

# THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

FIRST PUBLISHED IN 1893

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

Printed in the USA

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

Vol. 6 | No. 2 | February 2012

## IN THIS ISSUE

- 3 | *AFL-CIO groups gear up for '12*
- 4 | *Voices of the Unemployed*  
*Transitions*
- 5 | *December IEC minutes*
- 6 | *Local Lines*
- 14 | *Retiree Local Lines*
- 17 | *In Memoriam*
- 18 | *Editorials*
- 19 | *Letters to the Editor*  
*Who We Are*



## WAR ON WORKERS, REDUX: Corporate-Backed Lawmakers Push 'Right-to-Work' Laws

*IBEW members push back in Indiana against an assault on workers in the form of right-to-work legislation.*

### FOCUS 2012: **Smart Choices for Our Future**

From the draconian crackdown on workers' rights in Wisconsin to the pitched battle over collective bargaining in Ohio, the recent ascent of anti-labor politicians clearly illustrated how elections have consequences.

That lesson is still being learned. In Indiana, New Hampshire and other areas, both public and private sector workers are trying to hold back corporate-backed politicians who are pushing through so-called right-to-work laws that would further undermine wages and erode benefits negotiated at the bargaining table.

Over the next few months, as the campaign season picks up steam, look to the Electrical Worker and the news blog at [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org) to cut through the partisan spin and report on the issues that matter most to working Americans. We'll be digging deep into issues like candidates' jobs plans, right-to-work, voter suppression, the future of project labor agreements and candidates' approaches to policies that support workers and a sound economy.

In an unprecedented signal of continuing attacks on workers that began a year ago, the Indiana state legislature's Republican majority opened its session in January with the goal of strong-arming through right-to-work legislation.

Reminiscent of Madison, Wis., where thousands of citizens occupied the Capitol for weeks, and the grassroots movement that brought down an unpopular Ohio law restricting bargaining rights, thousands of Hoosiers came to Indianapolis to bear witness on the opening day of the session.

Hoisting signs and banners emblazoned with slogans like "NO on RTW" and "Hoosiers Want Union Life Lines, Not State Bread Lines," citizens from across the spectrum—including building trades members, teachers, firefighters and private sector workers—peacefully demonstrated in the statehouse Jan. 4.

The renewed struggle in Indiana began garnering national attention in December. Pro-worker advocates took to blogs and newspaper opinion pages to voice opposition to what they saw as a GOP and big-business power grab, and economists outlined the real-life effects of right-to-work on middle-class Americans' wallets. Talk show hosts Ed

**'RIGHT-TO-WORK' LAWS** *continued on page 2*

★ ★ FOCUS 2012 ★ ★  
**Smart Choices**  
*for Our Future*

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](http://www.ibew.org) and sign up today!

*Please recycle this newspaper.*

Continued from page 1

## War on Workers, Redux: Corporate-Backed Lawmakers Push 'Right-to-Work' Laws

Shultz and Rachel Maddow also profiled the issue on their television shows.

The lawmakers began their session with the hope of making Indiana the first state to adopt right-to-work laws in more than a decade. Gov. Mitch Daniels came out in support of the measure in December, and the state Chamber of Commerce announced late last year that getting the law on the books was the group's highest priority.

### IBEW Activists Push Back

Lafayette Local 668 member Brent Green knows from experience the serious repercussions this could have on families in the Hoosier state. The journeyman wireman gave a presentation recently at a town hall meeting to lay out the reasons why right-to-work laws are wrong for working people, and why union representation paves a better path for employees.

"I worked nonunion for years, and I faced every kind of problem—unsafe job conditions, low pay, no benefits," Green said. "I had a bad on-the-job injury that still causes me problems, and I had no way to pay for my medical bills.

"That all changed when I joined the IBEW, and right-to-work is just a smokescreen for union busting," he continued. "But it hurts everybody, not just the organized workers. Sure, we're fighting for our brothers and sisters at the hall, but the average person needs to know we're fighting for them as well. What a nonunion guy might not understand is that I set his wage. His wage is only competitive because of what I make. Do away with my ability to collectively bargain, and do you think his wage is going to stay high? Of course not."

### Just the Facts

#### About Right-to-Work States

- 8 of the 12 states with the highest unemployment rates are right-to-work states.
- 6 of the 8 states that have the lowest wages are right-to-work states.
- Wages in right-to-work states are 12 percent lower than those in non-right-to-work states.
- Rates of uninsured are 24 percent higher in right-to-work states.
- Rates of uninsured children are 39 percent higher in right-to-work states.
- 12 of the 14 highest wage states are not right-to-work states.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

IBEW activists in Indiana joined with teachers, firefighters and other workers last winter to protest a previous right-to-work push in the statehouse. Thousands of demonstrators helped convince legislators in the general assembly to scuttle the bill.

### You Have the Right to Work ... For Less

Right-to-work laws allow workers to opt out of paying union dues while still benefiting from collective bargaining agreements—a practice that weakens unions' negotiating power. Such laws are enforced in nearly half the states, mostly in the South or in the western part of the U.S., where workers have a diminished voice on the job and face more dangers at their work sites. Oklahoma adopted such legislation in 2001.

Supporters of the law argue that employees should not be obligated to pay dues. Labor leaders and progressive economists say this creates a "free rider" problem. Workers benefit from the protection of a collective bargaining agreement without contributing to the union responsible for negotiating their contracts, which include higher wages than most nonunion employers offer.

During the current campaign season, Republican presidential candidates Mitt Romney, Newt Gingrich, Ron Paul and others have touted right-to-work laws as a way to shore up job creation and increase workers' take home pay.

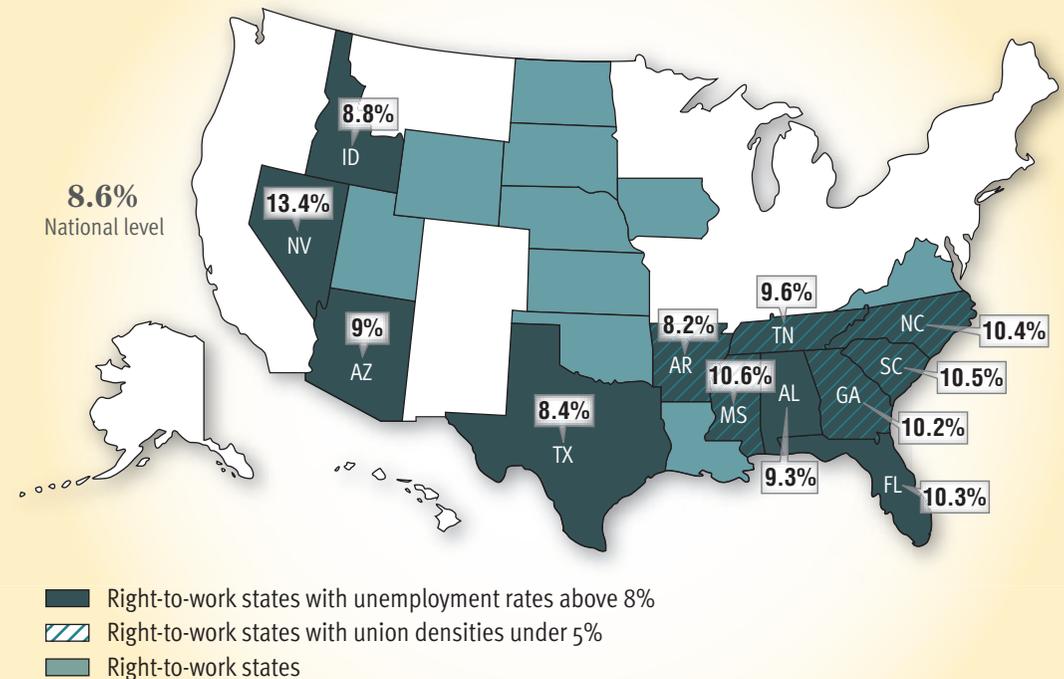
Recent findings from the Bureau of Labor Statistics tell a different story. Of the 22 states with right-to-work laws on the books, more than half have unemployment rates at or near the national average of about 9 percent. Ten right-to-work states are above the national average—significantly, in some cases (see table).

University of Notre Dame professor of economics Marty Wolfson wrote in a January report that the law would have devastating effects on Indiana's middle class. "Unions will lose members and financial resources, they will have less bargaining power in negotiations with employers, and wages and benefits for workers represented by collective bargaining agreements will fall short of what they would have been without the law. This will also be true for other workers as well, since companies will feel less need to compete with union-scale wages and benefits."

The Economic Policy Institute also released a study last month by economist Gordon Lafer, who took right-to-work advocates to task for using misleading statistics to make the case for the legislation in Indiana.

## Does right-to-work lower unemployment?

Anti-worker lawmakers and many state Chambers of Commerce say right-to-work is good for job creators. Many right-to-work states have unemployment rates above the national average. You decide.



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; National unemployment level based on Nov. 2011 data; State unemployment levels based on Oct. 2011 data; Union density based on 2010 data

"Rigorous, properly-designed studies have found that right-to-work laws reduce wages by \$1,500 a year, for both union and nonunion workers, and lower the likelihood that union and nonunion employees get health care coverage or pensions through their jobs," states the report, entitled "Working Hard to Make Indiana Look Bad." "They have also found that the laws have no impact on job growth in states that adopt them."

Romney, who many eye as the prospective GOP nominee to run against President Obama in November, has come out in favor of signing into law national right-to-work legislation.

"There is a very strong likelihood that a Republican Congress and a Republican White House would pass a national right-to-work law," Gary Chaison, a labor-law professor at Clark University in Worcester, Mass., told Bloomberg News in November. "A Republican Congress," he said, "sees unions as part of the problem rather than part of the solution."

### On Guard in the Granite State, and Beyond

At the ground game level, the battle over right-to-work reached fever pitch in New Hampshire late last year. Earlier in 2011,

Democratic Gov. John Lynch vetoed right-to-work legislation when it was passed in the statehouse—and anti-worker lawmakers tried to overturn that veto in November.

Working people scored a major victory when the legislature failed by 12 votes to make New Hampshire the 23rd right-to-work state. Manchester Local 2320 Business Manager Glenn Brackett was one of many IBEW leaders who helped rally protestors to help convince legislators—including several Republicans—to sustain the veto.

"It was a huge sea of red IBEW T-shirts at the statehouse," Brackett said. "When the other side failed to come up with the votes, it was vindicating. But it also showed how unnecessary all of this is. There's no need for a so-called right-to-work law because the federal government already says that nobody has to pay union dues if they don't want to. Whether it's here, Indiana, or anywhere else, this legislation is just part of the right-wing agenda attacking labor and middle-class families."

But the fight is far from over. New Hampshire House Speaker Bill O'Brien (R) said after the November vote that the issue will be what he called "priority legislation" this year.

"There's a whole host of anti-labor

bills on the docket for this session," Brackett said. "And right-to-work has come up 20 consecutive times—and for 20 years, we've beaten it back. Our victory in November was a good one, but we'll be back into the fray soon."

At the same time, activists in Michigan and other Midwest states will be watching Indiana and New Hampshire closely, as some say right-to-work legislation is an ever-present threat looming on the horizon.

"So far, several pieces of legislation have been introduced, including so-called right-to-work 'zones' that would enable cities and counties to adopt these anti-worker laws at the local level," said Lansing, Mich., Local 665 Business Representative Ray Michaels. "This would pit neighbor against neighbor in an economic race to the bottom."

Michaels said that with much of the legislature in Michigan being "blatantly anti-union," right-to-work is a real threat to the economy and all working people in the state. "It's divisive and a distraction from our efforts to improve the lives of the people of Michigan," he said. "We have real challenges here, and we need real solutions. This anti-worker, ideological assault is counterproductive. It creates no jobs. It creates no relief for the many families struggling in Michigan."

## Ind. Governor, Legislature Try to Block Public Protests

Fighting increasingly bitter Indianapolis winter winds, thousands of pro-worker advocates gathered the morning of Jan. 4 outside the statehouse on the first day of the legislative session. Early that day, it was unclear how a portrait of democracy in action would develop. Gov. Daniels had issued an executive order mandating that only 3,000 people could be inside the statehouse at any given time—including the 1,700 people who work there. The governor's office insisted this was to maintain safety in the facility.

"But that's absurd—the building has been there since 1888 and there's never been a need for a rule like that before," said South Bend Local 153 Membership Development Director Troy Warner. He and other officers have been active against the right-to-work push, using member-to-member contact to spread the message amongst working families in the Hoosier state. "There were times last year when we had nearly 5,000 people in that building peacefully protesting," he said.

Under public pressure, only hours before the session was to begin, Daniels rescinded the order temporarily—which sparked a wave of enthusiasm through the massive crowd waiting outside, who soon brought signs and banners into the statehouse for an afternoon of peaceful protest.

Local 153 Business Manager Mike Compton helped coordinate three busloads of attendees. But when activists got inside the statehouse, he said, they were greeted with an unwelcome sign.

"There were huge glass barriers put up inside the building to divide the main halls away from the lawmakers," Compton said. "To me, that sends a message that they're hiding behind closed doors to do whatever they want, regardless of what citizens think."

A contingent of Democrats also stayed away from the day's proceedings to deny the legislature a quorum to move forward on business regarding the right-to-work legislation.

## IBEW Opposes GOP Member's Divisive Tactic

On Jan. 10, a Republican lawmaker offered an amendment to the bill allowing for the 15 building trades in the state—including the IBEW—to be exempt from right-to-work.

Republican Sen. Brent Waltz said that he believed the building trades should be "carved out" because contractors are dependent on unions to expertly train apprentices who will man construction projects.

The head of the regional Carpenters union agreed. Joe Evans, president of Indiana/Kentucky Regional Council of

Carpenters Local Union 1016, said that there is a significant difference between the ways the building trades and other unions operate.

"It's totally different how we do our job compared to a United Auto Workers plant," he said.

IBEW leaders countered. "We are fundamentally opposed to carving out any exemptions," said Gary and Hammond Local 697 Business Manager Ray Kasmark.

Kevin Cope, business manager for Muncie Local 855, sided with Kasmark, telling The Herald Bulletin that his local stands with the "brothers and sisters in the industrial trades."

"(The law) is going to hurt our friends and neighbors," said Cope.

## Lessons for the Election

IBEW Political Department Director Brian Baker said that with the recent wave of activism to recall Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker and the defeat of the anti-worker bill known as "SB 5" in Ohio, 2012 will be another year where activists will need to be in full swing—especially ahead of what is looking to be a contentious election season.

"There's a huge groundswell at the

grassroots level, and that's what the anti-worker lawmakers are nervous about," Baker said. "The actions by these corporate-backed, Tea Party-endorsed candidates are going to have repercussions."

IBEW International President Edwin D. Hill said that the recent events in Indiana, New Hampshire and elsewhere show with clarity the competing worldviews between those who value the contributions of working families and believe in shared prosperity, and those who believe that laws should protect a chosen few.

"This year we face a tough presidential election where jobs and the economy

will be center stage," Hill said. "We're seeing the highest income inequality ever in the greatest nation in the world, and these anti-worker politicians and corporations just want to keep taking more and more. You have to wonder what kind of world they want us living in. Our values of hard work and decency are going to be tested harder than they have in a very long time. You can bet we're going to be active, mobilized and ready over the next nine months."

*The right-to-work battle in Indiana continued beyond The Electrical Worker's press deadline. For more coverage, visit [www.IBEW.org](http://www.IBEW.org).* ■

# Reaching Out and Rewving Up for 2012

**W**hen Vanessa Hayes, a 32-year Verizon network technician and member of East Windsor, N.J., Local 827, flew to Phoenix in November for a symposium of the AFL-CIO's constituency organizations, she hadn't expected to be alarmed by the speakers on the podium. But Hayes, secretary of the Essex County Chapter of the A. Philip Randolph Institute, says she was troubled by information about growing moves by right-wing politicians to restrict voting rights in many states.

"Before the Phoenix meeting," says Hayes, "I didn't know about the frontal attack by politicians in many states who are proposing changes that would depress the vote in 2012 and help them steal the election. It's scary, but it fired me up. I've been to a lot of conferences, but this was the only one where we couldn't leave the workshops without having a working plan for what we would do when we get home."

IBEW members played an important role in planning the meeting, entitled "We Are One Moving America Forward," and setting the groups' direction for the epic presidential and congressional elections of 2012.

Hayes says she was also moved by speakers who warned delegates not to fall for tactics that would put wedges between the diverse membership of the labor movement, particularly pitting black and Hispanic workers against each other.

The gathering showcased the necessity and power of reaching out to diverse communities to defend collective bargaining and community needs as a step toward building stronger coalitions. Constituency groups of the AFL-CIO include: The Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, A. Philip Randolph Institute, Pride At Work, Coalition of Labor Union Women, Asian Pacific American Labor



*In Phoenix visiting an Occupy encampment during an AFL-CIO constituency groups meeting are Vanessa Hayes, East Windsor, N.J., Local 827; left; Carolyn Williams, director, IBEW Human Services Department; James Shaw, Nashville, Tenn., Local 429; Fred Simmons, Seattle Local 46 and Michael Joyner, Local 429.*

Alliance and the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement.

Pete Talley, secretary-treasurer of the Ohio AFL-CIO, said that the recent successful campaign in Ohio to overturn a bill that would restrict collective bargaining rights demonstrates the need to reach far beyond the labor community.

When the campaign against Senate Bill 5 began, Talley reported, it was marked by a lack of diversity. However, after extensive polling and research, it became clear that the people who would be most hurt by curtailing bargaining would be low-income and African American communities. So Talley began to put together a community-based coalition to start phone banking, petition gathering and hosting telephone-based town hall meetings to get them engaged in the process.

Election Day exit polls showed that 61 percent of voters voted to repeal SB 5. But, of those who turned out, an impressive 93 percent of African Americans voted for repeal.

"Building coalitions with groups and individuals in our surrounding com-

munities was one of the main themes of the IBEW Convention in Vancouver," said IBEW Director of Human Services Carolyn Williams. "The experience of unions in Ohio, including IBEW locals, in bringing the campaign to defend collective bargaining to every corner of the state's communities was a key ingredient in a winning strategy."

Michael Joyner, a journeyman wireman and 14-year member of Nashville Local 429, attended the symposium with organizer James Shaw. Says Joyner, "We cannot wait until this summer to get the vote out and register all of the new people who will be of age before then, or who don't vote."

Joyner says he looks forward to working with his local leaders to link up with other unions in the Nashville area to communicate about their plans for the election early in 2012.

Hayes says the meeting ended with delegates taking to the streets to visit the Occupy Phoenix encampment. Some of the young Occupy Phoenix activists came back to the symposium's host hotel. There, they met with Bill Lucy, one of the

main speakers at the meeting. Lucy, the Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, collaborated with Dr. Martin Luther King during the 1968 Memphis sanitation strike and founded the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists.

"It was an honor to be in the same room with Mr. Lucy," says Hayes. "Here's a man who shaped history. But he spoke with the young people as long as they wanted to talk. Our causes are linked and they are now more engaged in civil rights history and labor history."

The symposium was hosted by the Arizona AFL-CIO, led by Executive Director/Secretary-Treasurer Rebekah Friend, a member of Phoenix Local 387.

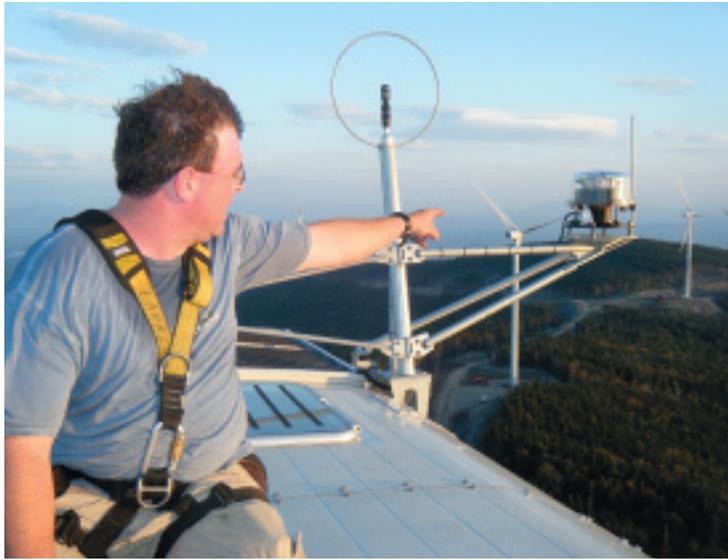
The AFL-CIO convened the meeting in Phoenix to help call attention to the actions of Gov. Jan Brewer, who has forced changes in immigration law that would divide workers and lead to racial profiling, mostly of Hispanic residents.

"I hope we dispelled some myths about Arizona," says Friend. "Like in most places, there are a lot of good people here making a difference, doing good work. That work includes the recent successful recall of Russell Pearce, one of the worst state senators in the U.S."

Frederick Simmons, a journeyman wireman member of Seattle Local 46 and a member of the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus, worked four years as a journeyman before encountering another black electrician on the job. His local has since made a commitment to diversity and inclusion in apprenticeship training and in other units of the union. "We have offered our hall for community events free of charge. We are charitable in giving to organizations whose goals include lifting people out of poverty. And our opinions on labor issues in the city, county and state legislatures are well respected," adds Simmons. ■

## VOICES OF THE UNEMPLOYED

# Maine Member Tells Senator: 'The Wolf is at the Door'



Portland, Maine, Local 567 member Nathan Belanger at Kibby Mountain, the largest wind power project in Maine. Work is hard to find for the 13-year member who traveled to Washington, D.C., in early December and met with Sen. Olympia Snow (R) to address the situation facing hundreds of thousands of jobless U.S. workers.

**N**athan Belanger's car has 196,000 miles on the odometer. He is paying \$590 a month for COBRA medical coverage for his family of five. He's borrowed from his retirement savings to make necessary repairs to his West Bath, Maine, home. And he's been forced to neglect his children's college fund.

A 13-year inside journeyman wireman member of Portland Local 567, Belanger, an apprentice instructor, has been working on and off for three years. He says, "I thank my lucky stars for unemployment benefits." In early December, when House and Senate Republicans threatened to cut those benefits, Belanger first got angry. Then he answered a call to action and traveled to Washington, D.C., to deliver a stern message to our nation's leaders.

After participating in the National Prayer Vigil for Unemployment Insurance and Jobs, Belanger set up a personal face-to-face meeting with his senator, Olympia Snow (R). The extraordinary meeting lasted 45 minutes, says IBEW Political and Legislative Department International Representative Dan Gardner, who accompanied Belanger to the meeting.

"I was amazed that Sen. Snowe spent so much time with Nathan," Gardner said. The senator listened intently as Belanger challenged proposed cuts in unemployment benefits, congressional support for trade agreements that have contributed to the devastation of our nation's manufacturing sector and privatization proposals that would put Social Security at risk.

"I feel that Sen. Snowe heard and understood the plight that we face as a nation," says Belanger. Gardner says Snowe reminded them that she opposed the privatization of Social Security and several trade agreements and that she supports the need to extend unemployment benefits.

"People at my level are very bitter, but I choose to be active. We're being taken for a horrible ride in our country," says Belanger, who told Snowe that a nation cannot prosper if less than 15 percent of its gross domestic product is invested in manufacturing. "My skill level means nothing if I have nothing to build, repair or maintain."

On a questionnaire circulated to participants prior to the prayer vigil, asking them to describe the challenges of joblessness, organizers asked if those gathered would be willing to tell their stories to the public and the news media. Belanger answered, "Please!" Then, he detailed what he would ask lawmakers on national TV:

"You ask of us our sweat, our blood, our tears, our children! But you as lawmakers sit upon this hill and have the best retirement, health care, and expense packages in our great nation. You ask us to part with our 'entitlements'...When will we as a nation see sacrifice from Washington? To be a politician in this country is synonymous with wealth. Politicians ask us to sacrifice... When will we see the same efforts from those people who govern us and already have it all? Give up a little to save this nation and set the bar. Is that not leadership?" ■

## Transitions

### DECEASED Donald Crevier



We regret to report that retired Sixth District International Representative Donald Crevier died Dec. 10 at the age of 84.

Brother Crevier was born in Kankakee, Ill. Following service with the 141st Construction Battalion in the Pacific during World War II, he was initiated into now-defunct hometown Local 963 in 1948.

He quickly became active in union affairs, serving on the negotiating committee, holding office as financial secretary and later serving as business manager for 11 years.

Brother Crevier was appointed International Representative in 1967. He serviced mainly inside construction locals during more than two decades in the field.

"He was very close with his family, and he was proud of his work with the union," said retired Sixth District International Representative Don Mahoney.

Crevier served on many labor-related committees and boards in Illinois. He was president of the Kankakee Building Trades Council and served as vice-president of the town's AFL-CIO.

A member of the Knights of Columbus and the American Legion, Brother Crevier enjoyed swimming, bowling, golf and model railroading.

Crevier is survived by his wife, Helen, their four children, seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. In a memorial tribute, his family wrote that the legacy he leaves behind "is rooted in honor, unconditional love and kindhearted deeds. He lived life to the fullest and made sure those around him did as well."

On behalf of the members of the IBEW, the officers and staff send condolences to Brother Crevier's friends and family. ■

### RETIRED Laurence Cohen



After a long and distinguished career in support of workers' rights, IBEW General Counsel Larry Cohen retired effective Dec. 31.

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and Yale Law School, Cohen served with the labor law firm Sherman, Dunn, Cohen, Leifer and Yellig P.C. for more than four decades. In addition to his service with the firm, he also served as a legal assistant and supervisory attorney for National Labor Relations Board member John Fanning. He has served as the IBEW's general counsel since 1980.

A specialist in labor and employment law, Cohen also served as general counsel for the AFL-CIO Building and Construction Trades Department and the International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Allied Workers for 24 years.

One of the most respected labor lawyers in the country, Cohen is past chair of the Labor and Employment Law Section of the American Bar Association, and a fellow of the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers. He is also the author of numerous law papers and served as guest lecturer at law schools across the United States.

"It's been an honor beyond anything I could have dreamed of at the outset of my legal career, to serve the IBEW, its officers and members for almost 50 years," Cohen told delegates at the 38th International Convention.

He is a member of the bar of the U.S. Supreme Court, where he successfully argued four cases on behalf of union clients. He has been named one of the country's best lawyers, receiving lifetime achievement awards from the Jewish Labor Committee and the Peggy Browning Fund.

He is succeeded in the role as general counsel by Richard Resnick.

Cohen says he plans to work on President Obama's re-election campaign and continue to provide mediation services.

"The enemies of the labor movement have deep pockets and access to many big-buck union-busting law firms, so the IBEW has been lucky to have people like Larry on our side," said International President Edwin D. Hill. "He's a great lawyer, not only for his knowledge, experience and professionalism, but also because of his commitment to working people and our common movement."

The IBEW officers, staff and members wish Mr. Cohen a long, happy and healthy retirement. ■

### RETIRED Wesley 'Jimmy' Sunvison



Seventh District International Representative Wesley "Jimmy" Sunvison retired effective Jan. 1 after nearly five decades of serv-

ice to the IBEW.

Brother Sunvison was initiated into Austin, Texas, Local 520 in 1965. He earned his journeyman status in 1969 and went on to work on several large-scale projects in the area. Sunvison was one of the first electricians on the site to construct the sprawling IBM plant in Austin, a facility that would go on to accommodate 10,000 tech employees. "It was a challenge, but a rewarding one," Sunvison said. He also worked to put up lighting on the University of Texas Memorial Stadium.

The descendant of Swedish blacksmiths who arrived to the states in the 1890s, Sunvison was the first of his family to be accepted into a trade union. "When my father found out, he had tears



## IBEW 2012 PHOTO CONTEST: Enter Now!

The popular competition is back after last year's hiatus while we were gearing up for the 38th International Convention in Vancouver, B.C. This year's event will be the 15th contest since its kickoff in 1997.

So grab your camera and see what develops. Because excellence in the trade yields more than just a job well done—it can be a work of art.

Full contest rules and deadline information available at [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org).

running down his face,” Sunvison said. “He told me, ‘You’ve got to do the best you can, because none of us have gotten the opportunity that you’ve been given.’”

Sunvison served on the local’s executive board for 16 years, including nine years as chairman. He also logged more than 20 years on the local’s negotiating committee. Sunvison was elected business manager in late 1991 and held that position for the next decade. In that role, he dramatically increased membership and improved relations with employers.

“When I came in as business manager, I don’t think we had more than 500 members, and most of them were unemployed,” he said. “I told myself that I was going to do something to change it. So I spent a lot of time sitting down with employers and mapping out plans that

would be win-wins for the companies and our members. We started working better instead of fighting, and we were later formally recognized by NECA as having some of the best labor-management relationships in the country.”

Organizing was also key. Sunvison said the local added about 700 members during his tenure as business manager.

“The IBEW gave me and my family everything we have, and for that I was certainly grateful,” he said. “I was driven to turn that local around because of what I’d seen the IBEW do for me.”

Sunvison was appointed International Representative by International President Edwin D. Hill in 2001.

He was tasked with servicing 10 locals across the broad, flat expanse of the Lone Star State. Members worked in

fields such as railroad, manufacturing, outside line construction and inside wiring. “Coming from the inside branch, working with these locals gave me a much larger appreciation for all the work of the members of our diverse union,” Sunvison said.

Building on the successes he garnered during his time as a business manager, Sunvison expanded on his skills of bettering labor-management relations and mentoring new, enthusiastic leaders across the state.

“With some of the locals, I tried to use what I had learned in Austin to improve some areas of operation,” he said. One success story came through the steady progress of a then-newly-elected business manager of San Antonio Local 60—Mike Devine, who benefitted from

Sunvison’s steady mentorship. “Mike’s done a terrific job. He has completely turned the relationship around with the employers, which makes them able to do so much with the solid work force. He’s as good a friend as I have in the world.”

Brother Sunvison has also dedicated much of his life to assisting the sheriff’s department in his home county of Travis. While serving as business manager, Sunvison attended night classes in reserve officer training for the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement.

“It was always something I wanted to do,” said Sunvison of the volunteer service. “I worked on the streets for thousands of hours, and it even gave me insight into how to do my job as business manager. Investigating grievances is a lot like police work, and you can

spend a good amount of time in hearings for both jobs. It was an enlightening experience.” Sunvison rose through the ranks to become president for the Travis County Reserve.

Brother Sunvison says he looks forward to spending time on his ranch with his wife, Vivian, and will enjoy more time with his two children and four grandchildren. He has a younger brother with more than 30 years in the trade with Local 520. Two of Sunvison’s other brothers are retired members of the plumbers and pipefitters union.

On behalf of the entire union membership, the officers and staff wish Brother Sunvison a long, healthy and enjoyable retirement. ■

## December International Executive Council Meeting

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

The regular meeting of the International Executive Council was called to order at 8:30 a.m., by Chairman Pierson, on Tuesday, December 13, 2011, in Washington, DC. Other members of the council in attendance were Smith, Furer, Riley, Walter, Lavin, Calabro, Calvey and Clarke.

### International President Hill

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

### International Secretary-Treasurer Chilia

International Secretary-Treasurer Salvatore (Sam) J. Chilia presented financial reports covering the IBEW Pension Fund and the Investment Portfolio of the Brotherhood both in Canada and in the United States.

### Legal Defense

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

### Financial Reports

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

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

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

### Financial Statements For Political Education

Reviewed and Filed

### IBEW and Subsidiaries—Consolidated Financial Statements for September 30, 2011

Reviewed and Filed

### IBEW Headquarters Building LLC—Financial Statements for September 30, 2011

Reviewed and Filed

### Trust for the IBEW Pension Benefit Fund and Subsidiaries Consolidated Financial Statements September 30, 2011

Reviewed and Filed

### Pension Plan for International Officers, Representatives and Assistants of the IBEW

**Financial Statements September 30, 2011**  
Reviewed and Filed

### Pension Plan for Office Employees of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Financial Statements September 30, 2011

Reviewed and Filed

### Article XX and XXI Cases

During 2011, the IBEW was involved in one dispute under Article XX of the AFL-CIO Constitution, Manhattan College, in Riverdale, New York, (UNITE/HERE and IBEW Local Union 1158). A mediation of this dispute is scheduled for January 11, 2012. There were no disputes involving organizing responsibilities under Article XXI.

### Charges Filed with the International Executive Council Against Brother Peter W. Nicholas, Card Number D431764, Retired Member of Local Union 1, IBEW

On June 24, 2011, Brother Daniel A. King, at the

time, a business representative of Local Union 1, IBEW, preferred charges against Peter W. Nicholas, Card Number D431764, a retired member of Local Union 1, presently receiving IBEW Pension Benefits, for allegedly violating Article XI, Section 6(d), of the IBEW Constitution.

The record reflects that Brother Peter Nicholas admitted to performing electrical work in December 2010. In April 2011, he applied for and was granted IBEW Pension disability benefits retroactively commencing in September 2010. On August 1, 2011, International Secretary-Treasurer Salvatore Chilia suspended IBEW disability benefits until this matter has been investigated and decided by the IEC. After a thorough review of the facts presented in this case, the members of the executive council find no violation to Article XI, Section 6 (d). However, Brother Nicholas did in fact receive retroactive disability benefits for December 2010 while admitting to performing electrical work. Therefore, he will have to repay one month of IBEW disability benefits. As such, International Secretary-Treasurer Chilia will return Brother Nicholas to pension status one month after his suspension date.

### Appeal Filed with the International Executive Council by Christopher Yerian, Card Number D7056327, A Member of Local Union 134, IBEW

Christopher Yerian’s is appealing a local Union 117 Trial Board decision to the members of the executive council. The facts of this case were reviewed and considered.

After a thorough review of Brother Yerian’s appeal, it is the decision of the executive council members that International President Edwin D. Hill properly advised former member Christopher Yerian that his appeal to him was untimely and that he was no longer an IBEW member and forfeited his right to appeal. The IEC concurs with President Hill’s letter dated August 26, 2011.

### Appeal Filed with the International Executive Council by Christopher Yerian, Card Number D7056327, A Member of Local Union 134, IBEW

Christopher Yerian’s is appealing a local Union 150 Trial Board decision to the members of the executive council. The facts of this case were reviewed and considered.

After a thorough review of Brother Yerian’s appeal, it is the decision of the executive council members that International President Edwin D. Hill properly advised former member Christopher Yerian that his appeal to him was untimely and that he was no longer an IBEW member and forfeited his right to appeal. The IEC concurs with President Hill’s letter dated August 26, 2011.

### Amendment to Pension Benefit Fund’s (PBF) Rules and Regulations and Summary Plan Description

International Executive Council Chairman Pierson introduced, and the members of the International Executive Council unanimously adopted, an updated amendment to delegate discretionary authority to the International Secretary-Treasurer to immediately suspend (subject to an abundance of proof) a member’s pension upon learning that the member has returned to the electrical industry and to initiate an investigation.

### IBEW Officers, Representatives and Assistants Pension Plan

The members of the International Executive Council reviewed the actuarial report and funding recommendations for the Plan. A motion was made and unanimously approved by the members of the International Executive Council to approve the actuarial recommendation for the funding policy of the Officers, Representatives and Assistants Pension Plan. A Resolution to update vesting of benefits was submitted and approved.

### Office Employees Pension Plan

The members of the International Executive Council reviewed the actuarial report and funding recommendations for the Plan. A motion was made and unanimously approved by the members of the International Executive Council to approve the actuarial recommendation for the funding policy of the Office Employees Pension Plan. A Resolution to update vesting of benefits was submitted and approved.

### Retirement of International Representative

Gregory A. Teeple, International Representative Ninth District  
Effective—October 1, 2011

Jimmy Sunvison, International Representative Seventh District  
Effective—January 1, 2012

Jeremiah Comer, International Representative Third District  
Effective—January 1, 2012

### Retirement of International Office Employees

Bernice Wright, International Office  
Data control Clerk III, Grade 4  
Per Capita Department  
Effective—December 1, 2011

This regularly scheduled meeting was adjourned, on Wednesday, December 14, 2011, at 11:30 a.m. The next regular meeting of the International Executive Council will commence at 8:30 a.m., on Friday, January 20, 2012, in Naples, Florida.

### For the International Executive Council

Patrick Lavin, Secretary  
December 2011

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

# Local Lines

## Positive Outlook for Growth

L.U. 6 (c,i,st&u), SAN FRANCISCO, CA—2011 has ended with work for our inside wiremen up more than 15 percent from 2010, and we should see even more growth in 2012 for our construction members. Work has begun on two large hospitals, and with the America's Cup coming to town in 2013 we have a positive outlook for the future.

Our 13th Annual Toy Run benefiting the San Francisco Firefighters Toy Program was yet another success. With an estimated 80 people in attendance, our Toy Run Committee Co-chairmen Rich Reesink and Steve Passanisi led the motorcycles and hot rods on a beautiful ride to Occidental. All participants had a great time.

For many years Local 6 has marched in the St. Patrick's Day parade, but this year will be an extra special year as our Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. John O'Rourke was chosen as the grand marshal. Come out and march with your local on March 17. Call the hall for our gathering location.

Our general membership meetings are the second Wednesday of each month and we look forward to catching up with you there.

*John Doherty, Pres.*

## Fight for Workers

L.U. 8 (as,em,i,mar,mt,rts,s&spa), TOLEDO, OH—I wish to thank every member who voted last year in Ohio's Nov. 8 general election. With our hard work and perseverance, we defeated the very controversial SB 5/Issue 2.

Issue 2 was voted down by 63 percent of the voters. Gov. John Kasich announced after the election that he will push to make Ohio a so-called "right-to-work" state. So, brothers and sisters, the fight is just beginning. Please keep these thoughts in the back of your mind when it comes time to elect a new governor, and remember your vote does count.

The IBEW International Convention wrapped up in late September with a few changes, most notably a per capita increase. Special thanks also go to Bro. Mark Ehrenfried, who initiated a uniform referral system. All the travelling brothers and sisters know all too well what a pain it is to keep track of the re-sign procedures at each local when you sign multiple books.

As always, work safe and play safe.

*Bryan Emerick, P.S.*

## A Busy Holiday Season: Giving Back to Community

L.U. 12 (i,o&se), PUEBLO, CO—Many events highlighted the Christmas and New Year season for Local 12. The Annual Christmas Party was held Dec. 9 (photo below) and a larger venue was needed to accommodate the record attendance. Members and family, retirees and friends of Local 12 celebrated with food, music, gifts and fun. Thanks to Local 12 office manager Kathie Runco, the Ladies Auxiliary, and all who attended and supported another successful year in Local 12 history.

Local 12 is giving back to the community through a donation drive for the Cooperative Care Food Bank. Special thanks go to Pres. Tom Kelley for his hard work on this effort. Also, Local 12 has been very involved in the remodel of a new Cooperative Care Building. Albert Herrera, Local 12 organizer, is spearheading the electrical volunteer work. Thanks to all who have helped in this project.

*Clif Thompson, A.B.A.*



*Local 12 members and their families celebrate at the local's Christmas party.*

## 'RTW Grinch is Back Again'

L.U. 16 (i), EVANSVILLE, IN—Evansville's Christmas season would not be complete without G.D. Ritz's Fantasy of Lights exhibit. This fantastic drive-through light show, now in its 18th year, was blessed with more than 100 dedicated brothers and sisters who graciously contributed their skills for the first set-up day. Days of securing and energizing the fixtures have since brought them to life. Special thanks are due to the apprentices and retired members of Local 16 for their willingness to rebuild the displays when

the displays are not in use. Thanks also to Nick Vaught and Matt Mullen for supervising the installation and nightly maintenance.

Indiana's RTW Grinch is back again this year. While some concessions were forced on labor during the last General Assembly session, so-called "right-to-work" was held off. Anti-union activists were in power then and still hold a majority. Therefore, union people may not be as fortunate in the 2012 session. The state's speaker of the house has said that the top item on his agenda will be to enact "right-to-work" legislation. The IBEW has already taken buses to the statehouse, and many more supporters will be needed.

*Donald P. Beavin, P.S.*

## Work Picture Improving

L.U. 24 (es,i&sp), BALTIMORE, MD—Local 24 held the annual Children's Christmas Party on Saturday, Dec. 10, last year. The annual event was held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and featured a puppet show, a movie, Christmas elves, pictures, lunch and a toy for each child after a visit to Santa. This party is a tradition that spans 35 years, and each year brings our families together for the holidays. Our thanks go to our two Santas, Scott Jarvis and Jim Smith, as well as "Mrs. Santa," Robin Smith. Thanks also go to all the volunteers and staff who made this party a success, Bro. Ted Daigle and wife Gail for their hand puppet and elf show for the kids, and Bro. Jim Valentine for his excellent photography work.

Our work picture has begun to improve as aggressive market recovery initiatives on medium-size jobs began taking effect at the end of 2011. We are waiting for bid results on several large projects coming in 2012 in our area.



*Baltimore Local 24 members and their families enjoy the annual Children's Christmas Party.*

Local 24 will celebrate our 50th anniversary at an event on March 24 at M&T Bank Stadium, home of the Baltimore Ravens. Preparations will be finalized and notices will have been sent by the time this issue of The Electrical Worker is published.

*Roger M. Lash Jr., B.M.*

## Improved Work Picture

L.U. 34 (em,i,rts&spa), PEORIA, IL—A belated Merry Christmas to all. December was a merry month for Local 34. As of this writing, some major customers in our area are trying to complete projects before 2011 year's end, and have shrunk our Book 1 to its lowest level in very long time. Our New Year's wish is that such projects continue, and many others begin, in 2012.

Please remember to vote for your labor-friendly candidates in the March primary.

Thanks much to IBEW Locals 649, 197, 146, 702, 697 and 725 for providing many of our members with opportunities for good union electrical work in 2011. We look forward to returning the favor.

*Mark McArthy, Treas.*

## Bus. Mgr. Steele Retiring

L.U. 38 (i), CLEVELAND, OH—Bus. Mgr. Gil Steele Jr. announced his retirement at the December 2011 union meeting. He will leave office in late February. Gil started his apprenticeship in 1970 and has 42 years of Local 38 service. Gil also served the local as president, business agent and executive board member. He served on the IBEW Law Committee for last year's IBEW International Convention.

The Steele family has a long tradition of Local

## 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.*



*Local 38 Bus. Mgr. Gil Steele Jr. stands in front of a portrait of his father, former business manager Gil Steele Sr.*

38 service. In 1967, Gil's father, Gil Steele Sr., was elected president and later became business manager. 2012 marks 45 years of continuous service through both father and son. Local 38 officers and members thank Gil for his leadership and wish him a long, happy retirement.

Work has picked up and at this writing more than 120 members are working on the Caesar's Higbee Casino, scheduled to open in late March. Work has begun on the 18-story Ernst & Young office tower project that Zenith Electric has, and also on the Aloft Hotel project that Gateway Electric has adjacent to it on the East Bank Flats project.

We still only have about a dozen members on the Medical Mart/Convention Center site, but that number should grow to approximately 200 as the building progresses this year.

Remember to patronize the new Cleveland Aquarium, built 100 percent union in the old powerhouse on the West Bank Flats. See the great job Local 38 members working for Harrington Electric did.

*Dennis Meaney, A.B.M.*

## 'Annual Christmas Smoker'

L.U. 42 (catv,em,govt,lctt&o), HARTFORD, CT—On Dec. 8 last year, Local 42 held its Annual Christmas Smoker and award recipients were honored.

Retiree Awards went to members who retired in 2011: Alan Adair, Edward Avery, Paul Bates, James Bowen, John Croyle, Robert Currie, Thomas Edmonds, James Neuland, Dale Parks, Paul Rettig and Louis Hallstrom III.

Congratulations to the following "A" members who received pin awards for their years of service with Local 42: for 60 years of service—Leonard White; for 55 years—George Brede, Jr.; 50 years—Charles Nichols, Aubrey Pharmed, Gus Von Matt; 45 years—William Mock; 40 years—Dana Dana Foster, Mark Hodkoski; 25 years—Louis Bruno, Peter Jaconski, Bruce Lacharity, Milton Moffitt Jr., Karl Perkins; 20 years—Peter Abrahamsen, Philip Krzeminski; 15 years—Stephen Baldyga, James Dewey, Adam Hoskins, Steven McKeen; and for 10 years—Curtis Albin, Mark Belanger, Brian Bell, Dennis Cumming, Ronald D'Amato Jr., Robert Feltenberger, Edwin Geiger, Stephen Gustamachio, Dennis Guyette, John Haynes II, James Keough, Link Laporte, Neil Maruszewski, Randall Messenger, Thomas Mitchell, Scott Munger, Alfredo Rafala, Pawel Robak, Furman Romans III, Dana Santana, Anthony Sena, Jr., Arthur Smith and Kirby Wilkinson.

We also congratulate the following "BA" members for their years of service: for 15 years—Scott Carlin, James Rainey, Richard Russ, Conrad Seaberg; and for 10 years—Karl Bradshaw, Steven Chiappetta and Jared Gagne.

*Jacquelyn Moffitt, P.S.*

## Major Solar PV Array Installed

L.U. 46 (as,c,cs,em,es,et,i,mar,mo,mt,rtb,rts&st), SEATTLE, WA—Seattle Sounders FC and First and Goal Inc. became the recipients of what is reportedly the largest solar PV array to date in Washington state. This installation is located on the roof of the CenturyLink Field Event Center (formerly Qwest Field).

The project consists of 3,750 individual solar panels manufactured in the United States by Fremont, CA, based Solyndra. Using the latest in thin-film technology, the panels will capture both direct and reflected sunlight across a 360-degree, cylinder-type surface. The panels take advantage of the facility's new "cool roof," which conserves energy by reducing the amount of heat absorbed by the roof surface and lowering the need for building cooling. The system covers more than 2.5 acres, approximately 80 percent of the Event Center roof.

The panels are projected to generate more than 830,000 kWh of electricity annually, equivalent to powering 95 Seattle-area homes for a year. The system was completed late summer 2011 using Local 46 inside wiremen and apprentices.

This project is another example of our sisters and brothers leading the way in all facets of the electrical industry. It is our hope that projects like this will serve as a catapult toward a prosperous and sustainable future.

*Angela Marshall, Rep.*

## Spirit of Working Together

L.U. 48 (c,em,i,rtb,rts&st), PORTLAND, OR—Welcome to each member of former Local 970, who recently became part of IBEW Local 48. With the "paperwork" done on the merger effective Nov. 1, 2011, we can begin the job of blending the two organizations together.

IBEW Local 48 has a tradition of working together for common goals. That spirit goes back to our founding. That's when the first two IBEW locals in Portland—what was then Local 317, chartered in 1904, and then-Local 480, chartered in 1912—elected to merge to form a unified union in the Portland area. We became Local 48 on May 21, 1913.

The charter that was signed in 1913 stood for people working together toward progress. Now, we are pleased to include former Local 970 in that rich tradition. We have a good start. If you have not heard already, we have good news to report: A new agreement was completed with NECA companies, allowing for wage increases in the former Local 970 jurisdiction.

We look forward to working with our members in the Longview-Kelso, WA, area—as we strive to improve the lives of union members; as we partner with union contractors; and, as we deliver outstanding results to our customers in southwest Washington and Oregon.

*Robert Blair, P.S.*



*IBEW Local 76 members worked on the big Wheeler Data Center project in Olympia, WA.*

## Holiday Party a Great Success

L.U. 68 (i), DENVER, CO—The Christmas party for our young ones last year was Dec. 10 and the children were overjoyed. We had 481 children attending, accompanied by their families.

Made-in-USA toys were among many highlights contributing to the happiness. We also had the Shrine Clowns with face painting and balloons; the Keystone Kops with their "jailhouse"; the Electrical Federal Credit Union with cookie decorations; the Wireman's Brotherhood Fund with ice cream, cookies and shirts galore; and lots of great food prepared by volunteers Steve Langarak, Wayne Paul and many others. The 'toy corner' was staffed by Cindy Knox, Liz Perea, and several apprentices who volunteered.

Speaking of those apprentices, our grateful appreciation goes to the following for their time to help make the event a rousing success: Martin Carroll Jr., Tyler Cullen, Shane Daigle, Jeremy Douglas, Dominic Garcia, Kurtis Gookin, Eleno Gutierrez, Kyle King, Zachariah Mares, Mervin McKinney, Michael Parras, Michael Ricchetti, Jeffrey Tenhulzen, Shane Williams and Joseph Zangaro. Our thanks also to their instructor at the Denver JEATC, Jason Ogren.

*Ed Knox, Pres.*

## Organizing Blitzes

L.U. 76 (c,i,rts&st), TACOMA, WA—2011 was a challenging year for Local 76. One of the bright spots was the Wheeler Data Center in Olympia. This project employed more than 100 of our members through three different contractors. We congratulate EC Company of Oregon and the IBEW members working on the project for their achievement of 161,000 safe working man-hours on this project.

Local 76 volunteers, along with volunteers from neighboring locals and International Representatives, have been conducting organizing blitzes throughout Washington state with hopes to expand across the Ninth District this year. The door-knocking blitzes target unorganized workers who hold a current Washington State ELO1 license. As of this writing 1,219 doors have been knocked on by IBEW members. Volunteer involvement is crucial to the success of these blitzes. During the most recent blitz, which took place Oct. 24-26 in Local 112, rank and file members donated more than 696 hours of their time. In all, volunteers have spoken to over 100 electrical contractor owners on their doorstep this year and to more than 250 unorganized electrical workers.

*Mac McClellan, P.S.*



*Local 68 Christmas party for children and families.*

## Solar Training Center

L.U. 90 (i), NEW HAVEN, CT—On Nov. 18 last year, Local 90 held a ribbon cutting dedication for its new Solar Training Center.

After a lot of hard work and funding through a \$100,000 grant from the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund, the new center was completed for training our members in the latest solar technologies. The



*Local 90 Solar Training Center ribbon cutting.*

## Local Lines

ceremony was attended by hundreds of invited guests. Among those in attendance were: IBEW Second District Int. Vice Pres. Frank J. Carroll, state and local politicians, representatives of the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund, many work-force initiative boards, Connecticut Technical High School System teachers and students, and many other distinguished guests.

All were very impressed with the 6,000-square-foot center and are interested in what we will be doing to help Connecticut become a greener state.

We thank our Training Dir. Paul Costello for his tireless effort and dedication to bring this project to fruition. Also thanks to the many Local 90 volunteers who helped with the construction. We look forward to deploying our members to work on many solar projects in the future.

Sean Daly, Pres.



Local 94 members work on PSE&G line clearance project. Fred Lakatis and Executive Board member Ed Jones are in the aerial lifts; Mike Kamer and Tom Ciocian are doing the groundwork.

## Line Clearance Pilot Agreement

L.U. 94 (lctt,nst&u), CRANBURY, NJ—As we move forward into 2012, we want to note a positive change from 2011. In July 2011, we negotiated a pilot agreement with PSE&G for line clearance in Southern Division. The company hired 13 Local 94 top-step tree trimmers to complete the project. This is a great opportunity for our members and the beginning of what we hope will be the future of line clearance within the utility property. Shown in the photo above are several members at work on this project. Congratulations, brothers, on doing an excellent job!

On another positive note, Local 94 is anticipating an exciting election year so we are doing a COPE Drive to get ready for it. Giving to COPE is very important—it helps to keep our jobs safe and our interests alive in Trenton. We need to be present at political functions and let politicians know who we are and that we vote. Elections have consequences! Please give what you can; your job may depend on it.

We wish all our IBEW brothers and sisters a healthy and prosperous 2012.

Carla Wolfe, P.S.

## Craft Certification in Place

L.U. 102 (i,o,em,mt,ws&govt), PATERSON, NJ—Your 10 elected delegates, headed up by our Bus. Mgr. Patrick Delle Cava, proudly represented Local 102 at the 38th IBEW International Convention in Vancouver. Our congratulations go out to Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill, Int. Sec.-Treas. Salvatore J. Chilia, Int. Vice Pres. Donald C. Siegel, and IEC member Joseph P. Calabro



Local 102 delegates to the 38th IBEW Convention gather prior to an afternoon session. Standing, from left, are Asst. Bus. Mgr. Gary Pfarr, John Sabaliauskas, Bus. Mgr. Patrick Delle Cava, Robert Renaldi, Mark Roche, Dave Fiore, Mike Pulsinelli, Mike Scotto, Pete Pagano; and kneeling, Pres. Bernie Corrigan.

on their elections; we look forward to working with all of you. Our thanks go out to our Canadian brothers and sisters for their hospitality!

Back at home our JATC has implemented the NJATC Craft Certification program; two new rooms have been built specifically for this purpose. The goal is to ensure that all apprentices have acquired the minimum skills required to become a journeyman wireman. Those members who are found to have deficiencies in certain areas will be re-trained in those specific skill groups. The focus of our leadership is to give our members all the tools needed to make them more employ-

able; education is a key component of that toolbox. Our marketing campaign marches forward and as we profess to deliver the best value in the business, we must ensure the best possible training. Take advantage of our continuing education classes!

Bernie Corrigan, Pres.

## Giving Back to the Community

L.U. 104 (lctt,o&u), BOSTON, MA—Local 104 continually stays active in our surrounding communities by giving back to many local charities throughout our jurisdiction. Our involvement with the community helps to give us a more positive image and paints a better picture of unions with all their charitable contributions to the public.

Among the charities that we donate to are local youth sports teams and local educational programs such as the Reads Program. Local 104 for the second



Students and teachers participating in the Nottingham, NH, elementary school/preschool Reads Program hold up signs to thank IBEW Local 104.

year in a row has supported the Nottingham Reads Program at the elementary school in Nottingham, NH. The Reads Program is a literacy initiative that helps to ensure the young children of Nottingham have access to books. Donations contributed by Local 104 will be used to purchase and mail books, free of charge, to preschool children in the Nottingham community.

Our donations and support with these youth sports and educational programs will help many children begin their journey of learning and read-

ing, hopefully for a better and brighter future.

Chris Blair, P.S.

## IBEW Lights in the Park

L.U. 110 (em,i,rts,spa&u), ST. PAUL, MN—More than 150 IBEW volunteers helped set up lighting displays for the 4th annual IBEW Holiday Lights in the Park in Saint Paul. This event has become a tradition where IBEW members give back to our charities in our communities. To date, IBEW has donated \$120,000 to charities from this event. One more way in which IBEW 110 helps build better communities every day.

IBEW Local 110 is working on starting a “young union members group.” The apprentices are very engaged and have great ideas about the future of our movement. We need to keep our young members informed and energized about our movement so they can become the strong leaders of tomorrow.

As of this writing, we have 480 members on book 1. Thank you to the locals that are putting some of our members to work.

Brian Winkelaar, P.S.

## Organizing Blitz Conducted

L.U. 112 (c,i&st), KENNEWICK, WA—On Oct. 24-26 last year, Local 112 welcomed IBEW members from the other four construction locals in Washington to conduct a door-knocking “blitz” of the nonunion electrical workers in Benton and Franklin Counties. Washington construction Locals 46, 73, 191 and 76 sent volunteer members to assist Bus. Mgr. Pete Marsh and Local 112 volunteers in this event.

Int. Reps. Mike Grunwald, Greg Boyd and Tracy Prezeau, State Organizing Coordinator Greg Galusha, Local 46 Bus. Mgr. Virgil Hamilton, and Local 73 Bus. Mgr. Ken Brown also assisted. Overall, 37 members helped Local 112 contact nonunion

workers in our jurisdiction.

Int. Vice Pres. Michael S. Mowrey addressed the volunteers by phone. He discussed the value of talking to unrepresented workers and thanked all members. Prior to the event, with assistance from Local 76 Organizer Dave Conzatti, we identified 357 electrical workers in Benton and Franklin Counties who were not Local 112 mem-

bers. Following a “Member to Future Member” presentation by Prezeau, the “blitzers” knocked on the doors of 257 identified nonmembers.

Blitzers asked the nonunion to fill out a survey requesting information on their employers (benefits, wages, number of workplace employees, etc.) and asked if they would welcome a follow-up call from an IBEW organizer. The information was entered into a database for future campaigns and blitzes.

Local 112 was the final of five blitzes conducted in Washington in 2011. All were very successful. In total, we knocked on the doors of more than 1,000 nonunion workers and explained the advantages of a union. Volunteers enjoyed the experience and are ready for upcoming 2012 blitzes.

Joe Legard, Organizer

## Stand Up for Working People

L.U. 124 (ees,em,i,mar,rts,se&spa), KANSAS CITY, MO—The political winds are whipping up small embers of discontent among the working class into four-alarm fires across the nation. The only surprise to me is that it took so long. The working class has been under attack from the greedy “1 percenters.” The top 1 percent uses the Republican Party as their weapon of choice to attack our workplace safety, our rights, our pensions and our wages. All good members need to be behind this workers’ movement even if it is just a phone call to your elected representative. And to all members on the conservative side of the political fence, it is past time for you to dump the tea party, who only approve of government expenditures that end up in their pockets.

We remember recently deceased members: Wesley C. Cain, Chester C. Combs, Danny L. Meade, Harold L. Meadows, Harry A. Mills, Billy E.

Shanahan, Bruce M. Smith and Arthur E. Spinner. Congratulations to recently retired members: Thomas J. Gilchrist, Stephen L. McIlvene, Robin A. Marra, Timothy P. Maloney, Richard R. Reeves, Richard R. Reynolds, Gale L. Riley, Ronald Sweeney, Donald M. Sparks and Gary M. White.

Steve Morales, P.S.

## Tenaska Energy Center Project

L.U. 146 (ei,i&rts), DECATUR, IL—For several months we waited for some good news about the Tenaska Energy Center project. We are happy that the measure finally cleared the Illinois Senate. As of this writing, we now wait for the House, which had previously passed this legislation. This is finally one step closer in the right direction.

The Local 146 apprenticeship program has a new name—the Midwest Electrical Training Center in association with the IBEW and NECA. Under the direction of Training Dir. Jason Drake, we now have an improved hands-on training facility at the hall. All apprentices have been trained in OSHA, first aid and CPR. Fifth-year apprentices recently completed steward training.

We completed another successful outage at the Clinton Power Station in December. Thank you to brothers and sisters from across the country who made this possible. We look forward to 1CR14 in two years.

Congratulations to members who retired in 2011: Jim Perkins, Herb Berg, Fred Thomas, Dan Waite, Monte Thornton, Rick Willenborg, Randy Dalby, Lyn Harner, Dave Law, Mitch Garrett, Terry Camfield, Scott Corrington, Mike Burrus, Mike

Spracklen and Phil Green.

We remember members we lost in 2011: Joseph Dittamore, Darrell Rhodes, Mike Allen, Dominic Rigoni, Charles Weatherford, Jerry Chesnut, Robert Thompson, Lyle Thompson, Kenneth Hogge, Jim Current, Jim McKee Sr., Joseph Renfrow, Elwood Grissom and Bryan Kite. Their IBEW service made it possible for all of us to grow and prosper.

*Rich Underwood, R.S.*

## Plant Update Project Wraps Up

L.U. 158 (i,it,mar,mt&spa), GREEN BAY, WI—Local 158 is wrapping up work for an outage at one of our two nuclear plants, Point Beach Nuclear Plant. The outage was scheduled for approximately 60 days or so. We have been fortunate for all the upgrade work the plant has done in the last 2½ years; it has employed many local members as well as traveling brothers and sisters. We hope some other projects will go our way in 2012 to carry over the manpower from this job.

Referral Agent Ron Vercauteren and myself were delegates to the 38th International Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada in September. We thank the membership for allowing us to attend; it was an awesome city and experience. We thank the First District as well as host Local 213 for the great job they did. The people of Vancouver were warm and friendly and welcoming. Beautiful city indeed!

We are now operating out of our local's new office building. Things are going well. We have hosted many functions as well as held unlimited meetings. We have also had several training classes. We had an open house Aug. 26, 2011. Everyone, from members to retirees to travelers to nonmembers, is impressed with the place.

*Donald C. Allen, B.M.*



*Local 158 held an open house at its new building in August 2011.*

## Better Outlook for 2012

L.U. 164 (c,em,i,o&t), JERSEY CITY, NJ—At this writing, the Christmas season was upon us. Work in our area is slowly getting better, but our members have suffered terribly since the financial meltdown halted the economy in northern New Jersey in 2008. Bus. Mgr. Richard Dressel addressed the membership at the December union meeting/Christmas party, expressing his outlook for a much better 2012.

A few highlights have brightened some spirits in this season of giving. The Children's Christmas Party was held Sunday, Dec. 4. More than 300 members and their children had a joyous time. Every child visited with Santa and was entertained by Stretch the magician and costume characters. Local 164 has held a Children's Christmas Party for 50-plus years. The looks on the faces of the children when they see our hall magically turned into a win-



*Local 164 members and their families enjoy the festive Children's Christmas Party.*

ter wonderland is priceless. Many thanks go to Chairman Rich Paredes, his wife Nancy and the many volunteers who work so hard to create such a wonderfully magical day for our children.

God bless to all, good luck and prosperity in 2012.

*John M. DeBouter, Pres.*

## Holiday Season Meetings

L.U. 222 (o), ORLANDO, FL—Brothers and sisters, greetings from Local 222.

We kicked off the holiday season at our November meeting, with barbecue ribs and chicken, collard greens and baked beans. I believe if the pilgrims had made landfall south of Virginia, that's

probably what Thanksgiving would have looked like. Local 222's dispatcher and longtime member Fred Morgan was presented his 40-year service pin by Bus. Mgr. Mike Bell, and everyone had a good time.

Our December meeting had a little more traditional fare with American Legion Post 88 serving pot roast, mashed potatoes and fixings. We can't say enough about Post 88's hospitality—thank you.

As you are reading this in February, we hope that you had a great holiday season and that your new year is off to a prosperous start.

*Bill Hitt, Pres.*

## Officer Transitions

L.U. 234 (i&mt), CASTROVILLE, CA—We thank all IBEW members and officers who worked so diligently to make the 38th IBEW International Convention such a success. Additionally, we extend to Steve Ray our heartfelt, sincere congratulations and gratitude for his 15-plus years of service as our Ninth District International Representative.

At our September 2011 E-Board meeting, three officer positions underwent transitions. As Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill stated in his keynote convention address: "There are no cowards here,"—only dedicated members and officers all.

With both regret and pride we accepted the resignation of Ken Scherpinski as business manager/financial secretary; Bro. Scherpinski was tapped by Int. Vice Pres. Michael S. Mowrey to fill Steve Ray's vacated Ninth District International Representative position. The loss of Ken's steady hand is bittersweet and he will certainly be missed, but it is pleasing to know we are still under his ever-attentive service.

Andy Hartmann resigned as president and graciously accepted appointment as our youngest, yet supremely qualified, business manager/financial secretary. Mike Ihnot, with his many years of service, resigned as treasurer and was appointed president. Chris Burditt was appointed treasurer and will work for Andy as organizer.

We are pleased to commend these newly appointed officers. Local 234 clearly demonstrates its support for IBEW core values as we move strongly into the 21st century.

*Stephen Slovacek, P.S.*

## Prevailing in Central Oregon

L.U. 280 (c,ees,em,es,i,mo,mt,rts&st), SALEM, OR—The Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) released on Nov. 10, 2011, a report of 24 percent union market share for Central Oregon—and a deadline of Nov. 18, 2011, to voice any concerns regarding the numbers from their survey to determine if Local 280 scale and benefits will be the benchmark for Oregon Prevailing Wage. The last time that we prevailed in this region was in 2007. Bus. Mgr. Tim Frew was not going to sit still and let this happen without giving it his best to help us prevail! He called Rosendin Electric to find out if the company was included in the survey, and it was not. After contacting BOLI to find out if the bureau would include Rosendin Electric's hours, Tim then asked Mary Marshall, field payroll manager for Rosendin, if Rosendin could do the almost impossible and supply its hours to Local 280 to make the deadline in three days. Mary came through for us! Local 280 now prevails in market share throughout our jurisdiction.

A big thank-you goes to our excellent local union staff for all their hard work in fighting to make our regions prevail in union market share for Lane County last year and now Central Oregon!

*Jerry Fletcher, P.S.*

## 'Brotherhood Pulls Together'

L.U. 292 (em,govt,i,rtb,rts&spa), MINNEAPOLIS, MN—On Oct. 13 last year, Local 292 Bros. Ron Rajkowski and Craig Carlson tragically lost their lives while doing electrical road work in the Twin Cities metro. The outpouring of support by many locals throughout the USA and Canada has been outstanding, and we were able to hand the families many cards and checks. It is good to know that the Brotherhood really pulls together to help our families in need.

The fourth year of Holiday Lights in the Park was a big success, raising money for UnderConstruction, Union Gospel Mission, Second Harvest Heartland, and St. Paul Parks Recreation and Conservancy.

The IBEW 292 Children's Christmas Party, Retiree Christmas Party, and Members Christmas Party were all very well-attended and a boost to the local's morale. More than 800 members are still on the out-of-work book, with many of those traveling to other states for work; thank you to those locals for putting our brothers and sisters to work.

We are remodeling our offices in Minneapolis. This will improve our ability to support our members and we look forward to completion of the project in the second quarter of 2012.

*Carl Madsen, B.R.*

## Daniel James Quirk Remembered

L.U. 294 (ees,em,i,rts,spa&u), HIBBING, MN—Daniel Quirk was a former president of Local 294 and had taught at our apprenticeship school. For some time now, Dan had been fighting a long fight against a rare cancer of the thymus gland. The brothers of Local 294 participated in a spaghetti-feed fundraiser last April to help with his medical expenses. Dan passed away with family by his side on Tuesday evening, Nov. 22, 2011. His funeral was at St. Cecilia's Church in Nashwauk, MN, on Tuesday, Nov. 29. Dan was a very strong union supporter and will be greatly missed by his wife, Diane, family members and the Brotherhood of Local 294.

*Daniel Arvola, P.S.*

## 'Truly a Trade Unionist'

L.U. 302 (i,rts&spa), MARTINEZ, CA—Congratulations to former business manager Mike Yarbrough on his recent retirement after 42 years of service! Mike served as business manager from 1995 until 2011 and was elected to six terms as our business manager. Mike served as an assistant business manager from 1991-1995 and as an apprenticeship instructor from 1984-1995. Mike started his career in the IBEW as a temporary helper in 1968, was accepted into the apprenticeship in 1969 and turned out as a journeyman wireman in 1973. Mike is a proud veteran having served our country in the U.S. Navy. Throughout his career he exemplified the meaning of brotherhood and is truly a "trade unionist"! Local 302 wishes Mike and his wife, Bonnie, the best in their upcoming 5th wheel adventures! Enjoy your well-deserved retirement, brother!

In October 2011 we held our 10th Annual Ben Forfang Memorial Motorcycle Rally, which raises funds for children of deceased wiremen. We collected more than \$15,000 last year for the children we assist. That brings our 10-year total to more than \$105,000; we have helped 21 children with a nest egg! Thanks to all who contributed!

*Paul Doolittle, P.S.*

## Local Lines



Local 332 members and families volunteered their skills for a San Jose, CA, Christmas in the Park event.

### Linemen Restore Power

L.U. 304 (lctt,o&u), TOPEKA, KS—A Local 304 line crew was restoring power in the New England region when a resident in the area, K.P. Collins, approached crew foreman Richard Toledo wanting to express his gratitude for the work being performed in adverse conditions. Mr. Collins presented the crew with a handwritten thank-you note attached to a jacket cover from a book titled, “Medal of Honor, Portraits of Valor Beyond the Call of Duty.”

Written in the thank-you note was the following: “To the Linemen of Kansas: I revere the Medal of Honor. Today, watching you men work and realizing your sacrifice in being away from your families so you could light us fellow Americans here in New England, up out of the dark and cold, it seems to me that you men deserve to be recognized with the finest American fighting men. You men fought this disaster and won. I’ll remain forever grateful.—K.P. Collins”

(We would never rightfully accept an honor so great, as we in the line trade could never fill the shoes of the brave men and women who have received this award and who gave all on foreign soil. It is seldom that we get this kind of recognition and for that we say thanks).

Paul Lira, B.M.

### Stewardship Classes

L.U. 332 (c,ees,i&st), SAN JOSE, CA—Local 332 is experiencing a renewed interest in stewardship. Twenty-two members graduated from a steward’s class held in November, adding to 22 graduates from a February 2011 class. We are grateful for the time and energy our members are investing in learning how to improve our jobsites and protect our agreements.

Dozens of members pitched in at our 2011 Christmas in the Park volunteer event. Every year we decorate the trees at Cesar Chavez Park in downtown San Jose with lights and ornaments. We had excellent participation last year.

Recently we celebrated the contributions of some of our more-seasoned members at the annual “Old-Timer’s Night” dinner. In total, 139 years-of-service pins were awarded, including two 70-year pins.

A new class of 18 first-year residential apprentices began in 2011, and 61 first-year inside apprentices were accepted. Our apprentices are at full employment, with 206 inside wireman apprentices working in the jurisdiction.

Our Web site and Facebook page have seen

steady increases in regular visitors. Our members, both young and old, are becoming more connected through technology and social networking. This helps us get the word out about important issues facing our members at the local, state and national levels. Visit us on the Web at [www.ibew332.org](http://www.ibew332.org) and on Facebook by searching for “IBEW Local 332.”

David Bini, Organizer



Local 340 Bus. Mgr. A.C. Steelman (right) presents Bro. Ted Smith with a \$1,000 win from IBEW/NECA Operation Christmas Basket raffle.

### Members Give a Holiday Hand Up

L.U. 340 (i,rts&spa), SACRAMENTO, CA—Last year was a tough one for California workers. Our IBEW workers were not immune to this bleak work picture and money has been tight for many members—but at Christmas we really saw what “brotherhood” is all about. Every year we hold an Operation

Christmas Basket Drawing and sell tickets for prizes such as \$1,000 cash, a shotgun, lottery tickets, crab feed tickets, etc. Proceeds of the raffle go to help union members of all trades purchase food and toys for their children. The main winners of our drawing were: Bro. Ted Smith (who won \$1,000), Bro. Dwight Evans (who won a shotgun) and Bro. Michael Wilson (\$100 in lottery tickets).

Our office along with our LMCC held a Local Christmas Basket Drive where our members could donate toys, food and gift cards to our families who really needed the hand up. With items donated by the business office staff and members, we were able to help 14 families and 36 kids! Retired Bro. Herb Stone was the biggest supporter of our 2011 Christmas Drive with loads of toys, food and gift cards.

We mourn the recent passing of: Bros. Ray Carlson, Leon Chapman, Peter Gostovich, Al Sellards, John Winters, Dean Elbert, Jason Lowe and Carl Martin. Rest in peace, brothers.

A.C. Steelman, B.M.

### Member-to-Member Program

L.U. 364 (catv,ees,em,es,i,mt,rts&spa), ROCKFORD, IL—In December, the Local 364 Kids Christmas Party took place. Thanks to Bro. Patrick Tomlin for planning this very festive event for the children and grandchildren of IBEW members. Thanks to Bro. Ty Hillman (aka San”Ty” Clause) for flawlessly portraying old Saint Nick once again.

Also in December we held our annual membership Christmas Party following the regular union meeting. At the meeting members reaching certain years-of-service milestones received IBEW years-of-service pins and retirees received gold watches as a token of our local’s appreciation. Afterward there was a catered baked-ham dinner prepared by our banquet caterers, ABC Catering.

Primary election time is fast approaching. Our Member-To-Member program to get out the vote for union candidates is well under way. In these primaries it is so crucial that our members get as many family members and friends as they can to the polls to turn out the vote for friends of unionism and working families.

Local 364 leads other area unions with more than 98 percent of our members registered to vote. We also lead in the percentage of voters who show up and vote. It’s so important to vote for union friendly candidates.

Charlie Laskonis, B.A./Organizer



Local 388 members, a father and son, roasting pig for Local 388 picnic are: Michael Jensen (left) and Andrew Jensen.

### ‘Sharing Brotherhood’

L.U. 388 (em,i,rts&spa), STEVENS POINT, WI—IBEW Local 388 welcomes home member John Danczyk, who worked in Afghanistan for 13 months as a civilian contractor. John not only exemplifies what it means to be a proud IBEW member, but also a Marine who served his country in the first Gulf War. John experienced firsthand what it was like living in a combat zone and witnessing numerous attacks over the months working overseas. Days before leaving for home John came under a rocket attack that severely wounded an American soldier, and John himself suffered shrapnel wounds to his leg. John was nominated for the Defense of Freedom Medal for his actions not only on that day but also for his skills as an electrician and his job performance throughout his deployment.

Local 388’s picnic last September was a huge success thanks to the hard work of Robert Cyran and all the volunteers. Also, a big thank-you goes to the “Jensen Boys” for working so hard to provide us with a fine roasted pig. For those who have not attended in the past, this event is a great way to share some brotherhood and get reacquainted with retired members.

Guy LePage, P.S.

### Members Show Support

L.U. 412 (u), KANSAS CITY, MO—Local 412 members employed with KCP&L Hawthorn Station showed their support and/or honored those they’ve lost to breast cancer by wearing pink hard hats for the month of October 2011. [See photo below.]



Local 412 members wear pink hard hats to show support during October 2011 breast cancer campaign.

Employees contributed \$210 for donation to the American Cancer Society. Thank you to Renee Mosby, Hawthorn Generating Station facilitator, for contributing this article.

*Debi Kidwiler, P.S.*

## Members Appreciation Night

L.U. 424 (as,ees,em,es,i,mo,o,ptc,rtb,rts,spa&u), EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA—We recently held our annual Members Appreciation Night awards banquet honouring longtime members for their years of service in the advancement of the local.

Engraved gold watches and certificates were presented to retiring members: John Bell, Jim Calahoo, Dale Christianson, Abel Gallant, George Hyshka, Jerry Kalita, Leonard Lasek, Aubrey Marshall, Terry Merriman, Walter Nowicki, Rod Romano, Pietro Rosato, Ron Sanford, Ken Sieben, Kelsey Strong and Russ Taylor.

A special award went to Bro. Arthur Dowling (initiated in 1956), who received a 55-year pin. Before saying the “grace” Bro. Dowling treated the assembly to some interesting anecdotes of the local over the years.

Karl Geyer and Ed Strelaif received 50-year pins. Awarded 45-year pins were Paul Andruchow, Dale Danilak, Jack Grover, Helmer Høglund, Bill Luchak, Duncan McArthur, Al McConaghy, Terry Merriman, Gordon Ross, Clairence Schill, Sid Smale, Jerry Stepanko and Jack Weyenberg; 40-year pins—Ron Kormendy, Mike Olesik, Robert Peesker, Denis Roy, Stewart Smith, Don Spurgeon and Charlie Virtue; 35-year pins—Craig Beckwith, Mike Bundziak, Jack Cockerill, Ed Gagne, Brian Heaney, Harry Knol, Des Kucy, Robert Kucy, Eric Muiselaar and David Towers. Space limitations preclude listing the many 30- and 25-year award recipients. Congratulations to all.

The “new” retirees are invited to attend Edmonton & Calgary Retirees meetings. Dates and times are posted at [www.ibew424.net](http://www.ibew424.net).

*Dave Anderson, P.S.*



*Local 424 Bro. Arthur Dowling, a 55-year member, addresses Pin Ceremony.*

## Local 440 Gun Club

L.U. 440 (i,rt&spa), RIVERSIDE, CA—In observance and honor of the service men and women who have made the sacrifice to protect us, our rights and our country, a few members of Local 440 decided to exercise our right to bear arms and show appreciation, and not let our rights go to waste.

From this time forward Veterans Day 2011 will mark the inception of the Local 440 Gun Club, and we



*Local 440 members form a gun club.*

will honor Veterans Day as such annually from here on out. The goal is to get brothers and sisters active in their local! The truth of the matter is not every member cares enough to attend union meetings, but every member has a hobby—and if we can reach out to our membership with inventive ways, well we can also use those events as a conduit to promote brotherhood, craftsmanship, and most importantly unionism! If any Local 440 member reading this wants to participate, or has an idea about a club that you feel would benefit our local and this great Brotherhood, please contact the hall.

*Bernie J. Balland, Organizer*

## ‘We Do Make a Difference’

L.U. 456 (i&o), NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ—As this past year concluded, we kept in our thoughts our brothers who received their final “referral” during 2011. They include: retired members William Kohn, Aldrich Guscott, William O’Buck, Teddy Horuzak, James Brusca Sr., Carl Tyler, Stanley Locha, Andrew Browne, John “Nooker” Kolowitz, Edwin Gadek, Isidore “Izzy” Pawlowski and Arthur Zboyan. We also remember recently deceased active members: Glenn Thompson and Albert Cutter Sr. These brothers have completed their labors and it is now their time to rest.

Many thanks go to all who volunteered to help with all our activities in 2011—from the golf outing to our picnics and the outstanding children’s Christmas party.

Big congratulations to Local 456 Bus. Mgr. Joseph Egan for being re-elected as New Jersey state assemblyman. Bus. Mgr. Egan has served in the General Assembly since 2002. Thank you to all who voted and made sure their families came out to vote for working families. We do make a difference if we work together.

Attend meetings and be part of our future.

*Wayne Martiak, P.S.*

## Gaglione Family Celebrates 184 Years

L.U. 494 (em,i,mt,rt&spa), MILWAUKEE, WI—The Gaglione family has been building Milwaukee for two generations and has accrued 184 years of combined IBEW membership. Led by their father, Anthony “Tony” Gaglione (with 55 years of service), sons

Duane, Dan, Darrell and daughter-in-law Gerri combine for the remaining 129 years of IBEW affiliation.

As an apprentice in the 1950s, Anthony worked on the first remodeling of the Milwaukee Auditorium. Constructed in 1909, the auditorium has again been extensively remodeled and now houses the Milwaukee Theater. Tony’s other accomplishments include the remodeling of Milwaukee County Stadium in 1974 where he worked as a foreman overseeing wiring of what was then a state-of-the-art scoreboard. County Stadium was demolished in 2000 to make way for Miller Park.

Tony worked most of his career for Magaw Electric, Deitz Electric and later for Milwaukee County. However, Tony’s most impressive electrical accomplishments lie in his offspring. Duane has been a proud member of IBEW Local 494 for 33 years. Dan, Darrell and Gerri have been proud members of Local 2150 for 33, 33, and 30 years, respectively. Thanks, Tony, for your longtime service to the IBEW and we wish you the best.

*Daniel Large, B.M.*

## Service Pins Awarded

L.U. 520 (i&spa), AUSTIN, TX—In October 2011 we held our annual local union picnic. Everyone had a great time. At the picnic years-of-service pins were awarded to the following: for 50 years of service—Ira “Mac” Parks; for 55 years’ service—Roy Mangleburger, Ernest D. Ragland; for 60 years—J.J. “Jack” Galbreath, Floyd



*The Gaglione family celebrates its longtime IBEW service.*



*Local 520 Bus. Mgr. Chris Wagner (left) presents Omar Schulz with his 65-year pin and plaque.*

D. Hopkins, Walter E. Johnson, Raymond L. Kieke, James L. Milstead, Lambert A. Raatz; and for 65 years—Nolan E. House and Omar A. Schulz. Congratulations to all the pin recipients.

Work remains slow with prospects looking to pick up in 2012.

*Lane Price, Pres.*

## Sarnia Local Gives Back

L.U. 530 (i,o&rtb), SARNIA, ONTARIO, CANADA—Local 530 held our annual Children’s Christmas Party Dec. 4. This event saw members, their wives and children enjoy an afternoon of skating followed by Santa Claus stopping in with gifts for all the kids.

Our local recently donated and erected a new scoreboard at Norm Perry Memorial Field. The new scoreboard measures 26 x 19 feet and will provide the start to much needed updates and advancement the city has planned for this location. Thank you to all the members and contractors who provided tools, manpower and time to make this project a success.

Dec. 6 saw Local 530 honor Bro. William “Bill” Lusk with his 65-year service pin. Bill was indentured Dec. 6, 1946, so this honor was given to him 65 years to the day.

At this writing during the Christmas season, once again Local 530 is giving back. Non-perishable goods have been collected at our hall for donation to the Inn of the Good Shepherd for the less fortunate.

With the work picture slow, Local 530 thanks Barrie Local 1739, Sudbury Local 1687, and Regina Local 2038 for employment opportunities.

Local 530 is saddened by the recent passing of Bro. Bud Parsons.

*Al Byers, P.S.*

## ‘Work Picture Holding Well’

L.U. 558 (catv,em,i,mt,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), SHEFFIELD, AL—Greetings, brothers and sisters. I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season.

At this writing, work in Local 558’s jurisdiction is holding well. We have managed to put a few travelers to work as well.

Local Lines

I wish to thank all members who worked on our float for the Christmas parades last year. The float was a great success, winning a variety of prizes in the participating cities.

We congratulate all of our members who received years-of-service pins.

Keep in your prayers members lost in 2011.

Mac Sloan, Mbr. Dev.



Local 570 pays tribute to the memory of two young members.

2011 Projects in Tucson

L.U. 570 (i,mo,spa&u), TUCSON, AZ—As we look back on 2011, Local 570 was fortunate to have picked up some larger jobs that put a good number of local members and traveling brothers and sisters to work through the year. Highlights included Rosendin Electric's 10-plus story Unisource building downtown and Conti's first phase of the First Solar, Agua Caliente, 290-megawatt solar photovoltaic generating facility in Dateland, AZ.

However, along with the improved work picture came tragedy. Aaron "Big Red" Roger and Avram Levi Real were involved in a fatal car accident Oct. 20 on their way to work in Dateland, AZ. A foreman, Aaron was age 28. Avram was a fifth-year apprentice and 29 years old. Local 570 and all the IBEW members on



Local 586 Pres. Doug Parsons (center) congratulates six 50-year pin award recipients. From left are: Fredrick Gustafson, Ernst Poehlmann, Henry Veilleux, Parsons, Wolfgang Holz, Horst Matthiesen and Kevin Birmingham.

that job were deeply saddened and will miss our young members. The prayers, support and generosity shown by local members—as well as by very many traveling brothers and sisters, local unions, Conti Electric, First Solar and several other employers—was greatly appreciated by the grieving families. Local 570 thanks everyone for your incredible caring and brotherhood following this tragic loss.

Scott W. Toot, Organizer

Holiday Party & Awards

L.U. 586 (em,i&o), OTTAWA, ONTARIO, CANADA—Our annual Christmas party was held at the Hampton Inn, where 300 celebrated a wonderful evening, dancing, dining and winning prizes. The 50-year membership awards from the I.O. were given to eligible members who could attend. Great to see you, brothers. It was a fitting and happy ending to another year that has seen our local growing and thriving under the direction of our Bus. Mgr. James Barry and his diligent organizers and office staff.

There will be more about them later in the new year. Yours in brotherhood.

Doug Parsons, Pres.

IBEW Fathers & Sons

L.U. 606 (em,es,i,rb,spa&u), ORLANDO, FL—At a recent general meeting, Bus. Mgr. Bob Carr gave several IBEW membership certificates to fathers and sons. Bro. Charlie Durrance received a 55-year certificate, while his son Robbie Durrance received a 30-year certificate. Bro. Calvin Giles received a 50-year certificate, while his son David Giles received a 25-year certificate. And Bro. Cliff Gilmore received his 45-year certificate, while his son Cliff Jr. received a 30-year certificate. Another special moment occurred during the meeting when Scotty Peterson, a second-year apprentice, was sworn in for membership—while his father, Pete Peterson, a 40-year member, and his brother Tony Peterson, a 12-year member of the IBEW, watched.

With deepest regret we report the passing of Bros. Frank Harrington, Phil Jackson and Harry Brown. Our sincere sympathy goes to their families.

Our next article will be dedicated to the memory of our late former business manager Bro. Harry C. Brown, for his longtime service to Local 606 and the IBEW. Bro. Brown passed away Nov. 17 last year.

Janet D. Skipper, P.S.

Great Fellowship

L.U. 648 (em,i,spa&u), HAMILTON, OH—Local 648 would like to wish everyone a happy new year in 2012 and hope for full employment for all our fellow brothers and sisters of the IBEW.

The Kid's Christmas and the Retiree's Christmas parties were a huge success last year. Both were well-attended and everyone enjoyed the great fellowship during the holidays.

Local 648 thanks all the traveling brothers and sisters for helping to complete our projects on time and under budget this past year.

Local 648 mourns the loss of the following brothers who passed away last year: Elijah Minor, Jeff Brown, Andy Andrews and Pete Arno. May God bless these brothers, their families and friends.

Jeff McGuffey, P.S.

Groundbreaking Ceremony

L.U. 666 (i,mt&o), RICHMOND, VA—We had a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Grover W. Wiley meeting hall Oct. 14 last year. This new 10,000 square-foot, multi-purpose facility will have a meeting hall, training rooms, and two solar PV arrays totaling 25 Kw. The hall is expected to be completed July 1, 2012. Grover W. Wiley was our business manager from 1946 to 1976.

Work in our jurisdiction should improve in early 2012 with the new data center in Henrico and a few other projects. Thanks to all the locals that have helped provide work opportunities for our brothers and sisters in these hard times.

Congratulations to Bros. Ronald C. Lecarpentier and Jimmy R. Pollard, who recently retired.

We recently voted to merge our credit union with the Hopewell Chemical FCU to provide better service and options to our members. There is more information on our Web site [www.ibewlocal666.com](http://www.ibewlocal666.com) in the announcements section.

I encourage everyone to attend union meetings regularly and if you are not registered to vote, please do it!

Charles Skelly, P.S.

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

**IBEW**  
www.ibewmerchandise.com  
**MERCHANDISE**

BROTHERHOOD BEYOND BORDERS



SEPTEMBER 19-23, 2011 VANCOUVER, BC



\$7.25

Convention Money Clip

Handcrafted aluminum money clip with IBEW 38th Convention logo. Made by Wendell August. Measures 1 3/4" x 2 1/8".



\$37.00

Convention Pullover Windshirt

100% cotton v-neck pullover windshirt with heavy polyester lining. 38th Convention logo embroidered in gold. (Limited Sizes Available)



\$20.00

Convention Pocket Knife

3" brass lockback knife includes custom IBEW 38th Convention commemorative decorations on front and back of handle.

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

Report from Wyoming

L.U. 612 (u), WHEATLAND, WY—We hosted our annual Christmas party Dec. 17 last year for all the kids. Thanks to everyone who participated and helped make it a great success.

Our local has 258 members, seven "Freddys" (nonmembers who nevertheless enjoy the benefits of a union contract) and 12 new members added just recently. At this writing, we were scheduled to start negotiations in December 2011/January 2012.

We have a steady flow of retirees, which leaves a void in skill and knowledge walking out the door, but we will persevere through the education and training of our brotherhood, with the help of our fellow Wyoming Local 322 JATC apprenticeship program. We have also been working hand in hand with Local 415 helping them organize and get a first contract at Dry Forks station in Gillette, WY.

On behalf of our local, I was pleased to attend the IBEW 38th International Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia, and was impressed and proud to be a member of the IBEW.

William Allison, B.M./Pres.



Attending groundbreaking for new Grover W. Wiley meeting hall are: Local 666 Bus. Mgr. James H. Underwood and Mary Wiley Goins, daughter of Grover W. Wiley.

## Century Mark Achieved

L.U. 704 (catv,em&i), DUBUQUE, IA—On Nov. 19 last year, Local 704 celebrated its 100th anniversary. At the historic Hotel Julien, members gathered with local and International officials and other guests to mark this milestone.

Bus. Mgr. Tom Townsend and Pres. Dave Wilson introduced the presentations. Presenters included Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill, Int. Sec.-Treas. Salvatore J. Chilia, Int. Vice Pres. Curtis E. Henke, state Rep. Chuck Isenhardt and Dubuque Mayor Roy Buol. Their messages of congratulations also contained stories of tough times experienced by our organization. The local has survived and continues to work to improve the lives of its membership.

We are all members: apprentices, journeymen, manufacturing workers, retirees and officers in our union halls. Working together as a local, we strive to achieve common goals: maintaining and improving the standard of living for all!

Former 704 president Gary Freiburger highlighted some of the family names that produced generations of Local 704 members. Names such as Eichman, Frommelt, Sisler, Willging and Wirzbach were recognized.

A commemorative booklet, sponsored by Local 704 supporters, and a historic artifacts display were created by the Planning Committee. Committee members included: Tom Ellwanger, Dale Maas, Bill Eichman, Jim Willging, Carl Weimerskirch, Tyler Weimerskirch, Harry Noesges, Sean Leppert, Dan Hammel, Dave Wilson, Bob Wirzbach, Tom Wirzbach, Dan Hughes, Carl Oppelt, Ron Mueller and Shelly Freiburger.

*Ron Heitzman, P.S.*

## Centennial Celebration

L.U. 716 (em,i,lctt,rts&spa), HOUSTON, TX—Greetings. I hope all had a happy holiday season and a safe New Year's celebration.

In Houston our work situation is still slow, but we do have good expectations for work to break in the spring.

Thanks to all the members who donated their time to help with the children's and adult's Christmas parties. Also, thanks to the Watt Women for providing refreshments at the December union meeting.

In March, we will participate in the Houston St. Patrick's Day parade to defend our title as the Green Derby winner of 2011.

On March 12, Local 716 is turning 100 years old! Starting on March 10–12, Local 716 will host several events to celebrate the 100 year anniversary of its charter with the IBEW. We continue our commitment to provide quality craftsmanship to the electrical industry in Houston, and the surrounding areas of our jurisdiction, for the next 100 years. We are proud to have the opportunity to put on such a monumental and special occasion for our members, retirees, friends and families.

Special thanks to the Centennial Celebration Committee, chaired by Local 716 Vice Pres. E. Dale Wortham, and the work of the numerous subcommittees to pull of this great celebration.

*John E. Easton Jr., B.M./F.S.*



*Contractor Kipp Gardner (left) and Local 756 journeyman Leon Brown on the construction jobsite at Daytona Flexible Packaging plant.*

## Daytona Beach Project

L.U. 756 (es&i), DAYTONA BEACH, FL—Local 756 has been involved in a unique project not common in the jurisdiction of Daytona Beach. Kipp Gardner, owner of Sterling & Associates, a longtime and second-generation signatory contractor, has been working for more than a year with the company Daytona Flexible Packaging. This company invented the "Capri Sun" style beverage pouch and is expanding the plant to include multiple types of premixed beverage packaging.

This project required stainless steel conduit and Class 1 explosion-proof wiring methods. The new system is designed to run 24/7 and has 75 control and monitoring devices and 29 motors all tied into a centrally located control panel. The project was finished months in advance of expected completion. Seven journeyman wiremen and three apprentices exhibited excellent craftsmanship and brought the job in early.

A second phase of expansion with another "clean room" is in the planning stages, and Sterling & Associates and its IBEW crew will be ready to perform at a high level of craftsmanship. A success for our members, our contractors and a new local customer within our jurisdiction—kudos to all involved.

The Local 756 annual Kids Christmas Party was Dec. 3. Bro. Buddy Hart and his wife, Kathy, dressed as Santa and Mrs. Claus and presented gifts to all the children. Special thanks to office manager Candace Hampton for handling party details.

May the IBEW and all working Americans have a safe, prosperous new year.

*Daniel Hunt, P.S.*

## Awesome Brotherhood

L.U. 776 (i,o,rts&spa), CHARLESTON, SC—At this writing, work has started to slow down for the holidays. Local 776 thanks all the traveling brothers and sisters who came to help us while we were blessed with some much needed jobs. We look forward to 2012 and the growth it will bring.

Congratulations to Int. Pres. Edwin P. Hill, Int. Sec.-Treas. Salvatore J. Chilia, Int. Vice Pres. Robert P. Klein, and IEC member William W. Riley on their re-election at the IBEW 38th International Convention. The "Brotherhood Beyond Borders" theme there was right on cue and it was awesome to be a part of it.

Now is the time to really work hard on the upcoming November 2012 election. We can't afford to lose.

*Chuck Moore, B.M.*

## 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

L.U. 910 (ees,i&t), WATERTOWN, NY—The local's 75th anniversary celebration in September 2011 was a great success. Approximately 180 people attended and all had a great time. Area politicians and our International Representatives were among those present, along with several business managers from across the state of New York and from Pennsylvania. Local 910 was presented with two New York State Assembly citations by Assembly members Addie J. Russell and Ken Blankenbush.

The local thanks the Anniversary Planning Committee and the staff at the Edgewood Resort for an excellent celebration. Thanks to Bro. John Michael and his band for the evening's entertainment. We also thank our supporters who purchased ad space in our program or donated for the door prize.

Local 910 members marched in the 2011 Solidarity Parade in Massena. Several members and retirees braved threatening weather to represent the local. Our local placed third in the parade judging. Thanks to all who participated. It did not rain on our parade!

Retired 69-year member Horace Smith celebrated his 90th birthday at the picnic in Spring Park after the parade. Three retired local union presidents (Reggie Mott, John Rankin and Gary Grill) also attended to help Horace usher in his ninth decade.

*Roger LaPlatney, P.S.*

## 60-Year Service Award

L.U. 956 (mo), ESPANOLA, ONTARIO, CANADA—Local 956 Pres./Bus. Mgr. Doug Kaattari recently presented longtime member Johnny Savicky with his 60-year service pin and certificate. Johnny retired in 1991 and he and his wife, Cecile, are still enjoying retirement in their home in Espanola.



*Local 956 Pres./Bus. Mgr. Doug Kaattari (left) presents service award to retired member Johnny Savicky.*

Congratulations, Johnny, and many more healthy years to come! Johnny will be 86 in June.

*Doug Kaattari, B.M./Pres.*

## Scholarship Awarded

L.U. 1066 (u), DAYTONA BEACH, FL—Members of Local 1066 congratulate Sarah Tolbert, daughter of member Bro. Randy Tolbert, on winning the annual Local 1066 scholarship award. The award was started in 2008 and each year our active and retired members' children or grandchildren are eligible to compete for the award.

We also congratulate and honor David Livingston, Cavin Michaud, Rick Barnett and Jesse Ferguson for their service to the IBEW throughout their careers. These gentlemen have decided to retire. They will be missed.

*Mario Menir, B.M.*



*Local 1066 scholarship award recipient Sarah Tolbert.*

## 2012 Outlook

L.U. 1116 (em,lctt&u), TUCSON, AZ—Our local was fortunate to see our younger members step up during 2011. Hopefully, 2012 will be no different with our young work force entering apprenticeship programs in Relay/Communications, Substations, Line Construction, Heavy Equipment Operators, Designers, Automotive, Power Production to CSR, Meter Readers and Line Locators. It's a whole new



*Trico Chmn. John Dungan hangs up the Local 1116 banner for the October 2011 picnic, enjoyed by union members and their families.*

## Local Lines

wave and it's union workers making it that way. The labor movement made this country strong at one time and history usually repeats itself.

Our Trico Electric ratification vote is this month, then on to UNS Gas and both TEP Tucson and Springerville contracts. Organizing at this time is very important as our bargaining strength is only as strong as our membership. Bro. Jace Eckenrod, our Volunteer Organizing Committee chairman, is coordinating our internal organizing efforts along with Bro. Eric Reed (political efforts) and Sister Jessica Reyes (Young Union Activists). We must all work together to organize our co-workers who have not been invited or have not understood how important it is to be one of the voices heard by our employers and by our government officials.



Local 1944 members at New Castle thank a U.S. veteran. From left, front row, veteran William Weber, Johnna Thompson, Mary Lou Lane; back row, Deb Fork, Kathy Gierlach, Tom Lane, Dawn Bartley and Cindy Wolfe.

R. Cavaletto, P.S.

### 'True Solidarity Among Workers'

L.U. 1466 (u), COLUMBUS, OH—IBEW Local 1466 thanks everyone who took the time to help defeat Gov. John Kasich's anti-union bill by voting no on Issue 2 on Nov. 8 last year. By working together with our union brothers and sisters across the Buckeye State, we showed that there is true solidarity among workers in the Ohio labor movement.

In other news, the membership voted at the November monthly meetings to have the inside of our union hall renovated. This was in discussion for the few months prior to the vote and was approved with a solid majority. The improvements were much needed and will make sure our members have a nice hall to enjoy for years to come.

Finally, we hope that everyone had a nice holiday and a happy, safe New Year's. Let's make sure we continue to look out for one another going into 2012.

Jimi Jette, P.S.

### Local Gives Back

L.U. 1944 (t), PHILADELPHIA, PA—IBEW Local 1944 gives back to the veterans who have served our country. The New Castle office got together and decided it was time to give back to someone who gave so much to us. Everyone donated for this veteran and his family to have a nice Thanksgiving. This

is just the beginning for us. We would like to continue the practice for years to come. Unions have always supported working people and those who make a difference in the lives of our loved ones.

In the accompanying photo are Local 1944 New Castle members joined by veteran William Weber. Our motto is: "It feels good to give."

Mary Lou Lane, Pres./B.M.

### Contracts Negotiated

L.U. 2286 (em,mar,mo,o,rtb&u), BEAUMONT, TX—Our membership celebrated an open house on Saturday, Oct. 28, last year at our new union hall. Several members attended with their families, as well as special guests Seventh District Int. Vice Pres. Jonathan B. Gardner, Int. Rep. George Crawford, Lead Organizer Kitty Prouse, Local 479 Bus. Mgr. David Gonzales and Local 66 Bus. Mgr. Greg Lucero.

Local 2286 Bus. Mgr. Clinton Trahan and Local 2286 Pres. Mike LaVergne have successfully led negotiations for four contracts simultaneously and with the hard work and dedication of our committees reached the best deals possible. Through the power of collective bargaining, we made a change in a system-wide policy already in place for non-bargaining employees that protects our vacation if we become ill or injured.

Asst. Bus. Mgr. Johnny Wilson notified the membership the negotiations with the outside contractors came to an impasse. They met with the CIR in Washington, D.C., during the August session, which resulted in a two-year agreement with a 3 percent increase in the second year. Work looks good throughout the next year.

We congratulate Bro. John Baker on his election as a vice president of the Texas AFL-CIO.

Mona Mack, P.S.



Attending Local 2286's open house at the new union hall are IBEW International and local union officers, guests and members.

## Retirees

### Guest Speakers & Holiday Party

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 1, ST. LOUIS, MO—Local 1 retirees held their final meeting for 2011 on Nov. 16, with the usual order of business. Local 1 Bus. Rep. Rob Dussold addressed the group and spoke of current work conditions and future prospects for employment of our members. Another guest speaker, an attorney with expertise on lung disease, also gave an informative presentation; he suggested some retirees may have legal options if tests show lung problems, possibly caused by jobsite conditions. Retirees enjoyed lunch and camaraderie after the meeting.

On Dec. 7, the Retirees Ladies Auxiliary hosted our annual Christmas party. All had a great time and fun activities included: Pot-of-Gold, craft sales, etc. The new caterer served a great meal. The ladies presented the local, represented by Bus. Mgr. Greg Booth, a check for \$4,000 to be used by the Relief Committee for our members in need. These ladies command our greatest respect and admiration for their many contributions to Local 1 and its retirees. We salute Jane Mitchell, Barb Moonier, Shirley Missey, Virginia Pagano, Mary Lou Bohn, Joan Germer, Marie Donnegan, Leverage Heghef and all other volunteers who make our organization work.

We extend greetings to all IBEW members, with high hopes the new year will bring God's blessings on us all.

Meetings in 2012: March 21, May 16, July 18, Sept. 19 (luncheon) and Nov. 21.

Don Appelbaum, P.S.

### Holiday Party & Food Drive

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, LONG ISLAND-SUFFOLK CHAPTER—On Dec. 15, 2011, our chapter had its Annual Holiday Party at the Meadow Club in Port Jefferson Station. It was a huge success and all had a wonderful time. Attendees enjoyed great food, wine and music as well as a raffle. I didn't win, however, there is always next year. The most important thing was that there were lots of good friends to share the holiday spirit with.

Our Annual Food Drive was a great success due to the wonderful support by our members, and we donated 300 pounds of food to Long Island Cares. This organization distributes the donations to food pantries all over Long Island.

We are currently planning our meetings and upcoming events for the year ahead. On behalf of the officers and members of our chapter, we wish our brothers and sisters and their families a very happy and healthy new year.

Harvey Goldman, P.S.

### Christmas/Hanukkah Luncheon

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, WESTCHESTER/PUTNAM CHAPTER—On Dec. 13, 2011, our annual Christmas/Hanukkah luncheon was held at Travelers Rest, in Ossining, NY. More than 125 members and guests attended.

This day included the recognition of 28 Gold Members, at least 80 years of age, who received certificates showing the chapter's appreciation for their service. Local 3 Asst. Bus. Mgr. Paul Ryan and Chapter Chmn. Dominic Pironti presented the certificates. Honorees were: Thomas Antetomaso, William Arnold, William Baer, David Brown, Rudolph Cassano, Renalto Chirles, Edward Dobson, Newman Dunleavy, Eugene Fox, Sol Gibbons, Arthur Glatz, George Harsch, Willam Krell, Louis Lehmann, Joseph Marino, Walter McAlpin, Daniel Mecca, Frank Picerni, William Robertson, Edward Rubow, Joseph Scaringi, David Shiff, Donald Taylor, Howard Tobias, Gene Vetrano, Nicholas Victore, Edward Wall and Henry Wanser.

A holiday cookbook was presented to the ladies, as a gift, for their help and support in attending our functions.

Our new chapter banner was unveiled at the luncheon. The banner, which carries the IBEW logo and our chapter name, is representative of our continued dedication to Local 3. It will be proudly displayed at our chapter meetings and Local 3 functions.

Holiday luncheon attendees also enjoyed music by musicians from Locals 38 and 398.

John Rich, P.S.  
Robert J. Cuneo, P.S.



Local 3, Westchester/Putnam Chapter, Retirees Club Chmn. Dominic Pironti (left) and Local 3 Bus. Rep. Paul Ryan at holiday luncheon.

### 'Travels Continue in 2012'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 26, WASHINGTON, DC—In January 2012, the club raised its membership fee for the first time in many years to \$15 a year per person. Our membership is open to any IBEW member over 50 years of age. We do not require that you



Local 26 retirees and guests attend December holiday party.

already be retired and hope that you will begin to participate before that wonderful day arrives. You may send your dues directly to our treasurer, James Handley, 4933 West Chalk Point Road, West River, MD 20778-2211. Please include your e-mail address.

Our travels continue in 2012. If you wish to join our bus and ship trips, please contact Vice Pres. Rick Warner, our travel coordinator, at (240) 472-0438. He can sign you up for particular trips, before they are sold out! Remember, our trips are open to any IBEW member or their family.

In December, we held our annual holiday party and attendance was the best on record! We hope that continues as we progress in 2012. Thankfully, we were able to randomly give many of the poinsettia decorations to attendees.

With 2012 will come local and national elections, and we urge all to be active participants in the process. Our union needs our support, in body and spirit, to make certain the future is brighter for all members.

*Susan Flashman, P.S.*

## Festive 2011 Holiday Party

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 58, DETROIT, MI—Happy New Year! Our festive Christmas party saw 173 in attendance, attired in their finest. Although we get together almost monthly, the Christmas and Pin Parties bring out the best in our local.

Former school instructor Fred Schroeder and wife Gerry were among attendees. Fred taught at the apprentice school in the 1970s and later was business representative for the Port Huron area. Bob Adams and his wife attended; Bob expounded on the upcoming golf season. Mike “Slugger” Mclean and his brother Frank attended with their spouses. I believe Slugger is one of the last legends in the local. Bus. Mgr. Joe Abdo addressed the gathering. With the difficult work picture and slow economy of the last six years, we gave him thumbs up for the job he has done for our members.

We thank Barbara McNamara and Mary Schoeninger for their final touches on the Christmas tree. Thanks also to the brothers who helped decorate the hall and set up tables—John Ahern, Mike Hogan, Danny Bott, Charlie Mott, Dick Schoeninger, Ray Owen, Dennis McCann, Al Erickson and Frank Demers.

Speaking of “last of the local legends,” I just learned of the loss of a great IBEW wireman. John Miney went on to the last wire-pull in the sky on Dec. 17, 2011. John’s name could be seen on many jobsites in the USA, in the hull of a passing ship or even on a railroad caboose. He was a terrific wireman and wonderful union man. Take care of yourself, Mineroo. There will never be another like you.

*Frank A. Maisano, P.S.*

## ‘Wounded Warriors’ Project

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 60, SAN ANTONIO, TX—As a special project the Local 60 Retirees Club had the great honor of collecting personal items for distribution among the Wounded Warriors at Fort Sam Houston. A special thank-you goes to retired Bro. Buddy Swenson and his wife, Leora, and to retired Bro. Gene Chamberlain and his wife, Marilyn, for transporting the items to Fort Sam Houston.

Our Retirees Club’s Thanksgiving luncheon last year was a big success. Thanks to everyone who attended and helped make it a memorable occasion. The food was plentiful and exceptional!

Everyone had a great time.

The Retirees Club meets the second Thursday of every month, 12 noon, at the Plumbers and Pipefitters Training Bldg., 3630 Belgium Lane. All Local 60 retired members are invited to join our club. A short meeting starts at 12 noon, followed by good food—and of course we cannot forget to add all the fun playing bingo. Your favorite side dish or dessert is welcomed. Please attend one of our upcoming meetings.

*Sandy Rogers, P.S.*

## Local 103 Retirees Luncheon

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 103, BOSTON, MA—At this writing, the holiday season was quickly approaching. We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday.

Shown below is a picture of our most recent luncheon with approximately 140 Local 103 retirees attending. It was an enjoyable day and as usual there were plenty of conversations and friendly stories exchanged about experiences of the past. The luncheons are usually the third Thursday of each month. Members of the Retirees Club receive a mailing for upcoming events so if you have not joined the club, you should do so now.

Unfortunately, due to the present times with unemployment and the rising cost of health care, the Health and Welfare plan is undergoing numerous changes which affect us all and allow the plan to continue serving us.

*R.E. Leary, P.S.*



*Boston Local 103 Retirees Club members attend a luncheon.*

## Holiday Party & Bus Trip

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 130, NEW ORLEANS, LA—At our Christmas party on Dec. 14 last year, we had 103 in attendance. MeMe’s New Orleans Café catered our party and everyone enjoyed the food. Everyone enjoyed the 50/50 and parade of prizes. Buddy Carver also attended the party after his dialysis.

The club commended Harry “Buddy” Carver and George Clesi for a job well-done for the past 18 years.

Again this year, we had music by disc jockey Mark Sanders. He played from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. and everyone enjoyed the music and hospitality. We congratulate Bro. Chad Lauga on a job well-done. Maybe next time, Chad.

After parting the night before, 45 of us took a bus trip to the Silver Slipper Casino on Thursday, Dec. 15.

With deep regret we lost the following brothers: Alfred C. Deubler, Irvin C. Deubler Sr., Camile L. Duvieilh Jr. and Richard F. Salathe. May their souls rest in peace.

Until our next meeting, God bless America.

*George Clesi, Pres.*



*Local 134 Retirees Club Pres. Mario Culatta (left), Board member Louis Rodriguez and Vice Pres. Richard Sipple.*

## Annual Benefit Fair Booth

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 134, CHICAGO, IL—Our Retirees Club received an invitation from Local 134 to have an exhibit table at the Annual Benefit Fair. Approximately 30 booths exhibited for a wide range of interests, including: flu shots, health and welfare, vision, Illinois Driver license ID card, retirement financial planning, and most popular—popcorn and cold drinks. Space doesn’t permit listing all the booths, but they were all well-done and informative. Each booth had representatives to answer questions. Our Retirees Club is fortunate to have support and backing from the business manager on down. Our booth was a great success with many folks stopping by. We have a picture of our booth, and we thank Gerry

White for all she does to promote our club.

We have a new board member, Tom Bohn; he will fill the vacant seat of Leonard Eggert, who is ill. We wish you a speedy recovery, Len.

Come to the meetings. There are no strangers at Local 134, only friends you haven’t yet met!

Welcome to all Local 134 retirees. Noon to 1 p.m. is

Greet & Meet time at club meetings, held the second Wednesday of each month. The regular meeting continues until 2:30 p.m. at the union hall, 600 W. Washington St.

*Louis Rodriguez, P.S.*

## Trips & Special Events

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 150, WAUKEGAN, IL—We had a nice 2011 summer season. We attended the Racine Theatre and Lake County Museum. We also had a day trip to The Ten Chimneys Estate, which was the country home of Albert Lunt and Lynn Fontanne. We had our annual trip to White Pines State Park for lunch, play, dinner and overnight stay and breakfast. The state park trip is always a fun time for us as we enjoy the evening under the stars, around the campfire.

The club also participated in the 2011 Labor Day parade in Zion. There were seven of us on the float. In lieu of a meeting in September, we held our annual potluck picnic at Holst’s.

Our Christmas trip was to the Fireside Theatre. We enjoyed the very special Christmas presentation. We ended our year with a Christmas luncheon at Dover Straits restaurant.

On Dec. 4, we put on the local’s annual

Christmas party for children of the members. The children enjoyed face painting, balloon figures, a magician, gifts and goodies.

We invite all retired members to join us the second Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. at the union hall. We have a short meeting, refreshments and conversation. We truly need new and younger members.

*Diane Holst, Sec.*

## Party & Politics

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 212, CINCINNATI, OH—On Dec. 7 last year, approximately 260 guests and club members gathered for a party. We enjoyed a great meal, drinks, games, door prizes, and reminiscing about the old-timers of our youth only to realize we are now the old-timers ourselves. It was great to see several of our members who are experiencing health problems in attendance and enjoying the day. Continue to remember them in your prayers.

Upcoming primary election voting dates to remember: Ohio—March 6; Indiana—May 8; Kentucky—May 22. Politicians determine winners and losers. Our quality of life could be jeopardized because we fail to support candidates sympathetic to our cause. It is important to the IBEW and to our local to have friends of labor elected to positions of influence in our government. The “Citizen United” decision opened the floodgates of unregulated and untraceable corporate money to buy our democracy—campaign funding on steroids. Our friends need our financial help now more than ever. Be American, buy American; be union, buy union; support those who support us and use our partner contractors to employ our members. Get involved before it’s too late.

*Bob Schaefer, P.S.*

## December Holiday Luncheon

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 257, JEFFERSON CITY, MO—The Retirees Club met for their Christmas luncheon/meeting on Dec. 13 last year at Local 257’s building in Jefferson City, MO. We thank Local 257 for their hospitality again this year. The food was enjoyed and appreciated by all. We appreciate all that Local 257 does for us throughout the year. Also, we thank Juanita Fischer for all the Christmas decorations, Betty Nichols for providing the music, and Charlotte Baxter and Bill Lang for leading the singing of the Christmas carols. In addition, we thank Pres. Jerry Rehagen for all the great work he does all year long on behalf of the Retirees Club.

Christmas money collected by our retirees group was added to monies from Local 257 and given to the Joplin Tornado Relief Fund, which dis-

## IBEW MEDIA WORLD

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

### www.ibew.org

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

### Facebook

More than a million users have viewed the IBEW's Facebook page—have you? Connect with the IBEW at [www.facebook.com/ibewfb](http://www.facebook.com/ibewfb) and join the discussion.

### YouTube

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

### HourPower

See Klein's 3100 Hook Meter and new voltage meter in action in our latest IBEW Hour Power Job tips, only on [www.IBEWHourPower.com!](http://www.IBEWHourPower.com)



### ElectricTV

Southern Contracting and IBEW 569 have created a way to pump up San Diego revenues with their newest project. Check it out on [electricTV.net!](http://electricTV.net)



## Retirees



Local 257 retiree members enjoy a Christmas luncheon.

tributed funds collected among 16 IBEW members who lost their homes.

On a more somber note, we were sorry to lose Mrs. Sandra Gallatin. Our thoughts and prayers are with Joe Gallatin Jr. and his family.

Hope everyone had a merry Christmas and happy New Year's. See you in 2012.

*Delores Melloway, P.S.*

### Christmas Luncheon

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 291, BOISE, ID—The December Christmas Luncheon/Gift Exchange was held in Garden City at the JATC site. There were 46 in attendance. We were pleased to have Bus. Mgr. Aaron White and a few of his staff from the union hall join us on this special day. It was a beautiful day and unseasonably warm.

Our meeting was opened with a moment of silence for the recent loss of Art Cushing, a longtime Local 291 member. Joe Sirani said a prayer and asked everyone to remember the "Reason for the Season." Following was a great meal with all the Christmas trimmings. The gift exchange was fun and it was exciting to see all the ideas members came up with for gifts.

Congratulations to the Sirani family on the birth of their grandson, Sebastian Atticus-Walker McVey. This is their eighth grandchild.

Let us all continue to pray for our country and everyone who is struggling in this economy. Defend and protect the rights for us to be union members, always!

Our club luncheons are held the second Thursday of each month. Please contact any club member for time and location.

*Joe Sirani, Pres.*

### 2011 'A Most Successful Year'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 353, TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA—Our Retirees Club members enjoyed the most successful year of planned programs. Our successes were due to the continued support of: Local 353 working members and the "Sports, Entertainment & Retirees Trust Fund," our Retirees Executive Board, the Retirees Social Committee, Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Steve Martin, Local 353 Executive Officers and staff, Local 353 Trusts and Trustees, the ladies in the office, the ladies and gentlemen who help serve at our monthly luncheons and all the IBEW locals that honored us by inviting our club to their functions or participating in ours.

Our 26th Annual Christmas Dinner/Dance was a huge success and was attended by more than 600 retired members and guests including: Int. Vice Pres. Phillip J. Flemming, Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Martin, Local 353 Pres. Rob White and Local 353 Executive

Board officers. We also had retiree guests from the following Ontario locals: 105 (Hamilton), 120 (London), 303 (St. Catharines), 586 (Ottawa), 804 (Kitchener) and 894 (Oshawa).

This year, we separated the 50 years-of-service "Pin Presentation" from our dance. The "Pin Presentation Breakfast" will take place in April of 2012.

We encourage all retirees clubs to continue to "raise the bar" as all retirees and their spouses deserve it.

*Robert Rynyk, P.S.*

### Holiday Celebrations

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 611, ALBUQUERQUE, NM—We hope all members had a glorious holiday season and wish you a good new year ahead.

Local 611 had its annual family Christmas party in December and as before, Local 611 members volunteered to cook under the tent. Thanks to all for their dedication to the children and families of our local. Retired member Jenero "Junior" Pedroncelli was again Santa Claus. Approximately 12 retirees attended, but when the photo with Santa was snapped only three were available.

At this writing, the annual Christmas potluck for the office staff and assistants was scheduled—but in 2011, for the first time, a few Local 611 retirees joined in, planned the event and turned it into a catered lunch by JR's BBQ. Other nonmember guests, contractors, suppliers, etc. were invited.

Don't forget, this is a voting year and we all must think seriously about candidates who will benefit working people, and not privatize Medicare but support health care for all citizens. It's a tough decision, but there are candidates who really do care.

We encourage all members to call or visit other brothers and sisters who are ill and unable to get around. A visit or voice from another member really makes their day.

*Tracy Hall, Pres.*

### Scholarship Recipient

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 640, PHOENIX, AZ—The IBEW Local 640 Golden Age Roadrunners are proud to announce the 2011 recipient of the Ron L. Bruce Mentor Scholarship, Local 640 apprentice Matthew Kitzmiller.

Matthew will be entering his fifth year of apprenticeship school and the scholarship will help with his expenses. He has shown good leadership qualities and excellent school work. His goal is to turn out as a qualified and well-versed journeyman wireman, to never stop learning and give back to others what he has learned. He intends to be a credit to his craft and actively support the brotherhood of electrical workers.

*Diana Foster, Sec.*



Local 760 Bus. Mgr. George Bove (left) and 70-year member Jim Knight.

### 70-Year Member & Going Strong

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 760, KNOXVILLE, TN—Local 760 Bro. James "Jim" Knight has got the stuff and is still going strong! At age 91, Jim pulled up to the local in his Cadillac and strolled inside to meet in my office and talk about his remarkable IBEW membership. I asked Jim about just a few details on the amazing career he has had.

As expected, Jim was both gracious and humble in all his answers (a true class act).

Jim and I went to lunch following our meeting (he destroyed a huge burger and fries) where we fellowshiped more.

What a blessing it is for all to have men like Bro. Jim Knight who prepared the way for us. Jim was born in 1921; started his apprenticeship in 1940; joined the Navy in 1941; married in 1944; and retired from TVA in 1982. Thank you, Jim, for 70 years of service with IBEW Local 760.

Congratulations also go out to all the brothers who received their service pins. Thank you for all you do!

*George Bove, B.M.*



Retirees attend the Local 611 Children & Family Christmas Party, from left: Jimmy Chavez, Joe Romero, Junior Pedroncelli (Santa), and Tracy Hall.

# In Memoriam

## Members for Whom PBF Death Claims were Approved in December 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	Byrnes, J. J.	12/1/11	25	Pierberg, C. E.	3/24/09	106	Elliott, T. A.	10/15/11	294	Bergquist, D. A.	10/13/11	494	Neumann, R. C.	8/7/10	716	Kile, H. A.	10/21/11
1	Raley, H.	10/27/11	25	Starr, H.	6/21/11	108	Cousins, E. W.	11/1/11	294	Quirk, D. J.	11/22/11	494	Vejvoda, D. C.	4/12/11	716	Ladue, J. M.	11/27/11
1	Rech, D. T.	10/24/11	25	Sullivan, G. J.	6/7/09	110	Stapp, J. L.	3/1/10	295	Stoll, J. T.	11/28/11	495	Rogers, W. T.	6/30/09	716	Wedeking, D. W.	6/25/10
1	Tokraks, J. E.	9/27/11	26	Gorrell, E. B.	10/24/11	112	Wickham, J. E.	10/15/11	303	Culliford, L. F.	9/6/11	499	Ballard, T. A.	1/27/09	723	Avey, R.	10/16/11
1	Woelbling, R. A.	11/17/11	26	Massie, B. E.	5/10/11	113	Mattas, J. T.	8/13/11	304	Garretson, D. B.	11/14/11	499	Greenlee, A. M.	10/17/11	728	Kahant, N. R.	9/28/11
2	Cox, D. L.	10/28/11	26	Reid, P. S.	7/28/09	124	Cain, W. C.	10/26/11	305	Clark, J. W.	10/7/11	505	Giddens, B. E.	7/13/11	728	Turner, D. D.	10/9/11
3	Adair, R. C.	10/16/11	34	Brown, G. E.	11/6/11	124	Combs, C. C.	10/26/11	306	Norris, J. F.	10/16/11	508	Jessup, S. A.	10/7/11	756	Gordon, D. L.	10/30/11
3	Burger, D. J.	11/23/11	41	Gaiser, E. E.	11/20/11	124	Jones, G. H.	10/14/11	309	Brandmeyer, J.	7/9/11	518	Ogletree, J. W.	10/5/11	760	Ely, E. T.	6/15/09
3	Chiarkas, J.	5/15/11	41	Summers, W. F.	11/22/11	125	Biesanz, P. W.	10/8/11	309	Veath, R. H.	10/29/11	524	Caulfield, M. J.	10/31/11	760	Lanier, C. L.	9/15/11
3	Cuadrado, E. J.	7/5/09	41	Zamrok, E. A.	10/12/11	125	Blair, J. T.	9/30/11	309	Wood, A. J.	3/3/11	527	Henderson, M. P.	11/1/11	760	Miller, E. R.	11/14/11
3	Dabrowski, J.	10/11/09	42	Fuller, W. D.	10/9/11	125	Dorman, C. G.	11/25/11	313	Albano, S. M.	11/1/11	527	Talley, A. R.	8/20/11	760	Needham, F. R.	11/14/11
3	De Luco, A. J.	11/1/11	43	Bishop, R. K.	11/22/11	125	Tegen, M. C.	9/10/11	313	Smith, I. C.	11/5/11	529	Linton, E. J.	10/22/11	760	Newcomb, T. L.	10/4/11
3	Dein, A.	11/11/11	43	Robinson, R. L.	10/29/11	127	Ruffalo, R. J.	2/10/11	317	Stone, F. R.	10/9/11	531	Lute, J. E.	10/8/11	769	McCabe, F. E.	10/28/11
3	Franzone, J. F.	9/13/11	44	Brodock, R. L.	5/19/11	129	Morrow, C. E.	11/27/11	329	Winget, C. C.	3/5/11	532	Halpin, A. M.	9/25/11	769	Nesbitt, D.	9/11/11
3	Guttadauria, L.	10/30/11	44	Olesen, L. A.	10/15/11	130	Nauck, W. E.	9/29/11	340	Gutterres, L. A.	12/25/10	532	McVeda, G. M.	8/31/11	801	Lee, R. J.	11/21/11
3	Hall, J. D.	10/8/11	46	Darst, J. R.	10/27/11	130	Salathe, R. F.	10/11/11	343	Christenson, J. M.	10/17/11	545	Boyer, B. W.	9/21/11	812	Lancaster, E.	10/3/11
3	Hirst, A. E.	8/10/09	46	Erhardt, J. M.	11/11/11	134	Delpage, P. A.	11/26/11	347	Funk, M. R.	9/17/09	551	Stammer, S. C.	10/15/11	812	Segraves, G. F.	11/7/11
3	Kaufmann, W. H.	4/1/08	46	Sher, D. L.	10/9/11	134	Fron, E. W.	6/15/10	349	Boone, R. D.	11/17/11	551	Zaro, C. J.	10/24/11	816	Owens, B.	10/25/11
3	Krassel, E. C.	10/30/11	46	Sturges, K. D.	9/14/11	134	Hernik, S. J.	8/12/09	349	Cook, F. O.	11/18/11	553	Hagins, W. E.	5/12/09	833	Davidson, M. A.	9/25/11
3	Lamb, W. M.	10/6/11	48	Bloyd, F. T.	8/21/09	134	Lipuma, W. J.	10/28/11	349	Cox, J. M.	11/9/11	553	Hammond, A. J.	8/29/11	852	Blissard, G. E.	10/21/11
3	Lepore, J.	3/20/11	48	Ihols, R. L.	10/1/11	134	Lupo, R.	12/10/09	351	Edelmayer, D. L.	11/9/11	557	Harder, R. A.	10/22/11	861	Coleman, L. D.	9/19/11
3	Marrero, L.	10/3/11	48	Mofford, C. M.	11/4/11	134	Miles, J. J.	10/15/11	351	Hill, H. Y.	11/8/11	558	McFall, B. G.	10/26/11	861	Landry, D. J.	11/16/11
3	Mazurkiewicz, S.	8/18/11	51	Jaggard, A. T.	3/22/11	134	Virus, W. E.	10/29/11	351	Scarle, J. F.	10/19/11	567	Morrison, C. W.	8/14/11	876	Ferrell, J. D.	10/17/11
3	McElroy, R. F.	6/5/11	53	Jennings, C.	11/18/09	134	Weinstein, P. B.	10/6/11	351	Tweed, J. W.	9/18/11	569	Cavesina, J. B.	11/19/11	876	Lafave, R. A.	10/4/11
3	McNeill, H. W.	11/11/11	53	Pasquarette, E. R.	7/16/08	134	Westerman, F. W.	6/21/09	353	Cochrane, D.	12/1/11	569	Lopez, M. A.	7/1/11	903	Ladner, D. M.	11/23/11
3	Payano, R.	7/7/09	55	Middleton, C. J.	11/14/11	134	White, L. R.	10/13/11	353	Egrlic, D.	10/6/11	569	Rogers, J. A.	10/20/11	934	Huffine, C. L.	9/8/11
3	Pensa, U. N.	11/16/11	57	Burge, G.	10/27/11	134	Woods, H. H.	10/31/11	353	Latawiec, G.	11/11/11	570	Harris, W. E.	9/30/11	953	Foust, F. F.	1/20/11
3	Rappa, N.	10/28/11	58	Kaminski, J. H.	10/24/11	141	Frey, H. W.	9/26/11	357	Blevins, A.	3/13/11	570	Real, A. L.	10/20/11	962	Brady, C. F.	12/5/08
3	Romberg, E. J.	10/8/09	58	Kunzrat, R.	10/28/11	145	Chevalier, C. W.	10/16/11	357	Wickey, G. G.	10/17/11	570	Rogers, A. R.	10/20/11	968	Lemon, N. A.	10/23/11
3	Rothenhausen, R.	7/21/11	58	Oliver, D. L.	11/28/11	153	Jollay, J. W.	7/28/11	363	Bolen, W. J.	5/1/09	573	Conway, M. E.	8/14/11	993	Serres, G.	11/7/11
3	Shore, D.	9/1/11	58	Piper, W. E.	11/15/11	153	Pendergrass, D.	10/5/11	363	Cruger, T. J.	11/5/11	575	Brush, R. P.	11/6/11	995	Dugas, M. P.	3/29/11
3	Smalley, R. C.	10/11/11	58	Schihi, P. J.	10/24/11	164	Colo, J.	10/19/11	364	Eads, V. R.	10/16/11	576	Spencer, J. B.	10/27/11	995	Lemoine, S. P.	10/14/09
3	Terenzio, J. G.	5/19/11	58	Simon, F.	10/28/11	164	McGill, E. R.	9/2/09	369	Browning, W. O.	5/20/09	595	Furr, C. D.	11/5/09	1049	Griffin, W. E.	10/17/11
3	Vischio, M.	11/2/11	60	Collignon, H.	6/10/09	164	O'Prandy, D.	9/23/11	369	Goetzinger, L. E.	7/11/11	595	Heath, R. B.	11/15/11	1077	McElveen, W. L.	5/4/08
3	Walters, D. S.	10/31/11	60	Risinger, R. L.	10/9/11	175	Jernigan, L. W.	11/14/11	369	Schweickhardt, A. P.	10/13/11	595	Kowatch, R. L.	10/21/11	1141	Ernst, N. L.	9/22/11
3	Zappia, N. J.	10/20/11	68	Carter, H. E.	7/24/09	176	Maish, P. L.	10/28/11	379	Hagmann, R. O.	10/23/11	595	Walters, W. E.	12/5/10	1141	Sessler, W. E.	7/31/11
5	Carbaugh, W. C.	8/30/11	68	Henderson, J. P.	10/17/11	177	Koenig, W. H.	8/18/11	379	Harrison, J.	11/13/11	601	Blair, J. D.	8/12/11	1147	Jackson, W. W.	10/24/11
5	Hardt, D. M.	11/5/11	68	LeRoy, L.	10/22/11	180	Pierson, L. D.	11/9/11	379	Varnadore, J. D.	11/17/11	601	Hygnstrom, A. C.	10/14/11	1186	Kaneko, K. T.	4/1/09
5	McBurney, A. E.	11/18/11	68	Sluga, T. C.	11/3/09	191	Fitch, L. C.	10/16/11	379	Vesterskov, A. C.	3/15/11	611	Curtis, I. J.	8/6/11	1186	Kanno, R. T.	10/24/11
5	Merryman, T. G.	11/14/11	68	Still, M. E.	11/24/11	191	Kucera, R. D.	10/21/11	396	Kofoed, S. J.	11/1/11	611	Dressel, D.	10/2/11	1186	Young, R. J.	9/8/11
5	Mitchell, E. L.	2/28/11	71	Gosnell, C. M.	11/12/11	191	Vincent, W. C.	9/1/09	400	Letzelter, D. R.	8/28/11	611	Ford, M. W.	6/1/11	1191	Thompson, R. E.	8/21/11
6	Buckholz, S. A.	11/2/11	71	Marcum, E.	9/22/11	193	Lemme, E. R.	11/8/11	400	Nowak, W. G.	3/3/09	611	Howard, J. S.	10/10/11	1205	Huggins, W. E.	11/15/11
6	Montoya, B.	10/26/11	76	Bylund, H. E.	11/8/11	196	Green, D. R.	9/12/11	401	Hemenway, R. F.	7/25/11	611	Moya, G. L.	11/15/10	1212	Lassman, S.	4/12/11
6	Pazmino, C. A.	10/16/11	76	Lueck, R. F.	9/30/11	212	Still, R. A.	9/24/11	402	Vaccher, A.	3/14/09	613	Stephenson, J. W.	11/24/09	1220	Mazure, A.	5/6/11
7	Pieropan, A. W.	9/8/11	77	Martin, G. L.	11/7/11	222	Parker, C. L.	11/7/11	405	Swope, C. R.	10/13/09	636	Yeatman, J. G.	9/15/10	1245	Behrends, R. S.	11/6/11
8	Weinrich, J. L.	11/2/11	77	Panida, E. E.	9/1/11	223	Botelho, J. R.	9/25/11	413	Paola, M. J.	11/6/11	640	Garner, J. J.	11/11/11	1245	Butler, C. D.	10/4/11
9	Petrella, J.	9/21/11	84	Brisco, J. T.	5/31/11	223	Burns, J. F.	10/30/11	424	Verhaeghe, C. J.	10/31/11	640	Russell, A. W.	10/19/11	1245	Dineen, A. T.	9/22/09
9	Phelan, R. J.	5/17/11	84	Thornton, J. D.	11/12/11	223	King, B. J.	11/4/09	426	Leibfried, B.	11/1/11	648	Andrews, A.	11/16/11	1249	Davenport, D. L.	9/26/11
9	Quirk, R. M.	11/4/11	90	Kotak, A.	11/13/11	229	Stitt, W. E.	5/5/09	429	Brabston, J. E.	10/31/11	648	Bray, G. L.	9/20/11	1249	McDonald, L. D.	9/13/11
9	Waller, K. C.	11/13/11	96	Bujold, E. J.	9/18/11	231	McGinnis, D. R.	9/28/11	429	Edwards, D. B.	10/17/11	650	Weimer, F. S.	9/21/11	1249	Pomerleau, C.	10/27/11
11	Ayers, R. L.	10/20/11	96	Fontaine, A. P.	5/7/11	233	Anderson, J. C.	10/30/11	429	Loftis, H. H.	10/14/11	654	Bannan, G. T.	10/13/11	1249	Saumier, E. L.	9/14/11
11	Curtis, L. C.	11/9/11	97	Melvin, D. A.	11/13/11	233	Green, J. F.	10/5/11	429	Pruitt, R. C.	10/1/11	654	McCool, R. R.	10/4/09	1319	Kleban, E. C.	11/7/11
11	Davis, P. W.	10/19/11	98	Arste, K. H.	10/28/11	233	Kummer, L. N.	10/10/11	441	MacFarlane, R. W.	10/25/11	659	Henderson, J. E.	10/6/11	1340	Gore, S. A.	10/21/11
11	Delgado, J.	11/10/11	98	Deans, H. M.	8/15/11	234	Turpen, R. B.	9/25/11	441	Smith, R. C.	6/29/11	659	Mason, C. R.	11/22/11	1377	Nixon, L. E.	10/3/11
11	Feinberg, E. M.	7/6/11	98	Linski, P.	1/1/10	236	Jones, H. C.	3/22/10	441	Waltmeyer, D. L.	10/13/11	659	Tucker, H.	10/17/11	1393	Hall, P.	10/1/11
11	Jenkins, R. J.	10/27/11	98	Olivastro, J.	11/3/11	237	Aul, C. K.	10/22/11	449	Myers, G.	9/18/11	668	Gibson, J. P.	10/19/09	1393	King, B. W.	9/10/11
11	Kegans, W. L.	10/26/11	98	Prybutok, L.	11/27/11	241	Gonzalez, J. L.	9/22/11	449	Vincent, R. L.	10/3/11	683	Haines, M. P.	7/26/09	1393	Runion, R. L.	10/19/11
11	McCray, R. L.	6/10/11	98	Truax, J.	10/25/11	258	Vanhorne, L. A.	4/13/11	456	Pawlowski, I. A.	11/8/11	683	O'Brien, H.	10/28/11	1547	Gadberry, G.	9/25/11
11	Vazquez, P.	7/9/11	99	Jones, W. E.	11/25/11	269	Parno, S. V.	10/17/11	456	Zboyan, A. A.	11/15/11	697	Bannon, E. G.	10/1/11	1547	Mason, R. W.	10/16/11
15	Kaatz, R.	1/23/10	99	Tente, R. M.	5/2/09	270	Effler, M. S.	3/22/11	459	Pearce, N. R.	11/19/11	697	Faulkner, K. M.	11/28/11	1547	Morrisseau, O. J.	7/31/11
15	Patenaude, J. J.	3/26/08	102	Butler, E. C.	9/19/11	270	Reynolds, R. E.	10/24/11	461	Chandler, J. K.	10/16/11	697	Fields, J. S.	6/25/09	1547	Thatcher, H. D.	10/19/11
16	Shelton, W. L.	10/26/11	102	Dering, H. W.	7/13/11	275	Karp, R. J.	11/3/11	461	Cobb, R. A.	7/24/11	697	Webb, C.	10/5/10	1579	Bush, E. J.	6/24/11
17	Classert, T. A.	9/15/11	102	Kenna, J. T.	8/27/11	275	Nelson, W. J.	7/16/11	479	Willett, J. R.	10/14/11	701	Beshk, R. J.	10/21/11	1710	Morales, M. M.	5/29/09
18	Grammer, L. D.	11/10/11	102	Thompson, R. L.	9/27/11	280	Parrish, E. W.	10/26/11	480	Hammond, J. R.	2/12/11	701	Games, G. L.	9/16/11	1863	Harwell, H. M.	11/30/09
20	K																



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  
**Joe P. Smith**

Seventh District  
**Patrick Lavin**

Eighth District  
**Solomon Furer**

**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****FROM THE OFFICERS****The Growing Gap**

**Edwin D. Hill**  
International President

**T**he media and an increasing number of Capitol Hill politicians are finally openly debating one of the most vexing problems confronting our economy: income inequality.

Even Republican presidential candidate Rick Santorum—who as senator never met a tax cut for the rich he didn't like—is now decrying the fact that Americans enjoy less social mobility than their peers in Canada and Europe.

Worker productivity continues to surge, but wages have remained essentially stagnant for more than 30 years. Experts estimate that if wages had kept pace with productivity, the average median household income would be nearly \$92,000, not \$50,000.

It is no surprise that two-thirds of Americans now rank the clash between the rich and the poor as America's greatest social conflict.

There is a tendency by some observers to claim that the widening income gap is a fact of nature, an inevitable problem in today's globalized, high-tech economy, unrelated to any real-world policy decisions made by elected officials.

As convenient as it might be for some to blame inequality on impersonal forces, it is the political decisions made by Washington that are fundamentally responsible for the overall health of the middle class.

The post-World War II period initiated almost 30 years of across-the-board income growth amongst all groups, but the 1980s saw the beginnings of the great divergence between the very rich and everyone else. This was in large part thanks to the introduction of trickle-down economics and overt union busting under President Reagan.

The top 5 percent of taxpayers accounted for 23 percent of total income in 1981, but 37 percent in 2005. The top 1 percent of earners has seen their income go up by more than \$670 billion since 1979, while those in the middle-income range have lost more than \$220 billion over the same period.

The 1 percent was given major tax breaks, minimum wage increases have been stalled and Wall Street regulations have been loosened. Now legislators are waging a national campaign to weaken collective bargaining rights.

As we learned in Ohio, Wisconsin and Florida, elections matter. This year's elections will either propel us on the hard road to restoring the dream of economic opportunity for all or accelerate us on the path to another gilded age.

We are kicking off our coverage of the election year—Smart Choices for Our Future—in this issue, focusing on the issues of importance to you as a working person. And supporting candidates who understand that government must work for all Americas—not just the 1 percent—is our priority. ■

**Smart Choices in Obama's Recess Appointments**

**P**resident Obama's opponents went ballistic after he made recess appointments of Richard Cordray, former Ohio attorney general, to head the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and three members to sit on the National Labor Relations Board.

They said the appointments were unconstitutional because the Senate never recessed.

What a crock. Most senators had gone home. The only reason some Republican senators stuck around the Capitol was to keep Obama from making appointments to both agencies.

It would be one thing if these politicians claimed to have problems with the individuals Obama was appointing. But they have never made any attempt to cover over their real objective in opposing the president's choices. They simply want to stop both agencies from doing the work that they are designed to do.

In the case of the NLRB, that means ensuring a more level playing field for workers and companies. For the consumer bureau, it means helping workers understand fine print and slick games so they don't get taken for a ride by banks, credit card companies and mortgage brokers.

Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) claimed to be upset with the NLRB's intervention in a case involving Boeing relocating a plant from Washington state to South Carolina. The Machinists had filed a complaint saying the move was made strictly to avoid a union contract. The NLRB's intervention led to a negotiation between Boeing and the Machinists that resolved the issue. Knowing that if the NLRB was short on members, it couldn't legally function, Graham said, "Given its recent actions, the NLRB as inoperable could be considered progress."

As for the consumer bureau, ever since Elizabeth Warren—who is now running as a Democrat for U.S. Senate in Massachusetts—lobbied for and won bi-partisan support to set up the new agency, some Republicans, many of whom get big campaign donations from Wall Street, have been denouncing it, claiming that "too many regulations" will hurt the economy. They have a lot of nerve. Too few regulations on banks and financial institutions nearly caused the collapse of our nation's economy.

I have spoken to Ohio members who know Richard Cordray. They say he is just the right leader for the job—a man who has always shown a passion for worker justice. The IBEW has also reviewed the president's appointments of Sharon Block, Terence F. Flynn and Richard Griffin to the NLRB. We believe these are good, sound choices.

The president is showing leadership and conviction. His choices deserve our full support. ■



**Salvatore J. Chilia**  
International Secretary-Treasurer

**HOW TO REACH US**

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

**Send letters to:**

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

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

©2012 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:  
2835 Kew Drive  
Windsor, ON Canada N8T 3B7



© 2012 IBEW

## Letters to the Editor

### Thanks for the Support

This is a photo of an IBEW member helping out at a Recall Walker rally held in Superior, Wis. on Jan. 7. I would like to offer a heartfelt thank you to all IBEW members for their support in our struggle here in Wisconsin. From the first few days of protests down in Madison to this afternoon's Recall Walker rally in Superior, I have been impressed with the number of IBEW members I've seen in our ranks.



*John Ludwig, AFSCME retiree  
Superior, Wis.*

### Our Creed

Sometimes we as union members must be reminded that our cause (unionism) is a cause of human justice, human rights and human security. That we refuse to condone or tolerate dictatorship or oppression of any kind. That we must continue to expel from our midst any who might attempt to destroy, by subversion, all that we stand for. And we must support our God, our nations, our union.

It is our objective as members of the IBEW to promote reasonable methods of work, to assist each other in sickness and/or distress, to reduce the hours of daily labor and secure adequate pay for our work. We must seek a higher standard of living and security for each individual, and elevate the moral, intellectual and social conditions of our members, their families, and their dependents.

It is for these reasons and many more that the IBEW was formed over 120 years ago. And it is for these reasons that many members continue to be proud and loyal members who look after not only themselves, but others. Thank you for your time and efforts for years past, and thank you for your efforts for the years to come. The struggles continue, and so shall Local 300 and the IBEW. Keep the faith.

*Jeffrey C. Wimette, Local 300 business manager/financial secretary  
Montpelier, Vt.*

### Are Unions Worthwhile?

My friend, a college student, lived with my family while doing her student teaching in a school in York, Pa. She got a teaching position and was upset because she was required to join the union.

She told me that the teacher in the class next to hers was sued by a parent who accused him of mistreating his son. The school board told the teacher not to worry, that they will represent him for as long as it takes. While the case was underway, the school board quit the defense and pulled their lawyer off the case. The union stepped in and sent two lawyers to represent the teacher. The lawyer for the parent dropped the suit.

This is what my friend said to me: "My union is the only one who cares about me."

*Emerson Rodgers, Local 229 retiree  
York, Pa.*

### In Tribute to a Mentor

I was saddened to read of the recent passing of Robert J. Neylon of Indianapolis, Ind., Local 481. Bob was the first journeyman that I worked for as a young apprentice back in the fall of 1968. He was a skilled craftsman who held himself to a high standard. He had respect for our trade and he took responsibility toward public safety very seriously. Bob never let me put a cover on a box until he had inspected my work. And then one day he told me that I could start closing the junction boxes when I had finished my work. To me that was a milestone in my training.

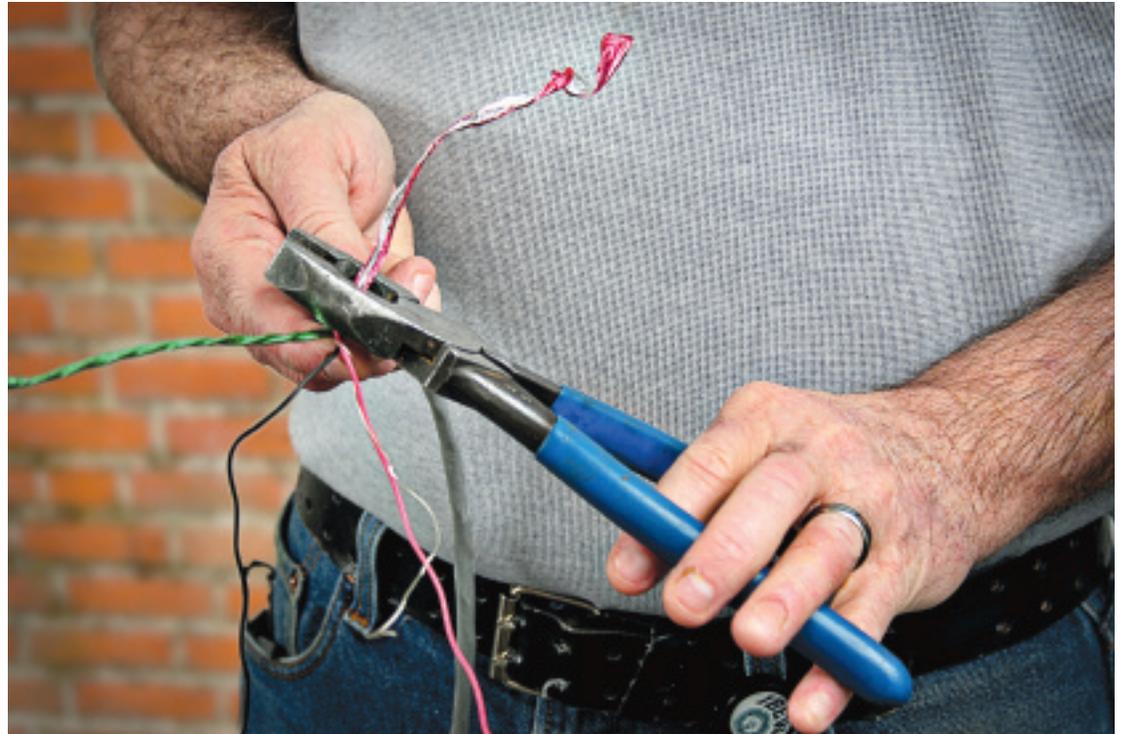
Thanks to Bob's tutelage, I was able to sustain a 40-year career as a journeyman wireman. I count myself fortunate to have had Bob as a friend and mentor and I will remember him always.

*Curt Mayfield, Local 481 retiree  
Indianapolis, Ind.*

## Who We Are

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

# Ind. Retirees Restore Power to Neighbor in Need



*Retired members of Terre Haute, Ind., Local 725 put their electrical skills to work last December, helping a local woman restore power to her house.*

Every month, dozens of retired members of Terre Haute, Ind., Local 725 gather at coffee shops and country buffets throughout western Indiana to catch up on the latest news, talk union and reminisce with longtime brothers and sisters.

But the Local 725 retiree club isn't just about hanging out, says club president John McMullen. "We often will talk politics, or have a representative from the local give us an update on the work situation," he says. "We want to keep active and give something back."

For years, club members—who live in more than 15 counties throughout Indiana and Illinois—have volunteered their electrical expertise around the community, helping to wire the local German Club's Oktoberfest and Strassenfest celebrations every year.

So when the news got around that a 62-year-old Terre Haute woman was facing winter without power, McMullen—who retired four years ago—says club members were ready to help out.

During severe storms last May, her neighbor's tree fell onto the power lines connecting her house, tearing up the rusted meter base.

Despite having a full-time job, the woman—who has to travel more than four miles each day via bicycle because

her car broke down—could not afford the needed repairs to get the power back on.

"Duke Energy told her that they couldn't hook the house back up until the meter was fixed," McMullen says.

**"The IBEW does good things all the time, but too often we don't seek recognition for it."**

*— John McMullen, Local 725 retiree club president*

She went without lights, air conditioning, hot water or heat for more than six months until the first winter frosts made the situation unsustainable.

Her boss called Local 725 for help. The dispatcher on duty, who was getting ready to retire himself, alerted McMullen in late December.

"I called up a couple of club members, talked up a signatory contractor—Evans and Ryan—for supplies, and got to work right away," he says.

Local 725 Business Manager Todd Thacker also pitched in to help, as did retirees Don May and Frank Mershon.

With all four of them working, it took only an hour to do the needed repair, installing a new meter base and replacing the service entrance cable.

Duke Power came out that afternoon to hook up the house.

McMullen helped make sure to notify the media about the project, resulting in a glowing story in the Tribune Star, the hometown newspaper.

"We thought her situation was unique and we felt compelled by her living this long without [electrical power]," Thacker told the Tribune Star.

As we report on the front page of this issue, Indiana is currently in the midst of a major legislative assault on workers' rights, as politicians demonize unions in their efforts to implement right-to-work legislation.

McMullen says it is vital that the labor movement push back against the scapegoating to make sure they communicate the positive role union members play in their communities.

"The IBEW does good things all the time, but too often we don't seek recognition for it," he says. "If we don't pat ourselves on the back once in a while, people take the good things unions do for granted."

The woman told the Star that she can't thank the IBEW members enough for what they did. "I've never had anybody do anything for me like this," she says. "I've always paid my way. I'm beyond grateful for this." ■



# Nav Canada Employees Ratify Two-Year Agreement

**M**ore than 600 Nav Canada electronic technologists started 2012 with an overdue boost to their paychecks.

Ottawa, Ontario, Local 2228 announced a new two-year agreement with the company—which maintains Canada's air navigation system—in December after only 12 days of negotiations. The contract provides yearly wage increases of 3 percent over the life of the agreement and improved benefits to leave and travel allowance.

The highly-skilled Nav Canada technologists install and maintain electronic equipment that air traffic controllers operate.

Last year's largely friction-free negotiation process stands in stark contrast to the tumultuous workplace disputes between the company and the IBEW 10 years ago that all but paralyzed the collective bargaining process.

In 1996, Canada's air navigation system was privatized, with Nav Canada taking over its operations, thrusting both workers and company management into uncharted territory as far as labour relations were concerned.

"We went from being under the purview of public-sector labour law into a whole new world where we had to write our own rules," says Elizabeth Cameron, assistant vice president for labour and employee relations at Nav Canada.

In August 2000, Local 2228's contract—which covers air navigation technologists throughout Canada—expired. Employees went more than four years without a new agreement because of management's adversarial approach to collective bargaining.

"They were really tough times," says Local 2228 Business Manager Daniel Boulet. "9/11 caused cutbacks to the airline industry, and our members got stuck paying the cost."

But Cameron and Boulet say there was a shift in thinking starting in the mid-2000s.

"Both sides realized that we kept making the same mistakes from the past over and over again, and it was hurting morale and productivity," Cameron says.

The IBEW and management resolved to make an intensive study of alternative approaches to conflict resolution and shift toward a "win-win" bargaining model.

"We started to see a different philosophy emerge," says Boulet. "The old way of doing things—the my-way-or-the-

highway approach—might work in the short run, but it was hurting the company and its employees over the long term."

Cameron says the job of labour relations officials and union leaders is to help solve problems in the workplace, not create them—an approach that ended the mistrust between the IBEW and Nav Canada. ■

*Vancouver International Airport is among the airports across Canada where more than 600 Nav Canada employees help maintain Canada's air navigation system.*

Photo used under a Creative Commons License from Flickr user Hyougushi



## Les employés de NAV CANADA ratifient leur convention collective d'une durée de 2 ans

**P**lus de 600 technologues de l'électronique de NAV CANADA ont débuté l'année 2012 avec une augmentation de salaire tardive.

Après seulement 12 jours de négociations, la Section locale 2228 d'Ottawa, en Ontario, a annoncé qu'une nouvelle convention collective d'une durée de 2 ans avait été conclue en décembre avec la compagnie NAV CANADA qui assure les services de navigation aérienne au Canada. L'entente prévoit une augmentation salariale de 3% par année pour deux ans ainsi que de meilleurs avantages en ce qui a trait aux congés et aux déplacements.

Les technologues hautement qualifiés de NAV CANADA sont responsables de l'installation et de l'entretien de l'équipement électronique utilisé par les contrôleurs de la circulation aérienne.

Le processus de négociations de l'année dernière s'est déroulé en grande partie sans friction, tout à l'opposé d'il y a dix ans, alors que des conflits tumultueux au travail entre la compagnie et la FIOE avaient pratiquement paralysés les négociations.

En 1996, les services de navigation aérienne ont été privatisés et NAV CANADA est devenu exploitant national du SNA. Les travailleurs, tout comme la direction de la société, se sont ainsi retrouvés en terrain inconnu en ce qui concerne les relations de travail.

« Régis par les lois sur les relations de travail dans le secteur public, nous sommes passés à un tout autre univers et avons dû rédiger nos propres règlements » déclare Elizabeth Cameron, Vice-présidente adjointe, Relations de travail et avec les employés de NAV CANADA.

Au mois d'août 2000, la convention de la S.L. 2228 régissant tous les technologues de la navigation aérienne canadienne prenait fin. Par la suite, les employés ont été plus de quatre ans sans nouveau contrat à cause de l'approche contradictoire de la direction concernant la négociation collective.

« Ce fut vraiment une période difficile. Les événements du 11 septembre ont causé plusieurs coupures dans l'industrie aérienne et nos membres ont dû en payer le prix » dit Daniel Boulet, le Gérant d'affaires de la Section locale 2228.

Mais selon Madame Cameron et le confrère Boulet, un changement d'attitude a débuté au milieu des années 2000.

« Les deux parties ont réalisé que nous répétions encore les mêmes erreurs du passé, nuisant ainsi au moral des employés et à la productivité » indique-t-elle.

La FIOE et la Direction ont décidé d'analyser intensivement les approches alternatives pour la résolution de conflit et ont changé leur stratégie en appliquant le type de négociation « gagnant-gagnant ».

« Une philosophie différente a commencé à se dessiner. L'ancienne façon de faire basée sur l'approche [que c'est ma façon de faire ou bien tu quittes] pouvait être efficace à court terme, mais faisait du tort à la compagnie et à ses employés à long terme » ajoute le confrère Boulet.

Madame Cameron affirme que le rôle des représentants de l'employeur en relations de travail et des dirigeants syndicaux est de résoudre les problèmes en milieu de travail et non d'en créer une approche qui a contribué à mettre fin au climat de méfiance qui régnait entre la FIOE et NAV CANADA. ■

Local	Surname	Date of Death
2085	Conway, G. W.	11/11/11
2085	Rex, G.	5/18/11
2150	Morke, R. J.	10/22/11
2228	Thomas, J. A.	6/10/11
2330	Rideout, M.	8/20/11
I.O. (134)	Koch, J. C.	10/26/11
I.O. (354)	Larsen, B. N.	9/30/11
I.O. (1249)	Kobel, T. M.	10/1/11
I.O. (2085)	Bockrandt, S.	11/4/11
Pens. (637)	Maddox, D. L.	7/26/11
Pens. (840)	Weeks, A. D.	10/25/11
Pens. (1788)	Squire, K. T.	11/8/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Alm, L. E.	11/12/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Armstrong, M. H.	11/5/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Bartlett, W. A.	4/20/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Bass, R. L.	10/10/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Broome, R. E.	11/9/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Bunk, M. M.	11/12/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Cooper, G. A.	8/2/09
Pens. (I.O.)	Costner, R. G.	10/24/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Damato, R. J.	10/26/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Davis, L. K.	11/28/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Durant, G. H.	10/2/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Fischler, J. J.	8/6/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Frelk, C. J.	11/24/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Galvez, F. M.	5/31/10
Pens. (I.O.)	Gouker, D.	12/22/09
Pens. (I.O.)	Hudson, C. F.	12/2/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Jackson, J. A.	10/14/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Jobson, J. E.	10/20/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Kornegay, B. C.	11/7/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Liescheidt, W. L.	11/21/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Lindberg, N. A.	11/21/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Litchfield, J. D.	10/25/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Meek, L. E.	9/24/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Miller, R. E.	9/4/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Moore, F. S.	11/19/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Murray, H. E.	10/22/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Myers, A. W.	8/14/10
Pens. (I.O.)	Neutze, L. E.	10/7/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Novak, C. O.	11/8/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Obrien, J. P.	10/7/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Parker, G.	11/7/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Perazzo, J.	9/6/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Pereira, J. T.	4/8/10
Pens. (I.O.)	Peters, D. L.	10/31/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Pieski, L. F.	11/26/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Reichensperge, J. D.	11/16/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Ridberg, J. R.	10/31/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Rockwell, J. W.	9/16/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Roth, M.	11/14/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Ruyle, R. C.	9/20/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Shannon, P. G.	10/29/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Sheedy, J. R.	9/27/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Small, W. W.	8/20/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Smith, T. L.	11/22/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Smith, H.	10/15/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Stephenson, R. J.	10/17/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Streeter, C. O.	10/19/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Templeton, W. H.	11/3/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Thornton, M. F.	9/24/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Tonoski, J.	9/28/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Venzke, A. R.	8/5/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Wagenfeld, H. W.	11/4/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Waters, J. C.	10/10/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Whitehead, W. B.	9/18/11
Pens. (I.O.)	Woodward, I. R.	8/1/11