

THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

FIRST PUBLISHED IN 1893

CONSTRUCTION • UTILITIES • TELECOMMUNICATIONS • MANUFACTURING • GOVERNMENT • BROADCASTING • RAILROAD

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

Vol. 5 | No. 5 | May 2011

IN THIS ISSUE

3 | *N.Y. IBEW partnership nets new members*

Members awarded for excellence

4 | *North of 49°*

5 | *Transitions*

6 | *Local Lines*

14 | *Retirees*

17 | *In Memoriam*

18 | *Editorials*

19 | *Letters to the Editor*

Who We Are

20 | *What's next for nuclear power?*

Lindell Lee Retires

International Secretary-Treasurer Lindell K. Lee retired May 1, bringing a career spanning more than 40 years with the IBEW to a close.

Announcing his retirement at this year's Construction and Maintenance Conference in March, Lee told attendees, "I've been your Secretary-Treasurer through very difficult times, but with your support and cooperation, and that of my staff, we have gotten through it. I will leave this job knowing that I have done my best."

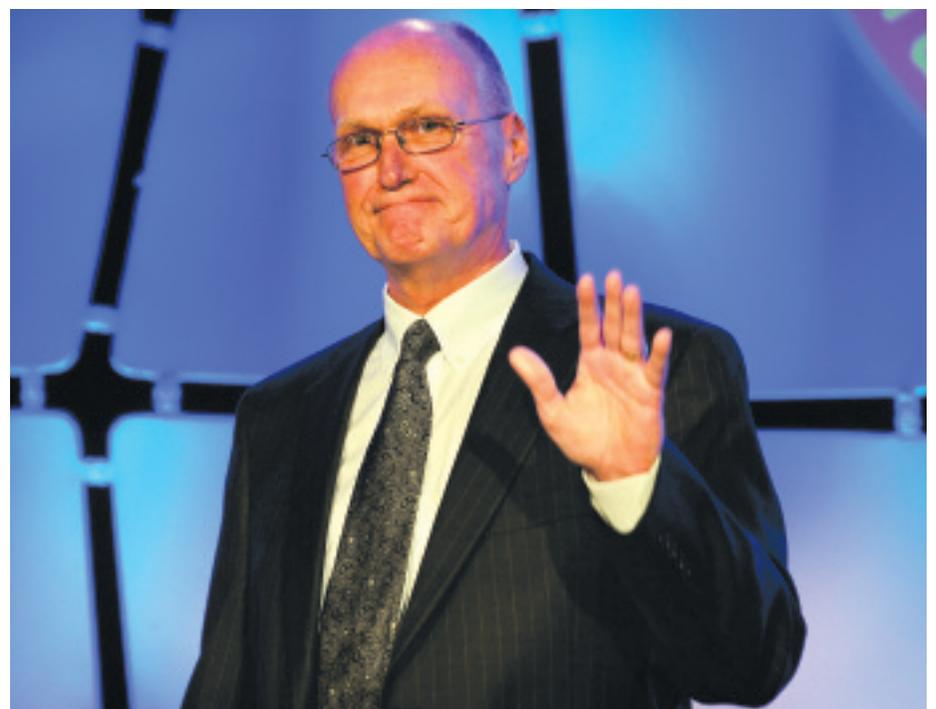
A Missouri native and graduate of the University of Missouri, Lee was initiated into Kansas City, Mo., Local 124 in 1969, after four years in the U.S. Navy. He was first elected to Local 124's executive board in 1981.

Serving as business manager for nearly a decade, he was appointed Eleventh District International Representative in 2002. Three years later, he was elevated to district Vice President. Understanding that the top priority of any union leader must be to organize, he spearheaded an aggressive organizing strategy that led to some big wins, including a victory at Milbank Manufacturing which organized more than 150 production workers in his home state.

Appointed Secretary-Treasurer in 2008—just as the biggest economic downturn since the Great Depression was settling in—Lee helped keep the IBEW's retirement and health benefits strong, even in the worst of financial times.

"Brother Lee took the helm of Secretary-Treasurer in the midst of very tough times," says International President Edwin D. Hill. "But his steady hand and clear thinking helped the Brotherhood navigate the rough waters of the econ-

LEE RETIRES *continued on page 2*



International Secretary-Treasurer Lindell Lee retired effective May 1.

Salvatore 'Sam' Chilia Named Secretary-Treasurer

Salvatore "Sam" Chilia has been appointed International Secretary-Treasurer to replace Lindell Lee, effective May 1.

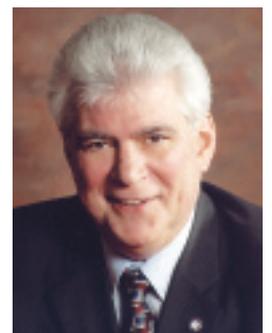
A former business manager of Cleveland Local 38, and Third District International Executive Council member, Chilia has served as Fourth District International Vice President since succeeding Paul Witte, who retired in 2007.

Chilia, who has two sons in the IBEW, says he learned early on about the value of the Brotherhood. After his father died in 1956, his mother joined Cleveland Local 1377 and worked in a manufacturing plant building alternators for automobiles. Now 90, she still collects an IBEW pension.

Initiated into Local 38 in 1967, Brother Chilia graduated from his inside wireman apprenticeship in 1971, working for various electrical contractors until 1989. He was elected to his local's examining board in 1977 and its executive board in 1980.

"After being elected president of my local union, I got my first thirst for organizing and involvement and did double duty as a second organizer," says Secretary-Treasurer Chilia, who is proud that, under his leadership, the Fourth District

CHILIA *continued on page 2*



Salvatore Chilia

Go "Green!"
with our e-Edition

Get your Electrical Worker delivered each month via e-mail. It's convenient & helps cut down on paper waste.

Go to www.ibew.org and sign up today!

Please recycle this newspaper.

Continued from page 1

Lindell Lee Retires

omy and we were very fortunate to have him on board. I wish him and his family all the best.”

As trustee of the National Electrical Benefit Fund, he followed a path of prudent financial investment to secure the retirement funds of tens of thousands of IBEW members—investments which went straight back into projects that created good union jobs.

He also helped to expand saving options for members by working to get the IBEW 401(k) plan off the ground.

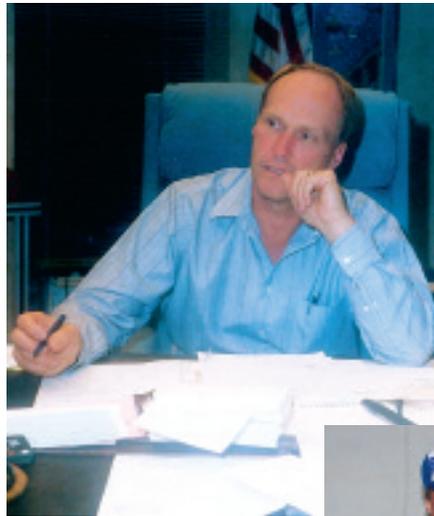
Coming to Washington in the midst of the health-care debate, Lee played his part by working to expand the IBEW/NECA Family Medical Care Plan to every member of the Brotherhood.

“The IBEW has been my life’s commitment from the moment I first strapped on the tools and there has been no greater opportunity for me than to serve the membership of this union—from the union hall to the International

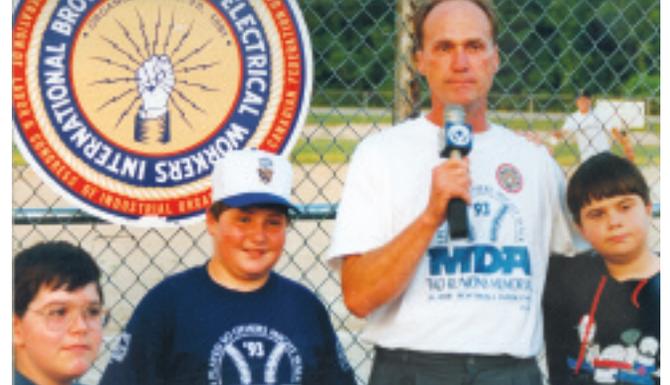
Office,” Lee says. “I’ve been blessed to work with great leaders like President Hill and all our International officers and I know that Fourth District Vice President Sam Chilia has what it takes to carry on the great traditions of my predecessors in this office.” ■



Lee served as business manager of Kansas City, Mo., Local 124 in the 1990s, at left, and as secretary of the Grievance and Appeals Committee at the 2001 IBEW Convention in San Francisco.



Clockwise from top: At his desk at Local 124; speaking to the crowd at a 1993 fund-raiser for muscular dystrophy; participating in a Kansas City trades event repairing homes for the needy.



Continued from page 1

Chilia Named Secretary-Treasurer

adopted an aggressive approach to building membership and introducing recovery agreements in the inside electrical trade to open up new projects.

“Membership buy-in is going to take some time for recovery programs,” he says. “I am looking forward to the journeyman on the job explaining to his peers that he would not be working if not for new classifications to lower composite labor costs and win projects. That person is the best salesman for the program.”

After serving as chairman of his local’s pension and benefit funds, Chilia was elected business manager in 1997. In 2001, he was elected to serve on the International Executive Council.

Brother Chilia instituted his local union’s 401(k) plan and full retirement at age 55. He is a leader in negotiating project labor agreements, including those covering construction of the Cleveland Browns and Cleveland Indians stadiums and the Cleveland Clinic.

Chilia’s civic and labor activism earned him a place in Leadership Cleveland’s Class of 2001, which brings together recognized leaders from the private, nonprofit and government sectors for seminars on the challenges and dilemmas facing the region.

A vice president of the Cleveland AFL-CIO, Brother Chilia has also served



President Hill announced Secretary-Treasurer Chilia’s appointment last month at the Construction and Maintenance Conference in Washington, D.C.

as treasurer and board member of the Cleveland Building and Construction Trades.

A former member of the National Voice/Data/Video task force for the electrical industry, Chilia was later appointed by International President Edwin D. Hill to serve on the National Drug and Alcohol Task Force.

Brother Chilia and his wife, Arlene, have seven children and 16 grandchildren. President Edwin D. Hill says, “No IBEW member is better prepared to pro-

tect our union membership’s benefit funds and our Brotherhood’s legacy than Sam Chilia. From staunchly representing his local union to his service on the IEC and as Vice President, Sam has always put the union membership first. In these challenging days for our organization, experience and selfless commitment are absolutely essential. Brother Sam Chilia has both in great measure.”

The officers and members of the IBEW wish Brother Chilia great success in his new position. ■

**But wait!
There’s MORE, in...**

The Electrical Worker online

- ▶ Before heading to Afghanistan, Army troops get precision electrical safety training from N.Y. members.
- ▶ An Oregon local saves prevailing wage in the state’s second largest city.
- ▶ Dedication to the trade earns an Ontario apprentice instructor a community award.

To read more, visit www.ibew.org and click on “**Online Extras**” in the May Electrical Worker link.

New Signatory Contractor Helps Boost Market Share, Membership in N.Y.

The twin goals of increasing market share while netting more man-hours for New York electricians were reached this spring when a nonunion contractor signed a unique agreement with two local unions in the Empire State.

C.M. Richey Electrical became the state's newest signatory contractor employing IBEW members of both New York Local 3 and Long Island Local 25. The shop's nearly 50 formerly unrepresented electricians joined the IBEW fold as part of the union's recovery agreement as the locals go after smaller, previously-overlooked projects.

"This has been a very long time coming," said Gene Parrington, Local 25 business agent/organizer who, along with other union leaders, has been promoting the IBEW to CMR management since the late '90s. "It's unbelievable that we were able to sign this company. It's helped us out quite a bit. We're organizing the work, the members, the whole ball of wax. The jobs picture has been slow for a number of years, so them coming to us with work is huge."

"The company did more than 100,000 man-hours last year in the small works area, which will open new doors for us."

— Kevin Harvey, Local 25 Bus. Mgr.

CMR boasts solid market share in the smaller works arena—performing construction jobs for national chains like CVS, McDonald's, Staples and many more. Company owner Chris Richey saw potential in the Local 25's implementation of the recovery agreement strategy, which he told IBEW leaders could be an invaluable tool for his continued business success.

Richey was also eager to tackle bigger jobs that had historically been within the locals' jurisdictions. CMR and its employees will now get the chance to work on previously out-of-reach projects at giant retailers like Lowe's and Home Depot, as well as grand-scale endeavors at shopping malls and power plants. Local leaders say that will spell increased revenue, boosted man-hours and more hiring.

"The company will likely go from its current size to as many as 100 as we approach summer," Parrington said. "And management wants to hit up these



new projects, which they could never do without us coming in. This is clearly a win-win for our locals and for CMR."

Since 1996, Local 25's entire business office has worked to bring CMR under the union banner. That's meant a marathon effort from the local's organizing committee, salts, stewards and rank-and-file members.

Parrington and Local 3 organizer Ray West combined forces over the last seven years when CMR began establishing itself in Local 3's jurisdiction. Innumerable phone calls, strategy meetings and conversations with CMR management bore fruit last December when Richey reached out to Parrington, who said "we've been in constant contact since."

After the New Year, talks became increasingly serious and additional local leaders—including Local 25 Business Manager Kevin Harvey and Local 3 Business Manager Christopher Erikson and Assistant Business Manager Ray Melville—became more active in the campaign.

Harvey, Parrington and Richey met to discuss the construction electrician/construction wireman agreement, "and after that, it was a firestorm," Parrington said. Business managers and organizers from both local unions shared tips and strategies about how to best work an agreement with CMR—which for now includes portability within respective jurisdictions of the two locals. This interim relief expires at the end of the current NECA agreements.

CMR employees' work will be divided between Local 3's jurisdiction—which includes the five boroughs of New York City and Westchester County, as well as Fairfield County in Connecticut—and that of Local 25 on Long Island. Local 3 initiated 22 new CW/CEs and the rest are new CW/CE members of Local 25. Some new members of the locals will be going into the apprenticeship program.

"It is anticipated the signing of

CMR will broaden work opportunity for Local 3 members with CMR's customer base, including Home Goods stores, Staples stores, McDonalds, Burger King,

Nearly 50 longtime employees of new signatory contractor C.M. Richey are now IBEW members, working in jurisdictions of New York Local 3 and Long Island Local 25.

CVS and Walgreens, and other national chains with whom CMR has been providing construction services," said Local 3 Business Manager Christopher Erikson. "We look forward to a long relationship as the representative of CMR's workforce and growing that group with IBEW members of both Local 3 and 25."

The agreement has already been a boon to longtime members, as well as those recently brought into the IBEW fold.

Ten-year Local 25 member Rob Petrocelli will work his first job for CMR

soon. He offered thanks to the organizing team for signing the contractor: "I was running out of benefits and had little money, so this was a godsend."

Jim Volpe, a veteran electrician with CMR, will see his company's job prospects expand even further with its new IBEW membership. "The guys from the hall are great," he said. "We are really working well together."

Local 25 Business Manager Harvey said "it's tremendous to have gotten this deal completed."

"The company did more than 100,000 man-hours last year in the small works area, which will open new doors for us," Harvey said. "I feel like we have an excellent relationship with owner Chris Richey and there's a lot of trust between us. I'm excited about moving ahead and am looking forward to a long and prosperous relationship." ■

Construction Members Honored by Hour Power



Omaha, Neb., Local 22 member Dave Nisley



Dublin, Calif., Local 595 member Melvin Switzer

New hand. Journeyman. Veteran. Three IBEW members in the construction branch from across the experience spectrum have been selected for excellence by an online news magazine.

Hour Power awarded Omaha, Neb., Local 22 member **Dave Nisley** as journeyman mentor of the year, Dublin, Calif., Local 595 member **Melvin Switzer** was named instructor of the year and Albuquerque, N.M., Local 611 member **Daniel Trujillo** was selected apprentice of the year. All were honored at the IBEW Construction and Maintenance Conference in Washington, D.C., in April.

Nisley, an active member of Local 22, is "committed to becoming a better electrician every day," said Business Manager Gary Kelly.

"Dave goes out of his way to impart his knowledge of the craft to fellow journeymen and apprentices," said IBEW International President Edwin D. Hill. "He simply makes those around him better at their own jobs."

Switzer, an apprenticeship instructor, spent years in the field before joining the Alameda Electrical JATC.

"Mel's passion for the electrical trade is paralleled only by his dedication to teaching his craft," said Local 595 Business Manager Victor Uno. "Mel's work ethic and skills are invaluable to the apprentices and journeymen learning from him in the classroom."

A newly-graduated journeyman lineman who topped out of the Southwestern Line Constructors Joint Apprenticeship program, Trujillo is already a valued member of his local.

"He can handle any problem you throw at him and does his job with the pride and professionalism that is so emblematic of all of our IBEW brothers and sisters," said Local 611 Business Manager Chris Frentzel.

For more, visit www.ibewhourpower.com. ■



Federal Elections 2011: Activists Keep Spotlight on Jobs

Canadians went to polls for the fourth time in seven years this month in an election that decided the future of Conservative Prime Minister Stephen Harper's minority government. The opposition Liberals and New Democrats—along with the Bloc Québécois—toppled Harper's government in a vote of no-confidence March 25, holding his government in contempt of Parliament for failing to disclose financial details behind some of its recent budgetary moves.

While final results were not available before press time, it was a high-stakes election, particularly for the construction industry, where many key legislative issues remain in the air.

Canada has largely recovered from the 2008 recession and industry is booming in many parts of the country, but the future growth of good jobs will depend in large part upon the continuing intervention of the federal government, says Christopher Smillie, senior advisor for government relations and public affairs at the Canadian Building Trades.

"We called on all the parties to lay out their plans to keep our economy on track and put Canadians to work," he says.

While stricter federal campaign laws passed in 2006 limit the ability of labour unions to campaign for particular candidates or parties, the building trades mobilized members across Canada to lobby candidates on the key issues that affect working families, setting a pro-worker agenda at the federal level that can cross party lines.

"We're staying connected with all the parties," Smillie says. "We are sticking with the issues and working to move MPs on them."

Topping the policy priority list is the energy industry. Canada's natural resource base, in particular the Alberta oil sands region, has been vital to the country's economic health and the building trades are pushing for the government to continue investing in this key economic sector.

"Sales of oil and gas have kept our economy growing, and we want to make sure the parties commit to developing a tax code and regulatory climate that will make more energy projects—and good jobs—happen," says IBEW First District Vice President Phil Flemming.

Matching workers to these jobs is another priority. Canada is facing a skilled worker shortage as more baby boomers exit the work force. The

Construction Sector Council says 317,000 new skilled workers will be needed by 2017 to meet Canada's manpower needs.

The building trades wants more federal grants to help provinces fund apprenticeship training and is pushing government officials and contractors to include apprenticeship training as part of any major construction project.

"Bringing in temporary overseas workers to fill in the gaps won't cut it," Smillie says. "We need to get serious

about getting more Canadian youths into the skilled trades."

Labour mobility has become an issue for many construction workers, as oil sands' recruiters scour the country for skilled tradespeople.

Making the Red Seal standard the qualifying benchmark for skilled construction employment in every province and allowing travel to and from projects to be tax deductible would make it easier for workers to get to where the jobs are.

And while the job picture is looking up in construction, Canadian manufacturing continues to take a beating.

"Canada needs an industrial strategy and governments must continue with economic stimulus measures that have saved us from sinking into recession," says Canadian Labour Congress President Ken Georgetti in a statement.

Smillie helped produce an electronic election newsletter for activists, along with developing political action

kits to help members talk to their candidates about the major issues.

Regardless of the results, Flemming says it's up to every member to remain mobilized beyond Election Day.

"We need to keep writing our MPs, talking to party leaders and making our voices heard, because it is up to us to make sure the issues of importance to working people are part of the national debate in Ottawa," Flemming says. ■

Élections fédérales 2011 : Les emplois dans la mire des militants!

Pour la quatrième fois en sept ans ce mois-ci, les Canadiens sont allés aux urnes afin de décider de l'avenir du gouvernement minoritaire conservateur, sous le leadership du Premier ministre Stephen Harper.

Faisant front commun, les libéraux et les néo-démocrates—ainsi que les bloquistes—ont réussi à renverser le gouvernement Harper sur un vote de non-confiance, le 25 mars dernier, en trouvant le gouvernement coupable d'outrage au Parlement pour ne pas avoir remis certains documents exigés, notamment ceux liés aux coûts de certains projets de lois.

Cette élection était cruciale, en particulier pour l'industrie de la construction, alors que les principaux enjeux législatifs demeuraient toujours en suspens. Malheureusement, les résultats finals n'étaient pas disponibles avant la rédaction de cet article.

Comme le mentionne Christopher Smillie, conseiller principal aux Relations gouvernementales et aux affaires publiques au Département des métiers de la construction du Canada, l'économie canadienne s'est considérablement redressée depuis la récession de 2008 et l'industrie est en plein essor dans plusieurs coins du pays; toutefois la croissance d'emplois rémunérateurs dépendra en grande partie de l'intervention continue du gouvernement fédéral.

« Nous avons demandé à tous les partis de nous présenter ce qu'ils avaient l'intention de faire pour maintenir notre

économie sur la bonne voie et pour faire travailler les Canadiens » dit-il.

Depuis l'adoption de lois fédérales plus restrictives sur les campagnes électorales en 2006, les syndicats n'ont plus la capacité de faire campagne pour des candidats ou des partis spécifiques. Le Département des métiers de la construction avait donc mobilisé les membres à travers le Canada pour qu'ils exercent de la pression sur les candidats afin de les sensibiliser aux principaux enjeux touchant les familles travailleuses, établissant ainsi un agenda pro-travailleurs au niveau fédéral pouvant transcender les lignes des partis.

« Nous restons en contact avec tous les partis. Nous nous en tenons aux enjeux et nous travaillons pour que les députés agissent dans ces dossiers » poursuit M. Smillie.

L'industrie de l'énergie vient en tête de liste des priorités politiques. Les ressources naturelles du Canada, et en particulier les sables bitumineux de la région de l'Alberta, ont été d'une importance capitale pour la santé économique du pays et les Métiers de la construction exercent de la pression pour que le gouvernement continue d'investir dans ce secteur économique clé.

« La croissance de notre économie a été maintenue grâce aux ventes de gaz et de pétrole et nous voulons nous assurer que les partis s'engagent à établir un code d'imposition et un cadre réglementaire qui contribueront à la réalisation de plusieurs autres projets énergétiques et des emplois rémunérateurs » affirme

Phil Flemming, Vice-président international pour le Premier District de la FIOE.

Répondre à la demande de main-d'œuvre pour combler ces emplois fait aussi partie des priorités des syndicats de la construction. De plus en plus de baby-boomers quittent le marché du travail et le Canada fait face à une pénurie de travailleurs qualifiés. Le Conseil sectoriel de la construction indique qu'en 2017, il faudra 317,000 nouveaux travailleurs qualifiés pour répondre aux besoins de main-d'œuvre.

Le Département des métiers de la construction souhaite qu'il y ait plus de subventions fédérales pour aider les provinces à financer la formation en apprentissage et insiste auprès des hauts fonctionnaires et des entrepreneurs pour que la formation en apprentissage fasse partie de tous les grands projets de construction.

« Faire appel à des travailleurs étrangers temporaires pour combler ce manque ne règlera pas la situation. Il faut songer sérieusement à attirer plus de jeunes Canadiens dans les métiers spécialisés » indique M. Smillie.

Avec les recruteurs pour les entreprises présentes dans les sables bitumineux, qui parcourent le pays à la recherche de travailleurs des métiers spécialisés, la mobilité de la main-d'œuvre est devenue un problème pour plusieurs travailleurs de la construction.

En établissant les normes du Sceau rouge comme référence pour mesurer le niveau des compétences dans les emplois spécialisés de la con-

struction, dans toutes les provinces, et en offrant un crédit donnant droit à une déduction d'impôt pour l'aller et le retour à ceux qui vont travailler à l'extérieur sur des projets de construction, il sera plus facile pour les travailleurs de se déplacer pour se rendre à l'endroit où sont les emplois.

Et tandis que la situation de l'emploi s'améliore dans la construction, le secteur manufacturier continue d'être malmené.

« Le Canada a besoin d'une stratégie industrielle et les gouvernements doivent continuer à fournir la stimulation économique qui nous a évité de plonger dans la récession » a déclaré Ken Georgetti, Président du Congrès du travail du Canada.

Le confrère Smillie a participé à la préparation d'un bulletin électronique sur les élections, pour les militants; il a également conçu des trousseaux d'information sur l'action politique pour aider les membres à discuter des principaux enjeux, lors des rencontres avec leur candidat.

Comme le souligne le Vice-président Flemming, « Peu importe le résultat, tous les membres doivent demeurer mobilisés au-delà du jour de l'élection ».

« Nous devons continuer d'écrire à nos députés, de parler avec les dirigeants des partis et de faire entendre notre voix car c'est à nous de voir à ce que les principaux enjeux des travailleurs fassent partie du débat national à Ottawa », conclut le Vice-président Flemming. ■

Transitions

RETIRED Stephen Schoemehl



Fifth District International Executive Council member Stephen Schoemehl retired effective March 31, ending a career of service

to the membership that spanned nearly four decades.

Initiated into St. Louis Local 1 in 1972, Schoemehl served on various committees, including the joint labor management committee as well as the inside and residential negotiating committees. He was also a member of the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus.

Schoemehl went on to serve as an organizer/business representative beginning in the late '90s, then was elected business manager of the union's flagship local in 2001. He was appointed to the IEC in 2005 by International President Edwin D. Hill, and was elected at the 37th International Convention in 2006.

In the wake of the recession, and with unemployment high in the construction branch, Schoemehl actively promoted IBEW excellence, especially the union's role in providing critical skilled work for high-tech industries. In an op-ed published in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch last year, he pointed to massive jobs the membership has tackled, including the Emerson data center in eastern Missouri, which boasts the largest solar panel array in the state.

"If St. Louis has any hope of becoming a destination for equally enduring high-tech industries, including renewable energy manufacturing, it needs a highly-skilled work force to build and service it," Schoemehl wrote.

Schoemehl was challenged by the emergence in 2008 of St. Louis Carpenters Local 57, which competes against Local 1 for electrical contracts. A Building Trades Unity Rally last summer drew more than 1,000 members from several craft unions who stood shoulder-to-shoulder with the IBEW effort. Soon after, an area contractor was forced to terminate its contract with the Carpenters due to a National Labor Relations complaint filed by the IBEW.

In December, Schoemehl helped organize and lead 600 members in a picket outside the Carpenters hall. "We need to be everywhere the Carpenters are," Schoemehl said at the picket. "We will be on the ground, at the National Labor Relations Board—wherever we need to be."

An Army veteran, Schoemehl served on many labor-related committees throughout his career and was a member of the St. Louis Building and Construction Trades Council executive board. He was a member of the Pride of St. Louis Executive Committee and was on the United Way's board of directors. He was nominated as Labor Man of the Year in 2005 by the St. Louis Building and Construction Trades Council and 2004 Man of the Year by the St. Louis Port Council.

On behalf of the entire union membership, the officers and staff wish Brother Schoemehl a rich, healthy and happy retirement. ■

APPOINTED Michael Walter



St. Louis Local 1439 Business Manager Michael Walter has been appointed Fifth District International Executive Council member

effective March 31. Walter replaces Stephen Schoemehl, who has resigned.

A native of St. Louis, Walter was initiated into Local 1439 in 1979 as a mechanic with utility company Ameren UE, formerly called Union Electric. He quickly moved up the job ladder and also became active in the local's leadership, taking the role of a shop steward for 14 years. Walter also served as a business representative starting in 1995 and spent nine years on the local's executive board.

During that time, Walter negotiated more than 24 contracts with nine municipal and 15 investor-owned utilities including Ameren, Alliant, Entergy, and Dallas-based Atmos Energy—one of the largest providers of gas distribution in the country.

Walter was appointed business manager in 2007 and elected to the position in 2008. In that role, he was actively involved in public utility rate cases at Ameren UE and successfully helped steer money into training funds on the generation side as well as into funds to hire new technical employees. He has also lobbied to spur on the state's public service commission in addressing staffing challenges resulting from an aging work force.

Walter is chairman of the Missouri Utility Workers Conference. A member of the Missouri Energy Workforce Consortium, he has served as vice president of the South St. Louis County Labor Politi-

cal Organization and is on the City of St. Louis Workforce Investment Board. He is also currently chairman of the St. Louis County Board of Zoning Adjustments.

"Early in my career, I realized the value of the IBEW and made a decision to be active," said Walter. "I am grateful to be appointed to the IEC. I feel my work with the IBEW is nowhere near complete. I am 54 years of age and feel that I have much more to learn, accomplish and teach to others in my work with the IBEW."

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

APPOINTED Kenneth Cooper



International Representative Kenneth "Coop" Cooper has been appointed Fourth District International Vice President

effective May 1. Cooper replaces Salvatore "Sam" Chilia, who assumed the role of International Secretary-Treasurer this month.

A member of Mansfield, Ohio, Local 688, Cooper completed his journeyman wireman apprenticeship in 1989 and quickly became an active participant in his local union. Throughout his tenure he served as shop steward, vice president, president, assistant business manager and then business manager for nine years—as well as holding several civic and community positions with the AFL-CIO, Building Trades, Catholic Charities, American Red Cross and the United Way.

"My father was a member of the UAW and my grandfather was in the steelworkers," Cooper said. "Union membership has always been a family affair."

As business manager, he helped increase man-hours for wiremen by 28 percent and received multiple awards and commendations for his role in organizing workers and policing his geographical jurisdiction.

"Employees need to have dignity and respect in the workplace, and I'm honored that I was able to play a part in getting new union members better working conditions and increasing the standard of living for them and their families," Cooper said.

In 2006 he was appointed Fourth District International Representative, where he has been servicing utility, construction, telecommunications, railroad, manufacturing and maintenance locals

from West Virginia to Maryland's Eastern Shore. Addressing the recent wave of right-wing attacks on working families, he said that now is a critical time to mobilize "to maintain the things our founders fought for and that people risked their lives for."

"We need to get back to doing the things that make America great," he said. "When people take care of each other, earn fair wages and have decent benefits, our communities are stronger and better places to live."

Cooper said he looks forward to the opportunities and challenges ahead.

"As a wireman in Local 688, I was always told that I was charged with one thing—leaving the IBEW better than when I found it," he said. "I take that to heart."

The officers, staff and membership of the IBEW wish Brother Cooper success in his new position. ■

DECEASED Kenneth Rose



Retired First District Vice President Kenneth Rose died on March 19 at the age of 86.

Initiated into Toronto, Ontario., Local 1095 in 1942 after completing a railroad electrician apprenticeship, Brother Rose served as chief steward and president. In 1950, he was elected regional general chairman of negotiations and administration of IBEW's agreement with the Canadian Pacific Railway in eastern Canada. Later, he led negotiations with the carrier throughout Canada.

In 1955, Rose was appointed a First District International Representative. Two years later, he was designated assistant to the International Vice President. Appointed International Vice President for the First District in 1973, Rose assumed responsibility over a jurisdiction spanning nearly 4 million square miles and 10 provinces.

"Ken was a tough guy, but he was fair," says Kenny Woods, who assisted Rose for 13 years before succeeding him as First District Vice President. Rose, says Woods, was an expert in the IBEW Constitution. "His contribution to the trade union movement brought IBEW to the forefront in Canadian politics. He knew what he wanted and wouldn't stop until he got it."

A member of the Premier's Economic Council in Ontario, Rose also

served as a founding vice president of the Canadian Federation of Labour and chairman of the Building and Construction Trades Unions, AFL-CIO. He retired in 1987.

Jim McAvoy, a retired IEC secretary and former business manager of Victoria, British Columbia, Local 230, says: "Ken was respected by members, local leaders and other vice presidents alike for his courage to stand up and speak his mind. I never remember anyone thinking of running against him for vice president."

In retirement, Rose enjoyed golfing near his vacation home in Florida.

Rose's memorial service concluded with a bagpiper who led mourners to a pond where his ashes were joined with those of his wife, Betty.

On behalf of all members of the IBEW, the officers and staff send our condolences to Brother Rose's children, Kenneth Jr., Lynn and Darlene. ■

DECEASED Danny McKinney



Seventh District International Representative Danny McKinney died on March 3 at the age of 62.

McKinney served as business manager of Phoenix, Ariz., Local 266 from 1986 to 1993. In 1993, he was appointed as an International Representative and served as a desk representative at the Seventh District office.

A lineman, McKinney chaired negotiations with his employer, the Salt River Project, and served on the labor-management committee. He was a delegate to the Arizona State AFL-CIO for 17 years.

Later, McKinney represented the IBEW in negotiations with Asarco, covering copper mine electricians in Arizona and Texas.

Brother McKinney, who was raised in the White Mountains of Northeast Arizona, worked in his youth on actor John Wayne's 26 Bar ranch near Springerville. He served in the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam from 1966 to 1968 as a parachute rigger for the 5th Special Forces Group. He was a licensed pilot and enjoyed skiing and riding his dune buggy.

On behalf of the members of the IBEW, the officers send condolences to Brother McKinney's family. ■

Local Lines

Industry Trends Discussed

L.U. 1 (as,c,ees,ei,em,es,et,fm,i,mt,rts,s,se,spa, st&ws), ST. LOUIS, MO—In early February, Local 1 was honored to have Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill in attendance at a union meeting. Pres. Hill discussed current trends in our industry, the state of the IBEW on a national scale, and the battles faced by the IBEW in Washington, D.C. In addition, Pres. Hill discussed methods used to maintain and increase market share around the country, as well as in St. Louis. He opened the floor for a question-and-answer session, focusing largely on the use of the construction wireman classification in the Local 1 jurisdiction. Pres. Hill pointed out that while no effort to regain market share is perfect, steps need to be taken to maintain and improve the amount of work for our out-of-work members.

In addition, Bus. Mgr. Stephen Schoemehl announced his retirement before the membership. Bro. Steve Licari was appointed as the new business manager of Local 1 by the Executive Board.

Local 1 mourns the death of several members: Theodore Fox, Marvin Yavitz, Milton Spitz, Harry Mauchenheimer Sr., Robert Bueker, John Schad, Chris Patrick, Frederik Jepsen, Raymond Summers, William Mueller, James Beck, Oren Smith, Vito Gowatch, John Johnson, Jerry Bales, Willard White Jr. and Alphonse Bruckerhoff.

Matt Gober, P.S.

August Golf Benefit

L.U. 9 (catv,govt,lctt,o&u), CHICAGO, IL—Congratulations and best wishes to Asst. Bus. Mgr. Gerald Byrne on his retirement. Jerry has been a member of Local 9 for more than 40 years and has served the membership as an assistant for the past 11 years. We wish Jerry all the best. Good Luck, Bub! We also welcome John Dowling as a new assistant business manager. John has been a member of Local 9 for 20 years. John will work with our line clearance members.

The 45th annual Local 9 Old Timers' Dinner was held April 8. More than 1,000 Local 9 members attended to honor the 25 members who retired in 2010 as well as all the past retirees of Local 9. We thank these hard-working members for their dedication to and support of Local 9.

Mark your calendars for the sixth annual Local 9 Golf Outing benefiting Susan G. Komen for the Cure. The outing will be Aug. 13 at Glen Eagles Country Club. Don't miss this great event.

The new and improved Local 9 Web site has

been launched. Please visit the site at www.ibew9.org. Many new features have been added. Check it out.

Robert W. Pierson, B.M.

L.A. Mayor Praises IBEW Work

L.U. 11 (i,rts&spa), LOS ANGELES, CA—Congratulations to apprentice Erica Marquez Villegas on being chosen to represent Local 11 at a recent press conference held by the mayor of Los Angeles in front of the YWCA project being built by Walton Electric Corp. Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa praised the quality work by Villegas and other IBEW Local 11 members. He championed project labor agreements and stimulus spending to create needed construction jobs.

Local 11 sent 10 members to Wisconsin in a show of solidarity to support the protests against the Wisconsin governor's attempt to take away union members' collective bargaining rights. The membership was able to follow their progress and voice encouragement to members on the front lines through the local's Facebook page. We are very proud of our members for volunteering on such short notice to join in the protests.

Congratulations to retired member Butch Bachand and Asst. Bus. Mgr. Dick Reed, who were elected to the board of directors of the L.A. Electrical Workers Credit Union. We know they will do a fine job!

With great sadness, we report the passing of Bro. Jack Webster, a 51-year retired member. He will be missed by all.

Bob Oedy, P.S.



IBEW Local 11 apprentice Erica Marquez Villegas joined Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa at a press conference, where he lauded the excellence of IBEW members' work.

Utility Local Update

L.U. 15 (u), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—Pres./Bus. Mgr. Dean Apple and Vice Pres. Terry McGoldrick represented Local 15 at an awards dinner honoring Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill as Labor Leader of 2010.

In January, eight members attended the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus.

In February, Local 15 hosted an IBEW Code of Excellence class. Attendees included Local 15 officers and guests from Exelon/ComEd management.

Talks are continuing for an Underground reorganization package.

On the Nuclear side, we are discussing a "working foreman" position and will revisit nuclear travel agreements after the spring outage season. Our Nuclear business reps attended a public hearing at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission headquarters and work-hour rules were discussed.

In the Fossil Station area, safety continues to improve. Will County has gone three years injury free, completing 1 million man-hours. Fisk has two years without a lost-time accident. Kincaid went one calendar year without an OSHA recordable and 1 million man-hours without a lost-time accident. Kincaid Station set a station record for longest run on a unit (Unit 1, 126 days) and highest summer Equivalent Availability (99.6 percent). In December 2010, as part of an agreement with the Illinois EPA, Midwest Generation shut down Units 1 and 2 at Will County Station.

ComEd call centers (Chicago North and Oakbrook) and the commercial center (Oakbrook) will relocate to Lincoln Centre (in Oakbrook).

Local 15 has a new, improved Web page: www.ibewlocal15.org.

Doug Vedas, P.S.

company. Tough choices had to be made during these negotiations, but in the end jobs were saved—jobs along with the hardships their losses would have had on our members and their families.

John Tracy, who recently retired from the AT&T Dundee garage, is very proud of his son Army SPC Adam Tracy. While serving in Afghanistan, SPC Tracy was awarded the Purple Heart and the Medal of Valor. He was the gunner for the lead vehicle during a combat patrol. The vehicle was disabled by an IED. While under heavy machine gun fire, SPC Tracy crawled out of the vehicle and fired back at several enemy machine gun positions. His actions enabled others to maneuver and recover sensitive items from the disabled vehicle and evacuate the wounded. All Local 21 members gratefully congratulate SPC Adam Tracy.

Thomas Hopper, P.S.

Promoting Career Possibilities

L.U. 37 (em,o&u), FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA—Once again, Local 37 demonstrated its strong support for promoting the many career possibilities in the trades and technologies by sponsoring and participating in the 2010 New Brunswick Skills Networking Dinners for Young Women. These dinners, hosted by the NB Chapter of Women in Nuclear (WIN), are designed to bring female high school students together to listen to, and learn from, professional female mentors (many of whom are IBEW members) working in non-traditional fields such as electrical technology, chemical technology, instrumentation, power engineering, welding, pipefitting, nuclear response, etc. Local 37 looks forward to supporting this event again in 2011!

'Tough Battles'

L.U. 21 (catv,govt&t), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—Through tough negotiations at AT&T, we were able to reach an agreement to prevent more than 800 members from being laid off. As a result of the talks, an enhanced separation package was negotiated which allowed more than 200 members to voluntarily leave AT&T; and others were able to move into new jobs in other areas of the



Local 37 staff member Annette Perry (far right) speaks with high school students about the IBEW.

Trade Classifications

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

Efforts are made to make this list as inclusive as possible, but the various job categories of IBEW members are too numerous to comprehensively list all.

More than 100 students, 35 mentors, a variety of exhibitors, government and employer representatives, several parents, and teachers all took part to make these dinners a resounding success! The students' feedback was very positive and clearly indicated that they left feeling empowered and inspired about the many exciting career opportunities available to them.

Ross Galbraith, B.M.

GM Engine Plant

L.U. 41 (em,es,govt,i,se&spa), BUFFALO, NY—As of this writing, based on our work outlook, we expect to put travelers out to work this summer. With close to full employment and with our General Motors engine plant in Tonawanda, NY, about to start staffing up, we hope to share our good times with some out-of-work brothers and sisters.

We prepared our Local 41 float for the annual St. Patrick's Day parade, an event that usually has a nice turnout and is fun for everyone involved. Thanks to Bro. Pete Czaster for acquiring the trailer for the float, putting it together and using his truck to pull it!

This summer Local 41 will host a family night out at a Buffalo Bison's Friday Night Bash to be held June 22, and also the Miss Buffalo cruise on Aug. 5. Hope to see you there!

The election this November will be very important to us all, and it is never too early to start focusing on candidates. Here in Buffalo, we have a very important county executive election upcoming, along with some redistricting we'll be watching. We are always looking for candidates to evaluate. Any input from our members would be greatly appreciated.

Gregory R. Inglut, A.B.M.

Acts of Service & Brotherhood

L.U. 43 (em,i&rts), SYRACUSE, NY—Our work picture is slow, but better than most. One of the bright spots in March was the refuel outage at Nine Mile Point. Although only a three to four week duration, the pre-outage and outage kept more than 75 journeymen busy. This summer also looks good for employment. We have signed project labor agreements in place for both the Syracuse and Utica School District renovations, as well as one for work to be done at Hancock International Airport.

This past March Local 43 participated in "America's Greatest Heart Run/Walk" in Utica, NY, and the American Heart Walk in Syracuse. Local 43 Bus. Mgr. Don Morgan, himself a survivor, is on the Executive Committee for the American Heart Association. IBEW Local 43/NECA again sponsored the "red hats" worn by survivors of heart disease.

All unions talk of brotherhood and have examples. Let me share one of ours. Two of our younger members had tried to practice and qualify as nuclear certified welders but didn't pass the "make or break" test. Enter recently retired member Dave Wierowski. On his own time Dave set up a class at our Training Center, donated the steel, built a "coupon bender" at a friend's machine shop and then adapted it to the hydraulic Greenlee bender from class. Both journeymen passed on their next test and are now certified. When asked why he did all of this, Dave simply said it was to give something back for all he had received through the IBEW during his career. Thank you, Dave.

Jim Corbett, P.S.

Mobilizing to Stop Attacks

L.U. 51 (catv,lctt,o,rtb,t&u), SPRINGFIELD, IL—With their anti-union and anti-worker rhetoric at a fever pitch, Republicans along with their Tea Party (so-called) patriots are showing everyone their true colors. These enemies of organized labor and working people must be stopped in their tracks, and it is up to every one of us as union members to contribute to the cause. To borrow a phrase (revamped somewhat) from the late John F. Kennedy: Ask not what your union can do for you, but what you can do for your union. Organize and mobilize, brothers and sisters! The threat is real.

Local 51 recently reached agreements with American Line Builders (NECA), Henkels & McCoy, and Asplundh Power covering outside power work. Agreements were also reached with L.E. Myers Co., and Donco Electrical Construction (meter readers). Negotiations continue with: WMBD (radio-television broadcasting) and Corix Utilities (AMR meter readers). Additionally, negotiations are underway for a first-time agreement with the City of Ladd, a newly organized municipality.

As of this writing, work remains slow for our outside power membership. However, there are several nice-size projects in the planning stages. Hopefully with the arrival of spring we will return to full employment.

Remember to work safe, give eight hours' work for eight hours' pay and attend your unit meetings.

Dan Pridemore, B.R.



Local 51 journeyman lineman Rick Bumgarner (left) and apprentice lineman Jim Reardon are at work on the job for BBC Electric on Prairie Power property.

Former Officer Mourned

L.U. 53 (lctt,o,rts&u), KANSAS CITY, MO—Local 53 mourns the death of retired Bus. Mgr. William H. "Bill" James. Bro. James passed away Jan. 9, just eight days after his 94th birthday. Bill was initiated into IBEW Local 55, Des Moines, Iowa, in 1942.

In 1948 he went to work for Kansas City Power & Light and in 1951 became business manager of then-Local 1464, representing the physical unit employees of KCP&L. He retired as business manager of then-Local 1464 in 1969.

In 1972 Bill came out of retirement and returned to work in Local 53 and became a business representative. In 1975 he was elected business manager of Local 53 and held that office until 1981, at which time he again retired. To the best of my knowledge, Bill is the only member of the Brotherhood to be elected and retire as business manager from two IBEW locals.

Bro. James was respected throughout the IBEW. He was one of the great labor leaders of our time. Local 53 owes a great deal to Bro. James. He came to the local when it was going through diffi-



Local 53 mourns retired former business manager William H. "Bill" James.

cult times and turned the local around. He will be sadly missed by all of us at Local 53.

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

Worker Solidarity Rallies

L.U. 77 (lctt,mt,o,t&u), SEATTLE, WA—On Thursday, Feb. 24, Bus. Mgr. Don Guillot, Executive Board member Pat Darling and I went to Wisconsin to represent our local in the protest rallies at the state Capitol in Madison, WI.

The issue at hand was Gov. Scott Walker's proposal to take away collective bargaining rights for state workers—including teachers, office workers, snow plow drivers and many others. Thousands of supporters, both union and nonunion, joined the rally in an attempt to persuade the governor and controlling Republican Party to withdraw their anti-worker legislation.

We attended rallies every day we were in Madison, from Feb. 24-27. Approximately 100,000 people attended on Saturday, in 15 degree weather and heavy snowfall. This stripping of basic human rights to bargain collectively was not only wrong, but an attempt to bust unions in Wisconsin. The domino effect could no doubt move state to state.

The outpouring of concerned workers was overwhelming. We met people who had come from across the country to show support. It was the most heartfelt and proud moment in this union man's career.

On April 8 here in Washington state, Local 77 members participated in a big labor-wide "Save Collective Bargaining Labor Rally" at the state Capitol in Olympia to continue our support and solidarity against assaults on union workers and families.

Rick Strait, B.R.



IBEW Seattle Local 77 members attend rally at the Wisconsin state Capitol, joining union members from Madison, WI, and elsewhere to show solidarity. Holding the Local 77 banner are, back row, Bus. Rep. Rick Strait (wearing glasses) and Executive Board member Patrick Darling.

Contract Negotiations

L.U. 97 (u), SYRACUSE, NY—Recently the Local 97 leadership team has been negotiating several contracts for different properties we represent.

The service employees secured a three-year contract with a 3 percent annual wage increase.

The NYISO (New York Independent System Operator) contract agreement is for four years, seven months. Wage increases are 2.4 percent for two years and 2.5 percent for the remainder. Language was added so supervisory personnel cannot perform bargaining unit work.

The NRG Energy contract was difficult because under the current economic conditions the company's generating plants are often off-line. The Brotherhood agreed to a regional work force, working between plants. Per diem and transportation allowances were agreed to. The agreement is for two years from the expiration of prior agreement. Wage increases of 2.5 percent per year were included along with shift differential increases. A Voluntary Separation Agreement was also established.

Constellation Energy contract talks will begin May 3.

National Grid, our largest employer, recently announced it will be reorganizing again. The company stated the union would "not be included at this time," when it announced the elimination of 1,200 non-represented jobs in the U.S.

At this writing, political forces are trying to weaken the collective bargaining rights of public employee unions in different states across the country. Beware! As a member of this union, no matter what political party you support, this is an attack on your standard of living. If you are not affected now, then you may be tomorrow. Please become active in your local—you need it and it needs you.

John Delperuto, P.S.

Strong Show of Solidarity

L.U. 99 (govt&i), PROVIDENCE, RI—IBEW Local 99 members turned out to show their support at the American Federation of Teachers rally held March 2 at the City Hall in Providence. [Photo, pg. 8.] AFT Pres. Randi Weingarten led the rally of some 1,000 strong. Union electricians, pipefitters, laborers, fire fighters, police and teachers from across Rhode Island showed support for the those teachers caught up in

mass firings by Providence Mayor Angel Tavares. The new mayor fired all 1,962 teachers rather than honoring the collective bargaining agreement with layoff notices and negotiating with the teachers.

If we continue to allow this national anti-union parade to go on without a strong showing of brotherhood, we will be run over by the corporate minded, right-wing agenda. No one knows this better than the throngs of Local 99 supporters, who understand that "an injury to one is an injury to all." Solidarity and support

Local Lines



IBEW Providence, RI, Local 99 members and fellow trade unionists turn out in force for the March 2 AFT rally at City Hall.

for those whose bargaining rights are being attacked is a must and should be expected from our membership through these perilous times.

We at Local 99 recognize recently retired Bus. Agent Ron Leddy and thank him for his dedication and stewardship to keep our union strong. Bus. Agent Leddy previously served as Executive Board chairman, and as trustee to our local pension and annuity funds. Best wishes to Bro. Ron and his wife, Ann, for a happy retirement.

S. P. Callahan, P.S.

Tribute to Service

L.U. 111 (em, govt, lctt, mt, o, rtb, spa&u), DENVER, CO—On Feb. 24, Bus. Mgr. Michael Byrd and Pres. Mike Kostelecky presented member Pru Rinne of Tri-State G&T with her retirement pin and a gold IBEW ladies watch in recognition of her tireless contributions to Local 111. Pru began her career with Colorado Ute in April of 1980 moving through the various classifications in her department and retiring in the position of Work Order Material Control Specialist in April 2011. She survived the strike of 1984 and when Tri-State took over Colorado Ute following bankruptcy, she paved the way for workers in her department.

Pru was essential for the clerical workers of Colorado Ute before and after their three-week strike in 1984. She was and is the glue that held this unit together cementing a working relationship with not only her coworkers, but the labor force as well. She served on numerous committees, participated on the negotiating team, served as a steward for years, and went above and



Local 111 Bus. Mgr. Mike Byrd (left) and Pres. Mike Kostelecky present member Pru Rinne with her retirement pin and gold watch.

beyond the commitment made to this local union.

We sincerely wish her the best on her retirement and future endeavors, and will miss her unending efforts in the labor movement.

Mike Kostelecky, P.S.

Attacks on Union Workers

L.U. 125 (lctt, o, t&u), PORTLAND, OR—By now, most Americans are aware of aggressive actions taken by Wisconsin's governor in a fight involving state budget issues. To be clear,

Wisconsin is not the only state targeting public employee unions nor is Scott Walker the sole governor leading the effort. Many states, including Oregon, have said that they cannot afford to sustain existing benefit levels. What's different about Wisconsin? Gov. Walker eliminated collective bargaining.

Local 125 members need to focus on understanding their own collective bargaining agreements. The local has numerous contracts open, and employers will continue raising their expectations. Beyond the act of collective bargaining, members must focus on demonstrating professionalism by working efficiently and safely to demonstrate the quality and craftsmanship associated with the IBEW.

This local represents numerous members employed by public employers. These are your union brothers and sisters who are performing the same work that you do. Don't get involved with attacks on other union members. You may be asked to contact your legislators, sign a petition, or attend a public event. It's your personal choice on how you represent this local, but remember that Local 125 will not be immune from the attacks on organized labor. Do your part and educate your friends, family and neighbors on the positive attributes that are associated with the IBEW.

Marcy Putman, P.S.

Work Picture Brighter

L.U. 129 (i, mt&spa), LORAIN, OH—The work picture in our area has started to pick up. At this writing, the Cleveland Clinic project is taking off with about 20 to 30 members on-site. Also our steel mill Lorain Tubular has started manning up with approximately

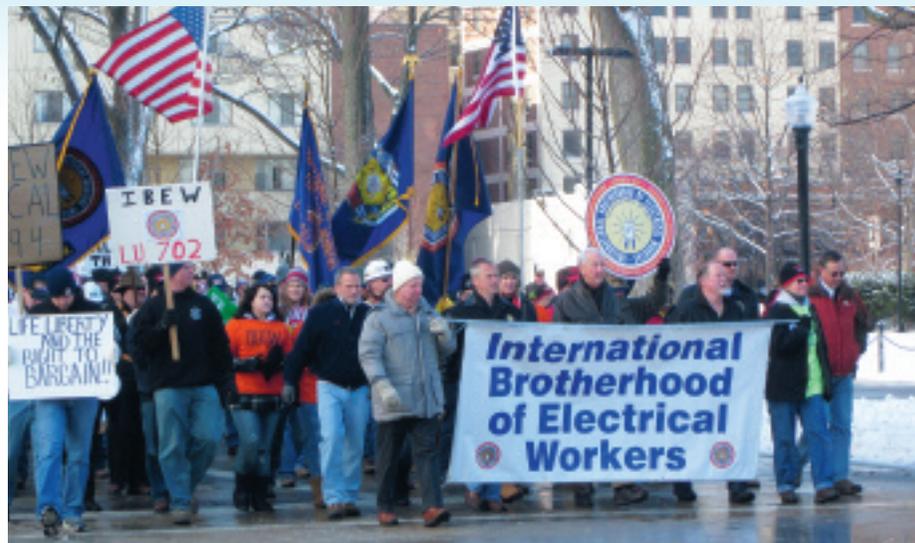
35 members on-site. Both projects are being done by Firelands Electric.

Additionally, E.C.A. Inc. has projects at Lubrizol and PolyOne chemical plants. There are also school construction projects in our area. The \$50 million battery plant project is going out to bid shortly.

We had several members attend the wind mill school in Toledo, OH. A Code upgrade session was held at the hall Feb. 23 and 24.

Local 129 member Terry Monroe passed away and will be greatly missed.

Dennis Pedings, P.S.



IBEW members, including Local 159 members, join massive protest rallies in Madison, WI, against attacks on workers' rights.

Fight for Workers

L.U. 159 (i), MADISON, WI—Officers and members of IBEW Local 159 extend sincere thanks to all the union brothers and sisters across the United States and Canada for their support and concern regarding our struggle with Gov. Scott Walker's budget bill and the underlying Republican agenda of union busting.

We also thank and recognize Local 159 Bro. Mark Roughen, who was inside the Capitol since the initial days of the protest, providing online live streaming on what transpired inside our Capitol rotunda. Mark has been dedicated to providing this service to keep the public informed, despite numerous obstacles and attempts to shut down the transmission of this information.

Despite decisions of the Republican majority in the Assembly to ramrod legislation that eliminated collective bargaining rights of our public sector workers, the fight continues. We are not only fighting for Wisconsin, but for the survival of this nation's middle class. At this writing, recall efforts are underway as well as pending lawsuits.

We held our biggest rally yet on Saturday, March 12, with more than 100,000 protesters. To keep updated on this movement throughout Wisconsin, visit www.wisaficio.org.

Again, we truly appreciate all the solidarity and support we have received.

Joel Kapusta, B.A.

Union Appliance Technicians

L.U. 191 (c, i, mo, rtb&st), EVERETT, WA—Judd & Black Appliance has had a lot of growth in its 70-year history. Since the days when Bob Long Sr. would manually change the scoreboard for the Everett Giants (now the Everett Aqua Sox), Judd & Black has been a first-class, community-minded neighbor for all. The com-

pany's belief in taking exceptional care of the customer before, during, and after a sale or repair has never changed.

Judd & Black has the only factory-trained union technicians in the state of Washington. The company has one of the largest Parts & Service Centers around. Judd & Black has been under a collective bargaining agreement for more than 40 years. The technicians go through a two-year, 4,000-hour apprenticeship—which includes classroom and hands-on training by the factory—before they receive their journeyman card. After their apprenticeship, the journeymen take continuing education classes yearly to keep up with constantly advancing technology and National Electrical Code changes. Eight Judd & Black technicians are on the road six days a week to service the community. They include Mike Trushinsky, Daniel Isbelle, Jeff Smith, Ken McPherrin, Oliver Christian, Luke Kroeger, Mike Jones and Shop Steward Marty Kortekaas.

Judd & Black offers a discount to all IBEW members on sales or service. Special thanks to Judd & Black and the union technicians for their continued hard work and professionalism. The IBEW is proud to have members like you.

Rob "Bulldog" De Velder, P.S.



Among the Local 193 members attending the rally at the Illinois state Capitol to "Save the American Dream" are, beginning third from left: Bros. Glenn Baugh, Paul Moore and Don Hudson, joined by Susan Solon's daughter, Angela (right).

'Save the American Dream' Rally

L.U. 193 (i,lctt,o,rts,spa&u), SPRINGFIELD, IL—Several labor unions, teachers and trades, along with their families rallied on the Illinois State Capitol steps on Feb. 26, under the gaze of the Abraham Lincoln statue, to support Wisconsin public workers' bargaining rights. [See photo, pg. 8.] The spirit of Mother Jones was flowing throughout the rally. Local 193 made a great showing along with union brothers and sisters from all across Illinois. Local 193 Bus. Mgr. David Burns gave a good speech, letting all know that Local 193 stands strong with our labor friends, nationwide!

Future Gen is still progressing; the sequestering sight has been determined in Morgan County. If the project stays on schedule, the start date is fall of 2012. Local 193 will continue to work closely with those involved to assure that the \$1.5 billion project comes to fruition.

At press time, spring looks promising for getting our Book I members to work.

Our condolences go to the families of recently deceased members: Bros. Dan Hart, Walter Goodman and Maurice Shofner.

Don Hudson, P.S.

'Wearin' & Workin' Green'

L.U. 269 (i&o), TRENTON, NJ—Congratulations to Local 269 Asst. Bus. Mgr. and state Assemblyman Wayne DeAngelo on being selected grand marshal of the Trenton St. Patrick's Day parade at Hamilton. In addition to the Trenton parade, members also marched in parades in Mt. Holly, NJ, and Buck's County, PA. Along with the continuous good works performed by our members, participating in these local parades provides an excellent opportunity to raise the profile of our union within the community.

On the work front, solar initiatives are starting to bear fruit within our jurisdiction and throughout New Jersey. Along with Bro. DeAngelo, Local 269 has numerous members sitting on boards and committees that are responsible for the allocation of funds involved with these solar installations and other municipal construction projects. Having a pro-labor voice directly involved in budgetary decisions can only better our local's prospects.

In an effort to keep our members in the forefront of the skilled labor market, the Rupert A. Jahn Trade School has started classes in solar technology and installation. Given the increasingly competitive work environment facing our members in today's labor market, we need every edge we can get.

Brian Jacoppo, P.S.



An IBEW Local 269 crew gets ready for a wire pull on the solar panel installation at PSE&G's Yardville, NJ, location. Members are, from left: Mark McTamney, Ray Kramer, Don Clegg, Derrick Chapman and Rob Hoffman.

PAC Golf Tournament

L.U. 309 (i,lctt,mo,mt,o,rts,spa&u), COLLINSVILLE, IL—A letter sent to Bus. Mgr. Scott Hassall from our recently retired office service administrator Judy Baczewski is reprinted in the "Letters to the Editor" section of this issue (page 19). The letter is a thoughtful one and we wanted to share it with readers.

Judy worked with the local for 14 years. Her late grandfather, Theodore Czarnecki, was a Local 309 journeyman wireman. Her husband, Stanley Baczewski, also worked as a Local 309 journeyman wireman until he became disabled. Judy expresses her appreciation to the IBEW and notes the benefits of association with a great union.

Good luck to Judy and Stan on a long and healthy retirement.

The local's annual PAC golf tournament is June 24 at Locust Hills Golf Course. We look forward to seeing everyone there, as the tournament is always a success.

Scott Tweedy, A.B.M.

Collective Bargaining Rights

L.U. 343 (i,spa&st), LE SUEUR, MN—At this writing, the right of collective bargaining is under attack in the state of Wisconsin. Collective bargaining has given working people, union and nonunion, not only better wages but also better pensions, health care and working conditions. In this present economy, most members will be reasonable in negotiating contracts, but the right of collective bargaining must be maintained. Samuel Gompers was asked in 1893, "What does labor want?" He replied, "We want more schoolhouses and less jails, more books and less arsenals, more learning and less vice, more constant work and less crime, more leisure and less greed, more justice and less revenge." Have our wants changed from then to now?

Phil Heim, P.S.

Continuing Education Classes

L.U. 349 (em,i,mps,rtb,spa&u), MIAMI, FL—The work picture seems to be holding its own. There's enough work to keep our local members working some.

Dale Evans hosted another great Super Bowl party. Everyone had a good time with good food and family fun. Many thanks, Dale.

Our continuing education classes are ongoing. So, make sure you get enrolled. Also, other journeyman classes are available. Call John McHugh at the apprenticeship office for class schedules.

Remember our troops here and overseas. We hope for their safe return.

Attend your union meetings. Strong attendance helps make this a strong local union.

Frank Albury, P.S./Exec. Brd.

Solar Farm Project

L.U. 351 (c,cs,i,it,lctt,mt,o,se,spa&t), FOLSOM, NJ—Local 351 members and Lucas Electric recently constructed a 6.2 megawatt solar farm in West Deptford, NJ. This project was completed within a very aggressive 10-week time frame and



IBEW Local 351 members working with Lucas Electric constructed a 6.2 megawatt solar farm project in New Jersey.

was within budget. As of 2010, this solar field project was the largest in New Jersey, consisting of more than 26,000 panels over a 76-acre tract. The project's energy production ties directly into PSEG's electrical grid helping to power approximately 1,600 homes. American Capital Energy, the integrator for this project, was pleased to have a single electrical contractor perform all aspects of the solar farm development.

Another job well done by IBEW labor.

Daniel Cosner, P.S.

District Progress Meeting

L.U. 357 (c,i,mt&se), LAS VEGAS, NV—Local 357 was proud to host the 67th Annual Ninth District Progress Meeting at Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino, March 2-4. Officers and representatives of the Ninth District were addressed by: Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill, then-Int. Sec.-Treas. Lindell K. Lee, Ninth District Int. Vice Pres. Michael S. Mowrey, IEC Chmn. Robert W. Pierson, IEC member and Local 47 Bus. Mgr. Patrick Lavin, as well as many special guest speakers. The events and trends of our trade and our nation were discussed. Pres. Hill also addressed implementation of the construction electrician/construction wireman classifications nationally and the necessity for the CE/CW classifications to reclaim markets that we are not competitive in. Pres. Hill assured everyone that this is our program and not NECA's.

We have an opportunity to emerge from this economic depression stronger than we have ever been. We have emerging markets such as solar,

electric vehicles and nuclear power. We are in a climate where working people are under attack and fighting back. Now is the time to take action!

Aaron Jones, P.S.

Stand in Solidarity

L.U. 363 (catv,em,govt,i,t,u&ws), NEW CITY, NY—Greetings to all our IBEW brothers and sisters.

We all have heard stories about how bad work was in the 1970s—mostly as a lesson about appreciating full employment or learning to save for the bad times.

Unfortunately, for the last decade we have been living those '70s all over again. There are finally some signs of things starting to improve, but there is still a long way to go. What is most important now is that we stand for what we believe in and that we come together and support the union and what it stands for.

With bad times come the attacks on unions. We need to be out there and ready to counter the public brainwashing put forth by some Republicans, some confused Democrats and all of the anti-union business groups that promote having a war against the workers.

Together we can make it through these bad times and come out stronger and smarter than ever before. The secret is that it will take all of us to make that happen. IBEW members are smart and will surely rise to answer that call.

Kevin Keeley, P.S.



Attending IBEW Ninth District Progress Meeting are, from left: then-Int. Sec.-Treas. Lindell K. Lee, Int. Vice Pres. Michael S. Mowrey, Local 357 Bus. Mgr. David R. Jones, Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill, and IEC member and Local 47 Bus. Mgr. Patrick Lavin.

Local Lines

Rec. Sec. Ruhland Retires

L.U. 441 (as,i&rts), SANTA ANA, CA—Over the last 25 years, Local 441 has experienced many changes. One constant fixture throughout has been our current recording secretary, Dave Ruhland. As we prepare for his retirement, we are reminded of his impressive 40-year tenure with the local.

Dave was initiated in 1971 and graduated from Local 441's apprenticeship in 1974. Certified as a high voltage cable splicer in 1982, he also assumed his first officer's position with Local 441's Examining Board. In 1986, Dave became recording secretary, a position he has held since.

Dave has served selflessly in his position for 25 years. Since becoming recording secretary, Dave has donated the majority of his officer's pay to Local 441's Health & Welfare Fund, which was designed to offer dues assistance to members in need. It is because of his commitment to the perpetuation of this fund that we have decided to refer to it as The Dave Ruhland Health & Welfare Fund.

We hope this is viewed as a testament to Dave's hard work as a servant to the local and the integral role he has played in Local 441's development over the last four decades. On behalf of the entire local—thank you, Dave, for your dedication, friendship and brotherhood.

Rich Vasquez, B.R.



Local 441 Bus. Mgr. Doug Chappell (left) and Asst. Bus. Mgr. Richard Samaniego (right) congratulate retiring Rec. Sec. Dave Ruhland (center).

'On Time & Under Budget'

L.U. 453 (govt,i,rtb,rts&spa), SPRINGFIELD, MO—After about a year of getting to employ travelers on our local powerhouse, we are now relying on other jurisdictions to keep our members employed. A big thank-you goes out to all the traveling brothers and sisters who helped us finish our jobs on time and under budget, and also to all the area locals that are keeping our members working.

Nominations for officers will take place at the May 12 meeting and anyone interested in seeking office must either accept the nomination in person or in writing at that meeting. Regardless of whether you are working at home, on the road or not at all, voting for your representation is a responsibility everyone should take seriously.

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

Kevin McGill, P.S.

Annual Food Drive

L.U. 459 (ees,em,govt,so&u), JOHNSTOWN, PA—Since 1983, Local 459 has conducted annual food drives and

the contributions have grown each year. This year, the local has been very successful in the amount of monetary contributions and non-perishable items we received. The local's 2010 Food Drive collected and distributed a total of \$8,410 for a grand total of approximately \$158,910 in cash donations since 1983.

Our donations are received from members of Local 459, employers of represented members and friends of the community. Local 459 represents members in Pennsylvania, New York and Maryland. Donations are distributed to food pantries in those areas where our members work and reside. The food drive funds were also used to purchase food coupons that were distributed to members who were off work because of long-term illnesses.

The local feels this is a great tribute to the members of Local 459 who generously support this valuable initiative, and we thank all who contributed their hard-earned dollars. Thanks to all the union stewards who collected funds and a big thank-you to Mary Perdue, chairperson of the 2010 Food Drive.

Kenneth L. Richards, A.B.M.

2011 Scholarship Winners

L.U. 543 (mo&t), SAN BERNARDINO, CA—Congratulations to the 2011 scholarship winners: Tyler De La Houssaye, Jamaal Martin, Chance Erwin and Sarah Schrader.

The essay question for applicants was: "In What Ways Are Unions Good for America?" Following are quotes from some exceptional responses.

Chance Erwin wrote: "Union—it is the act of joining, which [symbolizes] the foundation of this country. Even appearing on one of the nation's founding documents: 'In order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense [and] promote the general welfare.' [These words] ... from the preamble to the U.S. constitution ... embody the same ideas that labor unions represent today. The formation of unions helped create the middle class, opening new doors for millions of poverty stricken American workers."

Sarah Schrader wrote: "Unions provide the support to ensure that workers can avoid being exploited by employers. ... Unions ultimately benefit the foundation of America, the working class, and give workers a stronger voice so they can receive a fair share of the economic growth they helped to create."

It is comforting to know that some of our youth today realize the importance of unions!

Jerry Koger, B.M.

LED Retrofits

L.U. 551 (c,i&st), SANTA ROSA, CA—Congratulations to Bus. Mgr. Jack Buckhorn on his re-election as president of our North Bay Central Labor Council. Thank you, Bus. Mgr. Buckhorn, for all your hard work and dedication to unionism and the labor movement. Also congratulations to the new delegates to our Central Labor Council: John Lloyd, John

McEntagart and Michael Donegan. Thank you all for your commitment to labor!

On the organizing front, LEDTronics and Local 551 have partnered to give the IBEW an edge in the LED retrofits. LEDTronics has offered a special distribution price to the IBEW. We felt that we were large enough that we wanted to be able to buy for our projects at a better rate. This deal will give the IBEW an advantage in the retrofits of street lighting, parking lot lighting and all other retrofits being done. Visit Web site www.ledtronics.com to see what is available for our contractors. When ordering, all our contractors and other locals have to do is mention IBEW Local 551 for the pricing discount.

The Retirees Club would like to see more active retirees and/or local members join them at their monthly lunches. They meet faithfully the second Tuesday of every month. Call the hall for more details.

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

Code of Excellence

L.U. 553 (i,mt,o&ws), RALEIGH, NC—A Code of Excellence class was held in February at the local union hall with some of our members attending. Over a period of time, we can have the entire membership onboard with the Code of Excellence. And then the electrical contractors can get on board also.

At the time of this writing, there is a small amount of work generated at Fort Bragg, Spring Lake, NC. Fort Bragg is a major U.S. Army installation. White Electric is working with Johnson Controls on soldier support facilities and some of the barracks for soldiers. An outside contractor is coming to the area for work in nearby Fayetteville, NC, and this will generate more work for our membership for 2011 utilizing the CE/CW program.

We extend solidarity to our union brothers and sisters in the state of Wisconsin in their fight to stand up for workers and collective bargaining rights.

David A. Ingram, P.S.

Act Now, Not Later

L.U. 557 (i,mt,rts&spa), SAGINAW, MI—Local 557 is doing its part in the ongoing battle between unions and politicians who are foes of working people. Many members of our local have been active in

standing up for workers; thanks to all for taking a stand when we need them the most in these difficult times. Around the state of Michigan, it is almost a daily occurrence to hear of a demonstration to bring union members together. These fights can only be won with total solidarity and mass numbers.

Recently, Local 557 joined up with members from other locals all across the state. A whirlwind of measures have been taken statewide to combat anti-worker legislation. These demonstrations include literature drops, marches on the Capitol, handing out flyers, or going door to door. In February, 10 Local 557 members joined another 1,600 union members from all walks of life to tell our state representatives that we oppose their new policies. We and all union members are enraged at the lack of compassion shown by our state leadership.

Solidarity is the key in these trying times. Everyone, young and old, must get involved and do it right now! If we do not act now, there may not be a later.

Evan Allardyce, P.S.

'Fast-Start' Sound Technician Training Program

L.U. 569 (i,mar,mt,rts&spa), SAN DIEGO, CA—San Diego Electrical Training Center's Sound and Communications Training Coordinator Tim Moylan has launched his second accelerated training program class for sound technicians called "Fast-Start." This program provides participants with a strong foundation as they start their four-year Sound Technician Apprenticeship Program.

The 10 individuals selected have met the stringent physical and mental requirements for entering the Fast-Start program. The program consists of a seven week, eight-hour day rigorous training schedule. Training starts off with physical training and material handling. This is followed by lectures and hands-on training for Structured Cabling, Fiber Optics, Constructions Class, Basic Fire Alarm Systems and Safety and Basic Electricity. After successfully completing this seven-week program, students will have earned certifications in Premise Cabling, Fiber Optic Technician, Fiber Optic Cleaning, Hilti Qualified Operator, CPR/First Aid and OSHA 10.

With this valuable skill set, these individuals become productive employees at their first job with



Local 557 members prepare to protest at the state Capitol, in Lansing, MI. From left are: Scott Gale, Phil Barnett, Robb Stannick, Gary Neuenfeldt, Walt Stroik, Brent Boehm, Joe Gomez and Dan Combs.



Local 569 San Diego Electrical Training Center's "Fast-Start" class provides a strong foundation. From left, back row, are: Duncan Abrams, chairman, Sound Technician JATC; Patrick Seeger, Anthony Milazzo, Nadar Salahuddin, Guy Glover and Training Dir. Patrick Knighton. Front row: Christine Schmidt, Damone Rodriguez, Steve Wilson, Hector Murrieta, Nick English, Lito Aguilar, and Sound & Communications Coordinator Tim Moylan.

our IBEW signatory contractors, and solid Local 569 members. After completion of their training, this high quality class of individuals has already been snapped up for employment by Audio Associates, Baker Electric, Construction Electronics, COSCO Fire Protection, Dynalectric, Neal Electric, and Pyro-Comm Systems Inc.

David B. Taylor, P.S.

National Instructor of the Year

L.U. 595 (c.govt,i&st), DUBLIN, CA—Congratulations to Local 595's Mel Switzer, recipient of the first IBEW National Instructor of the Year Award. Mel and his wife, Nancy, were flown to Washington, D.C., to receive the award at the IBEW Construction Conference in early April. Everyone is proud of Mel and our entire JATC staff, who turn out the best-trained workers in the industry. Keep up the great work!

After a very slow fall and winter, we hope spring will brighten our work picture. With the power plants starting and the hospitals finally hiring, we expect greater employment for our members the rest of this year and next.

We will hold our May 12 General Membership meeting at our new JATC site to discuss our upcoming wage allocation and to hold nominations for all of our elected offices that are up this June. Nominations will be held also for delegates to the International Convention to be held in Vancouver, British Columbia, in September. We look forward to a large turnout of members for this important meeting.

As California struggles with our state budget and as attacks on public sector workers continue across the nation, we still think things are slowly getting better. This recession hit all unions hard, but we cannot allow this to weaken us. As the econ-



Winner of the IBEW's first National Instructor of the Year Award is Mel Switzer, Local 595, joined here by his wife, Nancy.

omy starts to rebound, we in labor must seize the opportunity to strengthen our ranks and position ourselves for better times ahead.

Tom Mullarkey, B.R.

Work Picture Slow

L.U. 611 (catv,es,govt,i,lctt,o,spa,t&u), ALBUQUERQUE, NM—At this writing the work picture has been slow with just a few calls coming in for the cities of Eunice and Farmington, NM.

Sandia Resort was the site of our recent apprenticeship banquet. The night started with a nice dinner and speeches, and our newest journeymen received their certificates. Congratulations to this year's graduates: Manuel Candelaria, Jeremiah Charley, Ali Baba Duran, Ian Eller, Robert Garcia Jr., Frank Hanish, Randy Harker, Todd Hasse, Joshua Hutchings, Harry Johnson, Lambert Julian, Edgar Kau, Steven Ledezma, Jessie Miera, William Monette, Greg Morgan, Jose Renteria, Jedidiah Rogers, Marvin Romero II, Damian Roybal, Eric Rouse, Joshua Sartain, Melissa Shive, Edward Tavenner III, Diego Vigil, Michael Williamson and Ryan Wood. Frank Hanish was this year's apprentice of the year.

This is an election year for our local. Each election year the local sends out self-addressed, stamped envelopes to all members but most of them don't get returned. This year let's get as many back as possible.

Union meetings are held the third Thursday of the month. Please try to attend some meetings this year.

Local 611 extends condolences to the families of recently deceased members: Leonard D. Pearson, Burton A. Brown, Joseph J. Faykus, Frank T. Casados and Terry G. Caddell.

Darrell J. Blair, P.S.



Albuquerque, NM, Local 611 honors graduates at apprenticeship banquet.

Work Picture Looking Up

L.U. 625 (ees,em,i,mar&mt), HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA—The work picture is looking up as hiring in Unit #2 has reached into all other units. As of March 4, Ainsworth has 76 members on the Truro Hospital project, which is scheduled for completion in March 2012. Black & McDonald has 44 members at the Daewoo Wind Turbine Plant renovation at the old (1878) Trenton Works Railcar Plant.

Bond & Coolen is slow for the time being with only 14 members on the payroll. Before they finished up at the Life Sciences Research Institute and other projects at Dalhousie University, they were at 50 members. The situation should improve by the time you read this. The RCMP forensics lab project will be ramping up and the Canadian Blood Services building should be close behind.

This spring will also see the Medical Centre in Greenwood (Unit #3) start hiring. The Bluenose Academy in Lunenburg (Unit #4) should be coming out of the ground. Also, the new high school project in Yarmouth (Unit #5) will be manning up.

Bro. John Ross retired in January. Good health and enjoy your retirement, Bro. Ross.

Tom Griffiths, Pres.



Local 673 member and JATC Instructor Ken Farabaugh demonstrates to his Solar Photovoltaic class how to set up the Sun Path Calculator, used to evaluate shading at potential array locations.

Green Training Grant

L.U. 673 (catv,i,rts,spa,t&u), PAINESVILLE, OH—Local 673's JATC has been very busy in training our members in wind, solar, and building automation green technology.

This was all made possible through the Ohio Green Renewable Opportunities for Workers (GROWS) program—when the Ohio LMCC (NECA/IBEW) applied for and was awarded a Green Training grant from the U.S. Dept. of Labor.

JATC Instructor
Ken Farabaugh is

teaching the Solar Photovoltaic class and as of this date has trained more than 50 members. JATC Instructor Tony Gambatese is currently teaching the Energy Efficiency/Building Automation class, which has more than 30 members to be trained. Local 673 also has more than 20 members trained as wind technicians.

Remember to check the Local 673 Web site for upcoming training classes and entertainment events at www.ibew673.org.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy Memorial Day.

Daniel A. Lastoria, Mbr. Dev. Rep.

Attacks on Workers

L.U. 683 (em&i), COLUMBUS, OH—Brothers and sisters, the onslaught has begun. It only took the Republican Party six weeks to begin legislative attacks on public sector collective bargaining rights in Ohio, Wisconsin and other states. Their next target is the prevailing wage law in Ohio. Additionally, anti-worker "right-to-work" bills have been filed in numerous states. If any union member still does not believe that the Republican Party is against organized labor, ask the teachers and auto workers in this country. Who or what's next?

On a local level, we thank the donors to the January blood drive. Thanks to Dillon Isaac and Malcolm Giffen for coordinating the effort.

Current journeymen classes offered are: Code of Excellence, Electrical Contractor Business, Solar Photovoltaic and Building Automation.

The Retirees Club holds monthly luncheons at the union hall, which are well attended. Thanks to the officers for their continued efforts.

We extend condolences to the families of recently deceased members: Ronald Riffle, Timothy Yost, Damon Rutledge, John Stenson, Mark Armintrout, John Thompson and Joseph Scherler Sr.

Rick Deime, Exec. Brd./P.S.

Historic Stand for Workers

L.U. 725 (i,rts&spa), TERRE HAUTE, IN—We are witnessing an attack from unfriendly Republican state legislators. At the time of this writing, "right-to-work" for less, a ban on project labor agreements, and gutting our common construction prevailing wage laws were on the table. Under Republican proposals, as of this writing, teachers would lose their collective bargaining rights, taxpayer money would fund vouchers and charter schools would compete for public money.

In response, Democrat representatives refused to participate in the radical agenda of the



IBEW Local 725 officers and staff greet several Indiana House representatives who decamped to Illinois in their stand for workers' rights. From left, back row: Local 725 Reps. Joe Kerr and Tom Szymanski, Indiana Rep. Matt Pierce, Local 725 Bus. Mgr. Todd Thacker; front row, Indiana Reps. Dale Grubb, Peggy Welch and Clyde Kersey.

Local Lines

Republicans. At this writing, Democratic representatives had taken refuge in Illinois away from the Statehouse to block the bills. We thank the legislators who are standing with the working families of Indiana!

[Editor's Note: On Monday, May 28, after 36 days of protest at the Indiana Statehouse, working people welcomed back to the Capitol the House Democrats who boycotted and took a stand to protect Indiana's working families. Standing together helped prevent some of the worst anti-worker legislation from being passed into law, although the fight for workers continues. Compromises secured include: "right-to-work" legislation taken off the table, preserving collective bargaining rights; changes to proposed project labor agreement provisions and prevailing wage law proposals; changes regarding private school vouchers; and other worker issues.]

We thank Local 601 in Illinois, which hosted an appreciation luncheon for our Indiana House representatives. Local 725 Reps. Joe Kerr, Tom Szymanski and I made the trip to thank the Indiana Democratic representatives, including those who represent our jurisdiction.

Finally, we thank Local 725 Organizer Tom Szymanski for his service. After graduating as Outstanding Apprentice, he finished his master's degree at UMass, completed an NLRB internship, and has always been a dedicated union member. After nearly seven years on staff, Tom accepted a position with an AFL-CIO affiliated state federation outside of the building trades sector. We wish him the best!

R. Todd Thacker, B.M.

Stewards Conference

L.U. 827 (catv&t), EAST WINDSOR, NJ—In February we held our 42nd Stewards Conference at the Sheraton Atlantic City Convention Center Hotel. More than 200 stewards attended. A former great leader of our union once said, "If delegates don't know the history of their organization, they don't know where they are going themselves." That was the late Morris D. Murphy, a former I.O. department director in earlier decades.

Statewide unity was the February conference theme. Training sessions covered: the grievance procedure, the Family & Medical Leave Act, on-duty accidents, and members' Weingarten rights dealing with investigatory interviews. On the second day of the conference, we discussed our bargaining strategies with Verizon and Verizon Connected Solutions. Both contracts expire Aug. 6, 2011. I thank the chief stewards, stewards and those alternate stewards who gave up their time to attend. The conference was held over the weekend to save the cost of lost wages. I again extend our thanks to everyone who helped make the conference a success.

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

'Stand Up for Brotherhood'

L.U. 915 (i&mt), TAMPA, FL—We had our annual work party in February with a turnout of approximately 40 members. Lindy Wooten astounded us with a breakfast fit for kings to start the day. We refurbished our folding tables, laid 6 yards of rock, and cleaned around the lake. Work was also done in the apprenticeship workshop area making room for the new journeyman wireman Certification Testing space. Once again, we made great use of a pretty day—and a good day for brotherhood.

With the attacks in our great USA on labor, I



Local 915 members gather for February work party.

would like to awaken our members to become active as if your job depended on it. And it does. The middle class is under attack and our right to collectively bargain will slide away from us if we don't become proactive. It is up to each member to remember why you became a union member in the first place and stand up for your rights against those who wish you and your families the greatest struggle of your life. Issues range from health care and unemployment benefits, to your pension and collective bargaining. Nothing is safe. So contact your local union and ask how and where you can help. We all need to stand up for labor. Educate yourselves, read and watch the news—then get involved. Labor is depending on you.

Theresa King, P.S.

Negotiations & Protests

L.U. 965 (em.govt,ptc&u), MADISON, WI—Negotiations with the local's largest employer, Alliant Energy/Wisconsin Power & Light, have begun. On Feb. 21, the local traded contract proposals with the company, followed by a union solidarity meeting at the local office where proposals from both the company and union were presented to the members. Union proposals include improvements to working conditions, use of accumulated sick time at retirement, job security enhancement and other improvements to the agreement. The company's proposals include transferring more insurance costs to the employees, replacement of the overtime meal policy, elimination of the last week of earned vacation for those who haven't earned it yet and other changes to the agreement. Also at that solidarity meeting was a celebration to tear-up the mortgage on the local's building, which is now completely paid off.

While these negotiations are important, the big news out of Madison is the protests against Wisconsin's governor and state legislature. We have more than 100 members who will lose their collective bargaining rights if Gov. Scott Walker's bill is implemented. We were honored to join IBEW Int.



Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill addresses union protest rally in Madison, WI, on Feb. 22.

Pres. Edwin D. Hill on Feb. 22 as he marched and addressed thousands of protestors outside the state Capitol building. At the time of this writing, the protests continue. ...

Kurt Roberts, P.S.



IBEW Seventh District Int. Vice Pres. Jonathan B. Gardner (right) presents Excellence in Training Award to Local 1015 Bus. Mgr. Sergio A. Salinas.

Excellence in Training Award

L.U. 1015 (em&i), WESLACO, TX—IBEW Local 1015 and the Rio Grande Valley Laredo Electrical JATC are working together and realizing that the impact of the recession has yet to budge for the fiscal year 2011. Though the recession does not help the work situation in any way, it does help the local and the JATC produce many new angles of organizing and ideas to get through these tough times, as well as to visualize the jurisdiction in many different ways.

As for the JATC, apprentices and members of Local 1015 are still training and expanding their knowledge and work performance in the electrical industry. Since 2004, the RGV/Laredo Electrical JATC has planted its roots in the Rio Grande Valley, working together with Local 1015. Organizing and training electrical workers provides the contractors with certified, skilled employees.

At the 2010 IBEW Seventh District Progress Meeting, Local 1015 was honored to receive our first award for skilled training of journey workers at a high percentage within our local by Southeast Texas Chapter of NECA. The Excellence in Training Award was presented to Local 1015 Bus. Mgr. Sergio Salinas by IBEW Int. Vice Pres. Jonathan B. Gardner.

Our respect goes out to the

members who take the time to participate in training opportunities the IBEW offers.

Ray R. Duran, P.S.

Initiatives Mobilize Members

L.U. 1245 (catv,em.govt,lctt,o,pet,t&u), VACAVILLE, CA—Local 1245 has launched new initiatives to mobilize our members in the worker struggles playing out around the country.

Local 1245's Solidarity Action Network aims to collect personal contact information for 1,000 members willing to participate in upcoming solidarity actions—rallies, e-mail campaigns, etc. Our new Facebook page has sparked an overwhelming response, with members contributing ideas, photos, videos and links conveying news about the Wisconsin fight as well as our local actions and social activities.

Among those activities: A bowling tournament for members at Turlock and Modesto Irrigation District; the Apprentice Graduation Dinner for Outside Construction apprentices, held Feb. 26; the upcoming Gold Cup Soccer Tournament in Livermore; the upcoming Perry Zimmerman Golf Tournament in Vacaville, CA; and the upcoming Northern California Sporting Clays Shoot on Nov. 12 in Dunnigan, CA.

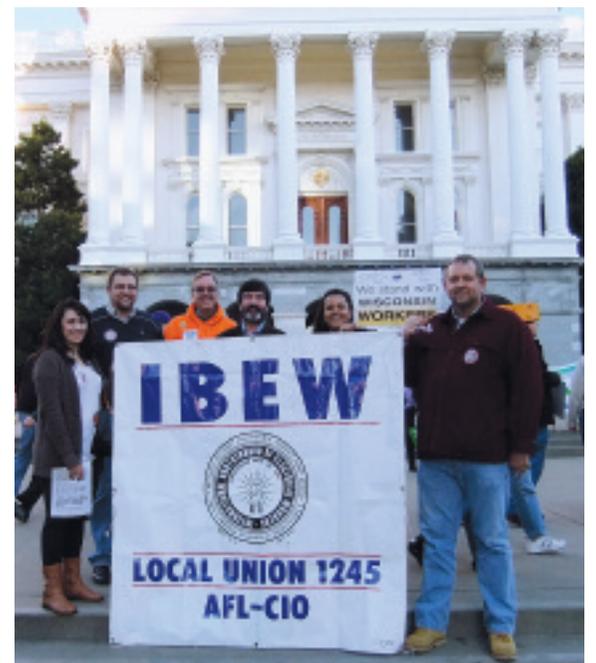
The union has sharpened its focus on training. We are holding several two-day conferences on grievance handling.

We launched a Leadership Training series to bring younger members into leadership roles. Guest speaker at the first training, held Jan. 24 in Berkeley, was former Secretary of Labor Robert Reich.

The local began its "Hold the Pull" safety program, which focuses on peer-to-peer communication among linemen to increase job safety awareness. Initial presentations were for PG&E linemen in San Francisco and SMUD linemen in Sacramento, with additional presentations scheduled.

In Nevada, the Public Utilities Commission, in response to the local's petition, has launched an investigation into staffing at Sierra Pacific Power, where the aging of the work force is a concern.

Eric Wolfe, P.S.



Local 1245 members rally at the state Capitol in Sacramento, CA, in support of Wisconsin public workers on Feb. 22. From left: Gracie Nunez, Ralph Armstrong, Fred Ross, Darryl Norris, Liz McInnis and Ron Cochran.



Local 1253 members and others attending a Feb. 11 legislative breakfast at the Solidarity Hall in Brewer, Maine, listen to an address from U.S. Rep. Mike Michaud.

Battle for Workers' Rights

L.U. 1253 (I), AUGUSTA, ME—Workers' rights are under attack in Augusta as they are in other states across the nation. This includes a fight against "right-to-work" legislation LD 788. Sisters and brothers, this is our livelihood and our country. We must do our part to protect basic rights for our children and generations to come!

Recent Central Labor Council events included a legislative breakfast held in Brewer on Saturday, Feb. 11, and another held in Augusta on March 3.

Attendance by IBEW members was strong at an Augusta State House rally Saturday, Feb. 26, as Maine participated in a national show of support for workers in Madison, WI. Our members turned out again on March 3 at a rally to support Maine state employees. Additionally, there was participation from all Maine AFL-CIO locals on March 22 for Labor Lobby Day.

We're sad to report the death of Tom Smith, who just retired last year. We extend our sympathy to his family.

William Gifford, P.S.

Tribute to Six Retirees

L.U. 1307 (u), SALISBURY, MD—Local 1307 recognizes six recent retirees:

Edward Mitchell joined the local in 1995 as a building services repairman in Delmarva Power's Salisbury District; he previously held a non-bargaining unit position. He worked at Indian River Power Plant; in Salisbury as a utility service person; and as a relay tester. He retired Feb. 1, 2010.

Jane Adkins began at Delmarva Power in 1981. She worked as a customer information specialist in the Ocean City District and as division helper. She retired July 1, 2008.

Elias Carmine started as a meter reader in 1978 at Delmarva Power's Millsboro District. He later worked as stock keeper and retired Aug. 1, 2009.

Wayne Whitney began work in 1989 at Delmarva Power's Millsboro District as a groundman; completed the apprentice lineman program and became a journeyman lineman. He retired on Dec. 1, 2009.

Betty Brittingham joined the local in 1981 when Delmarva Power purchased Centreville

Electric. She was a Customer Information specialist and senior dispatcher. She retired April 15, 2002. She served Local 1307 as a shop steward and served one term on the E-Board.

Walter Dukes started as a groundman in Delmarva Power's Federalsburg District in 1972, completed his apprenticeship and became a journeyman lineman. He was a lead lineman in the Cambridge District, and meter tester in Salisbury. He was a senior lineman instructor when he retired. We wish all a happy retirement.

Edward D. Sparks, P.S.

New Journeyman Linemen

L.U. 1439 (u), ST. LOUIS, MO—At this writing, the snow and ice storms have moved on leaving a new class of journeyman linemen for the next batch of storm restoration. [Photo, below.] Future linemen will be needed as many members of the current, aging work force plan for retirement. Our association with Ameren/Missouri and its Apprentice Training Dept. is a working partnership to secure top quality linemen.

We are also testifying on behalf of the proposed Ameren/Missouri rate case with the Missouri Public Service Commission.

At this writing, so-called "right-to-work" legislation has hit the Missouri Senate but has been put on the informal calendar. Every state must fight to defeat this anti-worker, anti-union legislation at the local, state and federal levels.

Michael D. Walter, B.M.

Stewards Training Course

L.U. 1501 (ees,em,mo,pet,rts&t), BALTIMORE, MD—On March 10, Local 1501 along with Local 1805 held a Stewards Training course presented by the IBEW Education Dept.

The training was held at the Maritime Trades Institute Conference Center in Linthicum, MD, from 12 noon to 8 p.m. This program is well presented and very informative. It covers nearly every situation a steward would come across and how to handle the situation. Trainers reminded stewards that they are always a steward, even off the job, and that it is important to always conduct oneself in such a way as to best represent the IBEW for its members. We had in attendance: Nathan Allen, John Arter, Neil Becker, Delaney Burkhart, Web Burrier, Travis Devor, Victor Fontain, Paul Jonas, Richard Keim, David Kinsler, John Phillips, Fred Richards, Jeffrey Stinchcomb, Jason Strawhorn and Phillip Weber. Also attending

were: Local 1501 Administrative Asst. Margo Milliken, Local 1501 Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dion F. Guthrie, Local 1805 Bus. Mgr. Kenneth Morris and Int. Rep. James Kauffman. Participating stewards gave four hours of their own time. We thank the stewards for their time and dedication.

Thomas Rostkowski, R.S.



IBEW Locals 1501 and 1805 hold a Stewards Training course.

Every Role is Important

L.U. 1523 (u), WICHITA, KS—Utilities have a long-standing tradition for neighbor helping neighbor, even if that neighbor is hundreds of miles away.

In late January and early February 2010, Local 1523 and other locals assisted with storm restoration efforts following the storm that resulted in 64,436 customer outages across Oklahoma. Parent company Westar Energy received the Edison Electric Institute's Emergency Assistance Award for 2010. Congratulations to all the union members who helped make this happen.

When our members work together as a body, good things happen. A key role of that union body is filled by your union steward. Stewards volunteer their time and effort to make a better future for members. Stewards are the ones who hear first-hand the issues members have, the ones who take note of and respond to the frustrations members encounter. That requires a lot of a person, but the



Local 1523 journeyman lineman Todd Weakley works to restore power after an ice storm.

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

IBEW[®]

MERCHANDISE

www.ibewmerchandise.com



\$27.00

Windshirt

65% polyester / 35% cotton. Nylon crewneck with convenient side seam pockets & matching trim at cuff and waistband.



\$100.00

IBEW Retired Member Watch

Men's gold-tone watch embossed with Retired Member on dial. Expansion band, stainless steel backing and water resistant.



\$39.00

Golf Umbrella

Red & black golf umbrella with 62" arc. Fiberglass shaft with rubberized handle and IBEW logo on two panels.



Several Local 1439 journeyman linemen, some of whom recently topped out, gather for a photo. From left are: Joe Tharp, Marty Politte, Jeremy Lynch, John Berra, Chad Zust, Ken Utley, Rendel Hoenes, Abe Akers, Mike Cole, Kevin Becker, Alex Boggs and Ted Howle.

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

Local Lines



Local 1701 members receive their 30-year IBEW service pins. From left: Bruce Laney, Tim West, Jerry Frey, Richard Whittaker and Alan Rafferty.

stewards serve with dedication. I have said this many times: Do you know who your steward is? Your steward is the link who presents your issues to your business agent. Take the time to say thank you.

Candy C. Cruz-Dodd, P.S.

Davis-Bacon Wage Survey

L.U. 1579 (i&o), AUGUSTA, GA—The Davis-Bacon Wage Survey is completed and has been submitted for our jurisdiction. This survey is very important to the IBEW as well as other building trades unions and will keep our wages competitive for our contractors, especially the ones that bid work at Fort Gordon.

The data for this survey takes months to collect and the U.S. Department of Labor guidelines are very specific. The information collected is complicated and takes a lot of cooperation from the contractors.

When you start asking contractors for information such as peak times and cost of jobs, they are sometimes hesitant. However, with a little convincing they realize you are trying to help them. In the end, the contractors play a vital role in keeping our Davis-Bacon wages where they need to be and we thank them for their cooperation.

Our work situation looks promising. The Vogtle plant project will have a gradual buildup. It is hard to predict if and when this work will get into Book II. Check our Web site at www.ibew1579.org for the current work situation.

Until next time, God bless.

Will Salters, A.B.M.

Projects Getting Started

L.U. 1701 (catv,ees,i,o&u), OWENSBORO, KY—At our December monthly meeting, we presented service pins to our 20- to 60-year members eligible for awards. [Photo, above.] We also recognized all 2010 retirees. Congratulations to all.

The Executive Board in January appointed Bro. Scott Coleman as Local 1701 president to fill the unexpired term until the next regular local union election. Also, Bus. Mgr. Larry Boswell appointed Bro. Mike Vanwinkle as Membership Development coordinator. We ask the membership to stand behind all our local union leaders. We wish all good luck in their new positions.

Job calls are starting to come in, and our Book 1 is beginning to move. Beltline Electric is manning up at the OMHS new hospital and has approximately 50 on site. The Cannelton Hydro Electric plant just recently got underway and should build to about 70 workers at peak. IES has several proj-

ects breaking and will be calling for manpower. Additionally, the Owensboro downtown development projects should be underway by press time. We thank all locals that have employed our traveling brothers and we hope to return the favor soon.

In sadness we report the passing of retired Bros. Leroy McCully, James McCarthy and Ed Nave. May they rest in peace.

Tim Blandford, R.S.

Mobilization & Solidarity

L.U. 2325 (t), WORCESTER, MA—As scheduled, on March 1, the local moved into our new union hall. It was a lot of work but worth every drop of sweat equity. Our local's enduring vision of becoming property owners would not have been possible without the hard work of Bus. Mgr. Dave Keating, Pres. Keith Herrick, Vice Pres. Chris Doyle and Bro. Colin Plante.

With contract expiration fast approaching at press time, arrangements have been made to start local bargaining in Rye, NY. Meanwhile, the local continues to prepare by meeting with other IBEW regions to discuss bargaining strategies, holding membership meetings and coordinating mobilization activities. As we know, solidarity is crucial to successful negotiations.

As of this writing, all eyes are on Wisconsin and Ohio and the future of collective bargaining rights. Margaret Mead said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." Although the protesters were an amazing 100,000 strong, unionized workers only represent 11 percent of the work force. We have changed the world before and perhaps this challenge to collective bargaining rights is the very catalyst needed for resurgence in organization that workers desperately need.

United we bargain, divided we beg.

Dawn Nelligan Rosa, P.S./R.S.



Local 2325 Pres. Keith Herrick stands outside the new local union hall.

Retirees

'Let's Fight with Our Votes'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 1, ST. LOUIS, MO—Local 1 retirees have witnessed a harsh winter and harsh attacks on working people. These ongoing attacks are a shame on our national conscience—and should bring all Americans to the ballot box next election to throw out those who would destroy workers' rights. We must not allow political dictators to take workers back to the 19th century by destroying hard-fought gains organized labor has won. They blame budget shortfalls on workers, not on the politicians and corporations that created them. Their agenda: bust unions, destroy the middle class and reap the rewards of greed. Let's fight with our votes!

At a St. Louis area labor rally March 11, thousands of union members and supporters protested threats made to their futures. Local 1 was well represented.

Steven P. Schoemehl resigned as Local 1 business manager. We wish Bro. Schoemehl good luck in future endeavors and thank him for his dedicated service to Local 1. Stephen A. Licari was appointed to fill the unexpired term.

The March 16 club meeting was informative and a great opportunity to socialize with old friends. Bus. Mgr. Licari addressed the gathering.

We mourn the passing of Bro. Vito J. Gowatch. He was 102. We will miss him.

A golf outing is planned for mid-May. Upcoming meetings are: May 18, July 20, Sept. 21 (luncheon) and Nov. 16.

Don Appelbaum, P.S.

Annual Holiday Party

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, NORTH FLORIDA CHAPTER—Our chapter held its annual Christmas/Hanukah/ New Year's party at Benvenuto's in Boynton Beach on Jan. 7. [Photo, above.] The food, excellent one-man band and dancing were fun! All the brothers and sisters had a great time, thanks to Sandy Rosenhouch and her



The Local 3, Central Florida Chapter, Retirees Club celebrates the 99th birthday of Bro. Leo Raffio (front row, third from left). Attendees include: from left, front row, Chm. Harvey Liebman, Tom Adams, Bro. Raffio, Trustee John Grecco, Rec. Sec. Vanessa James-Foxe, Treas. John Baggott; and back row, Trustees Tom Doidge and Joe Steinbeck, Press Sec. Joe Golan and Walt Matuzzak.

helpers who made the arrangements. A terrific barbecue was held at the Delray Beach South Civic Center on March 11 and all Local 3 retirees were invited.

Our meetings feature informative talks by invitees; currently we are having lively discussions about employment and other union benefits.

The chapter meets on the second Friday of each month (from May to October) at 10 a.m. in the Delray Beach South County Civic Center. Many of our members are "Snow Birds" and we welcome all Local 3 retirees to our events and meetings.

Dick Dickman, P.S.



Attendees socialize at the Local 3, North Florida Chapter, Retirees Club's Jan. 7 holiday party at Benvenuto's.

Celebration of Brotherhood

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, CENTRAL FLORIDA CHAPTER—The Central Florida Chapter of the Local 3 Retirees Club celebrated the 99th birthday of their honor member Leo Raffio on Nov. 11, 2010, at the club's regular meeting. [Photo, below.]

Joseph P. Golan, P.S.

Summer Luncheon

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 11, LOS ANGELES, CA—The Local 11 Retirees Club meets the second Wednesday of every month, 10 a.m., at the Electrical Training Institute in the City of Commerce. We invite all Local 11 retired members to join our club. Please plan to attend one of our upcoming meetings. Retirees have many opportunities to remain active in Local 11—by hosting a booth at the Annual Local Wide Picnic, serving on the organizing committee, and participating in other activities.

The club is busy planning this year's summer luncheon, to be held Wed., June 8. This is a wonderful event so please plan to attend. An RSVP is required in advance so we know how much food to order. Last year, club member Harvey "Butch" Bachand, our new vice president, catered the event

with his wife, Sharon. We are happy to report they agreed to treat us to another delicious Mexican fare. Don't miss it!

We are saddened by the passing of longtime club member Jack Webster. Jack was initiated into the local in 1959 and remained active for many years. He was well-respected and will be missed.

Bob Oedy, P.S.



Local 11 Retirees Club member Harvey "Butch" Bachand and his wife, Sharon, will cater the club's summer luncheon.

Farewell to a Brother

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 26, WASHINGTON, DC—Time marches on and some of us are still going on trips, while others are glad to be on the right side of the grass. This year our club bid farewell to our retired brother and Club Chef, Nick Dell'Erba. He was 93 years young and we all miss him.

We have already been on a bus trip to Delaware Park—and we didn't mind the rain shower, because we were indoors! With our warming weather we will soon be doing more travel, or just checking out our famous cherry blossoms.

This year we are scheduling two different cruises. The first will be going to the Mediterranean in May, and another in September to the Caribbean.

Last September, we awarded more 45-, 50-, and 60-year service pins. [Photo, below.] That's a lot of experience!

More good times are in store for 2011.

Susan Flashman, P.S.

Invitation to Retirees

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 42, HARTFORD, CT—The Retirees Club invites anyone who's a retired member of Local 42 to join them. The club meets several times a year at Local 42's hall.

The retirees get together and talk about old times; they share funny stories, enjoy each other's company and have coffee and donuts.

They also have a successful 50/50 raffle every year at the Local 42 Family Picnic. The Retiree's Club



Local 26 Retirees Club members gather for a service-pin presentation held in September 2010.

donated some of the 50/50 raffle money to help with the flag poles and the flags on each side of the Memorial Monument dedicated to our departed Local 42 brothers. Also, the money was used to help other organizations. Retirees thank the members for their support and the ladies in the office for all their help.

If you would like to join the retirees' get-togethers, the club would love have you.

For more information, please call the union hall at (860) 646-7297.

Jacquelyn Moffitt, P.S.

Service Award Honorees

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 110, ST. PAUL, MN—Local 110 hosted the annual luncheon for the retirees at the Prom Center on Oct. 14, 2010, in Oakdale, MN, with more than 350 retirees, widows and guests attending.

Service pins were awarded to eligible recipients. Receiving 70-year pins were Roy Achilles and Harold Ameter; 60-year pins—Doug Ackley, Arthur Fransen, Richard Kenney; 55-year pins—Maurice T. Foster, Lloyd Glancey, Montell Rustad, Kenneth Swanson, David Youngren; and 50-year pins—Bruce Campbell, Bil Denn, David Kuhn, Gordon Nielsen, Paul Schmidt, Tony Vilgos and Filby Williamson;

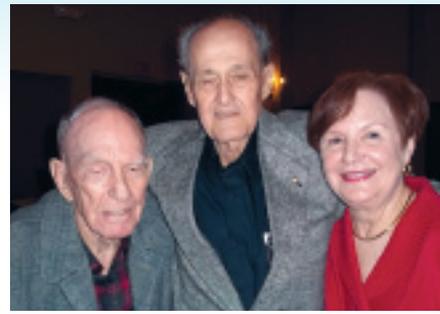
Bus. Mgr. Mike Redlund thanked the honorees for their years of service. The Local 110 Retirees Club is an active group, with monthly meetings with 70 to 125 in attendance. All retirees are welcome to attend. The retirees cook and serve food at the Local 110 picnic, stuff 600 Christmas stockings with candy and decorate the hall for the holiday party.

Many thanks to Local 110 for supporting their retired members, and our deepest thanks to April Lyons for her outstanding job in planning the annual luncheon and all the service pin awards.

Jon "Jack" Buchal, P.S.



Local 110 officers and service award recipients attend Local 110's annual luncheon for retirees. From left, front row, are: Maurice Foster, Arthur Fransen, Harold Ameter, Roy Achilles, Richard Kenney, Kenneth Swanson and Retirees Club Pres. John Heuer; back row, Bus. Mgr. Mike Redlund, Gordon Nielsen, Anthony Vilgos, Lloyd Glancey, Paul Schmidt, Filby Williamson, Montell Rustad, David Youngren, William Denn, David Kuhn and Bruce Campbell.



Retired Local 130 former business manager M.E. Joseph (left) receives birthday greetings from his daughter Gail (right) and Bro. Harry "Buddy" Carver.

Celebrating a 96th Birthday

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 130, NEW ORLEANS, LA—Retirees Club members honored M.E. Joseph, retired former business manager, with a celebration of his 96th birthday.

We invite all new Local 130 retirees to join the Retirees Club. Our yearly dues are \$35. The club has quarterly meetings for the members and a guest; food and refreshments are served.

Please mark your calendars; we have monthly bus trips to various casinos.

Until our next meeting, God bless all.

George Clesi, Pres.

Upcoming Retiree Events

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 134, CHICAGO, IL—Board members elected on March 9 are: Irv Blaszyński, Vito Alberotanza and Hugh O'Connell. Nominations were held at the February meeting. We also had a delicious \$1 luncheon for members.

The speaker for the May meeting will present information about asbestos exposure.

Don't miss the June 8 event: a \$1 luncheon celebration and live entertainment to honor our members who have 50-, 55- and 60-year service anniversaries.

The July 13 speaker, a representative from the Citizens Utility Board, will answer your utility bill questions. Also in the summer, we will go to Arlington Racetrack.

The Aug. 10 speaker, from the Silver Connection, will discuss seniors' V.A. aid and benefits.

On Sept. 14 we will have a \$1 luncheon.



Local 134 Retirees Club officers include: Board member Vito Alberotanza (left), Pres. Mario Coletta and Board member Irv Blaszyński.

Also, our annual golf outing is in September and includes breakfast and cart for each pair, plus lunch and prizes Contact Hugh O'Conner for details.

To join the Local 134 Retirees Club, contact Mario Coletta at (773) 736-1480. We welcome all Local 134 retirees. There are no strangers at Local 134, only friends you haven't yet met.

Club meetings are the second Wednesday of each month. Noon to 1 p.m. is "greet & meet" time, and the regular meeting continues until 2:30 p.m. at the union hall, 600 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago.

Louis Rodriguez, P.S.

Trip to Foxwoods

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 223, BROCKTON, MA—Our quarterly meeting was held March 2 at the union hall, where members and spouses enjoyed a pizza luncheon and cribbage tournament.

A committee was formed to make arrangements for a trip to Foxwoods. In order to charter a bus, a minimum number of 45 participants is required. Plans for the trip will be finalized at the June meeting.

Members were reminded to contact Bob Revil for information about continuing education for renewing licenses.

A moment of silence was held for deceased members: retiree Eli Ferguson and working member Bruce Wyman.

Our June 1 meeting begins at 10:30 a.m. and will feature a cookout.

The Sept. 7 meeting starts at 10:30 a.m. Following the business meeting and luncheon, a yard sale will be held. If you plan to attend the luncheon, please RSVP by Aug. 31 by calling Patty at the union hall at (508) 947-8555.

There will be information about dinner choices for the Christmas party. Personal checks or money orders for the dinners must be received by Nov. 23. The Christmas party will be Dec. 7, 10:30 a.m., at the Fireside Restaurant.

Burt Bouldry, Pres.

Welcome to New Members

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 257, JEFFERSON CITY, MO—The Retirees Club met for their monthly luncheon meeting on March 29 in Westphalia, MO. Everyone enjoyed this family-style meal and the blackberries that Pres. Jerry Rehagan supplied for the blackberry cobbler.

Guests were Local 257 Bus. Mgr. Don Bruemmer, Organizer Jim Winemiller and Apprenticeship Training Dir. Rick Stokes. We thank Don and Jim for talking and handing out information on the pending Missouri "right-to-work" bill. Our group can help defeat the bill by attending rallies and talking to friends and family.

Rick Stokes talked to the group about volunteering to help judge and grade the competition at the Skills USA Competition at Linn State Technical College March 31 and April 1. This makes the seventh year that Local 257 and retirees have volunteered as judges.

Also, we thank Local 257 for hosting our Christmas luncheon at the Labor Temple last December. We had a record crowd and the event was appreciated by all. During the winter a few new members joined our group and we welcome them. After our long winter with record-breaking snow, we look forward to spring!

See photo (pg. 16) of several members who recently received service pin.

Delores Melloway, P.S.

Retirees



Several Local 257 retirees recently received service pins. From left are: Paul Gallatin (55 years of service), Herman Grothoff (45 years), Emil Fischer (50 years), Phil Butts (40 years) and Bob Kauffman (45 years).

Springtime & Fellowship

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 291, BOISE, ID—The March luncheon was held in Nampa at the Golden Corral Restaurant. There were 30 in attendance with one visitor who is a 50-year IBEW member. He plans to visit our club again, since he had such a good time. We have a few snow birds missing, but they will be back soon. Our members enjoyed the food and fellowship as always. [Photo, below.]

At this writing, it is beginning to look like spring, but this is Idaho and it might snow tomorrow—like it did earlier in the week. We were excited that all members who attended the March meeting were in good health and no new health issues were reported. However, a few members were not there because of health issues and we wish them a speedy recovery. Congratulations to Dave and Carol Barr, who are expecting grandchild #13.

We feel for our brothers and sisters who are currently unemployed and hope they will be back to work soon. We pray for our country and everyone who is struggling in this economy. Defend and protect our rights to be union members!

Joe Sirani, Pres.

Three or More Generations

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 306, AKRON, OH—The following families are among those who have produced three or more generations of wiremen in our local union: the Kingan, Oaks, Pease, Peck, Portis, Romito and Schwerdtfeger families. These families were inadvertently “electronically omitted” from our article in the February 2011 issue paying tribute to the 20 families who achieved this honor. I apologize for the error.

Pres. John Felber has been busy working on the summer golf schedule and has completed it.

Attendance at the March meeting was down because the late blooming snowbirds flew the coop! A moment of silence was observed for Retired Bros. Joe Vatovec, Daniel Bocko and Ed Repp Jr., who passed away recently. Ed passed away within three hours of his daughter, both in the same hospice unit.



Local 291 Retirees Club members enjoy a springtime get-together.

We also sadly note the passing of Edmund Romito. Ed served as an apprentice instructor for many of us and was the driving force in creating our Pension Annuity Plan. Stay well and keep smiling!

Bob Sallaz, P.S.

Jobs Day Rally

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 611, ALBUQUERQUE, NM—Sorry I didn't have a picture in the last article. I attempted to place a photo of two of our oldest retirees attending the Christmas buffet into a collage, but unfortunately the photo could not be reproduced for publication. We won't let that happen again.

Our annual Jobs Day Rally in Santa Fe at the Capitol “round house” was the usual success. Local 611 rented a school bus with 35 to 40 union supporters taking the ride to Santa Fe, mostly retirees from other crafts. Noticeable also at the rally was a much larger group of Local 611 members than in previous years; and 350 union members joined the march to the Capitol, also a larger turnout than usual. During the march, spectators and the general public gave us a “thumbs up” as we passed. Even though the legislature was not in session that day, the speaker of the House and several union representatives gave speeches on the theme of jobs.

We offer condolences to the families of several retired journeyman wireman brothers who passed away this year: Joseph J. Faykus, Burton A. Brown, Frank T. Casados, Leonard D. Pearson, Terry G. Caddel and Jerry M. Gonzales.

Please call or visit those members who have health problems and can't get around.

Tracy Hall, Pres.



Local 611 retiree Joe Romero (left), his grandson Eric and Local 611 member Richard Mendoza gather for the Jobs Day Rally and march to the Capitol in Santa Fe. Bro. Romero and his grandson carried the retirees' banner at the rally.

Retirees Picnic in June

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 613, ATLANTA, GA—We the retirees of Local 613 held our 2010 Christmas meeting on Dec. 22. We had a lot of fun and gave away many prizes. More than 200 members attended.

Our March 23, 2011, meeting was a success, with 120 members and spouses attending.

We are excited about what is planned as the first Annual Retirees Picnic in June at the union hall.

We mourn the passing of: Donald Deen, Danny Meeks, Holland Booth, Charles Whitten, Rufus Gates, Richard Gehman, Kristina Adkins, David Sturdevant, Lew Wigley, Isaac Smith, Henry Evans, Donald Deen, Danny Meeks and Holland Booth.

Blake McLeod, Pres.

'Gems of Brotherhood'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 654, CHESTER, PA—I started writing as press secretary for Local 654 in the former IBEW Journal in 1968 and now write in the Electrical Worker for the Retirees Club.

I enjoy reading the publication. “Local Lines” includes reports about: the work situation—good or bad, apprentice graduations, union picnics, retired and deceased members, solar photovoltaic and green energy training, members who save lives by using CPR skills learned in a union program, etc.

Then there were articles about the 2010 mid-term elections. In one Electrical Worker article online, Local 654 Bus. Mgr. Paul Mullen is pictured with former U.S. Rep. Joe Sestak, a friend of labor who ran for the Senate [Oct. 2010 online issue]. Unfortunately, Sestak did not win. Did you vote?

There was a “Who We Are” article about a line crew who saved a family of eight from a house fire [March 2011 issue]. I was particularly struck by a “Letter to the Editor” from Bro. Warren Duvieilh of New Orleans Local 130 [November 2010 issue]. He thanked Bro. Gary Buresh, Seventh District Int. Rep. of Arlington, TX, for his kind offers of help and the gift of his tools to Bro. Duvieilh, who had lost everything in Hurricane Katrina.

It's great to pick out gems of brotherhood such as these.

T. Francis “Jeep” Hanley, P.S.

Annual Retiree Luncheon

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 702, WEST FRANKFORT, IL—IBEW Local 702 held our Annual Retiree Luncheon to honor our retirees on April 5 at the Rend Lake Resort. Approximately 125 retirees attended and everyone had a good time. Bus. Mgr. Steve Hughart wanted to express our local's gratitude for all the struggles and challenges the retirees endured, which helped to make life better for all the members who followed.

Currently, the middle-class, blue collar, union made American worker is under attack by corporate America and politicians who support union busting agendas. We must rely on everyone to help

in this struggle, and who better than our retired members who have been through the same and/or similar battles.

We appreciate each and every one of our retirees.

Marsha Steele, P.S.



Tennessee Contingent

The Fort Lauderdale, FL, Local 728 Retirees Club sends greetings to three Local 728 retired brothers and their wives living in Tennessee, who get together once a month for lunch. In the Tennessee contingent are, from left: Barry “Corky” Schmoll with wife Rita, Al Kimball with wife Pam, and Bill Smith with wife Cindy.

May 14 Fishing Tournament

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 1205, GAINESVILLE, FL—Our Christmas parties were a terrific opportunity to bring members and their families together for fun and food. We are fortunate that our local's president knows Santa and could get him to attend the children's party. The children had fun and many took pictures with Santa ... including one of myself! Retirees in attendance were: James Brown, Wesley Green and Mary Jo, Dub Fowler and Nyla, Wayne and Quincy Sparkman.

The 2011 first quarter Retiree Dinner Meeting was held at the union hall on March 18 at 5 p.m. It was a beautiful day and we all enjoyed barbecue under the awning outside. Attendance was great and included more than 20 retirees, a few Executive Board members and the local's officers.

We look forward to the annual W.S. Brown Brim Fishing Tournament for both the fishing and the second quarter Retiree's Lunch Meeting. All members, retirees and their families are welcome to join us at Earl Powers Park on Newnan's Lake on Sat., May 14, with a 5:30 a.m. breakfast to begin the festivities and a lunch after weigh-in. Anyone interested in attending, please see the local's Web site www.ibew1205.org or contact the hall at (352) 376-7701!

Thanks to all who participate in our events!

Wayne Sparkman, P.S.



At the Local 1205 children's Christmas party, a youngster visits with Santa.

In Memoriam

Members for Whom PBF Death Claims were Approved in March 2011

Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death
1	Fox, T.	1/12/11	35	Laraia, R. A.	11/24/10	126	Gates, J. W.	8/1/10	339	Oostveen, F. L.	12/7/10	558	Johnson, E. L.	2/17/11	978	Jimison, H. S.	7/19/10
1	Johnson, J. W.	2/14/11	35	Winthers, R.	1/13/11	126	Seal, F. J.	12/9/10	340	Harbert, B.	2/9/11	568	Pavelec, D. J.	1/20/11	995	Franks, S. R.	2/2/11
1	Kuplic, T. L.	1/1/11	38	Rolinc, R. J.	1/26/11	126	Sechrist, R. W.	1/17/11	340	Hopkins, A. E.	1/29/11	568	Prudhomme, A.	7/18/10	1002	Wilson, J. L.	8/7/10
1	Mueller, W. J.	2/14/11	38	White, L.	1/26/11	130	Hebert, U. M.	9/6/10	340	Mulock, S.	1/30/11	569	Down, A. W.	1/6/11	1077	Spiers, O. R.	1/22/11
1	Schad, J. G.	1/26/11	41	Burckhalter, A.	1/21/11	134	Abernathy, E. T.	2/7/11	345	Buford, C. D.	12/18/10	569	Schroeder, J. D.	1/12/11	1141	Little, R. R.	2/7/11
1	Spitz, M. A.	1/20/11	42	Hale, E. H.	8/9/10	134	Ambrosio, J. A.	10/26/10	345	Scott, E. E.	2/11/11	570	Bounds, J. M.	2/4/11	1141	Martin, W. A.	12/4/10
1	Summers, R.	2/8/11	43	Henderson, H.	8/5/08	134	Bauer, F.	12/19/10	349	Garrett, J. H.	1/17/11	570	Vasquez, P. R.	12/7/10	1186	Horiuchi, M.	12/17/10
1	Yavitz, M.	1/18/11	43	Podsiadlik, V. J.	10/25/10	134	Bond, E. F.	12/28/10	349	Kern, C. E.	1/18/11	577	Sheveland, G. L.	1/28/11	1186	Oyama, S.	1/13/11
2	Manion, J.	1/31/11	43	Sterphone, D.	1/22/11	134	Ciaglo, M. S.	1/13/11	349	Lynn, L. E.	11/22/10	584	Hardesty, J. V.	11/1/10	1186	Taira, H. M.	2/9/11
2	Purvis, N. R.	2/4/11	44	Maynard, H. M.	10/25/10	134	Gass, C. O.	12/17/10	349	Sieffert, W. C.	2/4/11	586	Lussier, G. E.	12/16/10	1205	Pafford, L. R.	12/7/10
3	Andrews, G. F.	1/9/11	45	Cary, C. A.	12/8/10	134	Graham, E. R.	2/11/11	349	Sopczak, R. D.	1/26/11	586	Schwartz, E. G.	10/30/10	1245	Callaghan, G. D.	2/12/10
3	Bennett, J. C.	2/1/10	46	Jay, E. R.	1/21/11	134	Kapsimalis, E.	1/14/11	353	Beyer, J. J.	11/27/10	586	Visneskie, D. A.	12/8/10	1249	Durham, C.	10/21/10
3	Butchart, W.	2/5/11	46	Richardson, N.	2/10/11	134	Kruse, W. L.	12/13/10	353	Bools, B. S.	9/14/10	595	Cailteaux, P.	1/10/11	1249	Shephard, G. L.	1/5/11
3	Capasso, P. J.	1/1/11	46	Simon, R. K.	10/20/10	134	Lis, J. W.	12/19/10	353	Delaney, A.	1/20/11	602	Hamilton, B. J.	2/6/11	1253	Hinkley, D. E.	12/8/10
3	Caruso, L.	1/31/11	46	Zerbel, D. E.	2/14/10	134	McDonald, R. T.	1/23/11	353	Endicott, A. E.	6/1/10	602	Head, W. D.	12/22/10	1393	Bannon, S. A.	1/9/11
3	Casaccio, R. J.	1/8/11	47	Scott, D. R.	12/24/10	134	O'Boyle, E. P.	1/21/11	353	Everett, H.	2/3/11	605	Jackson, D. L.	12/14/10	1439	Johnston, C. C.	2/11/11
3	De Longis, P. J.	1/8/11	48	Davenport, J. D.	1/29/11	134	Oeffling, K. N.	12/29/10	353	MacDonald, K. E.	12/23/10	611	Casados, F. T.	12/21/10	1466	Klies, J. L.	1/31/11
3	Divone, A.	1/22/11	48	Hunsaker, W. D.	1/16/11	134	Oyer, B. D.	1/26/11	353	McIlveen, K. G.	2/18/11	611	Kremers, D. W.	12/16/10	1516	Griffith, R. W.	1/10/11
3	Doeschner, G. F.	2/9/11	51	Hirst, I. C.	1/10/11	134	Price, D.	1/27/11	353	McMartin, D. C.	7/13/10	611	Steen, A. R.	3/17/09	1531	Elkins, J. E.	2/5/11
3	Elias, D. J.	1/12/11	57	Kinross, C. M.	1/6/11	134	Rahn, R. K.	12/24/10	354	Forsgren, F. W.	12/3/10	613	Gates, R.	12/24/10	1579	Dent, P. A.	1/27/11
3	Esposito, S. P.	2/20/11	58	Collins, V.	1/1/11	134	Snider, D. F.	12/3/10	354	McBride, S. K.	12/26/10	613	Meeks, J. D.	12/7/10	1579	Harmon, G. G.	1/19/11
3	Gallagher, E. F.	9/24/10	58	Dennis, C. J.	1/5/11	134	Wise, A. M.	2/7/11	357	Denton, E. H.	1/30/11	613	Moore, J. V.	1/12/11	1753	Mazyck, L. A.	12/19/10
3	Garvey, B. L.	3/7/10	58	Gordon, D. E.	1/30/11	136	Minter, J. A.	2/15/11	357	Hinton, L.	2/2/11	625	Beamish, N. D.	8/8/10	1852	Hamood, K. J.	12/6/10
3	Georganakis, R. P.	7/24/10	58	Henehan, C. L.	1/25/11	141	Jasinski, J. V.	2/1/11	357	Meeks, K. D.	11/17/10	625	Gloster, D. E.	10/1/10	2038	Brooks, C. E.	11/10/10
3	Harap, M. L.	1/11/11	58	Kushion, D. A.	2/9/11	145	Hoefle, F. C.	2/14/11	357	O'connor, P. T.	2/2/11	640	Beauchemin, G. S.	1/27/11	2150	DeWitt, B. M.	1/17/11
3	Incantalupo, V. A.	2/7/11	58	Maguire, J. W.	10/26/10	146	Rigoni, D. K.	1/19/11	364	Seever, R. H.	11/29/10	640	Lawson, W. C.	1/20/11	I.O. (21)	Del Page, P. M.	1/30/11
3	Johnson, W. H.	12/25/10	58	Nellis, W. P.	2/7/11	146	Weatherford, C. D.	2/8/11	369	Birk, J. J.	12/21/10	659	Cooley, U. D.	12/27/10	I.O. (134)	Poerio, R. C.	2/28/10
3	Kirk, J. J.	12/9/10	58	Reed, E. V.	2/6/11	163	Golab, H.	1/22/11	369	Dunaway, R. L.	9/24/09	665	DeVoll, R. J.	1/16/11	I.O. (441)	Gutmann, S. J.	12/29/10
3	Kress, L.	1/8/11	58	Rogers, N. L.	1/31/11	164	Cirulli, J.	1/6/11	369	Hall, J. C.	12/25/10	673	Richmond, L. G.	1/16/11	I.O. (584)	Bonser, D. W.	8/18/10
3	Krey, D. P.	3/26/10	60	Johnson, N. L.	2/18/11	164	Muresan, A. V.	1/15/11	375	Meyers, A. R.	12/8/10	681	Dykes, J. H.	1/7/11	I.O. (1319)	Hosler, D. C.	2/10/11
3	Mc Clary, D.	1/24/11	66	Hrcir, E.	12/23/10	164	Rademacher, G. A.	12/28/10	379	Davenport, A. W.	2/18/11	683	Scherler, J. A.	1/20/11	Pens. (409)	Wheatley, N. R.	1/19/11
3	McClain, C.	1/15/11	68	Hastings, R. J.	2/5/11	164	Smith, F. A.	1/14/11	379	Isbell, J. B.	2/3/11	696	Wright, J. M.	2/17/11	Pens. (530)	Scarow, L. H.	5/28/10
3	Orr, W.	1/19/11	68	Kennedy, R. T.	1/21/11	164	Sulc, D. M.	2/8/11	380	Grinberg, R.	12/13/10	697	Thompson, J. B.	2/2/11	Pens. (1788)	Niemel, C. M.	1/14/11
3	Powers, W. E.	11/10/10	68	Millsap, W. K.	1/20/11	164	White, D. P.	1/3/11	380	Rykowski, S. J.	12/21/10	701	Iaccino, G. J.	12/28/10	Pens. (I.O.)	Adamson, E. A.	2/2/11
3	Racioppo, L. R.	1/6/11	68	Sands, J. K.	2/5/11	175	Brown, R. P.	3/13/10	397	Phillips, D. J.	12/31/10	701	Smith, M. W.	12/13/10	Pens. (I.O.)	Ambra, S. P.	11/15/10
3	Scheulen, W. R.	12/17/10	68	Vogel, V. D.	1/1/11	175	Gregory, J. C.	12/2/10	400	Porter, R. L.	5/31/10	702	Cozart, B. G.	2/19/11	Pens. (I.O.)	Baldon, C. L.	1/24/11
3	Schwiebert, W. H.	6/3/10	70	Clowney, B.	12/31/10	175	Smith, J. H.	1/28/10	402	McMillan, D.	10/22/10	702	Eymann, E. F.	9/10/10	Pens. (I.O.)	Bartlett, S. B.	1/20/11
3	Stengel, E. T.	12/20/10	70	Gabrielsen, K. W.	2/2/11	175	Watkins, R. A.	12/1/10	405	Evans, W. C.	12/28/10	712	Allen, A. H.	2/24/11	Pens. (I.O.)	Blevins, H. L.	1/1/11
3	Sussman, M.	9/20/10	70	Lehman, T. S.	2/8/11	176	McCormick, J. P.	2/21/11	413	Bushnell, J. C.	11/4/10	712	Houston, J. M.	12/16/10	Pens. (I.O.)	Bohlsen, N. J.	3/31/10
3	Swatkowski, R. J.	12/31/10	70	Sullivan, J. S.	1/23/11	191	Schermann, T. G.	12/30/10	415	Criswell, T. E.	1/4/11	712	Krecek, F. J.	1/29/11	Pens. (I.O.)	Brown, C. O.	1/30/11
5	Jasper, E. G.	1/21/11	77	Brandt, R. J.	11/30/10	191	Thom, A. J.	11/18/10	424	Bakewell, D. G.	12/31/10	712	Lewis, L. J.	1/18/11	Pens. (I.O.)	Buchanan, J. G.	10/6/10
5	McCammon, J. T.	2/9/11	77	Schleusner, F. L.	9/11/10	193	Goodman, W. F.	1/4/11	424	Boyko, A. R.	1/20/11	716	Burkett, R. C.	12/6/10	Pens. (I.O.)	Butterfield, W. S.	12/12/10
5	Snyder, W. F.	1/28/11	82	Allen, R. L.	1/4/11	196	Hair, V. H.	1/3/11	424	Buckle, J. V.	12/29/10	716	Fisher, J. O.	2/14/11	Pens. (I.O.)	Cain, A. W.	2/9/11
5	Sturgess, N. E.	2/22/11	84	Sharp, J. S.	12/4/10	197	Chandler, H. J.	12/27/10	424	Leslie, I. M.	11/30/10	716	Ousley, C. L.	2/8/11	Pens. (I.O.)	Davison, E. B.	11/12/10
6	Gumbinger, R. E.	1/24/11	84	Thomas, J. L.	1/15/11	210	Smith, G. R.	12/10/10	424	Miko, K. M.	1/21/11	716	Parr, F.	1/2/11	Pens. (I.O.)	Ebdon, T. J.	2/1/11
8	Peterson, A. L.	1/16/11	86	Philipps, P. E.	11/19/10	212	Lewis, P. W.	1/13/11	424	Papuga, J.	1/23/11	725	Varda, D. V.	12/12/10	Pens. (I.O.)	Guyette, R. R.	2/6/11
11	Berglund, V. F.	1/25/11	94	Tauriello, J.	1/21/11	223	Wyman, B. K.	1/31/10	424	Yechtel, T. J.	1/28/10	728	Drawdy, N. C.	1/29/11	Pens. (I.O.)	Hamrick, J. C.	2/6/11
11	Collins, A. E.	1/31/11	95	Winfrey, D. E.	1/9/11	226	Milton, W. E.	1/12/11	428	Greenwood, R.	2/22/11	728	Harrison, C.	1/23/11	Pens. (I.O.)	Jayne, A. H.	2/8/11
11	Edwards, W. R.	12/19/10	97	Warzala, J. S.	1/17/11	229	Hoover, P. R.	12/18/10	428	Smalley, E. N.	5/15/10	728	Stewart, S. E.	12/20/10	Pens. (I.O.)	Knotek, J.	10/30/10
11	Heredia, J.	1/18/11	98	Nielsen, H.	2/4/11	253	Herring, J. A.	11/18/10	429	Caruthers, A. E.	2/20/11	743	Hoffmaster, J. J.	10/1/10	Pens. (I.O.)	Lafrank, M. F.	2/14/11
11	McAvay, E. J.	2/2/11	98	Spaeth, M. P.	2/3/11	258	Wellmann, G.	9/3/10	429	Edwards, J. T.	1/29/11	756	Roberts, K. D.	1/1/11	Pens. (I.O.)	Landry, A.	1/9/11
11	Short, V. S.	12/30/10	99	Finnegan, T. F.	11/29/09	269	Lopresti, S. R.	1/21/11	429	Hughes, D. R.	2/2/11	760	Newman, H. T.	1/29/11	Pens. (I.O.)	Laster, D. O.	1/23/11
11	Vammen, A. E.	2/2/11	100	Gardner, C. F.	1/5/11	269	Olsen, R. C.	12/31/10	430	Kransel, D.	10/14/10	760	Spears, G. W.	1/28/11	Pens. (I.O.)	Levenstein, W. H.	1/10/11
12	Holloway, R. C.	1/24/11	102	Franklin, P. E.	1/21/11	269	Reinhart, F. M.	1/7/11	436	Tinsley, W.	1/19/11	763	Hycle, W. A.	12/1/10	Pens. (I.O.)	Lieto, J. R.	11/23/10
16	Clements, W. B.	1/13/11	102	Mikos, M. E.	11/30/10	278	Gilbert, L. W.	1/26/11	441	Mayne, J. L.	12/20/10	769	McCleary, C. R.	12/15/10	Pens. (I.O.)	Mackey, R. G.	1/29/11
17	Radowick, P. P.	10/29/10	103	Connerty, J. E.	1/22/11	278	McMinn, L. B.	2/1/11	441	Parker, S. J.	1/14/11	769	Waymire, T.	11/20/10	Pens. (I.O.)	Mahoney, J. J.	10/24/09
18	Hamelin, R.	12/8/10	103	Emanuelli, C. W.	1/10/11	280	Millsap, G. A.	12/14/10	459	Miller, T.	2/8/11	776	Emory, T. W.	2/5/11	Pens. (I.O.)	Marswillow, R.	12/21/10
18	Hindman, R.	12/22/10	103	Hurwitz, M.	1/6/11	292	Merkel, R. G.	7/25/10	479	Holman, S. L.	11/6/10	776	Holly, C. C.	1/19/11	Pens. (I.O.)	Merrill, J. E.	12/6/10
18	Rasmussen, W. F.	1/30/11	103	Lewis, C. W.	10/27/09	294	Mattson, R. W.	12/12/10	481	Jones, D. D.	1/28/11	812	Gephart, J. H.	1/16/11	Pens. (I.O.)	Oden, D. W.	2/15/11
20	Clayton, C. A.	2/7/11	103	Strazzullo, J. D.	1/10/11	294	Minelli, A. R.	2/9/11	494	Golner, C. B.	1/28/11	816	Conrad, E. J.	12/25/10	Pens. (I.O.)	Oswald, A. R.	11/30/10
20	Hooten, O. L.	12/2/10	103	Wilkins, E.	2/1/11	301	Tuttle, A. V.	11/28/10	494	Schleif, E. G.	12/24/10	816	English, W. C.	12/25/10	Pens. (I.O.)	Patton, W. H.	10/15/10
20	Kenney, J. P.	2/8/11	103	Young, R. M.	1/14/11	302	Luttrell, P. K.	12/8/10	505	Armstrong, H.	2/2/11	861	Goos, G. L.	1/22/11	Pens. (I.O.)	Rawluk, W. N.	2/6/11
20	Pierson, M. L.	1/31/11	110	Marshall, G. E.	1/17/11	302	Nelson, F. E.	8/30/09	508	Tatum, W. E.	11/3/10	861	Herford, J. L.	1/9/11	Pens. (I.O.)	Salomon, P. W.	1/4/11
20	Principe, M.	1/13/11	111	Clark, L. E.	9/15/07	304	Bow, W. J.	12/15/10	518	Newman, H.	1/30/11	876	Howarth, H. N.	2/20/11	Pens. (I.O.)	Santorelly, R.	1/8/11
20	Walters,																



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.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Edwin D. Hill
International President

Salvatore J. Chilia
International
Secretary-Treasurer

INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Chairman
Robert W. Pierson

First District
Joseph P. Calabro

Second District
Myles J. Calvey

Third District
John R. Clarke

Fourth District
William W. Riley

Fifth District
Michael Walter

Sixth District
Gregory A. Lucero

Seventh District
Patrick Lavin

Eighth District
John F. Briegel

INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

First District
Phillip J. Flemming

Second District
Frank J. Carroll

Third District
Donald C. Siegel

Fourth District
Kenneth Cooper

Fifth District
Joe S. Davis

Sixth District
Lonnie R. Stephenson

Seventh District
Jonathan B. Gardner

Eighth District
Ted C. Jensen

Ninth District
Michael S. Mowrey

Tenth District
Robert P. Klein

Eleventh District
Curtis E. Henke

THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

Editor
Edwin D. Hill

C. James Spellane

Mark
Brueggjenjohann

Malinda Brent

Len Shindel

Carol Fisher

Alex Hogan

Lucas Oswalt

James H. Jones

Len Turner

Tim Prendergast

Curtis D. Bateman

John Sellman

**HOW TO REACH US**

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

Send letters to:

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

Or send by e-mail to: media@ibew.org

©2011 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A. on Union-made paper.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Electrical Worker*, 900 Seventh Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001.

The *Electrical Worker* will not be held responsible for views expressed by correspondents.

Paid advertising is not accepted.

Publications Mail Agreement No. 40011756.

Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:

P.O. Box 503

RPO West Beaver Creek

Richmond Hill, ON L4B 4R6

FROM THE OFFICERS**Paul Ryan's Jobs Killer**

Edwin D. Hill
International President

Unemployment still tops 8 percent but the priority on Capitol Hill, strangely, isn't jobs. It's the deficit. The Republicans issued a budget blueprint which, according to author Rep. Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) will save America from a "debt-fueled economic crisis."

Inside-the-beltway columnists and media talking heads initially praised the House Budget Committee chairman's "bravery," but there is nothing brave about appeasing corporate special interests by making working families pay the costs.

Ryan's plan functionally dismantles Medicare while slashing Medicaid—which provides health care to the most vulnerable in society—by \$207 billion.

Education, infrastructure investment and research—programs that encourage economic growth and job creation—will be slashed by more than \$1 trillion, while federal programs that help students and their families, including Pell Grants and Head Start, are all on the chopping block.

Astoundingly, as a means to slash the debt, the Ryan proposal is a total fraud; Ryan himself has been criticized by most major economists for relying on faulty math and unreliable budget estimates.

It cuts the top individual tax rate down to 25 percent from 35 percent and makes Bush-era tax cuts, which overwhelmingly benefit the wealthy, permanent.

Not only will his blueprint have a minimal effect on the deficit, it will wipe out millions of jobs. Business Insider magazine estimates that it could drive down GDP by as much as 5 percentage points by 2020.

Ryan's proposal has nothing to do with reducing the deficit and everything to do with pushing a political agenda that rewards the top 1 percent of earners while making everyone else pay the costs.

Our debt problem is fundamentally a jobs problem. Until we get Americans back to work and earning a decent wage, our economy will continue to contract and the deficit will grow. Job killers like Ryan's blueprint are a course for disaster.

As announced in this issue, International Secretary-Treasurer Lindell Lee retired this month. I have greatly valued Brother Lee's advice, steadiness and friendship over the last three years.

I accepted his decision with regret but with happiness for him and his family. And I'm glad that Sam Chilia will be stepping up to fill Lindell's big shoes. Sam is the right individual at the right time for this position, and I ask for your support as he assumes his new duties. ■

An Honor and a Solemn Duty

I am honored that President Hill has appointed, and the International Executive Council confirmed, me as Secretary-Treasurer of our great union. As a business manager, a member of the IEC and as vice president, I have seen Ed Hill's leadership up close and am privileged to work beside him to protect the legacy of the IBEW and expand our horizons for the future.

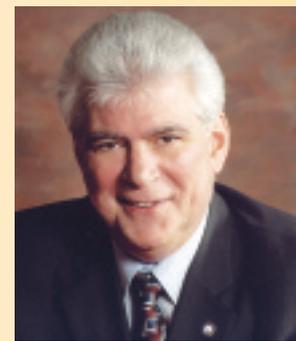
I salute the excellent work done by my predecessor, Lindell Lee. Lindell is a strong but quiet man who let his actions do the talking. I thank him for the example that he and those who came before him have set—not just in standing watch over our union's benefit funds—but in expanding them to meet new challenges on many fronts—the marketplace, technology, politics and demographics.

I am blessed to be supported by our fine senior executive assistants and dedicated staffs at the International Office, our fund offices and plan professionals to help meet these challenges.

I learned the value of union benefits early from my mother, who worked so hard as a member of IBEW's manufacturing branch. Her legacy sustained my activism and hope as I took charge of my home local's benefit funds. As our membership base expanded, many of our local unions were able to offer steady improvements.

Our situation has changed. The economy is still suffering. In nearly every section of North America, unemployment has eroded the economic base of our benefit plans. To make matters worse, powerful politicians have the audacity to question whether workers even deserve the benefits we have won over the years.

We are in a fight for the heart and soul of our society. What happens in my home state of Ohio and other places will determine whether we as a people value labor or are content to let our future be dictated by others. I pledge my full energy and devotion to defend our IBEW legacy. ■



Salvatore J. Chilia
International Secretary-Treasurer

Letters to the Editor

Super Job

I was recently hired by International Alliance Theatrical Stage Employees Fort Worth, Texas, Local 126 to work spotlight at the Super Bowl in Dallas on February 6, Green Bay vs. Pittsburgh. Local 126 members treated me great and I had an enjoyable experience helping our fellow union brothers out at the biggest event of the year.



Daniel Altamirano

*Daniel Altamirano
Local 20 member, Dallas/
Fort Worth, Texas*

Honored to Serve

I would like to thank Collinsville, Ill., Local 309 for my 14-plus years of employment.

My grandfather, Theodore Czarnecki, was a Local 309 journeyman wireman his entire career until he passed away in January 1958. The local has always had a special place in my heart because this was his local union and I had the privilege to work here. When I got hired for the job of office service administrator, I was never sure who was more excited about it, my mother or myself. My mother used to tell me how she would take my grandmother to East St. Louis to pay her dad's dues (back in the days before people had checking accounts and mailed checks).

Ten years ago I married a journeyman wireman, Stanley Baczewski, who also worked his career for as a member of Local 309 until he became disabled. I met Stan when I worked in the office at Wissehr Electric. So often he tells me the interesting stories of his work and the other members he worked with and how much he misses working.

I am sure some of the members got upset with me when I got on them about keeping their union dues current, but I don't think they realize what a privilege it is to work for a great union like Local 309, and how much better the wages and benefits are working under a collective bargaining agreement.

Most of my career since I was 16 years old I have worked in the construction industry, and this was my first job that I was ever in a union. Some people don't seem to understand how tough it is on the outside when you have to negotiate yourself for each and every raise and benefit you try to get.

I have enjoyed all the staff that I have worked with at Local 309 and the opportunity to deal with the membership, contractors, the fund offices, travelers and everyone else that I have met. I have had lots of laughs, heartwarming experiences, as well as some frustrating moments. All of these have made my job a wonderful experience.

As I look forward to starting a new journey in my life of retirement, I know I will miss all the people I have met and worked with at Local 309.

*Judy Baczewski
OPEIU St. Louis Local 13 retiree*

55 Years and Counting



Don Daughtrey

Amarillo, Texas, Local 602 member Don Daughtrey was recently presented his 55-year pin at a Duke Electric Co., Inc. luncheon. Don has worked his entire career at Duke Electric. He continues to perform his superintendent responsibilities while outworking and outlasting all who work with him.

He is an amazing individual, providing guidance, direction and inspiration to customers he serves as well as the electricians he supervises. For the last 34 years, Don has worked at the Department of Energy Pantex plant outside Amarillo. He has been active in the IBEW for his entire career, holding various local union positions including executive board. He was also an apprentice school teacher for 20 years, specializing in first-year classes.

*Paul Salazar
Local 602 member, Amarillo, Texas*

Who We Are

If you have a story to tell about your IBEW experience, please send it to media@ibew.org.

IBEW Pioneer Celebrates Centennial Milestone

Surrounded by friends, family and his IBEW brothers and sisters, Traverse City, Mich., Local 498 charter member James Elsenheimer celebrated his 100th birthday April 19.

"Brother Elsenheimer is one of the last founding members of Local 498 and we want to honor the long life of this IBEW pioneer," says Local 498 Business Manager Jeffrey Bush. "He has lived quite a life."

The son of a Traverse City farmer, himself the son of a German immigrant, James Elsenheimer graduated high school just as the full effects of the 1929 stock market crash were kicking in. But Elsenheimer, who studied electrical work through a correspondence course, managed—with some help from his older brother—to land a job as an electrician at General Motors' Fisher body plant in Lansing in the early '30s—a major turning point in labor history.

Nearby Flint would soon host the great sit-down strikes that gave birth to the United Auto Workers' union, and industry giants like Ford and Chrysler, once bastions of anti-unionism, would be almost fully organized by the 1940s.

It was a time of growth for the IBEW as well, as working people in nearly every industry—taking advantage of the newly passed Wagner Act, which protected the right of workers to form unions and collectively bargain—took to the streets and picket lines to take collective part in one of the labor movement's biggest organizing drives ever.

Experiencing the greatest labor upsurge of a generation would give Elsenheimer an appreciation for union solidarity that has lasted throughout his life.

"I can't remember him ever missing a union meeting," says daughter Donna Basch.

The Great Depression would soon give way to full employment as the United States' entry into World War II converted assembly lines at General Motors into centers for tank and plane production. Elsenheimer would put his electrical skills to work making vital military equipment for the Army.

When the war ended, missing the rural life, Elsenheimer—along with his wife, Virginia, whom he met in Lansing, and their two sons, Eugene and Daniel—moved back to Traverse City, buying property at nearby Glen Lake. Daughter Donna was born soon after.



Traverse City, Mich., Local 498 charter member James Elsenheimer celebrated his 100th birthday last month.

"Brother Elsenheimer is one of the last founding members of Local 498 and we want to honor the long life of this IBEW pioneer. He has lived quite a life."

—Jeffrey Bush, Local 498 Business Manager

The postwar period opened up new opportunities for working people and the labor movement, including the IBEW, which saw spectacular growth. As historian Grace Palladino writes in her history of the IBEW, "Dreams of Dignity, Workers of Vision:" "In the 15 years between 1930 and 1945, the world had changed dramatically for most IBEW members ... Growing from 50,000 members in 1933, it counted 347,000 by the war's end."

The surge of new growth meant the formation of hundreds of new locals, including Local 498, which was chartered in 1949. Elsenheimer was among its founding members.

Living in rural Leelanau County—just north of Traverse City—he was one of the few licensed electricians in the area, and his skills were in high demand, as he installed original wiring in many homes for the first time, helping to electrify the county. Elsenheimer would often accept

potatoes and meat in lieu of pay from customers going through tough times.

His son Daniel joined him in the trade. Daniel retired as a Local 498 member in 1996.

"My dad was very frugal and worked very hard every day to provide for us," says Donna. "He paid for everything in cash."

Retiring in 1976, Brother Elsenheimer and his wife moved to an old farmhouse they had bought. Long after leaving the trade, he kept in touch with his IBEW friends, joining them at monthly retiree luncheons.

Virginia passed away in 2001.

Donna says her father looked forward to meeting younger Local 498 members who continue the tradition that he and his generation helped start.

"We didn't grow up with luxuries, but the IBEW helped make sure my father was able to provide a good and secure upbringing for us," she says. ■

BEYOND JAPAN

U.S. Nuclear Industry Continues Safety with Eye to the Future

Jay Wagner vividly remembers an ominous night in 1994 when five tornadoes descended in rapid succession on northwestern Illinois—threatening homes, buildings and power infrastructure in Rock Island County.

Wagner was helming the control room that night at Quad Cities Nuclear Generating Station—squarely in the flight path of the swirling storms.

“Even with the dangerous weather, I was confident the plant would hold up,” said Wagner, a Downers Grove Local 15 member. “We got everyone inside and put our contingency plans into motion, which we’d constantly trained on.”

In the aftermath, many structures suffered significant damage. But the plant remained functionally unscathed.

“This place is built like a tank—it can withstand more than 200 mph winds,” Wagner said.

With more than 19 years of experience as a reactor operator at the station, Wagner is considered something of a nuclear expert by people in the community.

15,000 IBEW members work at 42 U.S. plants

So when the earthquake and resulting tsunami hit Japan March 11, triggering a crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, Wagner’s phone started ringing.

“Friends, family and neighbors all called wanting to know more about Japan’s problems and if we could have them here,” he said. “Our plant is basically the same model of Fukushima’s—but we’ve had so many upgrades since its construction that it barely resembles how it functioned right after construction. I believe there’s no reason for concern.”

Earthquake aftershocks and fires have exacerbated an already dangerous situation at Fukushima, as radiation from partial meltdowns has leaked beyond the plant into surrounding areas. Equipment damaged by floods, fires and explosions are compounding what analysts are calling the most complicated nuclear accident ever.

Industry experts—citing rigorous scientific data on possible seismic events—say that such a situation would be highly unlikely in the United States. They say that even in the event of earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes or other natural disasters, workers at the nation’s nuclear facilities are able to stand up to such challenges.

Resistance to Natural Events

Two thousand miles away from Quad Cities, California’s Diablo Canyon Power Plant sits on the Pacific Ocean in sunny San Luis Obispo County. While it’s one of the closest U.S. nuclear reactors to any major body of water, it was designed and built to withstand natural disasters.

Vacaville Local 1245 member and Diablo Canyon reactor operator Mike Jacobson has logged more than 30 years at the facility. When it became apparent that an earthquake and resulting tsunami had caused major problems at Fukushima, “our plant kicked into high gear.”

When the tsunami warning was issued along the Pacific Coast, Diablo Canyon management began their emergency procedures to prepare for a potential scenario.

“Our station took precautions until the warning was downgraded,” Jacobson said. Strong waves lapped the coastline but didn’t threaten structures near the shore; Jacobson said that designs and procedures in place at Diablo Canyon would have protected and prevented most potential disasters.

Diablo Canyon is anchored deep in bedrock and has safety systems and emergency reservoirs 80 feet or more above sea level—higher than Fukushima. It also has the highest seismic standards of any nuclear plant in the world.

Experts say that Quad Cities and Diablo Canyon are just two examples of the industry’s 65 nuclear sites nationwide that are ready to mitigate disasters. Plants’ safety standards, emergency plans and procedures are fully scrutinized by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission—the independent federal watchdog of the industry.

More facilities are similarly battle-tested. When Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast in 2005, Louisiana’s Waterford Nuclear Generating Station maintained safe operation on backup diesel generators for four days until crews were able to reconnect off-site power. Loss of such power was the key culprit in the Japan disaster.

Industry leaders also point to safeguards implemented after 9/11. Following the attacks, plant designs and operating practices were modified to withstand scenarios like aircraft impact, which could cause a loss of off-site power and all on-site emergency power sources. As rigorous as these protocols are, new, more stringent procedures are being put in place in the wake of Fukushima.

Regarding earthquakes, the



U.S. nuclear industry leaders and regulators are working to improve and ensure the continued safety of stations nationwide.

Nuclear Energy Institute—an industry group active in legislative and regulatory issues affecting the industry—reported: “Every U.S. nuclear power plant has an in-depth seismic analysis and is designed and constructed to withstand the maximum projected earthquake that could occur in its area without any breach of safety systems.”

Safety First ... and Second, and Third

From the dawning of the nuclear industry in the ’50s, the watchword has always been safety. That’s why the IBEW crew at Susquehanna Steam Electric Station in northeastern Pennsylvania works to ensure that the state’s largest nuclear facility—a primary source of inexpensive, carbon-free energy—functions smoothly and uneventfully. The plant recently earned the Voluntary Protection Program “Star” status from the Occupational Safety & Health Administration—one of the highest OSHA awards.

The successful safety records at U.S. facilities come as no surprise to Dave Mullen, IBEW International Representative for the Utility Department in Washington, D.C. Mullen recently spoke at a Capitol Hill briefing about protocols at U.S. facilities.

“The nuclear sector has always been one of the most highly-regulated industries in the United States,” Mullen said. “All of our plants undergo frequent drills to make sure that backup safety protocols work smoothly. And plant operators rigorously train to be prepared in the unlikely event of a loss of off-site power, or if equipment doesn’t perform as intended.”

Wagner, the reactor operator at Quad Cities, recently completed a week-long “continuing training” course which mandated 20 hours in a site-specific control room simulator. He said he does similar trainings every six weeks—just one part of the high level of knowledge nuclear workers are required to possess.

“Becoming a nuclear reactor operator is a massive undertaking,” he said. “You need to have college experience and then the company trains you for an additional two years. And there’s always more to learn as plants phase in more top-of-the-line digital systems.”

Where We Go From Here

For all its contributions to the nation’s clean energy generation, nuclear’s future looks murky in the wake of Fukushima, Mullen said. But agencies, operators and labor leaders all agree that the first priority is to help Japan with its challenges, while assessing and learning how to improve plant safety back at home.

The NRC says immediate changes are being implemented. It has called for additional inspections to verify plant

readiness for hurricanes, tsunamis and similar events, as well as a 90-day review at stations to determine if any larger steps need to be taken. Further steps include testing and retesting equipment, and making sure that plant operators and support staff have the most up-to-date qualifications.

“The 15,000 IBEW members in the nuclear sector working at 42 plants are not industry insiders—they’re workers,” International President Edwin D. Hill said. “They operate the plants and are responsible for being at the forefront of safety. Their families live close to plants, so IBEW members have every reason to be as informed and proactive about making sure their stations run as safely as possible.

“We continue to believe that nuclear power will be a vital part of our national energy portfolio as we address environmental and supply issues in the future,” he said.

But at the moment, the industry will remain in a holding pattern, said Mullen, the IBEW International Representative. “Regarding new construction, current things are slowed as we are taking time to learn lessons from Japan,” he said.

Plants will also continue to be inspected and generate power, but expansion will be delayed as the industry and regulators work to improve and ensure the continued safety of the U.S. fleet. Utility managers, regulators and scientists have testified to U.S. Senate members that the nation’s plants are safe, but “we cannot be complacent about the accident at Fukushima,” said William Levis, president of N.J.-based Public Service Electric and Gas Co., which operates several nuclear facilities.

In the meantime, the IBEW members in the nuclear sector nationwide will do what they do every day—display excellence on the job and lead by example in an industry increasingly under the microscope. ■

Want more info on nuclear safety?

- www.nrc.gov—Web site of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the federal agency that oversees reactor safety and security, reactor licensing and renewal, radioactive material safety and spent fuel management (storage, security, recycling and disposal).
- www.nei.org—An industry group active in key legislative and regulatory issues affecting the nuclear sector.
- www.ibew.org—Visit us for official union statements on the industry and a comprehensive, easy-to-understand fact sheet on U.S. plants’ continued safety records.