.

“A lot of guys who might have took off to the west to look for work in

the past are now looking at staying home,” says First District International Representative Mike Power. ■

## Le Nouveau Complexe Hydroélectrique de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador en Préparation!

**L**es gouvernements de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador et de la Nouvelle-Écosse ont finalement conclu une entente de 6,2 milliards de dollars vers la fin novembre, pour le développement du projet hydroélectrique du bas Churchill, un complexe envisagé depuis très longtemps qui se concrétisera enfin.

Avec la centrale de production d'électricité de Churchill Falls bâtie en 1971 ayant une capacité de près de 5,500 mégawatts, le fleuve Churchill au Labrador constitue une source d'énergie renouvelable depuis des années. Il y a longtemps que la direction des services publics et le gouvernement provincial souhaitent augmenter la production mais le trajet proposé passait par le Québec et ils ne se sont pas entendus avec cette province pour le transport de l'électricité, ce qui a mis le projet sur les tablettes. Cette nouvelle entente entre Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador et la Nouvelle-Écosse permettra le développement du projet, grâce à la construction d'un câble sous-marin entre les deux provinces.

« Les avantages de ce complexe pour notre province seront énormes,

si l'on tient compte des emplois et autres activités reliées qui vont se chiffrer à des milliards de dollars » a déclaré Danny Williams, Premier ministre de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador, lorsque que l'entente fut annoncée.

Selon *Nalcor Energy*, la société de la couronne terre-neuvienne qui exploite la centrale de Churchill Falls, la première étape du projet consistera à construire une centrale électrique de 824 mégawatts à Muskrat Falls et une autre sur le cours inférieur du fleuve Churchill à Gull Island. Les deux centrales combinées auront une puissance de 3,000 mégawatts.

L'électricité sera transmise à l'île de Terre-Neuve par un câble de transmission sous-marine dont les coûts de construction s'élèvent à 2,1 milliards de dollars; le câble traversera le détroit de Belle Isle et transportera l'électricité vers la côte est de la province.

Le Premier ministre Williams a conclu une entente le 18 novembre dernier, avec son homologue de la Nouvelle-Écosse, Darrell Dexter lequel revendique une autre ligne de transmission qui traverserait le détroit de Cabot vers la Nouvelle-Écosse. La province recevrait l'élec-

tricité servant à alimenter les foyers et pourrait vendre le surplus aux autres provinces maritimes ainsi qu'au Nord-Est des États-Unis.

Ce plus grand complexe hydroélectrique réalisé en Amérique du Nord permettant de produire davantage d'électricité propre, représente des milliers d'emplois pour les membres des métiers de la construction, dont plus de 1,000 pour les membres de la FIOE oeuvrant dans les secteurs d'intérieur, d'extérieur et de service public.

Le confrère Terry Rose, Gérant d'affaires de la S.L. 1620 de St. John's estime que la construction de la ligne de transmission nécessitera plus de 500 ouvriers. Cette S.L. regroupe des travailleurs d'extérieur à l'emploi de *Newfoundland Power*, une des entreprises de service public de la province.

Les sections locales 1615 (u) et 2330 (i) de St. John's seront aussi impliquées dans les travaux. Bien que la date d'inauguration des travaux n'ait pas encore été fixée, il est prévu que ce projet devrait fournir 2,700 emplois lorsqu'il atteindra son pic, selon Dawn Dalley, porte-parole de la société d'énergie Nalcor.

Ce nouveau complexe signifie la fermeture de la centrale thermique

de Holyrood alimentée au mazout lourd, qui emploie plus de quarante membres de la S.L. 1615 à l'heure actuelle. Le gérant d'affaires de la S.L., le confrère Robert Clarke, est en pourparlers avec la société d'énergie *Nalcor* afin de prévoir une formation pour les travailleurs, ce qui leur permettrait d'appliquer pour de nouveaux postes pour la dite société.

« Nous souhaitons débiter la formation le plus tôt possible afin que les travailleurs soient prêts pour commencer un nouvel emploi lors de la fermeture de la centrale prévue en 2017 » dit-il.

L'industrie électrique a été une vraie bénédiction pour la province, traditionnellement reconnue pour la faiblesse de son marché du travail. L'industrie pétrolière côtière a contribué à ranimer l'économie dans les années 90 et on s'attend à ce que cette expansion des marchés énergétiques résultant de ce nouveau développement, la place à la tête des provinces canadiennes.

« Plusieurs ouvriers qui avaient l'habitude de partir dans l'Ouest pour travailler peuvent maintenant envisager de rester dans leur coin de pays » conclut Mike Power, représentant international pour le Premier District. ■



## Circuits

### Scholarship Established in Memory of Apprentice

When Aaron Dineen was growing up on his family's farm in the vast forested area of coastal Washington, he quickly developed a love of exploring, facing challenges and working with his hands. These qualities suited him for life as a fifth-step apprentice lineman with Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245.

But an on-the-job accident cut that thriving life short on Sept. 22, 2009. Aaron was 22 years old.

To honor their son's memory, Aaron's parents Tom and Dale Dineen have established a scholarship in his name for area high school graduates looking to go into the trades.

"He loved what he was doing as an IBEW lineman," Tom said. "He talked about the trade all the time, and he liked the guys he was with. It was a really good group. And since he loved that work so much, we wanted to help extend the opportunity to others with similar dreams."

Following a service for Aaron in his hometown of Hoquiam, Wash.—where many members of his local traveled hundreds of miles to pay their respects—friends from near and far offered money to the family to help with any unexpected expenses following Aaron's passing.

"I think people just wanted to



*Aaron Dineen was a lineman with Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245.*

do something to help," Tom said. Within the first month following the accident, the family was "overwhelmed by the generosity of those who gave," he said.

"We would find envelopes full of cash on our porch, from flaggers on the ground to a retired lineman who purchased a brick with Aaron's name on it to be placed at a memorial for fallen linemen," Tom said, a member of the carpenters union in Aberdeen, Wash.

Before long, the family had received nearly \$10,000 from IBEW members and friends touched by the family's loss. Tom and Dale then contacted the Grays Harbor Community Foundation—a local group that works to improve the quality of life of area residents, partly by administering memorial scholarships and grants—to set up the award fund.

The family is still working out the particulars of how students can

apply for and receive scholarship funds, but the Dineens said they will start by offering a \$1,000 award to an outstanding candidate each year to attend an accredited trade school.

"We support what the family is doing in Aaron's name and are exploring options at the local level to support this as well," said Local 1245 Business/Safety Representative Ralph Armstrong.

"Aaron was an amazing man who was full of life, inspiration and had many dreams," the family said in a statement that will appear on the Grays Harbor Community Foundation Web site. "Aaron was always living life as fast as it came, not afraid of the challenges that lay ahead and lived out his dreams to the fullest. We are extremely proud of the man he became."

To make a donation to the Aaron Thomas Dineen Scholarship, please contact Grays Harbor Community Foundation Program Officer Cassie Jackson at 360-532-1600 or email [cassie@gh-cf.org](mailto:cassie@gh-cf.org).

For more information, visit [www.gh-cf.org](http://www.gh-cf.org). ■

### Labor Communicators Award IBEW Video, Social Media

IBEW's social media and video projects received several awards at the International Labor Communication



*The IBEW was singled out for its work on video and social networking.*

Association's Labor Media Awards luncheon on Nov. 19 in Washington, D.C. Members of two local unions also received recognition.

IBEW's Facebook Fan Page [www.facebook.com/IBEWFB](http://www.facebook.com/IBEWFB) received a first award in the general excellence category for social media produced by national and international unions. Alex Hogan, IBEW communications specialist, accepted the award on behalf of the Media Department. Says Hogan, "The IBEW Facebook page has been a huge hit with members and a great tool to get the union's message out, so we're honored to get recognition from some of best labor communicators for our effort."

Three first awards for video were presented to Producer Len Turner, Photographer John Sellman and International Representative Mark Brueggenjohann for "Health Reform: Real People, Real Problems" and "Henry Miller: Father of the IBEW" and "Mastering My Space." The Brotherhood won a third-place award for Web site content and received a second-place award for a video on the Telecommunications Code of Excellence and a second award for visual presentation and print for The Electrical Worker. The video archive is available at [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org).

Brueggenjohann says, "The leadership of the IBEW recognizes that video is a large component of an effective overall communications strategy and encouraged us to develop a successful video plan. It's a great honor to have our work recognized by our peers. Over the next year, we will be expanding and improving. This is really just the beginning for us."

Eric Wolfe, director of communications for Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245, added to his numerous yearly honors, winning second awards for Web site design, news, editorials and features, a third award for a story on political action and first awards for feature writing and reporting on collective bargaining.

Downers Grove, Ill., Local 21 received a second award in the multi-media campaign category. ■

### Remembering an Organizing Pioneer

In a legendary 16-year battle to organize court reporters in Cook County, Ill., no voice was stronger or more eloquent than that of Local 134 member Renia Boykin, who succumbed to cancer on October 15 at the age of 57.

Between 2003 and 2005, Boykin and her co-workers—facing intense opposition from judges—joined with other IBEW activists to push for passage of a state law supporting court reporters' rights to collective bargaining.

Sixth District Vice President Lonnie Stephenson met Boykin working on the lobbying campaign while he was as an International Representative. In a letter to her family, Stephenson said, "There are a few people you meet in life's journey that make an impression on you that you will never forget. Renia was one of those people in my life."

Stephenson recalled testimony that Boykin delivered at a hearing at the state capital, where she faced tough questions from anti-labor senators. He says, "She held her composure and answered them with dignity while getting her point

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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**Women's Black Button Front Cardigan**  
100% cotton black button front cardigan with IBEW fist and lightning bolts on left chest.

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



## Transitions

### DECEASED

#### Donna Hansen

We are saddened to report that retired Ninth District International Representative Donna Hansen died on Nov. 22.

Hansen began her union career as a shop steward representing Santa Ana, Calif., Local 2125 at Rockwell's aerospace plant. She was elected business manager of the predominantly manufacturing local which was later amalgamated with Los Angeles Local 2295.

Hansen relocated to Northern California and participated in several organizing drives as an International representative including campaigns in Texas, at Portland Gas and Electric in Oregon and at Fort Irwin, where the union sought to recruit technicians who specialized in radar and satellite technologies. She retired in 2001.

The officers and staff send our condolences to Sister Hansen's family. ■

across." A senator who rarely supported labor positions, says Stephenson, approached Boykin and told her he would support the legislation. "He could sense the sincerity in her voice."

In a press conference following the senate vote, Boykin said, "In court we don't say anything. We always sit there and everybody else makes all the noise around us, and that's exactly why we need a voice. We need a union to represent us."

Originally organized by Chicago

Local 1220, court reporters entered first contract negotiations looking for their first raise in 17 years, an increase in transcript rates and an end to working through lunch breaks without compensation.

Their first contract, signed in 2007, raised wages by more than 11 percent and included longevity increases of up to \$8,000. "We called the language that provided for those increases the 'Renia clause,'" says Chicago Local 134 Business Manager Tim Foley. Combined with

increased transcript rates and pay for working through lunches, some court reporters saw pay increases of up to \$30,000.

Recently, the court reporters ratified their second contract and achieved 90 percent of the improvements they sought.

"Renia's legacy of determination goes even further than her own bargaining unit," says Foley, noting that two still-unorganized units of court reporters now benefit from the gains won by Local 134. ■

## IBEW On Duty

### On Second Tour, Ohio Veteran Sees Progress in Iraq

Ryan Omais was still in his teens when the Twin Towers fell on Sept. 11, 2001. It was a pivotal day that left a lasting mark on the young man, now a first-year apprentice out of Steubenville, Ohio, Local 246.

"After 9/11, I felt like I needed to do something to serve my country," Omais said. He signed up for the Army Reserves, deployed to Iraq in 2004 and spent nearly two years in an engineering battalion after key events like the fierce battle for Fallujah.

Now on his second tour in the still-fragile country, Omais says conditions are different than at the height of combat a few years prior. Stationed at Joint Base Balad—one of the largest U.S. bases located in the Sunni Triangle just north of Baghdad—the staff sergeant commands 21 troops and works with the Iraqi army to train new soldiers.

"The situation on the ground is much improved since the first time I was here," said Omais, 28. "It's going much more smoothly than it did just a few years ago."

One of Omais' chief responsibilities is to supervise security for U.S. forces dismantling temporary bridges that were constructed to facilitate transport of troops and supplies from base to base. More than 20 bridges were built to replace older structures that were blown up by insurgents to cut off coalition forces' supply routes.

While Omais thanks the military for "giving [him] some direction" those years ago, he also credits a fellow service member for turning him on to the IBEW. Last year, Omais joined the apprenticeship through the Helmets to Hardhats program after talking with another soldier who touted the benefits of the union and the attention it gives to veterans. Omais also credits his brother's father-in-law, fellow Local 246 member Rick Fischer, for additional support.

"I had been working at a steel mill, and every day just felt like doing the same thing over and over," Omais said. "I like the idea of working construction as an electrician. Every job is different, and it challenges you to think. When you complete a project, you feel a real sense of accomplishment."



Steubenville, Ohio, Local 246 member Ryan Omais.

Omais expects to return home early next summer and appreciates support he receives from both the local and his employer, signatory contractor Bruce & Merrilees.

"Everyone has been supportive all the way through—from when I was training in the reserves to when I went overseas," he said. "They've been great."

Local 246 Business Manager Kyle Brown praised Omais' work ethic.

"Ryan was an excellent candidate when he applied and has gone on to perform over and above in his apprenticeship," Brown said. "He's respected by his contractors and co-workers, and we're looking forward to having him back home safely." ■

### Ontario Member Joins Afghanistan Peacekeeping Force



Windsor, Ontario, Local 773 member Roger Miner.

More than 2,500 members of the Canadian Armed Forces serve in Afghanistan on the front lines of the global war on terror.

Windsor, Ontario, Local 773 member Roger Miner is one of them. The experience has given Miner, who is serving his first tour of duty overseas, a renewed sense of respect for military veterans.

"People who haven't experienced what our troops go through don't know how good they have it," the master corporal says.

Canadians have suffered the highest per capita casualty rate of any nation participating in the NATO coalition, losing more than 150 soldiers since the occupation began in 2001, says the Washington Post.

Miner has been enrolled in the Canadian Army Reserves for five years. He is currently attached to the Royal Canadian Regiment, one of Canada's oldest infantry regiments.

A five-year IBEW member, Miner has been stationed in Afghanistan since May.

Miner's service is much appreciated by his brothers and sisters back home.

"We wish Brother Miner a safe return and congratulate him on his valiant efforts to keep us safe," says Local 773 Business Manager Solomon Furer. ■

### Correction

In our November cover story

"Roadblock to Recovery: 'Made in China,'" we inadvertently reported that North Canton, Ohio, Local 1985, where generations of IBEW members once produced Hoover vacuum cleaners, was defunct. We regret the error.

In a call to the International office, Local 1985 Business Manager Nick Tomey, a 34-year Hoover employee, said, "We still have 120 members. We've taken a lot of cuts. We're no longer making vacuum cleaners, but we're here and doing our best to move forward." Even though some Hoover products are made outside of the U.S., says Tomey, "We encourage consumers to continue to purchase Hoover products to support workers who are still on the job."

Most of the remaining Local 1985 members work in Jackson Township in Hoover's distribution center, now owned by TTI Floor Care North America, a China-based firm. They receive and send out products that arrive from China, Mexico and Texas. Others work in a plant producing disposable paper bags. Still others assemble and package a day with parts made elsewhere.

"So far, we have had a good relationship with TTI," says Tomey, who blames the Hoover plant shut-down and outsourcing on misguided governmental policies that encouraged corporations to relocate operations. "We kept asking for help and support, but not enough people in power were listening," says Tomey.



# Local Lines

## Labor-Wide Service

L.U. 1 (as,c,ees,ei,em,es,et,fm,i,mt,rts,s,se,spa,st&ws), ST. LOUIS, MO—Local 1 wishes a happy new year to all!



*IBEW Local 1 Pres. Tom George was re-elected as Missouri AFL-CIO vice president.*

In September 2010, at the 25th Biennial Convention of the Missouri AFL-CIO, IBEW Local 1 Pres. Tom George was unanimously re-elected as Missouri AFL-CIO vice president. Tom was appointed to that position

more than 10 years ago and has since been re-elected at every election cycle. Tom is also vice president of the IBEW Conference of the State of Missouri. He serves on the St. Louis Labor Council executive board, and is a member of the state building trades.

During his time in the Missouri Legislature as state representative, Tom served as chairman of the Labor Committee, chairman of Job Training, and was the lead Democrat on the Utilities Committee. Local 1 congratulates Pres. George for his re-election to the Missouri AFL-CIO, and for all his tireless work on behalf of Local 1 members.

We mourn the following members' deaths: Walter Kemper, Tony Cracchiolo, Richard Condon Jr., Allen Barnes, Frank Page, Benson Berry, James Hubbert, John Weller, Frank Kofron and Buss Paar.

*Matt Gober, P.S.*

## Great Day for Union Picnic

L.U. 11 (i,rts&spa), LOS ANGELES, CA—The weather was perfect at the 2010 local-wide picnic. Members and their families enjoyed a fun-filled day of music, food, games and prizes. Two In-And-Out Burger trucks were brought in to serve their famous hamburgers. Thank you to the generous sponsors and volunteers who made this event enjoyable for everyone.

IBEW/NECA sponsored an impressive booth at Solar International held at the Los Angeles Convention Center. The size and scope of this event prove that solar is here to stay. A VIP reception was sponsored at the Los Angeles Athletic Club on day two of the three-day event.



*Local 17 congratulates line clearance tree trimmers on completing their apprenticeship. From left are: Brad Holdorf, Apprentice Instructor Jason Dupuis, Bus. Mgr. Kevin Shaffer, Jason Bagnell, David Redlowsk, Larry Powers, LCTT Committee Rec. Sec. Mike Masterson, Asst. Bus. Mgr. and LCTT Committee Chmn. Don Thael, Ryan Ford, Ryan Thael, Brendan Schneider, Clay Carlson, Mike Horner, Andrew Laesser, Randy Wollet and Apprentice Instructor Winston Likert.*



*Local 11 Bus. Mgr. Marvin Kropke (front row, left) and Bus. Rep. Mitch Klein (front row, second from left, in pirate costume) join children of members at the local-wide picnic.*

Local 11 volunteers made 150,000 phone calls to union households urging support for labor-friendly candidates in the November midterm election. Our efforts using the new predictive dialer system installed at the Commerce union hall is believed to have made the difference in several close state and local races.

Students at Foshay's Elementary Village located in South Central Los Angeles thanked the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus for their generous donation of backpacks and school supplies. Elementary school students at a recent assembly held up hand-painted signs to show their appreciation.

*Bob Oedy, P.S.*

## Utility Local Update

L.U. 15 (u), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—On the generation side, Local 15 and Midwest Generation (owner of six of our fossil stations) reached agreement on a five-year package covering benefits. The package includes some retiree health care coverage for a number of employees who did not have any company subsidized coverage upon retirement. On the safety front, Will County Station approached 1,000 days without an OSHA

recordable. Dominion-owned Kincaid Station achieved another year with no OSHA recordable injuries.

The nuclear side has also been very busy with Exelon. The local is discussing Operating and Maintenance packages, including schedules and fire brigade issues. They have agreed to a Master Craftsman Award Program and extended the Radiation Protection and Travel Agreement packages.

The overhead area completed Line Schools at Joliet and Rockford. A group of overhead members donated line work to help a disabled Iraq war veteran. A new overhead group, The Aerial Specialist Group, was formed to regain our work on overhead transmission lines utilizing helicopters.

The clerical area held a stewards meeting at Local 15 to discuss specific areas of concern.

The local held another Stewards School to train stewards. We also sent our members to the Membership Development Conference, Sixth District Women's Conference, Utility Workers Coalition Conference and the Illinois State Conference.

*Doug Veda, P.S.*

## Facing Challenges Ahead

L.U. 17 (catv,em,lctt,o&u), DETROIT, MI—This past November's election was a disaster for the labor movement in Michigan. For the first time in decades the Republican Party will have the governorship, a majority in both houses and the Michigan Supreme Court. A bad economy and weak jobs growth will certainly fuel legislation for a "right to work" Michigan. All labor organizations will face this and other very serious challenges as we watch the Republican Party blame labor for everything that's wrong in this country.

On Aug. 2, 2010, Local 17 proudly recognized its first group of line clearance tree trimmers to complete their apprenticeship under the guidelines and recognition of the U.S. Department of Labor. [See photo, above.] The DOL apprenticeship standards of training were established by the Local 17 Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee.

The work picture for our contractor work force is starting to show some signs of life. As of this writing, we have 41 members on book 1.

Local 17 mourns the death of retired friend and Bro. Charlie MacKay.

Congratulations on their retirement to Bro. Bill Butler, a 41-year IBEW member, and Bro. Jay Sharkey, a 25-year member.

*Dean Bradley, P.S.*

## Remembering 'Mother' Jones

L.U. 21 (catv,govt&t), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—On Sunday, Oct. 17, 2010, IBEW Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill came to Illinois, attending three separate events held by labor in honor of the tough-as-nails, nationally known labor organizer Mary Harris "Mother" Jones.

Int. Pres. Hill, IBEW Sixth District Int. Vice Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson, Illinois AFL-CIO Pres. Michael Carrigan, unionists, historians and friends attended a

## 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	(mar) Marine	(ptc) Professional, Technical & Clerical	(s) Shopmen	(ws) Warehouse and Supply
(cr) Cranemen	(i) Inside			(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.





Among members from Local 37 who traveled to the 27th Annual International Lineman's Rodeo were, from left: Marty Cole, Frank Jewett, Mark McCann, Shawn Doyle, Heath Peterson and Blayne Morrissey.

memorial service at the Mother Jones Monument located in the Union Miner's Cemetery, in Mt. Olive, IL.

During an afternoon reception, Int. Pres. Hill, Stephenson and Carrigan met with union members and their families at IBEW Springfield, IL, Local 193. That evening, Pres. Hill was featured speaker at the 25th Annual Mother Jones Dinner, held at the University of Illinois at Springfield.

Pres. Hill spoke about many things on this great October day—the importance of knowing our own labor history, and how things repeat over time. Most important, Pres. Hill stressed that we must do more. Building worker power, organizing and mobilizing are what's needed, at an even more accelerated rate, taking it to the streets all across the globe. To survive, we must all fight this fight together, as one.

Mother Jones (1837-1930) gave blazing speeches in her day, rallying workers to powerful actions against the exploitative power of their employers. Her rallying cry was: "Pray for the dead and fight like hell for the living." This was her day. This is our time.

Thomas Hopper, P.S.

## International Lineman's Rodeo

L.U. 37 (em,o&u), FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA—After qualifying at the New Brunswick Power Lineman's Rodeo, five Local 37 linemen recently travelled to Kansas to compete in the 27th Annual International Lineman's Rodeo. They were journeymen Blayne Morrissey, Shawn Doyle, Heath Peterson and apprentices Marty Cole and Mark McCann. They were accompanied by members Frank Jewett, who was selected to go as a judge, and Jerry McCann, New Brunswick rodeo organizer.

The pool of competition included 156 journeyman teams and 209 apprentices. Although it had been close to 20 years since NB Power had a team entered, the team competed very well and gained a lot of experience.

"We knew it was going to be tough," said Jerry McCann. "They participated in some events that were new, but they watched others and were able to complete the events; many teams didn't even finish. Now that we know what to expect, I believe that we will improve our chances in all categories in the future," McCann said.

Apprentice Marty Cole thoroughly enjoyed the competition, where he won fifth place in the Overall Apprentice Award in the Municipal Division.

"It was a very rewarding experience and to get

an award was icing on the cake," Cole said.

Ross Galbraith, B.M.

## A Few Projects Scheduled

L.U. 43 (em,i&rts), SYRACUSE, NY—At the time of this fall 2010 writing, as with most other areas, the work had started to slow up. However, what was different in 2010 was that as of press time we had a few projects that were scheduled to start hiring during November or December 2010 and continue through the winter—allowing some of our members to stay at home for a while instead of hitting the road seeking employment.

Our October 2010 union meeting was also the annual retirees dinner. The membership honored 18 recently retired brothers. Several special service awards were also presented. Shown in the accompanying photo receiving service awards are 55-year member Pete Olivia and 50-year member Charlie Knapp.

Again during the 2010 midterm election cycle, our local was very active. On Nov. 2, the membership development committee had members on the streets helping the candidates who support our issues. We sent a newsletter out with a list of 25 candidates endorsed by Local 43. As of this writing, 19 of those candidates had won election.

Jim Corbett, P.S.



Local 43 Bus. Mgr. Don Morgan (center) presents service awards to 55-year member Pete Olivia (left) and 50-year member Charlie Knapp (right).

## Strong Work Picture

L.U. 47 (lctt,mo,o,u&uow), DIAMOND BAR, CA—Happy new year! The work picture at Local 47 remains strong. In outside construction, the books are moving and four substantial transmission projects will begin soon.

Congratulations to our members who competed

in the International Linemen's Rodeo. The following IBEW Local 47 members brought home trophies: Ryan Aruajo, Andy Cervantes, Juan Romano, Bruce Thompson, Dale Lorz, Richard Jimenez, John Satterfield, Lorenzo Deliso, Clayton Loback; and in the apprentice arena, Enoc Verdin Jr., Marc Ewalt, Randy White and Jestin Cornelison took 2nd place overall.

We held our 7th Annual Brotherhood Motorcycle Run. More than 150 members, families and friends participated.

Bus. Mgr. Pat Lavin was appointed to a panel by the CPUC to investigate the tragic San Bruno gas transmission line explosion.

We continue to have organizing victories despite the difficult economy. We won three NLRB elections in the last four months. We have also completed first contract negotiations with two line clearance companies and are nearing completion with a third.

We are sad to report the passing of James Bumpas, Ron Pendergrass, Terry Wilson, Greg Best, Bernell "Whitey" Johnson, Doug Nelson and Carlos Ramsey. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families.

Live safe, live well, work union!

Stan Stosel, P.S.



Bro. Roger "Cy" Tempel (right), retired IBEW journeyman lineman from the city of Anaheim, receives his 50-year service pin from Local 47 Pres. Ron Delgado.

## Work Picture Improving

L.U. 51 (catv,lctt,o,ptc,rtb,t,u&uow), SPRINGFIELD, IL—Local 51 wishes all IBEW members and their families a safe and prosperous new year as we begin the year 2011.

Local 51 and Exelon-Clinton Power Station reached a tentative four-year agreement. The local thanks Bobby Dean, Ken Frick, Bill Corley and Karen

Underwood for their efforts during negotiations.

Negotiations continue for Asplundh (LCTT & Outside Power), Nelson Tree, Wright Tree, American Line Builders (LCTT & Outside Power), L.E. Myers Mechanics, Henkels & McCoy (Teledata and Outside Power) and Donco Electric (meter readers).

Thank you to the Decatur, IL, Unit membership for their generous donations toward Sister Brittney Delgado's wheelchair ramp, to be constructed by volunteers from Decatur Trades & Labor Assembly.

As of this writing, our work picture continues to improve. Hopefully, all of our traveling members will be able to find employment within our jurisdiction by spring. Local 51 thanks all the locals that have been able to offer employment opportunities to our members.

Dan Pridemore, B.R.



Working on Exelon-Clinton Power Station negotiations are, from Local 51: Ken Frick (left), Bobby Dean and Karen Underwood.

## Best to All for 2011

L.U. 53 (lctt,o,rts&u), KANSAS CITY, MO—Our outside construction has been slow for the past year, and at this writing it doesn't seem that will change in the near future. Our local utility normally puts some work out in the fourth quarter but as of this fall writing, it did not appear that would happen in 2010. Recently we have seen layoffs in our line clearance/tree trimming also. Thanks to all the locals that have provided work for our traveling members in line construction and line clearance/tree trimming.

Local 53 participated in the 2010 Labor Day parade and picnic for our first time and we had a great turnout. I thank all the volunteers; we couldn't have done it without you. A special thanks to Rob Doran for chairing the Parade Committee and to Bruce VanCompernelle for assisting him. Great job, guys. There are a lot of good pictures from the



Local 53 members and families gather for Labor Day parade and picnic.



## Local Lines

parade on our Web site [www.ibewlocal53.org](http://www.ibewlocal53.org). We look forward to next year and an even bigger turnout.

Best wishes to all for a happy and prosperous new year ahead!

*Robert E. Stuart, B.M./F.S.*

## A New Year

L.U. 57 (lctt,mo,o,t&u), SALT LAKE CITY, UT—The holiday season is over and a new year is here. A change in the political climate is coming. The Brotherhood must continue to move forward, no matter what the outcome. I read the following in the November 2010 Electrical Worker, in Local 449's Local Lines article, and find it worth repeating:

"Keep the Brotherhood alive in everything you do. A strong union insures a future where members can work their careers, raise their families and retire with security. As we close out this year, let's pledge to support our union, organize the unorganized, create harmony within the ranks, and work for a better future for ourselves and our posterity."

The membership ratified a two-year contract extension with Rocky Mountain Power. The extension runs until January 2013.

The work outlook for outside construction remains steady, with enough projects to keep most of our members working. The workload is forecast to increase substantially in early spring, due to the number of impending bids that are out.

*Scott Long, P.S.*

## Line Crew Rescues a Family

L.U. 77 (lctt,mt,o,t&u), SEATTLE, WA—A Grays Harbor PUD (Public Utility District) line crew of IBEW Local 77 members saved the lives of two adults and six children, who were endangered by a house fire in Aberdeen, WA.

The line crew was returning to the utility around midnight on Oct. 25, 2010, when they saw flames pouring from a nearby home.

"We immediately reported the fire and pounded on the front door of the house," said line foreman Dale Benner. "A man answered and it appeared that we woke him up. We could see kids sleeping in the front room" and it was smoky inside. The crew of seven quickly evacuated all eight residents. "No one hesitated," Brenner said. "We were going in and out of the house and doing head counts. We wanted to make sure everyone was out."

The Aberdeen Fire Department credited the line crew for their quick action to save the lives of the family.



*An IBEW Local 77 line crew with Grays Harbor PUD rescued a family from a fire. From left are: flagger Rachel Fredrickson, line foreman Dale Benner, journeyman lineman Steve Tobin, flagger Toni Fairchild, journeyman lineman Justin Mills, head groundman Steve Button. Not pictured: line equipment operator Natheon Camus. [Photo courtesy of Grays Harbor PUD.]*

The Grays Harbor PUD line crew included line foreman Dale Benner, journeyman linemen Justin Mills and Steve Tobin, line equipment operator Natheon Camus, head groundman Steve Button and flaggers Toni Fairchild and Rachel Fredrickson.

"Everybody pulled together," said Benner. "We were just glad we were there to help."

*[This article and photo courtesy of Grays Harbor PUD.]*

*Lynne Moore, P.S.  
Patrick Darling, P.S.*

## NY State Utility Labor Council

L.U. 83 (u), BINGHAMTON, NY—This past legislative session was a special one for the men and women who work in utility call centers across New York state. Precedent setting legislation was passed to help keep utility call centers within the utilities service area and the borders of New York state. The IBEW utility unions of New York came together to form the New York State Utility Labor Council, to work to pass laws to help our members and stop laws that would hurt us. The Utility Council chairman is Danny E. Addy, president/business manager of Local 83; council secretary-treasurer is Michael Malek, business manager of Local 2032. Addy and Malek run the council with help from Third District Int. Rep. Dominick Macchia. It has been a success.

At this writing, Local 83 was busy working on the 2010 midterm elections. We have utilized our "Members Only" official e-mail for the hard working members of Local 83, which goes directly to the members' personal e-mail from the local weekly or biweekly with important information.

*Don S. Tuttel, P.S.*

## Negotiations & Elections

L.U. 97 (u), SYRACUSE, NY—Apologies for the long absence from "Local Lines." The local has been very busy with contract negotiations and extensions. The local also held elections last year. Our business manager/president for the past six years, Dave Falletta, has retired. Best wishes to Bro. Falletta for a happy retirement and many thanks for his leadership.

Local 97 officers elected in 2010 are: Bus. Mgr./Pres. Theodore J. Skerpon, Vice Pres. James J. Zabinski, Rec. Sec. Susan E. Sweeney and Treas. Ronald A. Gosson. Executive Board members: Zaffran F. Davis (National Grid P&M west), Robyn M. Palmer (National Grid TOC west), Thomas J. Ontano (National Grid P&M central), Gina D. Clifford (National Grid TOC central), George P. Squires Jr. (National Grid P&M east), Jill M. Duff (National Grid TOC east), Shaun P. Deasy (Constellation Nuclear), James K. Yerdon (Entergy Nuclear), Gustav J. Potkovich (NRG), Donald Netto (Brookfield), Michael J. McGuiness (PSEG, NYISO, Service Employees, St. Lawrence Gas, Town of Worcester).

Though many races were contested, all of the candidates have united behind our new leadership to work for the betterment of our members as we continue

the ongoing battles for good contracts.

Upcoming contract negotiations for this year include service employees in January; St. Lawrence Gas and NYISO in February; Constellation Nuclear in June; NRG, Entergy and National Grid 97C in September; and Town of Worcester in December.

The local has much work ahead. Let's support our leadership team by attending our monthly meetings and volunteering to help. Together, we make the union!

*John E. Delperuto, P.S.*

## New InterLink Transit Hub

L.U. 99 (govt&i), PROVIDENCE, RI—The new InterLink multi-modal transportation facility at T.F. Green Airport in Warwick, RI, had its grand opening Oct. 27, 2010. The InterLink transit hub is deemed a rousing success, connecting the railway with our state airport. This project, which includes a new multi-storied parking garage and car rental locations, is considered the most technologically advanced transportation hub in New England.

More than 100 Local 99 members worked on the InterLink project with several signatory contractors. Some 30 members worked for contractor James J. O'Rourke on the Customer Service Operations Building and the moving sidewalk. Rossi Electric worked on the parking garage installing 20-plus miles of rigid metal conduit. Contractors Sullivan & McLaughlin developed fueling stations at the parking garage and VDV contractor SYnet handled security and teledata work. The project showcases our versatility.

Local 99 is also working to capture the renewable energy market. We provided wind turbine training to some 60 members through our green energy grant by sending members to sister Local 8, Toledo, OH. Bus. Mgr. Allen P. Durand is working to secure wind turbine jobs for our members at the Fields Point Narragansett Bay Commission, as well as with our Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation (RIEDC), which is partnering with a wind turbine project in the Tiverton Industrial Park.

Also with the RIEDC Local 99 was selected to use our members on the "38 Studios" company's video game enterprise being developed by former Red Sox ace Curt Schilling. Local 99 was chosen for our skilled labor and track record of being "on time and on budget."

*S. P. Callaghan, P.S.*



*IBEW Local 99 members worked on construction of the InterLink transportation hub at T.F. Green Airport in Warwick, RI.*

## 'Focus on Moving Forward'

L.U. 125 (lctt,o,t&u), PORTLAND, OR—Midterm elections of 2010 have concluded, and it's now time to focus on moving forward. Whether your preferred candidate won or desired initiative passed, please direct your attention toward issues that will shape

2011. This is not the time to hold grudges; it's time to demand accountability.

Volunteers donated many hours to advocate for candidates and issues during this election cycle because they wanted to make a difference. Often, candidates assume office then "forget" their campaign promises. While we must recognize that an elected official may not vote in our favor on every issue, we do have the ability to demand accountability. Jobs and the economy were the driving themes of most platforms. We need to monitor officials' actions on these and other priority issues.

Our members must make their voices heard. Your local may ask you to call, e-mail, or write to your legislators. We may request your attendance at hearings, public meetings, and other activities. Get involved and help us protect your wages, hours and working conditions. The elections may have ended, but the work is just beginning. For more information on political and legislative issues affecting IBEW Local 125 members, visit [www.ibew125.com](http://www.ibew125.com).

*Marcy Putman, P.S.*

## CPR Training Saves a Life

L.U. 153 (em,i,rtb,rts,se,spa&st), SOUTH BEND, IN—On Oct 25, 2010, while bowling at Maple City Bowl in Goshen, IN, an announcement over the PA system asked if anyone knew CPR. I looked across the bowling alley and saw someone lying on the floor.

I knew the CPR/First Aid classes I had attended might help out, so I hurried over to help. A young lady was trying to give CPR to her mother. The young lady was crying and I noticed that her compression strokes were too slow as her mother's face looked bluish gray.

I remembered my CPR class instructor Ed Higgins say to always ask first if you can help, which I did. After getting the OK, I started compression strokes. I applied CPR for about 10 minutes until the EMTs from Goshen Fire Department arrived.

I felt relieved that I had the CPR training. I can't thank Local 153 enough for the training we take every two years. The bowling alley owner told me the next day that Jan Birr was recovering well and had a pacemaker installed. Doctors said that if CPR had not been applied she would have died.

They called me a hero, but without the training I've received, I could not have done it. I urge all IBEW members to continue taking these classes. One never knows when the training may be needed.

*Bruce Clark, R.S.*

## 'A Wake-Up Call'

L.U. 159 (i), MADISON, WI—Midterm elections took a toll on Wisconsin politics, with the loss of our state governorship to Republican control and the loss of longtime Democratic Sen. Russ Feingold to an unknown Republican businessman. This is a wake-up call as to what else could lie ahead, not only for Wisconsin but also for our nation.

As we enter a new year, we must re-energize our base and fight for those labor-friendly candidates who will work for the issues of middle-class Americans: health care, Social Security and living wage jobs. We can't afford to be complacent and allow the continued destruction of the working class. The construction industry has faced tremendous challenges, and we will only be heard if we are involved in the process.

On a brighter note, we celebrated our 22nd year bringing Fantasy in Lights—our free outdoor



holiday light display at Olin Park—to the community. We have gone green with our displays, using only LED bulbs. This event gives the IBEW and NECA members a great deal of positive exposure and is appreciated and enjoyed by all.

On the job front, the work picture remains slow at this writing. We expect to see some improvement as we get into the new year and toward spring. We will hopefully get some of our members returning to work and see better days ahead.

Wishing you all a happy, healthy and prosperous 2011.

*Joe Kapusta, B.A.*

## Chugach Industries Contract

L.U. 191 (c,i,m,o,r,tb&st), EVERETT, WA—Thanks to the members for all their hard work at the Naval Air Station on Whidbey Island in Washington state. On Oct. 1, 2010, Local 191 members began working under a new three-year contract with Chugach Industries Inc., which has a multiple-year contract with the U.S. Navy. Chugach is responsible for maintenance and small capital projects at the Navy base.

A longtime member and shop steward at the Navy base for Chugach Industries Inc., Art Morris retired after 14 years of excellent service. Local 191 thanks him for all his hard work on behalf of the local and the Brotherhood. Members like Art help make the IBEW stronger. Sidney Jetton has taken on the challenge of serving as the new shop steward. Thanks, Sidney, for stepping up to serve.

We appreciate all that the members did to get out the vote for the 2010 midterm election. The “Labor to Neighbor” program was a success. Volunteers are always appreciated for many different events; for volunteer opportunities please contact the Everett Hall at (425) 259-3195 for more information.

*Rob De Velder, P.S.*



*Local 191 shop members at Chugach Industries include: from left, Rob Van Dyk, Roger Rice, Ken Sousa, Rey Canosa, Steve Batts, Sidney Jetton, then-shop steward Arthur Morris, Shop Lead Foreman John Hawkes, Gerry Hollman, Ted Boyer and David Stasel.*

## Int. Pres. Hill Keynote Speaker

L.U. 193 (i,lctt,o,rts,spa&u), SPRINGFIELD, IL—IBEW Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill spoke at the new Local 193 hall, rolled up his sleeves, and had a nice meet-and-greet with the rank and file. Pres. Hill was the keynote speaker at the 25th Annual Mother Jones Dinner at the University of Illinois at Springfield and visited the Mother Jones Monument with Local 193 members. Pres. Hill gave a riveting speech on elections and labor issues, and received a standing ovation. Sixth District Int. Vice Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson also attended supporting labor in this area.

Electrical labor was donated at Mission

School, St. Patrick’s and the 10th Street Homeless Shelter. Local 193 thanks Marcus Kolis, Glenn Baugh, Paul Moore and Jim Tomasko. Material was donated by Springfield Electric Company, a true community leader with that “Springfield Spirit”!

Contract negotiations are upcoming with Nelson Tree Service and Sangamon County Central Dispatch System. All are to be tight and intense.

The 2010 midterm elections were unkind to labor, as many anti-union candidates were swept into office nationwide.

The following members have passed away: Jerry Bumgarner, Marty Turasky, Duane Peterson and Waldo Davis. Condolences go to their family and friends.

Hunting season is upon us sportsmen. Always be safe in the field, and enjoy the outdoors.

*Don Hudson, P.S.*



*Local 197 teledata apprentice Sean Tibbs (center) presents IBEW Local 197 with a flag that was flown in a combat mission over Afghanistan. From left are: Local 197 Rec. Sec. Angie Miller, Treas. Terry Spencer, Tibbs, Pres. Rich Veitengruber and Bus. Mgr. Lance Reece.*

## Members Serve Community

L.U. 197 (em&i), BLOOMINGTON, IL—As winter arrives, the work outlook remains slow in our area.

We are proud that our members are active with community projects in these tough times. Recently we had five teams raise money during a day of bowling for the Great Plains Life Foundation, a nonprofit service organization. The event was open to all the local trade organizations and a few area businesses. Our local fielded the most teams, and Bro. Steve Rousey won a prize for most money raised by an individual. Bro. Shawn Dehaven won a prize for

highest bowling score.

Additionally, the apprentices are holding a food drive during the holidays for a local food pantry. They invite members to drop off canned goods at the hall.

Also, we have another group of volunteers helping with the Festival of Trees.

We are saddened by the recent loss of two retired members. Let’s keep the families of Al Fogler and Bill Pillow in our thoughts.

We thank all the military veterans for their service. Recently, teledata apprentice Sean Tibbs awarded a flag to our local during a union meeting. The flag was flown in a combat mission by a Blackhawk

squadron in Afghanistan. Sean spent time in Afghanistan protecting our country serving in the Marine Corp, and we are happy to have him home.

We wish all a happy new year! Remember to get involved and stay involved in your local union.

*Mike Raikes, P.S.*

## Politically Active Season

L.U. 237 (i), NIAGARA FALLS, NY—Autumn was busy for Local 237. Several members attended the big One Nation Rally in Washington, D.C. on Oct. 2, 2010. The rally was held to support putting America back to work, equal justice and quality public education. The International welcomed us and our sister locals and the march was well attended by the

IBEW and other advocates of labor. See video on the IBEW Web site [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org).

Our union has been politically active supporting candidates who support labor. For the New York state governor’s race in particular, our local stepped up for Democratic candidate Andrew Cuomo. We attended a rally for Cuomo the weekend of Oct. 16. Due to the show of Local 237 members, the Democratic Committee asked if we would host Cuomo on Oct. 25. We said yes and it was an exciting day.

We developed a Phone Tree that lists every member of the local. With the Executive Board reaching active members; retired member David Saph reaching retirees; and Apprentice Pres. Joshua Walker reaching apprentices—we had great results. The Phone Tree was a big

success in organizing these political events. Thank you to all of Local 237 members, the Executive Board, retired member Dave Saph and Apprentice Pres. Joshua Walker for your support!

*Russ Quarantello, B.M.*

## D. Kennedy Building Dedication

L.U. 269 (i&o), TRENTON, NJ—Former business manager Donald J. Kennedy was honored at a special dinner Oct. 22, 2010. At the ceremony Bus. Mgr. Steve Aldrich unveiled a bronze placard of Bro. Kennedy’s likeness. The plaque was installed at Building 3 of Local 269’s campus. Attending the dedication were both active and retired members, labor and community leaders, as well as Third District Int. Reps. Randy Kieffer and Wyatt Earp as



*Local 269 officers, joined by IBEW Third District guests, gather at ceremony to honor former Local 269 business manager Donald J. Kennedy (front row, third from right). Front row, from left: Local 269 Asst. Bus. Mgr. Wayne DeAngelo; Pres. Clifford R. Reisser; Carles Martiante, former business manager; Carl Kraemer, former president; Kennedy; Third District Int. Vice Pres. Donald C. Siegel; and Int. Rep. Wyatt Earp. Back row: Local 269 Bus. Mgr. Stephen M. Aldrich and Int. Rep. Randy Kieffer.*

well as Int. Vice Pres. Donald C. Siegel, who spoke of Bro. Kennedy’s dedication, hard work, integrity and outstanding leadership in the labor movement.

Donald Kennedy was initiated into Local 269 in 1956. He served as business manager from 1967-1996 and also was Mercer County Building Trades president.

On Nov. 2, 2010, Local 269’s entire membership mobilized to get the vote out for midterm elections. Members worked hard to make their voices heard at the ballot box. Bro. Mark McTamney organized packets full of maps, instructions and door hangers. The packets were distributed to captains of the ten-member teams. Our teams hit the pavement in Mercer, Bucks and Burlington Counties with labor-to-labor walks, knocking on doors and manning phone banks. We did a great job, brothers and sisters. Your hard work will help create new opportunities for our local and our communities to grow.

*D. Brian Proctor, P.S.*

## Boise State University Project

L.U. 291 (i,o,r,tb&rts), BOISE, ID—On Aug. 5, 2010, our newly elected officers were sworn in for a three-year term. Elected were: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Aaron White, Pres. Dea Roth, Vice Pres. Jon Starke, Rec. Sec. Ron Ely, Treas. Shawn Evins; Executive Board members Aaron Alloway, Jesse Busack, John Ostolasa, Cary Sims; and Examining Board members Alex Kelly, Joe Longshaw and Lonny Wearin. Congratulations to all. Your dedication to Local 291 is appreciated.

Another successful summer picnic was held July 24, 2010, at Boise’s Municipal Park with some 200 in attendance. Thanks to Mike Gregory, Dea Roth, Greg Oyama, Shawn Evins, Rick Badely, Dennis Andersen, Ron Ely and many others who showed up at 5 a.m. to get it rolling. Everyone had a great time.

Our work outlook is still not very promising. At this writing, we have 256 on Book 1. The Boise State University College of Business and Economics project is just getting underway, and some new residence halls on campus are in design stage. Hopefully the proposed additions and expansion to Bronco Stadium get started soon. Many thanks to Bob Bodell and Local 449 for providing work for some of our members.

Thanks to all who contributed to the recent Habitat for Humanity project. Our next Habitat project should be underway by press time.

Congratulations to Joe Schneehagen on his I.O. appointment as construction lead organizer.

Here’s to a happier, more productive 2011.

*Ron Ely, R.S./P.S.*



## Local Lines



IBEW Local 351 picnic committee members, from left: Ray Listman, Wayne Bumm, Vince Torelli, Ed Reiser, T.J. Wolfe, Duke Collins, Ken Jones, Jim Fletcher, Bill Hosey, Buddy Blatcher, Ron Shaiko, Frank Hannum, Joe Trumbetti, Dan Cosner, Greg Berwick and Sean Newlin.

## 2010 Annual Picnic

L.U. 351 (c,cs,i,ltt,mt,o,se,spa&t), FOLSOM, NJ—We held our annual picnic last year at Morey's Pier in Wildwood, NJ. Again, we topped our previous year's attendance. We had more than 430 door prizes. The weather was great and everyone had a wonderful time. Special thanks to our picnic committee; they worked very hard to make sure everything ran smoothly.

Daniel Cosner, P.S.

## Tram Cars Installed at Airport

L.U. 357 (c,i,mt&se), LAS VEGAS, NV—On Sept. 23, 2010, Morse Electric and members of IBEW Local 357 installed six electric tram cars, provided by Bombardier, in the new ATS Tunnel at the McCarran International Airport Terminal 3 Project. The rigging, direction and setting of the six 40-ton electric motor powered trams were accomplished flawlessly by IBEW trained journeymen and apprentices.

Once the trams were lowered into the tunnel and set on the concrete tracks, the wiremen and apprentices installed guide wheels on the trams and pushed them into the loading platforms to make room for the next car. The process was completed in an 8-hour work day and was closely observed by officials from the Department of Aviation, Bechtel, Perini, and Bombardier. This represented a unique installation for the members of Local 357 and shows what training and cooperation with our NECA contractors can accomplish in this jurisdiction.

Congratulations to those involved for a job well done: Foreman Steve Beasley; journeymen Todd Diller, Josh Dillon, Wayne Glenk, Anthony Kline, William Vincent and Rowdy Wright; and apprentices Danny Haugen, Jon McCoy, Kevin Mundo, Salvador Robles and Caleb Rose.

Gary Pitts, A.B.M.



IBEW Local 357 members installed six Bombardier electric tram cars in the new ATS Tunnel at McCarran International Airport.

## Louisville Arena Project

L.U. 369 (em,es,i,ltt,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), LOUISVILLE, KY—The new University of Louisville basketball arena is a reality. The KFC Yum Center, as it is called, recently opened its doors to the public. IBEW Local 369 members did the electrical work on this project. It is a stunning building with views overlooking the city skyline, the Ohio River and southern Indiana. The open house was so well attended that two additional days of viewing were scheduled. The band My Morning Jacket rocked the house on Oct. 29, 2010; the lead singer is the son of a Local 369 member. The arena will be a center of attraction for years to come.

On Oct. 30, 2010, Local 369 held a celebration for its first 100 years of existence. The original charter was reinstated Dec. 7, 1910. I thank all those members who sacrificed much to propel us to this stage in our history. Without their courage and hard work we would not be here today. History tells us it was a rocky road to get to the first 100 years. Our task is before us and we must not waver in the sight of adversity; we must take on all challengers that would jeopardize our way of life. For without the union movement, there is no telling where the middle class of America would be today!

Here's hoping everyone has a happy new year.

John E. Morrison Jr., P.S.



IBEW Local 369 members helped build the KFC Yum Center, shown here three weeks before it opened.

## Tribute to Dedicated Service

L.U. 375 (catv,ees&i), ALLENTOWN, PA—Local 375 held its election of officers in June 2010. Congratulations to: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Brett Helfrich, Pres. David Reichard, Vice Pres. Craig Siegfried, Rec. Sec. Bruce Snyder, Treas. Alan Rex and Executive Board members Michael Alabovitz, Andrew Kubik, Al "Chick" Moyer and Wayne Muffley.

The entire local extends sincere appreciation



Local 375 Bus. Mgr. Brett Helfrich (left) and Training Dir. Paul Anthony (right) present awards to members Christopher Zippel (second from left) and Matthew Woodside.

to retiring business manager William Newhard and retiring assistant business manager/JATC training director Bruce Carney for their longtime dedicated service to the local membership and the labor movement. May your retirement years be filled with good health and happiness.

The local's 53rd Annual Clambake was held at Willow Tree Grove in Orefield on Sept. 11, 2010. It was a great day for horseshoes, volleyball and camaraderie. Food and beverage were plentiful as always, and everyone had a great time.

At the general membership meeting last September, Bus. Mgr. Brett Helfrich and JATC Training Dir. Paul Anthony presented awards to Bros. Matt Woodside and Chris Zippel. Bro. Woodside received an IBEW gold wristwatch for attaining the highest cumulative GPA for the apprenticeship class of 2010. Bro. Zippel received a Klein tool kit for achieving the second highest GPA for the class of 2010. Local 375 wishes all the graduates a successful and prosperous career.

Alan Rex, P.S.

## 70-Year Member Honored

L.U. 413 (em&i), SANTA BARBARA, CA—Despite threatening weather our annual barbeque and picnic was held Oct. 23, 2010, at Nojoqui Falls Park. Bus. Mgr. Chuck Huddleston presented Bro. John Roberts his 70-year membership pin, and Local 413 members celebrated John's 100th birthday along with John's wife, Gladys, and their family. Our two local union softball teams also faced off that morning, with the north barely edging the south by one run. Our Northern team was this seasons' summer league champion in their division. Golf tournament organizer LeRoy Villa was the "Low Gross" winner with a 65; Pres. Joe Furino Jr. took "Low Net" honors with a 61; and Lee Peneranda had the best "Low Calloway" score with a 71. E-board member Rockie Ginter won the Beau Ray/Ron Verbyke Trophy.

We have been blessed in this down economy.



Local 413 Pres. Joe Furino Jr. (left) and Bus. Mgr. Chuck Huddleston (right) present 100-year-old member John Roberts (center) his 70-year membership award, in addition to a "residential meter" trophy from Local 413 members and a plaque from the Labor-Management Cooperation Committee celebrating his 100th birthday.

We thank all the traveling brothers and sisters who have worked in our jurisdiction. We are told there is a lot of "green work" on the horizon; we may be competing with other unionized crafts for that work by all indications. We hope 2011 is better for all IBEW members.

Chuck Huddleston, B.M./F.S.



Local 441 Bus. Mgr. Doug Chappell (left) and Asst. Bus. Mgr. Richard Samaniego greet U.S. Rep. Loretta Sanchez.

## Politics Central

L.U. 441 (as,i&rts), SANTA ANA, CA—As the 2010 midterm political season was in full swing, Local 441 was a headquarters for getting union members out to vote. Since mid-September, several labor unions set up base at our local in hopes of getting labor friendly candidates elected on Nov. 2. The Orange County Federation of Labor, Alliance for Better California, Local 441 Bus. Mgr. Doug Chappell and Political Dir. Doug Mangione were all instrumental in coordinating precinct walkers and phone-banking volunteers daily. Every Saturday in September and October, the local was the staging area for local politicians to knock on doors and canvas their districts with union members spreading our message.

Everyone's hard work paid off, and labor proved influential in getting pro-labor candidates elected or re-elected in 2010—including Gov.-elect Jerry Brown, Sen. Barbara Boxer and Rep. Loretta Sanchez (who is the only Democrat in the U.S. House elected from Orange County).

A special thanks and congratulations to all our volunteers, members and staff who gave their time and energy for this election!

Rich Vasquez, B.R.



Fortunate Work Picture

L.U. 449 (catv,em,i,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), POCATELLO, ID—We have been very fortunate with our work picture this past year and wish to thank all the traveling brothers and sisters for helping us staff our work.

As of Nov. 1, 2010, we have signed up 73 new members and lost 33. At the time of this writing, our membership is at the highest level in our local’s history. As organizing is a top priority, retaining membership is as well.

Mentoring, encouraging members to get involved and participate in meetings, attend local union functions and events—as well as volunteering on community projects—are all good tools for retaining membership.

We are in the early stages of starting a club to educate spouses of members on our agreements, health insurance, pension, and local union functions. We are receiving positive feedback from the membership on this idea as our livelihood includes our whole family, and we feel this will strengthen our local on many levels. As the wider labor movement fights to survive challenges—from political foes, negative news media and an often uninformed and unrepresented work force—we need to understand issues and work together to strengthen our own survival.

Congratulations to Bro. Terence Fitzpatrick on his retirement.

Mike Lee Miera, V.P./Organizer

Union-Built Web Site

L.U. 453 (govt,i,rtb,rts&spa), SPRINGFIELD, MO—Best wishes to everyone for a happy new year. With the powerhouse finishing up, news is scarce right now so I will give an update on the local’s Web site. We have developed a new Web site using a union Web host and their built-in modules. Our site now rivals the best and is union built! We can enter our endorsements, re-sign online, do secure online voting, blogs, classified ads, message boards, and mass e-mails to the membership. There is a secure log-in area for members only. Now instead of having to program special features, we can e-mail the Web host to install them. Our site is [www.ibew453.com](http://www.ibew453.com). Special thanks to Eugene Long for his help and knowledge selecting this Web host.

Please welcome our first-year apprentices: Skylar Ingle, Nathaniel Oster and Charles Young.

Regular union meetings are the second Thursday of each month at 6:30p.m. Please try to attend.

Kevin McGill, P.S.

Bike Run & Golf Outing

L.U. 503 (t&u), MONROE, NY—The Local 503 inaugural charity bike run and barbecue was held Sept. 19, 2010, at the American Legion Post 488 in Monroe, NY. Although crews had been sent to Queens and Staten Island to lend mutual aid following a storm that interrupted power to thousands, and other motorcycle events were also taking place in the area—we still had a great turnout and a good time.

The event started at the Legion Hall and wound through the scenic countryside of three counties ending 70 miles later back where it started. All other proceeds went to benefit The Wounded Warriors Project, which provides programs and services to severely injured service members during their transition from active duty to civilian life.

On Sept. 20, Local 503 held its 11th annual

golf outing to benefit the local’s holiday gift basket program. The program provides food baskets to needy families in Orange and Rockland Counties during the holiday season.

Brothers and sisters from Locals 503, 363 and 1249 along with management representatives from Orange & Rockland Utilities Inc. and Con Edison attended. The charity event hosted some 80 golfers, even though many crews were away on mutual aid. Those who made it enjoyed a wonderful event with great food, prizes, and a terrific day for golf.

Judd Pollack, P.S.

Kudos to Volunteers

L.U. 551 (c,i&st), SANTA ROSA, CA—Happy new year to all. November’s elections fared well for us here in California. With our new governor we are hopeful that 2011 will bring us a new year with good prospects of jobs for our members.

We worked hard to get our labor friendly candidates elected. From rallies, to phone banking and knocking on doors day in and day out, we got the job done. Thank you to all our members who volunteered. You did it!

Organizer John Lloyd is helping to host an Hour Power episode. They will be filming Montgomery High School on the installation of LED replacement lighting with local company Greenray Lighting. Greenway manufactures LEDs to replace fluorescent fixtures. In one recent test performed by Local 551, fluorescent lights measuring 690 watts dropped to 366 watts after a retrofit in a local nursing home.

We are working on two solar homes for Habitat for Humanity in Healdsburg. Volunteering for this organization is always rewarding. We also recently broke ground for two additional solar homes in Sebastopol. If you’re an apprentice this is a great opportunity to sharpen your skills!

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

Labor Day Fundraiser

L.U. 553 (i,mt,o&ws), RALEIGH, NC—We thank the brothers and sisters who attended our first annual Labor Day cookout. Thanks to funds raised by brothers and sisters attending, we were able to send small contributions to assist two widows and a brother recovering from hip replacement surgery.

Several members from Local 553 attended the big One Nation Rally held Oct. 2, 2010, in Washington, D.C. Joining a large IBEW and labor-wide contingent attending the rally to speak out for jobs and workers’ political issues were: Local 553 Bus. Mgr. Ron Cockman, Pres. Bill Koonce and myself.



Attending the Local 553 Labor Day cookout are: front row, from left, David Brewer, Press Sec. David Ingram, Jeff Dickson, Executive Board members Tony Allen and Stewart Monroe; middle row, Examining Board member Jerry Williams, Pres. Bill Koonce, Executive Board member Blake Edwards, Joe Boyette; back row, Mike Carrol and Executive Board member Matt Dickson.

We are saddened by the loss of member Gary “Candyman” Jensen. We send our condolences to his family. He will be missed.

Best wishes for a happy and prosperous new year to all.

David A. Ingram, P.S.

Business Manager Transitions



Former Local 569 business manager Al Shur.

L.U. 569 (i,mar,mt,rts&spa), SAN DIEGO, CA—With more than 40 years of union activism, Al Shur served as Local 569 business manager from 1995-2010. Al’s extensive contributions to the IBEW and the labor movement are impressive.

Al became an IBEW member in 1967 and quickly distinguished himself through his political involvement as a rank-and-file member. His activism and vision led him to serve on our Executive Board and then as business manager. IBEW 569 became a player in San Diego political circles with Al’s vision and hard work. In 1997, Local 569 was one of the first training centers in the U.S. to establish a solar PV and energy efficiency curriculum. Al believed that a sustainable environment mandates union jobs in a sustainable economy. He was instrumental in equipping our training center with an 80 kW photovoltaic system, and our union hall with a 90 kW photovoltaic system. He was a founding member of California Unions for Reliable Energy (CURE) and the regional Apollo Alliance. Al was the main reason that a project labor agreement was secured for the ballpark where the San Diego Padres play.

Thank you, Al, for your many great achievements as a union leader.

David Taylor, P.S.

Newark AirTrain Contract

L.U. 589 (rr), JAMAICA, NY—It was a busy summer last year for Local 589. Our local organized and negotiated a contract for the employees of Newark AirTrain service. The contract was ratified and Local 589 now has some 85 new members to represent. Congratulations and welcome to our newest members.

Also last year, Local 589 was represented at the UTU-BLE (United Transportation Union—Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers)

“Weekend at Bernie’s” fundraiser/golf outing in upstate New York. It was a great time for a very good cause.

Our Fin. Sec. Steven Schmitt organized a basketball tournament “Hoops for

Hope.” This was a fundraiser for a local student injured in an accident. Our Gen. Chmn. Rick Sanchez, Pres. Glen Chandler and our Executive Board members participated, and a good amount of money was raised. One fact was clarified—our union officers need to stay with representing electrical workers, and forget about basketball! It was a very successful function. Thank you to all.

Have a safe and happy new year.

Augie Maccarone, R.S.

Thanks to all Volunteers!

L.U. 595 (c,govt,i&st), DUBLIN, CA—On Nov. 2, we all cheered when our IBEW-endorsed candidates swept the Nov. 2 elections in California. We had a tremendous outpouring of labor support in the last weeks of the campaign and our members really got engaged to send a message from California: “No to a hostile corporate takeover of California!” Billionaire Meg Whitman spent more than \$160 million trying to buy the governor’s mansion, but labor-endorsed Gov.-elect Jerry Brown won overwhelmingly.

Congratulations to all Local 595 members and friends who walked, phoned and got the vote out for labor. Labor-endorsed candidates prevailed across the state. As we went to press, U.S. Rep. Jerry McNerney had also won his bid for re-election to California’s 11th Congressional District. That district was targeted by groups hostile to labor, and the union movement in Alameda County mounted a huge effort to return McNerney to Congress.

At year’s end, we had some exciting events scheduled to close out 2010: Old Timers Night for our pin recipients; volunteer recognition night at our December general membership meeting; our retiree’s holiday luncheon; and our fantastic “Santa at the Hall” events in Dublin and Stockton.

We recently celebrated the groundbreaking for our new JATC building. The new facility almost doubles the training space and is a huge investment for the future of our IBEW.

Tom Mullarkey, B.R.

Wind Tower Projects

L.U. 601 (i&rtb), CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, IL—Local 601 had its Annual Golf Outing with 16 foursomes participating and everyone had a great time. The winning foursome comprised Orcutt family members (Bud, David, Don and Phyllis Orcutt) with a score of 14 under par. After the golfing, a great meal was served followed by a 50/50 drawing. We thank everyone who helped with the golf outing and meal preparation.

At press time, there are 71 members on Book I; 313 members on Book II; and 14 apprentices out of



The Local 601 annual golf outing winning foursome are, from left: Don, Bud, Phyllis and David Orcutt.



## Local Lines

work. We do see a light at the end of the tunnel with the work situation in our area starting to perhaps look better for the year ahead. Several wind tower projects are expected to start soon, with the second phase adding another 200 towers. We thank Rockford, IL, Local 364 for providing Local 601 with a course in High Tower Rescue Training. At this writing, the first class was scheduled for November 2010.

Dan Hatter, P.S.

## Foreman Development Classes

L.U. 611 (catv,es,govt,i,lctt,o,spa,t&u), ALBUQUERQUE, NM—As of this writing, work has been slow with about 180 members on book 1.

Since July the hall has been putting on Foreman Development classes at the JATC. They are two-hour modules that start with the "Role of the Foreman" and wrap up with "Project Closeout." The classes are on weekends and last about six weeks. There is no cost for these classes but advance registration is required. If you attend four two-hour modules, you can apply eight hours toward your continuing education credits.

If you are thinking of becoming a foreman or already work as a foreman, these classes are definitely worthwhile. The classes are put on by Tom Ross and James "Little Greek" Anagnostelis. Call the JATC for further information.

The 2010 apprentice lineman of the year is Daniel Trujillo. Daniel also placed first at the outstanding apprentice competition for outside linemen in the Seventh District.

Local 611 sends condolences to the families of recently deceased members Tony W. Bruce, Ruben W. Salazar and Charles W. Wethington.

Best wishes to all for a happy new year ahead.

Darrell J. Blair, P.S.



Local 611 Asst. Bus. Mgr. Jim Baca (left) and Bro. Joe Padilla (right) congratulate apprentice lineman of the year Daniel Trujillo.

## New Training Facility

L.U. 613 (em,i,o,rts&spa), ATLANTA, GA—Local 613 AEJATC and the Atlanta Electrical Contractors Association recently had a grand opening of our new apprenticeship and training facility. It is a beautiful, spacious 33,000 square-foot building located on the northeast side of town, just minutes from our hall. We are glad to have enough room to give our apprentices a well-rounded education. There is also enough room for future expansion and journeyman training.

We were joined for the occasion by local members, contractors, vendors, instructors, a host of friends and our U.S. Rep. Henry "Hank" Johnson. With the new training facility, students have enhanced opportunities for valuable hands-on training. The labs

are spacious and each student gains experience with solving realistic work problems in a training setting.

One of our instructors, Bob Foster, a 42-year member, has been teaching "fire alarm" for some time. He gives each student an opportunity to work with this application of study.

Beatrice Andrews, A.B.M.



Local 613 instructor Bob Foster demonstrates fire alarm board.

## In Tribute to a Brother

L.U. 617 (c,i,mo&st), SAN MATEO, CA—The local recently lost Scotty Turner, 40-year member and past SMJATC training director and instructor, after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

As a JATC instructor for 22 years, Scotty's sense of humor and wit kept many an apprentice on his toes. He was the classic storyteller and made the curriculum more interesting with his usual narrative flair. Scotty served as training director from 1996 to 2003, and retired afterward.

Scotty is remembered, by many of us who worked with and learned from him, as a man of strong character with clear principles. He was an individual with great integrity and maintained a positive outlook on life, even as he faced a particularly difficult struggle with cancer. We miss you, brother. ...

The membership was at its best once again as we approached the recent local and state elections. Phone banks and precinct walks saw a big turnout of union volunteers and our hall was again the hub of election activity in San Mateo County. Four local school construction bond measures passed, translating into \$400 million in future renovations and a light at the end of the recession

tunnel. Prop 23 took on big oil to further California's leadership role in clean energy production.

Dan Pasini, V.P.

## Happy New Year to All

L.U. 625 (ees,em,i,mar&mt), HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA—Season's greetings from Local 625 members on the mainland of Nova Scotia to all the brothers and sisters everywhere in North America. Here's to a happy and prosperous new year for everyone.

The work situation slowed in the last quarter of 2010, but it looks promising for the second quarter of 2011 with some work locally and hopefully some work on the road coming soon.

Bro. Sheldon Thomas retired in October. We

wish Sheldon good health and good times.

Retired Bros. Clarence "Tony" Marks and Norman Wright passed away in February 2010. Also last year: Bro. Ian MacDougall, 53, passed away April 3; Bro. Joel Hatt, 23, passed away April 20; retired Bro. Frank Holman, 68, passed away July 9; Bro. Norbert Beamish, 57, passed away Aug. 8; and retired Bro. Doug Gloster, 64, passed away Oct. 23. Members in attendance at union meetings in 2010 observed a moment of silence for these brothers.

Our Retirees Banquet in October 2009 was well attended with 112 members and guests. Music was presented by "Time Machine" with Bro. Fred Stratten on lead guitar and his wife, Nancy, as lead singer. All retirees are urged to attend next year.

Tom Griffiths, Pres.



Retired Bro. Phil Wallace and partner Shirley Burris attend Local 625's annual retirement party. Phil and Shirley created and maintained Local 625's Web site for eight years. Phil is currently Executive Member-at-Large.

## Golf Scramble a Success

L.U. 681 (i,o&spa), WICHITA FALLS, TX—We recently held our first Golf Scramble to help our Brotherhood grow and the event was a great success. We had 12 teams play. The winning team included Bro. Charlie Morath, Larry Cargal, Rinnie Morath and Bro. Chuck Howard. Second place: Bros. Regis Cannon, Tim Flaherty and Bud Young. Everybody had such a good time they are ready to do it again. We plan on making this an annual event.

The work situation is a little slow, but we are hopeful it will turn around soon.

Leland Welborn, A.B.M.

## IBEW Service Pins Awarded

L.U. 683 (em&i), COLUMBUS, OH—Hope you got out to vote in the November midterm election. As a majority we voted for hope and change but we can't seem to be patient enough to let it play out. Real change takes time, planning and participation. We

thank those members who manned the phone banks to get out the vote.

On Sept. 10-12 last year, a two-day free camping trip was held at Alum Creek State Park. Also, the retirees had a wiener roast at the home of the Maurey's.

We congratulate members who have taken their pension as of Aug. 1, 2010: Jeffrey Bender, Paul Falk, Keith Fitzpatrick, Darrell Howell, Andy Jacobs and Russell Mall.

The Annual 25-Year Club Dinner & Dance was held Oct. 15 at the Villa Milano. Also 5-, 10-, 15- and 20-year pins were given out at the Sept. 9 union meeting. Congratulations to all.

We extend condolences to the families of our recently deceased members: Robert L. Nunley, Dale Metcalf, Lee Creiglow, Joshua C. Owen, William A. Schirtzinger, David West, Billy J. Walden, Andrew J. Shaffer, Wallace D. Watkins Jr., Ralph L. Jordan and Edwin E. Schneider.

Again we thank other locals that have helped our traveling members, especially Charleston, WV, Local 466.

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

## Legacy of A Centenarian

L.U. 697 (c,es,i,mt&se), GARY AND HAMMOND, IN—These thoughts come from Bus. Mgr. Raymond E. Kasmak.

With great sorrow we acknowledge the passing of Larry "Buster" Pelka on July 27, 2010. Buster was our oldest member at age 101. He was born in 1909, two years before this local union was chartered. He was initiated in 1927 and retired in 1973. We honored him at our 2006 Member Awards Night banquet and he was a big hit. I also had the pleasure of attending his 100th birthday celebration and a photo of us at that event appeared in this publication shortly thereafter.

As recently as this summer, Buster visited the construction site of our new Training and Administration facility. He engaged the site superintendent in a conversation about the building and took some photo ops. Buster was very active even at his advanced age. He will be missed and we extend condolences and prayers to his sorrowing family.

Heritage by definition is a legacy, or inheritance handed down from one generation to another. This holiday season let us truly give thanks for the legacy that has been given to us and let us diligently work to preserve that legacy to pass on to our next generation.

Have a blessed new year!

David A. Soderquist, P.S.



Attending swearing in of Local 753 officers are, from left: Local 753 Pres. Tony Parrish; Executive Board members William Nichols, Shannon Vaughn and Greg Johnson; Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Dick Wilson; Int. Sec. Emeritus Jack F. Moore; Executive Board member William O'Neal; Vice Pres. David Johnson; Executive Board members Darrell Walker and Jim Foster; Treas. Craig Rost. Not pictured: Executive Board member Larry Maric and Rec. Sec. David Beahan.



## Newly Elected Officers

L.U. 753 (u), SPRINGFIELD, MO—Local 753 is proud to introduce our newly elected and re-elected officers and board members. Local 753 was also honored to have International Sec. Emeritus Jack F. Moore swear in the officers. *[Photo, pg. 14.]*

Officers elected are: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Dick Wilson, Pres. Tony Parrish, Vice Pres. David Johnson, Rec. Sec. David Beahan, Treas. Craig Rost; and Executive Board members Jimmy Foster, Gregory Johnson, Larry Maric, William Nichols, William O'Neal, Shannon Vaughn and Darrell Walker.

We thank those who helped and participated in the Labor Day parade and cleanup day.

Remember, our Local 753 meetings are the third Thursday of every month. Hope to see you there.

*Brian Brawley, P.S.*

## Business Plan

L.U. 827 (catv&t), EAST WINDSOR, NJ—Last April, Vice Pres. Joe Penna and myself met with Verizon leaders to discuss a business plan. This plan will increase the Verizon FIOS customer base in New Jersey. FIOS is a great product for voice, data and video. I have often said that Verizon designed a Cadillac, yet markets and maintains it like a Volkswagen.

By 2012, Verizon in New Jersey will have passed over 18 million homes with fiber, yet as of November 2010, only 300,000 customers are on the new network. Today's customers want good service. We have provided a business plan to the employer that will increase the workload and keep the customer base. It includes a partnership with the New Jersey AFL-CIO and other IBEW locals in New Jersey. In a year of corporate downsizing our goal is to increase membership. Let us hope the corporation can get past the bottom line and see the bigger picture with the potential for additional customers, which in turn should increase the membership.

Local 827 officers and business agents wish everyone a happy, prosperous new year.

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

## Fight for Working Families

L.U. 915 (i&mt), TAMPA, FL—The midterm elections turned out to be brutal for working families in the state of Florida. Many of our most intelligent and passionate supporters lost their campaigns. The new cabinet and legislature leaders have made their disdain for the labor movement common knowledge. Now we surely must fight for the benefit of our members and all of Florida's working families, use this experience as a wake-up call, and mobilize like never before.

During one of our local's labor walks to union members' homes, we were honored to have in attendance at our hall Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill and Fifth District Int. Vice Pres. Joe S. Davis. Pres. Hill rallied the volunteers before the walk, boosted morale and gave encouragement that our efforts are never in vain. It was a good day for brotherhood and solidarity.

Bros. Felix Gonzalez and Jon Dehmel held Local 915's first Halloween party. It was well attended and the kids both old and young enjoyed themselves. Thank you to these brothers and their volunteers for giving our families a safe place to celebrate this occasion.

*Theresa King, P.S.*

## Community Service Award

L.U. 965 (em.govt,ptc&u), MADISON, WI—In 2010, Local 965 began recognizing active and retired members who give back to our communities by volunteering. We established the "Charlie Award," which is named in recognition of the first recipient, Charlie Wilhelm. Charlie inspired the need to recognize members giving back to our communities through his involvement with Habitat for Humanity and other charitable activities. Any member who knows of a fellow active member or retiree who gives back to our communities through volunteering can submit an application to the local union office. The Local 965 Executive Board will select the applicant they believe is most deserving at the January Executive Board meeting.

In addition to individual volunteering, the different units of this local are authorized to request charitable contributions to be made by the local union to various organizations and charities in and around the communities served by those units. Local 965 is proud of the membership's approval of these requests that come from their unit meetings over the course of the year. In these hard economic times, caused by the greed of a few, it is more important than ever that we extend a hand to those organizations that do so much in our communities.

*Kurt Roberts, P.S.*

## National Grid Agreement

L.U. 1049 (lctt,o,u&uow), LONG ISLAND, NY—"Information, Communication, Education"—that is the longtime mantra of Bus. Mgr. Bob Shand. Utilizing our new state-of-the-art media center, we invite guest speakers to our general meetings who inform members on benefits, community events and political issues. A recent guest was U.S. Rep. Steve Israel.

We completed negotiations with our largest employer, National Grid. Chief negotiator Bob Shand led the main Negotiating Committee and several subcommittees. Our union negotiators secured additional security for the membership by negotiating a four-year agreement. We created new jobs and new career paths. The agreement includes a no-lay-off clause, general wage increases of 2.5 percent in each year of the contract and other economic enhancements. We protected retiree medical and pharmaceutical coverage. Additionally, the company agreed to more accurately calculate the pensions for our members who collect shift premiums.

Concurrently, we negotiated new contracts for our members covered under our "Temporary Labor Restricted to Flagpersons" Agreement and another for those who are employed by Riggio Valve. Our flaggers have a new three-year agreement with general wage increases of 8.26 percent compounded. For our members employed by Riggio Valve, we negotiated a four-year agreement with general increases of 3.5 percent, 3.5 percent, 3.5 percent and 4 percent. There will also be a 3.5 percent increase in their annuity. At this writing, we are negotiating with Waste Recycling Solutions Inc.

See you at the next general meeting.

*Thomas J. Dowling, R.S.*

## 'Rank and File Support'

L.U. 1245 (catv,em.govt,lctt,o,pet,t&u), VACAVILLE, CA—Seventeen apprentice linemen from Outside Construction, NV Energy, the City of Lodi and PG&E



*Local 1245 apprentices gather at the 2010 International Lineman's Rodeo. Standing, from left: Josh Ramos (Lodi); Steve Eaton, Mason Grammar, Jacob Kleinbach, Chris Tate, Nathaniel Mora, Chris Henry and Aaron Tulchinsky (Outside Line); Stevie Bennett, Jr. (NV Energy); and Cyrus Riley (Outside Line). Kneeling: Anthony Robbins (Outside Line), Jeff Deweese (NV Energy), Romanic Martinez (PG&E), Brandon Gonzales (Outside Line), Jason Borsini (NV Energy), Cody Ellis (Lodi), and Kyle Hermansen (NV Energy).*

gained a new appreciation of the union when they traveled to Kansas for the 27th Annual International Lineman's Rodeo in October 2010.

Steve Bennett Jr., a sixth-step apprentice at NV Energy, said the rodeo showed him that "all the locals are fighting for the same rights, the same benefits, all over the country. The union is part of what we do."

A journeyman team from Turlock Irrigation District took first place in a journeyman "mystery event," as well as third place overall in the municipal utility division. Modesto Irrigation District's journeyman team also performed extremely well.

Massive rank and file support helped power the negotiation of a new tentative agreement for clerical members at Pacific Gas & Electric. A large majority of the 2,500-member unit signed a petition opposing company proposals for two-tier wages and the contracting out of IBEW work—management withdrew those proposals. If ratified, the agreement provides wage increases of 9 percent over its four-year term.

Local 1245 retirees at NV Energy protested reductions in their medical benefits with a large rally at the utility's Las Vegas headquarters. The union recently published another series of full-page ads in the state's leading newspapers, produced and aired a 60-second commercial in Nevada's major TV markets, and continued a Web-based campaign of Google ads that feature a three-minute video of retirees telling how they feel about losing medical benefits after long-time service to the utility. A poll commissioned by Local 1245 shows NV Energy customers are deeply dissatisfied with the utility's service. The local petitioned the Nevada Public Utilities Commission to investigate work force shortages at the utility.

*Eric Wolfe, P.S.*

## Maine IBEW Locals Meet

L.U. 1253 (i), AUGUSTA, ME—Local 1253 was pleased to host an Oct. 13, 2010, meeting of the Association of Maine Paper Mills. Thanks to the mill locals for the invitation to all Maine IBEW locals. The interaction at this meeting between the 10 locals in attendance—representing maintenance and operations, telephone, utility, railroad, inside and outside—was invaluable.

In addition, the opportunity

was taken by all to endorse U.S. Reps. Chellie Pingree and Mike Michaud in their bids for re-election. We are happy to report the success of both.

*William Gifford, P.S.*

## A Brother Mourned

L.U. 1307 (u), SALISBURY, MD—Local members were saddened by the recent death of Bro. Mike Healey, following an illness with cancer. Bro. Healey was hired by Delmarva Power in 1983 as a journeyman lineman in the Exmore District. He advanced to lead lineman and later became a trouble serviceman in the Salisbury District. In 2008, Mike became a protective equipment tester, the job he held when he passed away Sept. 24, 2010. Mike will be missed. We extend condolences to his family and friends.

On Oct 12, 2010, members of Local 1307 employed by Choptank Electric Co-Op ratified a new five-year contract. The contract includes wage increases of 3 percent, 3 percent, 3 percent, 3.25 percent and 3.25 percent. There were changes in the lineman training program and the FR (flame resistant) clothing provision. Changes were also made in vacation and sick leave. The negotiating committee was made up of Pres. David Adkins, E-Board member Ginny Williams, members Chuck Dean, Marvin McDonald, Buster Nelson and Mark Nicolle, assisted by Int. Rep. Kenneth W. Cooper. We thank this group for a job well done.

Until next time: save jobs, limit imports.

*Edward D. Sparks, P.S.*



*Great participation by 10 IBEW locals was noted at the October 2010, Association of Maine Paper Mills meeting. Among attendees were, from left: IBEW Int. Rep. Paul Ward; Dave Boudreau, Local 1768; Cam Gallo, Local 1750; Calvin Murphy, Local 1253; and Jenn Nappi, Local 2327.*



## Local Lines

## Rich in Service to the Union

L.U. 1439 (u), ST. LOUIS, MO—Former business manager Tom Fagan proudly accepted his 50-year award from current Bus. Mgr. Mike Walter. St. Charles was Tom's home district where he worked as a journeyman lineman for Ameren/UE. Tom served as a steward, Executive Board member, and business representative until taking the helm as business manager from 1996 to 2000. During his tenure as political director for the St. Louis Labor Council, Tom used his expertise in the political field to help educate and cultivate candidates with labor's best interest at heart. Tom is currently busy with all "retiree duties" including those of "grandpa."

We had a good showing at the 27th Annual International Lineman's Rodeo in Bonner Springs, KS. Apprentice Chad Zust won third place and one of our journeyman teams (Greg Tall, Ed Guehne and Jeff Welker) took fourth place. Congratulations to all for a job well done. All of our contestants work for Ameren/UE in St. Louis, MO.

Michael D. Walter, B.M.



Local 1439 Bus. Mgr. Mike Walter (right) presents 50-year award to former business manager Tom Fagan.

## 1501 Update

L.U. 1501 (ees,em,mo,pet,rts&t), BALTIMORE, MD—Voters in Maryland's Anne Arundel County approved a slots parlor at Arundel Mills Mall. The Maryland Jockey Club had threatened closure of Laurel Race Track and to operate Pamlico, home of the world famous Preakness, for only 40 days a year. The Cordish Co., which holds the license to build the 4,700-machine slots parlor as part of a billion-dollar entertainment complex, countered by stating it would buy the racetracks and return Maryland horse racing to national prominence, if the Jockey Club attempted to close them.

Space supporters worry that NASA's 2011 budget could be reduced below its 2010 level, which could scrap the planned space shuttle launch for 2011 as well as needed modernization of the Kennedy Space Center. A shuttle launch would cost \$500 million or more.

Our local's extended three-election cycle was completed with no changes. Our Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dion F. Guthrie spoke for all of us when he extended heartfelt thanks to our Election Committee for their work in this long, arduous task. Election Committee members: Earl Brown Jr. (judge), Webster Burrier (judge), Kathy Doyle (teller), George "Pete" Noble (teller) and John Zebraski (teller).

Thomas J. Rostkowski, R.S.

## Four-Year Contract Ratified

L.U. 1505 (em), WALTHAM, MA—A four-year contract was ratified unanimously with an roar of applause

at the special meeting held Oct. 2, 2010, at the Lowell Auditorium, in Lowell, MA.

In these difficult economic times when so many in the labor movement are being laid off, Bus. Mgr. David Johnson led the negotiating committee and was able to negotiate an 11.25 percent pay increase over the life of the contract, along with a substantial ratification bonus. Negotiations also secured a yearly company-funded Flexible Spending Account to offset rising medical costs. A first in this company!

Bus. Mgr. Johnson also negotiated advantageous contract language for our probationary members. An additional bonus goes to members who volunteer to go on a biweekly pay schedule. Our defined benefit pension plan was increased by \$4 per year of service, effective immediately. Shift differentials were also improved. Program assurances were retained, with enhanced seniority rights, as well as an historic agreement for our licensed trades to perform work in the Pelham, NH, facility, expelling nonunion contractors from that site!

Looking to the future, Bus. Mgr. Johnson notes that there will soon be many opportunities for advancement and negotiated in-house training programs for those members seeking an opportunity to advance within the union's job structures.

Congratulations to Bus. Mgr. Johnson and the entire negotiating team for a job well done!

Bob Garnhum, V.P./P.S.

## Our Next Generation

L.U. 1523 (u), WICHITA, KS—As I pondered writing this article, the recent 2010 midterm election came to mind. That made me think about our union participation.

How many of us realize how important it is to vote? We complain about how things are and we talk about how things should be. But what are we doing to make things better in our workplace? We have the opportunity to make changes for the better by stepping up to participate.

I know that when the leaders of our country entered politics they also pledged to work to improve life for the future of the country and our families.

This is what the founding fathers of IBEW did and at great risk of their lives. They stepped up and worked to improve working conditions for families and future generations. We're now reaping the benefits of those risks. The founders risked their lives for us, for the next generation.

What are we doing as union members to reach out to the next generation? We can listen to them, talk to them, explain to them what the union has done for us. We can be politically active and vote. This participation will keep us strong and on the right track for the next generation.

Candy C. Cruz-Dodd, P.S.

## Training Facility Proposed

L.U. 1579 (i&o), AUGUSTA, GA—Bus. Mgr. Ken Ward reported at the October 2010 union meeting that he is exploring the possibility of a new training facility. He said research is underway and this is something the local should have done 25 years ago.

We currently have a great relationship with Augusta Tech for our apprenticeship training, but are limited. This new training facility will help us give our apprentices a better education, as well as continuing education for our journeyman. We will surely continue our relationship with Augusta Tech, as having those facilities available is always a plus.

The work situation looks good. Everyone on Book I who wants to work is currently working and we have some Book II members working as well. Upcoming work in 2011 looks as if it should also be steady.

As we begin the New Year, I would like to ask that everyone make a commitment to have a financial plan. Much of the upcoming work will have overtime involved. Keep in mind that this work will be good for the next few years, but it won't last forever. If you are already used to living on 40 hours, why not save that extra overtime money for a secure financial future.

Local 1579 officers and staff wish all a happy new year.

Will Salters, A.B.M.



Local 1579 Bus. Mgr. Ken Ward is on hand for a soil test at the possible location of a proposed new training facility.

## Awards &amp; Appointments

L.U. 1701 (catv,ees,i,o&u), OWENSBORO, KY—Retired Bro. John "Verne" Bethel received the Governor's Citation of Excellence award in May 2010. Bro. Bethel began volunteering with Habitat for Humanity more than 10 years ago and volunteers his skills to help low-income families. Congratulations, John.

Local 1701 member and Owensboro Labor Council Pres. Donna Haynes was master of ceremonies at the 2010 Labor Day picnic in Owensboro. Local 1701 was well represented again this year. At



IBEW Local 1701 then-Bus. Mgr. Gary Osborne (left) accepts the J.R. Gray Award presented by Mark Brown, deputy commissioner of Kentucky Labor Cabinet.

the event, Local 1701 then-Bus. Mgr. Gary Osborne received the J.R. Gray Labor Person of the Year award. (Gray, former state representative and a strong labor supporter, is secretary of the Kentucky Labor Cabinet.) We congratulate Bro. Osborne, and we thank Sister Haynes for organizing the event.

Bro. Osborne stepped down as business manager effective Nov. 1 to accept an I.O. appointment as an IBEW state organizing coordinator. Gary has opened a lot of doors politically at the state and local level, has improved relations with our NECA contractors and Big Rivers, and will be missed.

Local 1701 Pres. and Membership Development Coordinator Larry Boswell was appointed by the Executive Board to fill the unexpired term as business manager. We wish both brothers well in their new positions.

We mourn the passing of retired Bros. Howard T. Jones and Archie Newcom. May they rest in peace.

Tim Blandford, R.S.

## IBEW OPC Baseball Tournament

L.U. 1739 (i&o), BARRIE, ONTARIO, CANADA—The 2010 IBEW OPC baseball tournament was hosted by IBEW Local 1739 in Barrie, Ontario, on Sept. 17-18.

The weekend involved 16 teams that played games on Friday and Saturday and ended in championship games in both an "A" and "B" Division. Congratulations to IBEW Local 105 from Hamilton for winning the "A" Division, and to IBEW Local 530 from Sarnia for winning the "B" Division.

Special thanks to all the teams that attended: IBEW Locals 530 Sarnia, 105 Hamilton, 586 Ottawa, 804 Kitchener, 353 Toronto, 894 Oshawa, 1687 Sudbury, 115 Kingston, 120 London and 303 St. Catharines. Special thanks also all the Local 1739 members who worked very hard to put on this tournament.

Frank Kastle, P.S.



Local 1739 hosted the 2010 IBEW OPC baseball tournament in Barrie, Ontario, Canada.



# In Memoriam

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

Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death
1	Bellinger, H. E.	1/1/2009	68	Shinall, R. G.	9/26/2010	294	LaFrance, C. D.	9/24/2010	700	McAlister, D. E.	4/25/2010
1	Page, F. C.	10/3/2010	68	Spitler, D.	10/1/2010	295	Archer, G. W.	10/6/2010	701	Rossi, E. H.	8/20/2010
1	Ruffkahr, J. J.	4/13/2010	70	Gish, J. L.	10/23/2010	295	Brown, J. P.	10/8/2010	702	Oglesby, M. L.	9/2/2010
3	Barbuto, B.	4/22/2009	71	Tracy, R. C.	7/26/2010	306	Schofield, D. W.	10/2/2010	716	Robeson, G. F.	10/7/2010
3	Beck, R. W.	10/26/2010	77	Wyatt, L. A.	8/24/2010	340	Huckstep, C. L.	9/30/2010	743	High, R.	10/13/2010
3	Birley, A. J.	7/31/2010	81	Cummings, J. T.	8/29/2010	343	Duxbury, D. O.	10/7/2010	744	Cutugno, M. M.	8/17/2008
3	Camilo, P. V.	6/24/2010	90	Zukoski, L. S.	1/3/2009	349	Cosens, R. F.	10/16/2010	760	Canterbury, J. W.	10/1/2010
3	Caruso, F. V.	9/20/2010	95	McAferly, D. J.	9/3/2010	349	Pruitt, L. H.	9/19/2010	760	Freeman, B. E.	9/24/2010
3	Davila, M.	4/16/2010	96	Mitchell, L. F.	7/22/2010	349	Vensel, A. J.	10/12/2010	760	Turnbill, C. W.	10/5/2010
3	Harrington, W. J.	9/19/2010	97	Katri, J. P.	5/29/2009	351	Nardone, M. A.	9/30/2010	763	Siedlik, T. F.	8/13/2010
3	Holland, T. C.	9/24/2010	98	Maxwell, T. J.	9/25/2010	352	Horaney, S. L.	5/29/2010	768	Jacobson, E. J.	9/25/2010
3	Kosteas, D.	2/27/2010	98	Yudof, J.	7/28/2008	353	Dejong, F.	10/17/2010	769	Gravel, L. A.	9/9/2010
3	Luongo, M. V.	10/9/2010	100	Montoya, K. E.	10/10/2010	354	Barney, B. M.	10/20/2010	769	Haag, W. H.	9/23/2010
3	Metz, G.	9/17/2010	102	Fairley, J.	5/12/2008	357	Payne, W. S.	1/20/2007	773	Knigh, G. W.	9/30/2010
3	Nicoletti, V. A.	8/27/2010	102	Gaipa, E. S.	10/1/2010	357	Ross, W. E.	6/27/2009	776	Timms, H. B.	10/8/2010
3	O'Hara, J. R.	10/16/2010	102	Harman, H. E.	10/6/2010	357	Staples, A. E.	6/7/2010	814	Cox, W. E.	10/7/2010
3	Parks, C. W.	6/28/2010	102	Lawler, W. L.	9/21/2010	357	Vandalen, A. X.	10/10/2010	852	White, K. H.	10/10/2010
3	Prince, J. E.	9/19/2008	102	Stitt, F. E.	8/4/2010	359	Ravitch, J.	1/11/2009	861	Hamilton, V. G.	10/15/2010
3	Rogg, G.	9/6/2010	102	Stover, N. E.	10/3/2010	363	Ingalls, H. K.	9/9/2010	870	Evans, O. M.	5/14/2007
3	Smith, A. E.	10/1/2010	103	Barry, R. M.	9/28/2010	363	Parizot, E. H.	9/13/2010	873	Fagel, K. L.	8/8/2010
3	Teague, D. B.	9/20/2010	103	Blanchard, R. I.	5/25/2010	364	Smith, S. L.	9/17/2010	876	Stevens, W. M.	9/22/2010
3	Vaccaro, G.	9/25/2010	103	Burns, F. X.	9/13/2010	369	Atwell, C. D.	8/23/2010	910	Mosher, F. H.	9/21/2010
3	Wenger, R.	8/6/2010	103	Denis, R. A.	9/17/2010	369	Rainey, R. R.	7/12/2008	915	Thomas, J. L.	10/19/2010
4	Pollock, I. E.	10/9/2010	103	Farrell, J. J.	8/27/2010	369	Rice, S. W.	10/2/2010	917	Warner, D. C.	9/30/2010
5	Difrischia, A. N.	10/14/2010	103	Gallahue, J. F.	10/11/2010	380	Friel, J. M.	1/20/2010	934	Webb, J. P.	6/6/2009
6	Andrews, L. T.	6/28/2006	103	Gilligly, W. P.	10/19/2010	387	Fitzgerald, T. J.	9/9/2010	949	Erickson, E. E.	9/12/2010
6	Becker, J.	4/15/2010	103	Houlihan, J. F.	10/14/2010	387	Greene, J. T.	9/28/2010	972	Rankin, J. F.	9/11/2010
6	Cairns, R. M.	5/22/2010	103	Kippenberger, J. C.	10/1/2010	387	Smithson, H. J.	9/25/2010	1002	Jones, W. A.	10/10/2010
6	Coffey, S. D.	8/24/2010	103	Thibodeau, G. E.	9/23/2010	396	Bumpas, J. D.	9/30/2010	1002	Parsons, J. L.	8/12/2010
6	Roe, G. L.	9/30/2010	105	Koppensteiner, F.	9/12/2010	396	Cox, K. R.	8/18/2010	1049	Cotugno, V. N.	9/16/2010
8	Galvin, T. R.	10/2/2010	112	Davis, J. L.	8/14/2010	401	Byrne, F. W.	9/18/2010	1153	Currier, G. E.	12/13/2008
9	Hall, J. H.	1/16/2010	124	Newhouse, K. D.	9/7/2010	402	Larsen, L. M.	4/13/2010	1186	Nishihira, B. J.	8/30/2010
11	Sager, E. T.	10/17/2010	124	Pirano, J. L.	7/9/2010	413	Wood, K. E.	10/19/2010	1249	Mason, E. V.	6/4/2010
11	Smiley, C. R.	10/16/2010	125	Barnett, E. E.	9/12/2010	415	Kennedy, D. A.	10/5/2010	1353	Mikesell, P. C.	3/19/2009
11	Storms, P. L.	12/31/2009	126	Bice, F. W.	8/26/2010	424	Hogan, M. F.	9/27/2010	1393	Blankenship, D. K.	8/15/2010
11	Tanner, T. S.	7/4/2010	126	Funk, S. C.	10/11/2010	424	Rusnak, T.	7/9/2010	1393	Murray, W. T.	9/7/2010
11	Thomas, K.	8/4/2010	130	Washington, G.	8/3/2010	424	Somers, T. P.	7/17/2010	1531	Collett, L.	8/21/2010
14	Monner, C. T.	10/2/2010	134	Ahlrep, R. C.	9/25/2010	429	Conrad, B. J.	11/25/2008	1547	Lesko, M.	9/29/2010
15	McKay, D. J.	10/10/2010	134	Esser, E. L.	7/31/2010	429	Lemmonds, B. W.	9/10/2010	1547	Randazzo, J. P.	9/26/2010
16	Harbstreit, S. L.	9/18/2010	134	Iser, R.	8/25/2010	441	Camou, J. G.	7/28/2010	1553	Porter, R. D.	9/19/2010
16	McDaniel, J. P.	9/3/2010	134	McFee, T. E.	9/27/2010	461	Boon, E. W.	8/3/2010	1555	Goguen, O.	8/29/2010
17	Peterson, L. G.	6/29/2010	134	McKoveck, B. A.	9/1/2008	461	Branson, J. J.	8/22/2010	1579	Gross, R. C.	8/25/2010
20	Norris, J. J.	7/24/2010	134	Mitchell, V. E.	9/22/2010	474	Stafford, J. T.	9/6/2010	1852	White, J.	6/24/2010
24	Dean, W. H.	11/18/2009	134	Saksen, E.	9/2/2010	480	Bullock, N. L.	10/23/2010	2085	Houston, K. G.	8/6/2010
24	Jackson, D. L.	9/13/2010	134	Vidmar, E. G.	9/1/2010	480	Horton, R. D.	10/18/2010	2159	Zwiefelhofer, R. F.	9/30/2010
24	Sandruck, R. E.	8/17/2010	136	Kant, B. G.	9/28/2010	480	Warren, M. G.	7/24/2010	2295	Burkett, M. F.	9/3/2010
25	Davis, F. H.	10/12/2010	136	McClure, J. M.	10/15/2010	481	Abel, B. R.	10/25/2010	2330	Hutchings, D. J.	8/25/2010
25	Flannagan, F. E.	11/18/2009	145	Devore, D. G.	8/25/2008	481	Ehrie, W. J.	8/26/2010	I.O. (134)	Dallessandro, A.	10/2/2010
25	Rosello, R. H.	4/29/2010	145	LaRose, C. E.	9/16/2010	481	Judkins, G. J.	10/21/2010	I.O. (165)	Meyer, R. T.	9/22/2010
26	Casteel, J. A.	10/10/2010	153	Gibson, J. P.	9/16/2008	481	Kristoff, A. C.	10/6/2010	I.O. (553)	Pridgen, J. W.	9/5/2010
26	Donaldson, G. T.	6/11/2010	159	Rihn, H. E.	10/8/2010	481	McCoy, J. F.	7/8/2006	Pens. (180)	Ruskus, F. E.	9/28/2010
29	Bettilyon, E. G.	10/7/2010	160	Solarz, C. P.	9/28/2010	488	DiPalma, S.	9/8/2010	Pens. (637)	Arthur, R.	8/7/2010
32	Baker, B. D.	12/26/2008	164	Irving, J. C.	3/9/2010	502	Melanson, F. A.	3/13/2010	Pens. (1788)	Baranowski, J. P.	9/19/2010
34	Carlton, D. R.	9/23/2010	164	McGimpsey, T. F.	9/22/2010	527	Adair, R.	11/16/2009	Pens. (2253)	Bornais, M.	9/6/2010
34	Swisher, B. D.	10/5/2010	175	Poe, W. C.	10/16/2010	527	Cummings, T. C.	9/15/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Anderson, J. S.	8/24/2010
34	Weiss, J. D.	10/7/2010	175	Tatum, S. B.	10/1/2010	553	Medlin, D. D.	9/28/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Boehl, R. F.	10/15/2010
38	Duggan, D. O.	7/27/2010	176	Sanchez, L. D.	10/3/2010	557	Flattery, K. T.	9/23/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Cole, G. W.	10/25/2010
38	Quinn, V. T.	10/28/2010	176	Urbanowski, J. H.	10/8/2010	569	Bemis, P. R.	10/14/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Coles, H. A.	9/30/2010
38	Robertson, W. H.	9/10/2010	177	Bazzell, E. A.	8/26/2010	569	Cook, E. W.	10/4/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Early, J. B.	9/15/2010
43	Beasock, W. C.	10/3/2010	177	Owens, J. A.	9/7/2010	569	Rubics, J.	8/28/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Fackler, R. K.	9/29/2010
46	Best, M. M.	6/29/2010	177	Pollock, T.	12/30/2008	574	Brown, R. K.	8/1/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Fitzgerald, J. J.	9/18/2010
46	Bleck, C. A.	9/29/2010	177	Posey, J. A.	9/21/2010	577	Swenson, M. H.	10/10/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Flach, M. A.	7/30/2010
46	Hinds, L. J.	9/2/2010	191	Wildre, D. R.	8/14/2008	584	Shaul, L. N.	10/14/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Girard, H.	8/8/2008
46	Kohler, T. G.	5/31/2010	193	Peterson, D. E.	9/1/2010	601	Henderson, R. R.	8/2/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Hanson, S. O.	9/29/2010
46	Luzunaris, D.	8/11/2010	197	Pillow, W. E.	9/20/2010	605	Dennis, J.	10/10/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Hoffart, V. L.	8/21/2009
46	Pedroncelli, R. I.	9/18/2010	223	Tontini, T.	9/23/2010	613	Brown, C. M.	9/11/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Jahner, P.	7/11/2010
46	Tranberg, C. A.	9/21/2010	236	Smith, C. C.	12/13/2009	617	Burke, J. H.	9/10/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Kuhn, R. W.	10/4/2010
48	Heiss, G. F.	9/1/2010	242	Bertheaume, A. J.	10/5/2010	617	Russell, A. W.	9/20/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Lavallee, J.	9/27/2010
48	Snow, H. H.	3/27/2008	242	Koch, L. C.	5/9/2007	640	Townsend, L. F.	10/11/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Martin, R. E.	10/4/2010
48	Thurman, B. R.	7/25/2010	245	Hennessey, W.	7/15/2010	648	Hair, W. S.	10/7/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Menicucci, T. L.	7/3/2010
55	Martel, R.	10/2/2010	246	Lucarelli, G. J.	9/10/2010	659	Tycer, W.	10/10/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Nash, J. J.	8/22/2008
57	Sorensen, D.	9/17/2010	257	Bax, J. J.	10/8/2010	673	Lillvis, R. R.	9/25/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Pederson, R. W.	9/16/2010
58	Armstrong, R. J.	9/22/2010	258	Roberts, W. E.	6/28/2010	683	French, E. M.	10/14/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Roberts, G. V.	5/30/2010
58	Bingham, E. A.	10/1/2010	278	King, C.	7/18/2010	683	Grosvenor, D. B.	10/24/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Sledge, B. W.	9/20/2010
58	Fratini, S. P.	8/16/2010	280	Davis, J. L.	6/27/2008	683	Stevens, G. R.	10/19/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Stallings, C. M.	8/1/2010
66	Mustachia, N. J.	7/13/2010	280	Talley, W.	10/1/2010	684	Hurst, W. H.	9/22/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Stephens, C.	9/24/2010
68	Blair, H. D.	6/3/2010	292	Johnson, P. H.	10/6/2010	697	Campbell, H. J.	10/1/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Tripp, C. W.	7/12/2010
68	Estudillo, E. L.	10/6/2010	292	McCurdy, J. G.	5/18/2010	697	Moody, J. B.	10/11/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Tukua, I. A.	10/10/2010
68	Ingram, R. G.	9/28/2010	294	Hamlin, R.	8/31/2010	697	Musgrave, R. E.	12/10/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Williams, R. G.	8/20/2010

## IBEW MEDIA WORLD

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

### www.ibew.org

From breaking news to video stories, our updated Web site has information not available anywhere else. Visit us to connect with the IBEW on Facebook and to follow International President Edwin D. Hill on Twitter!

### IBEW on the Huffington Post

President Hill blogs on what it will take to grow the IBEW in these tough times. Read at [www.huffingtonpost.com/edwin-d-hill](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/edwin-d-hill).

### YouTube

Across the Midwest, the IBEW helps keep American manufacturing—and good jobs—alive. Watch online at the IBEW's YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/user/theelectricalworker](http://www.youtube.com/user/theelectricalworker).

### HourPower

From the floor of the NECA 2010 show, check out new gadgets and get in on a discussion about the relationship between the IBEW and NECA. Only on IBEW Hour Power! [www.IBEWHourPower.com](http://www.IBEWHourPower.com).



### ElectricTV

NECA CEO John Grau discusses labor relations, new work opportunities and the future of the electrical industry in our latest video on [electricTV.net](http://electricTV.net).





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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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

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**FROM THE OFFICERS****Hold the Tightwads Accountable**

**Edwin D. Hill**  
International President



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

**D**uring the election season, a candidate for mayor in New York City got national media coverage and a load of laughs when he announced that he was running as a member of the "Rent is Too Damn High Party."

All joking aside, I don't think any of us would have a problem joining the "Unemployment is Too Damn High Party."

And no matter who we blame for the current crisis, most of us are impatient and concerned about how long it is taking to put our economy on the road to recovery.

All of us, working or unemployed, do ourselves a great disservice if we leave our impatience in the voting booth and depend upon our new leaders—Republican or Democrat—to solve problems on their own.

They can't or won't.

Shrinking budgets and rising deficits at all levels of government have led to more competition over how scarce resources will be allocated and to a national debate over how deficits will be reduced. Politicians need facts, persuasion and pressure from real people or many will simply do the bidding of their biggest contributors.

And those same corporate contributors are sitting on billions of dollars in profits, as high as in pre-recession days, waiting for demand to increase. Don't believe us? It said so in the *Wall Street Journal*, not exactly an anti-corporate publication.

They say the business executives are waiting for demand to rise before they spend money. Hello? Loosen your wallets. Build. Train people. Most important, hire more workers. Then you will see demand rise. And if government can chip in with short-term spending, so much the better.

All branches of our union have much to gain by entering the competition to convince our leaders to make public policy that puts our members to work, raises the living standards of our surrounding communities, and reduces deficits by growing the economy.

We're talking about projects like the Taylorville Energy Center in Illinois, a coal gasification project that holds the potential for 10 million hours of labor and opportunities for 2,500 construction jobs and hundreds more in mining. We're proud that several of our Illinois locals have joined with the AFL-CIO, under the leadership of IBEW member and state federation president, Michael Carrigan, to gain legislative support for the project.

We're talking about the efforts of San Diego Local 569 and many others across the nation lobbying for major new projects in solar and renewable energy.

We're talking about the role that our New York locals played in passing legislation to stop worker misclassification and wage theft under the leadership of Denis Hughes, president of the state's AFL-CIO and a member of Local 3.

Brothers and sisters, these are not normal times. We've known boom and bust before. But it has been decades since we've seen this slow an economy. Today's tactics need to be adapted to this new reality.

Last month in cities across the country, unemployed members showed up outside the offices of congressional representatives to draw attention to the need to extend unemployment benefits.

We often complain about how labor is ignored in the pages of our newspapers or on local TV. But these protests were widely covered. Why? Because some workers decided to make a personal commitment to go beyond voting, beyond sending letters, beyond making phone calls to showing up and making themselves heard.

That's the activist tradition of responsible militancy that we need to rekindle if we are going to break through the news embargo, push our elected leaders over to our side and put our members back to work.

In this issue of *The Electrical Worker*, we talk about how not to reduce deficits. The best way to reduce deficits is to get unemployed workers back on the job. Until then, those who have money will sit on it, and those who don't will sink further into debt and despair.

It's time to fight to get our economy back in balance and get all of our people on the job. ■



## Letters to the Editor

### The Real Problem

In the November 2010 issue of The Electrical Worker, the front page article "Manufacturing Crisis, Roadblock to Recovery: 'Made in China,'" like similar articles I have read, seems to lay most of the blame on China.

The Chinese have not invaded the U.S. and forcefully relocated factories to China. They have done what states and cities across the United States have been doing for years, mainly offer cheaper labor and costs to companies. Think of the furniture industry and textiles in the New England states that relocated to the South for cheaper labor.

It is the businesses who are moving these factories and jobs overseas, of their own free will. These companies have no loyalty to the American worker, and thus no loyalty to the United States, but they expect us to bail them out, pay all the taxes, and to fight and die in wars to protect their interests. If you want to solve this problem, start there.

How? Well, I know my pension invests in many of these companies. In fact there are many union pension plans across the country that are major investors in the stock market. I believe there needs to be a coordinated effort among these plans to sell stock in companies that have relocated overseas, and invest in smaller companies that are trying to build here in the U.S. Yes, it will hurt our pensions and retirees in the short term, but we are in a fight, and in a fight you have to expect to take a few punches. Our investments in the stock market are really the only weapon we have to fight with, and it is time for us to use that weapon.

Secondly, I have not seen any meaningful effort by politicians, of either stripe, to impose sanctions on these companies.

But we continue to buy things without looking at the labels or caring about where it was made. Sure it is cheaper upfront, but over the long term? Less tax revenue taxes means less money to spend on firemen, policemen, hospitals, picking up trash, filling potholes, maintaining parks, etc., all the things that we come to expect from living in modern country.

Think about this. Or don't. But your choice will affect your city, your state, your country, your children, and your wallet.

*Kevin O'Driscoll  
Local 617 member, San Mateo, Calif.*

### IBEW Members Invited To Submit Theme Ideas for 38<sup>th</sup> International Convention

**W**ith less than year to go before the opening of the 38th International Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia, the IBEW is in the process of choosing a theme that will capture the spirit of the IBEW in one phrase. That's no small task given that the Brotherhood celebrates 120 years of existence in 2011, along with our record of excellence, our triumphs over adversity and the international cooperation that exists between our members in the United States, Canada and elsewhere.

So as with all the IBEW's efforts, we work best through the strength of numbers. International President Ed Hill and International Secretary-Treasurer Lindell Lee are opening up the process to all IBEW members in good standing, asking for ideas on a suitable theme for the convention.

Because of the need to begin developing convention-related materials, including an official logo, early in 2011, all entries must be received by midnight, January 21. The person submitting the winning theme will be officially recognized at the convention, and his or her name will go into the permanent records of the Brotherhood.

To submit an entry, go to [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org) and click on the "Countdown to Vancouver" button or send it via the postal service—be sure to include your name, local union number and IBEW card number—to:

**IBEW Convention Theme**  
900 Seventh Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20001-3886

These are challenging times for the IBEW and all of labor, yet we remain strong and poised for a bright future in the 21st century. Let's capture that spirit as we approach this landmark convention, celebrating 120 years of Brotherhood. ■

## 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).

# Union Leader Program Mentors Next Generation of IBEW Activists

**N**inth District International Representative Keith Edwards has broken a lot of barriers in his 40-year IBEW career. The Portland, Ore., Local 48 member was the first African-American business manager of a construction local in IBEW history, as well as the first to serve as a member of the National Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee.

The co-founder of the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus in Local 48 says there have been a lot of changes since he first joined the IBEW that have made the union a more welcoming and diverse place.

But the struggle to keep opening doors continues, Edwards says. "The key to our movement's future success is developing new voices, making it clear that the IBEW is solid in its commitment to diversity."

That is why Edwards has joined the Union Leaders of the Future program. Sponsored by Union Privilege, the program partners experienced labor activists with younger members from historically underrepresented groups to help them develop their skills as organizers and leaders.

The increasing racial and ethnic diversity of the work force and the imminent retirement of the baby boom generation make developing new leadership that better reflects the changing face of the labor movement a priority for union activists.

"We've made this commitment to mentoring because labor's future depends on preparing new leaders who are bright, talented, and who look like the face of working America," says Leslie Tolf, president of Union Privilege. The organization invited 10 aspiring labor leaders to take part in the program, including three from the IBEW.

Edwards is partnered with Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245 member Lorenzo Arciniega. The 31-year-old Arciniega says he had little experience with unions before going to work at Pacific Gas and Electric 10 years ago.

"I knew the good wages and benefits I had at the job didn't come for free, and I wanted to be involved,

*Keith Edwards, left, mentors Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245 member Lorenzo Arciniega. Also participating in the Union Privilege program is New York City Local 3 member Wendell Yee, below.*



but there was a bit of a generation gap," he says. "I think some older members didn't think the younger ones were serious."

But recent contract negotiations gave Arciniega the opportunity to become active in the union, serving on the Local 1245's clerical organizing committee.

"You don't need a special title to become a union leader," he says. "You just need to get involved."

Participants in the mentoring program agree to meet with each other at least 12 times a year—either by phone or in person—to help mentees clarify their personal goals and to benefit from the experiences of their mentors.

"The mentoring program is about providing a personalized learning experience for mentees," says Tom Chiancone, program manager for the Union Plus benefits. "The mentor is part teacher, part thinking partner and a curious listener and coach."

Wendell Yee, a second generation New York City Local 3 member, knows the importance of having older members pass on the union tradition to younger ones.

"As the older folks move out of the work force, members from my generation need to step up and take responsibility for their union," he says.

The 29-year-old Yee is partnered with David Keicher, leadership and organization development coordinator for the national AFL-CIO.

For Yee, the key to developing new leaders is to provide as many opportunities as possible for younger members to take responsibility for

day-to-day activities in the union.

"We're lucky in Local 3 because we have lots of committees and clubs new members can join," he says. Yee himself served as chairman of Local 3's apprentice advisory committee during his own apprenticeship and is treasurer of its Asian American Cultural Society.

Participants in the program—now in its fourth year—are reimbursed by Union Privilege for labor studies classes taken at approved institutions.

Austin Local 520 member Norman Jones is also participating in the program. A former nonunion electrician who came to this country from Jamaica, he has been involved in many organizing campaigns.

"Diversity is strength and labor should be willing to have a real discussion about what we can do to promote it," says his mentor, Seventh District International Representative Ralph Merriweather. His advice on becoming a good organizer is, "be a good listener, be a good communicator, and remember that our work is all about the members."

"I am thankful every day for being a member of this union," Jones says. "And I want to develop as a leader, so I can spread the word about the good things the IBEW does."

For more information, visit [www.unionplus.org/diversity](http://www.unionplus.org/diversity). ■



## DEADLINES

Entry form and video or DVD of presentation **must** be submitted online or postmarked by the following dates:

### February 15, 2011

7th District (AZ, KS, NM, OK, TX)  
9th District (AK, CA, HI, NV, OR, WA, Pacific Islands)

### March 31, 2011

2nd District (CT, ME, MA, NH, VT, RI)  
4th District (DC, KY, MD, OH, VA, WV)  
5th District (AL, FL, GA, LA, MS, Panama, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands)  
8th District (CO, ID, MT, UT, WY)  
10th District (AR, NC, SC, TN)

### April 29, 2011

1st District (Canada)  
3rd District (DE, NJ, NY, PA)  
6th District (IL, IN, MI, MN, WI)  
11th District (IA, MO, NE, ND, SD)

**The skills of IBEW members on the job are well known across North America. But what other talents lie beneath the surface of the 725,000 men and women who make up our union?**

**We want to find out. And that's why we are holding the first ever IBEW Has Talent contest to coincide with the year of our 38<sup>th</sup> International Convention.**

## HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

- All participants must be IBEW members in good standing. In the case of a band or group act, at least one person must be an IBEW member in good standing.
- All acts should submit a video of their performance to the International Office (see details on entry form below) where a team of judges will determine the top qualifying acts for each IBEW Vice Presidential district.
- The next round of competition will take place at the annual district progress meetings. Each qualifying video will be viewed and judged by participants at the contestant's district progress meeting.
- The winning act from each district will be housed at the 38th International Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia, where they will compete live at the convention picnic on Saturday, Sept. 17, 2011.
- The top three finishers will compete live in a final round of competition, where a winner will be declared.

Entries, including videos, can be submitted online or by mail. Complete contest rules and entry instructions are printed at left and on the IBEW Website, [www.ibew.org/talent](http://www.ibew.org/talent).

## CONTEST ENTRY FORM

*IBEW Has Talent* and it's time to show it off! To enter, fill out this form completely, sign and date the Agreement and Release portion, and submit it with a video or DVD of your performance to our website at [www.ibew.org/talent](http://www.ibew.org/talent). \* Performance in submitted video or DVD must be no longer than five minutes in length. Thank you for participating and good luck!

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Local Union Number \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

*(On IBEW Membership Card or Dues Receipt)*

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Performance Description \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**\* Please note that entries may also be mailed to the following address:**

**IBEW Has Talent Contest**  
ATTN: Jim Spellane  
900 Seventh Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001

## AGREEMENT AND RELEASE

*(Print Name)*

(hereinafter "Contestant"), and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (hereinafter "IBEW"), agree as follows with respect to contestant's participation in the *IBEW Has Talent* (hereinafter "IHT") contest at the IBEW's 38th Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, on September 19-23, 2011.

1. This contest is open to active or retired IBEW members only. The person submitting the entry must be involved in the performance.
2. All submissions must be suitable for family viewing and not contain objectionable material. The IBEW reserves the right to disallow or disqualify any act for any reason.
3. Contestant agrees to enter the IHT contest and to submit to the IBEW International Office a video or DVD of his/her performance, for consideration by the judges established for the IHT contest. Contestant further states that no performer in the video is a fulltime professional entertainer.
4. Judges at the International Office shall review all entries submitted by contestants in the IHT competition. Based on their review of the entries, the judges shall determine the acts to be submitted to each of the IBEW's 11 districts for judging at the district level.
5. The parties agree that the IHT competition does not carry with it a monetary prize or any other financial payment. Each district shall determine its winning act. Each member of the 11 individual district winning acts shall be provided with a hotel room in Vancouver for Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday nights. Each act will be provided with no more than three rooms per night.
6. During the day on Saturday, September 17, 2011, the 11 district winners will compete. The judges shall select 3 of the 11 district winners as finalists, and the finalists shall then compete later on the same day.
7. Contestant agrees that he/she is not an employee of the IBEW International Office, and that he/she is not entitled to any benefit of any kind beyond those specified in this agreement.
8. All submissions become the property of the IBEW. Participation in this event indicates approval to use any image or video of the performance in future IBEW publications, presentations, and websites.
9. In consideration for being allowed to participate in the IHT contest, contestant hereby releases the IBEW from any obligation, duty, or commitment other than those set forth in this agreement.

Signature *(required for entry)*

Date

[WWW.IBEW.ORG/TALENT](http://WWW.IBEW.ORG/TALENT)