

THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

FIRST PUBLISHED IN 1893

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

Printed in the USA

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Vol. 7 | No. 9 | September 2013

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IBEW and Building Trades Flourish at California Ports

Skill and social responsibility are finally being rewarded as the IBEW and the Building and Construction Trades revamp the Port of Long Beach, part of the sixth-busiest port complex in the world.

Located side by side in San Pedro Bay, the Port of Los Angeles and the Port of Long Beach together comprise the sixth-busiest port complex in the world.

Even while they vie for business, the sister ports have jointly welcomed a never-fading wave of ships stacked with containers from Asia to fill America's craving for consumer goods. But when it came to relationships with building trades unions, their hospitality was always divided.

L.A. was union-friendly. When port commissioners there looked to upgrade or expand the port's infrastructure, they called upon union building and construction trades.

Long Beach was off limits for union contractors. Vehemently nonunion outfits like Helix Electric held sway with that facility's commissioners and the city's mayor and city council at the port.

Today, a decade of grassroots work by Los Angeles Local 11 and other unions to build political influence and support in Long Beach to successfully promote the skills and social responsibility of organized labor are finally being rewarded. The port, which moves \$155 billion in goods and supports about \$15 billion a year in trade-related wages, is teeming with members of the building trades,

including IBEW members.

"I think both ports now understand that union contractors give customers a well-developed product, a great deal of experience and a commitment to see that the owner has great success with the design and intent of their projects," says Mike Gasper, an area superintendent at Dynalectric and 34-year IBEW member.

The current phase of the Middle Harbor project, part of a 10-year, \$4 billion investment at the Port of Long Beach, includes a two-year project labor agreement that will employ 60 electricians at its peak. The project is designed to help Long Beach vastly increase productivity and decrease environmental damage.

"This is a monster job. Everything is robotic," says Craig Shaw, a 13-year IBEW member and a foreman for Dynalectric, who splits his time between Los Angeles and Long Beach.

LONG BEACH *continued on page 2*

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IBEW and Building Trades Flourish at California Ports

New 12-kilovolt robotic cranes will replace existing ones that operate on 5 kilovolts. Cranes and robotic vehicles will reduce the amount of time to unload and reload a container ship from four days to one. To maximize utilization of Long Beach's 800 acres, union electrical contractors are helping to build a five-story warehouse that will accommodate rows of cargo containers stacked vertically.

"The building trades are looking at a 10-year span of work at Long Beach that will total 10-15,000 construction jobs," says Tommy Faavae, a Local 11 organizer who represents electricians at the ports and has spoken up at public hearings in support of project labor agreements.

Upgrades will allow the facility to accommodate larger ships once the Panama Canal widening project is complete in 2014. Improvements will also lower greenhouse gas emissions from Long Beach, which—together with its Los Angeles counterpart—constitutes the single largest source of pollution in the Los Angeles area.

To that end, Dynalectric is installing a main terminal substation and a ship-to-shore substation. Ship-to-shore power systems allow vessel crews to turn off their auxiliary diesel engines while at berth and draw maintenance power for the vessels from the landside power grid, thereby cutting a large percentage of the diesel emissions generated during each call.

"I think the complexity of the work required creating jobs for union contractors who had demonstrated their expertise [at the Port of Los Angeles] and the effectiveness of project labor agreements," says Gasper.

Complicating work for union contractors is the port's need to identify existing underground utilities as



Union electricians once only worked at the Port of L.A.



Community engagement opened opportunities for Local 11 electricians in Long Beach.

electrical crews install 260,000 feet of underground concrete-encased conduit in pre-cast pull boxes, vaults, manholes and a tunnel vault. The older utility lines were buried in the 1920s after oil was discovered in Long Beach, at one time the fourth-largest oil field in the U.S.

"We have invested a lot of resources to ensure that these jobs are quality middle-class jobs for our members who live and work near the port. Today, you can see that investment paying off," says Local 11 Business Manager Marvin Kropke.

New respect for the building trades in Long Beach is matched by increased esteem for other labor organizations, including UNITE HERE, the hotel workers union. In 2012, that union and a coalition of local progressives won a grassroots campaign to enact a ballot measure providing a living wage of at least \$13 an hour and five paid sick days a year for 2,000 workers in the city's tourism industry.

The Long Beach project will dovetail with a project labor agreement at the Port of Los Angeles that extends through 2015, part of a \$2.5 billion upgrade. Already, electricians have connected nine to 10 ship berths with shore power and are working on

improving five terminals to reduce their carbon footprint.

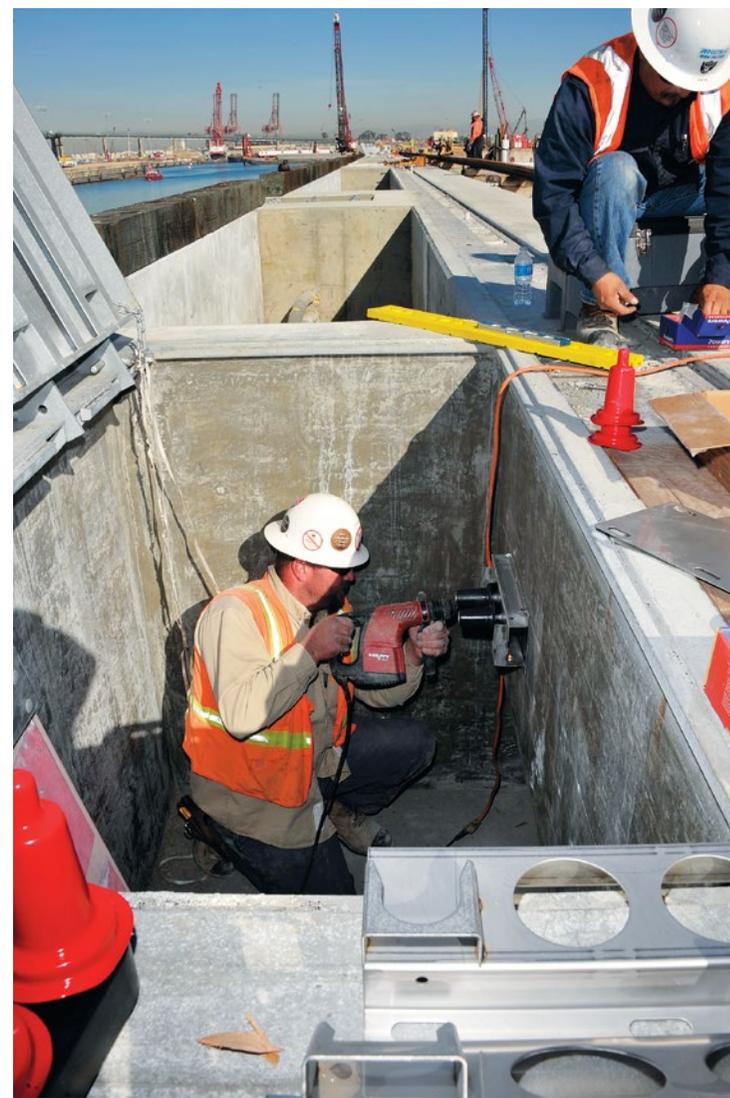
None of the work at Long Beach, says Faavae, would be possible without members of Local 11 and other building trades unions getting politically active in the city and helping to elect a mayor, Bob Foster, a former

"The building trades are looking at a 10-year span of work at Long Beach that will total 10,000 to 15,000 construction jobs."

— Tommy Faavae, a Local 11 organizer

president of Southern California Edison. Foster, who had maintained a productive collective bargaining relationship with IBEW locals in the state at SCE, was elected in 2010 with the support of 84 percent of voters.

In 2011, the mayor appointed Rich Dines, a 15-year member and former regional leader of the International Longshore and Warehouse Workers Union—representing workers at both ports—to a six-year term as a port



Crews installed 260,000 feet of conduit in pre-cast pull boxes, vaults, manholes and a tunnel vault.

commissioner. The appointment was approved by the city council.

"I'm proud to have supported the first project labor agreement at Long Beach Harbor," says Dines. "High-value port construction projects are now awarded to responsible bidders. This

communities. I want the Port of Long Beach to be an economic engine that can provide opportunity and create good-paying careers for our local residents."

While some ILWU jobs will be reduced as a result of automation, Dines says longshoremen will have jurisdiction over all jobs associated with new technologies.

Rafael Rosales is one of the thousands who has already benefited from an expanded union presence in Long Beach. Six years ago, Rosales, who was working in the nonunion sector on low-voltage electrical installations, found an advertisement for Local 11 on the Internet. He applied to the local's apprenticeship program. Six months ago, Rosales topped out as a journeyman, having spent three years working at the ports.

"My quality of life has totally improved as an IBEW member," says Rosales. And working at the ports, he says, has provided the opportunity to widen his skills on switchgears, underground installations and handling rigid pipe. "This project is good for the environment and it's good for apprentices [to pick up new skills]," says Rosales. ■

Corrections

- The picture caption on the front page of the July *Electrical Worker* misidentifies the location of the training center shown. It is Sacramento, Calif., Local 340, not Detroit Local 58.
- The article "New Exhibit, Online Resources from the IBEW Museum" in the August 2013 *Electrical Worker* may have given a mistaken impression regarding access to IBEW archives. All issues of the IBEW's official publications over the years are available at www.ibew.org/articles/menu/journal.htm. Past editions of local union directories and convention roll calls are available solely in the Local Connections section, which can be accessed only by approved users from local union offices. ■

N.Y. Local Takes on U.N. Union Busting

In his 35 years as a broadcast technician at the United Nations, Vinnie Butler has seen history in the making. Butler and his co-workers, members of New York City Local 1212, provide radio and broadcasting services to the U.N. headquarters building overlooking the East River in Manhattan.

From Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev's famous "shoe banging" incident to South African leader Nelson Mandela's first speech to the global body, IBEW members have brought some of the U.N.'s most famous moments to the world. "All video, all editing, all broadcasting out of the U.N. building is done by us," says Butler, who serves as Local 1212's assistant business manager.

But U.N. management unilaterally shut the door on the IBEW June 30, replacing the 49 career broadcast workers with an out-of-state nonunion contractor. Members who want their jobs back will be forced to give up their bargaining rights, along with having to take a cut to their wage and benefits package.

All employees had their official IDs and parking passes stripped from them.

"After years of good faith negotiations regarding benefits, seniority, [and] working conditions ... with the U.N., we are told our members will have to re-apply for their jobs without any guarantees for re-hire and the U.N. is refusing to pay severance to the terminated workers," wrote Local 1212 Business Manager Ralph Avigliano in a letter to U.N. General Secretary Ban Ki-moon.

U.N. management's move comes after years of union concessions. In 2011, they removed 17 positions from the bargaining unit, costing those workers their right to collectively bargain.

Since the organization's founding in 1945, Local 1212 members working for the U.N. were employed by a series of broadcasting contractors. When the last one went bankrupt in 2009, members continued working, voluntarily giving up their pay until a new company could be secured.

"There was a brotherhood there and a sense of fairness," 35-year U.N. veteran Mark Robbins told the Labor Press. "We were the wheels of the U.N. We never let it down. Ever."

One of the U.N.'s missions is to promote "rights at work and encourage decent employment opportunities," but sadly this is only the latest anti-worker move by the organization.

Ban eliminated dues check-off for employees, and unilaterally made changes to pay schedules without consulting with its staff union. And union elevator operators were unceremoniously ejected from the building earlier this year

when management hired a nonunion firm to take their place.

And earlier this summer, management walked out of negotiations with its staff union after workers refused to give up their right to collectively bargain.

"We believe the early walkout by management demonstrates a lack of flexibility required for a negotiation and an irresponsible use of resources, both of the organization and of those unions that paid to send delegates to the meeting," writes United Nations Staff Union President Barbara Tavora-Jainchill.

Workers at the U.N. are not covered by U.S. labor law, so Avigliano is asking

The United Nations terminated a five-decade relationship with New York Local 1212 this summer, replacing IBEW broadcast technicians with a nonunion contractor.

Credit: Photo used under a Creative Commons License from Flickr user Ashitaka San.

the State Department and members of Congress to put pressure on Ban to bargain fairly.

"After 65 years, I can't believe that the United Nations would go so far to violate its own stated goals regarding workers' rights," says Avigliano. ■



Mass. IBEW Fights to Keep Green Jobs Good Jobs

Massachusetts can't boast of year-round sunny skies like California, but it is beginning to rival the Golden State when it comes to growth of the photovoltaic industry, with sleek black PV panels sprouting up seemingly everywhere.

For Brockton Local 223 Business Manager David Fenton, the question of who should be installing these panels is a no-brainer. "The moment those things hit the sun, we're talking live electricity here," he says. "The basic components of a solar array are the same as any other electrical system. We need to have state-licensed electricians doing this work."

Fenton serves on the Board of State Examiners of Electricians, which is responsible for setting and maintaining standards for workers in the electrical industry. The Massachusetts government agrees, mandating that all solar work be done by professional electricians.

But despite having some of the highest standards for solar workers on the books, the Bay State has become a haven in recent years for low-road contractors looking to take advantage of the region's solar boom.

"It's a huge problem," says Boston Local 103 Business Agent Sean Callaghan. "A lot of these contractors think they can skirt the law and some are getting away with it."

Last spring, Gov. Deval Patrick announced that the state has reached a major renewable milestone first set in 2007, boosting the amount of solar electricity produced within Massachusetts from 3.5 megawatts to 250. Thanks to public incentives, the state reached this goal four years ahead of schedule. And the work keeps coming.

"We've got numerous projects coming down the pike," Fenton says. These include a \$120 million, 24-megawatt solar project on Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard. Approximately 100 IBEW members are at work installing panels on schools and at landfills throughout the area.

The IBEW, along with the National Electrical Contractors Association, have filed more than 40 complaints with state regulatory officials since last year over contractors using unlicensed solar workers.

One of the biggest projects to be investigated by the state was Southern Sky Renewable Energy's 5.6-megawatt installation atop a closed landfill in Canton.

Local 103's Callaghan says that the company brought in unlicensed day laborers to install the panels in direct violation of state law.

After reporting this to town and state inspectors, he says elected officials were initially unresponsive to the IBEW's complaints. This indifference led Local 103 to start a grassroots



Massachusetts is undergoing a solar power boom, but many out-of-state contractors are trying to take advantage of the situation by using low-paid, unlicensed installers on photovoltaic projects.

Credit: Photo used under a Creative Commons License from Flickr user Deval Patrick.

public relations campaign to expose Southern Sky's dangerous installations.

Most recently the IBEW and NECA filed a complaint against Patriot Solar Group, LLC for using non-electricians to install racks at a large solar farm outside of Worcester.

The Board of State Examiners fined the Michigan-based company \$1,000 earlier this year—a fine that Matt Lash, assistant executive manager of the Greater Boston chapter of the National Electrical Contractors, says is too low to deter lawbreakers.

"The truth is that the company can get a fine and still make money by cutting corners with safety and training," he says.

Not only did the company employ unlicensed workers for the project, but it was accused of falsely labeling Chinese-made panels as safety inspected.

A worker on the project told Worcester

Local 96 Business Manager Leo Miller that subcontractors spent days re-labeling the panels with safety inspection stickers.

Critics say that the IBEW is only focused on winning those jobs for union members, but Lash says that the problem is not just a union issue.

"Employers who follow the rules—union and nonunion alike—suffer when others can get away with breaking the law," he says.

Dishonest renewable firms often pay lower-than-average wages, driving down working standards for green jobs and making it harder for licensed employers to win contracts.

"We're talking between \$10 and \$15 an hour for electrical work," Lash says of the pay rate for unlicensed labor. "How can responsible contractors compete with that?"

Even the nonunion Massachusetts Electrical Contractors Association joined the IBEW and NECA in expressing concern over the growing trend, signing on to a group letter to the state legislature last year, which called on lawmakers not to water down safety and licensing requirements for renewable projects.

"The installation of every piece of equipment for electrical solar generation has significant safety implications which should not be assigned to anyone who is not a licensed professional electrician," the letter states.

Lash says that it's largely up to the IBEW and NECA to track down lawbreakers. He travels the state to investigate work sites, reporting violators to regulators. He also says that they are working closely with the state attorney general to crack down on violators.

"It's the law, but we have to keep the regulators' and politicians' feet to the fire to make sure it is enforced," says Local 103's Callaghan. "It is a big problem and unless we get in front of it, it will continue to grow." ■

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

Our Web site has news and info not available anywhere else. Visit us to connect with the IBEW on Facebook and Twitter.

And read *The Electrical Worker* online!

YouTube

Our popular YouTube channel is a hit with viewers. Youtube.com/TheElectricalWorker

Vimeo

IBEW members in Memphis are proud to build America's energy future right here in the USA. See how they're doing it, at vimeo.com/ibew/memphisolar.

HourPower

In the President's Message, President Hill talks about how the IBEW is the leader in wind energy, and how we got that way: hard work and unparalleled training. Check it out on IBEWHourPower.com!

ElectricTV

Electric TV traveled to Atlanta to tour another JATC in our series of JATCs around the U.S. We found another piece of the vital cog that is the NECA-IBEW team. Go to ElectricTV.net today to take a look!



North of 49° | Au nord du 49° parallèle

British Columbia Utility Locks Out Workers

Approximately 240 Vancouver, British Columbia, Local 213 members spent most of their summer on the picket line after FortisBC management locked them out June 26.

The IBEW and the privately-held utility, which provides power to B.C.'s Southern Interior, had just come out of several months of unsuccessful negotiations when the company shut the doors.

"It was unfortunate that the parties were not able to come to an agreement considering the substantial movement we made during negotiations," says Local 213 Business Representative Rod Russell.

Local 213 and the company—which is part of Fortis, Inc., the largest investor-owned utility in Canada—have been in bargaining talks since last January.

The local represents workers in generation, transmission and distribution.

Russell says management was particularly aggressive, with a focus on one key concession: exclusive control over job description language.

Local 213 wanted a voice in developing new job descriptions, a 3 percent annual wage increase and an additional day off in conjunction with a new provisional holiday.

Talks stalled in April. Both parties agreed to an essential service order issued by the provincial labour board, which committed the union and the utility to maintain basic essential services throughout the labour dispute, while allowing the union to engage in limited job actions.

"It let us do some job actions, like refusing to do jobs that didn't endanger the safety of the community like disconnections or capital projects," Russell says.

The company forced a vote on its final offer, which was overwhelmingly rejected by the membership.

After shutting the doors on employees, FortisBC managers began violating the order by performing nonessential work specifically prohibited by the essential service order. For example, the local found managers taking photos of meters for billing purposes to get around the government's definition of meter reading as a nonessential service.

Fueling much of the bad blood, says Russell, is a legacy of management disrespect and on-the-job antagonisms.

"Bullying and a general disregard

for the collective agreement are commonplace," Russell said.

The harassment continues on the picket line, with managers telling picketing workers that they are easily replaceable. In one incident, a manager physically assaulted a picketing worker.

"It's a bad attitude that has made it hard to bargain fairly," he says.

Adding insult to injury, the company laid off approximately 20 IBEW members shortly before the lockout.

Local 213 says it wants to resolve the dispute as quickly as possible.

"The truth is, both sides aren't that far apart on the issues," says Local 213 Business Manager Mike Flynn. "We wanted to work it out internally, but the

lockout has made it the concern of the entire community."

With FortisBC requesting a 3 percent rate hike in the next year, Russell says workers are asking customers and the broader community to put pressure on the utility to settle a fair contract.

Go to IBEW.org for the latest news on the FortisBC lockout. ■

Une entreprise de distribution de services publics de la C.-B. met ses employés en lock-out

Après avoir été mis en lock-out par les dirigeants de l'entreprise le 26 juin dernier, quelque 240 membres de la section locale 213 de Vancouver, en Colombie-Britannique, ont passé la plus grande partie de leur été sur la ligne de piquetage.

La FIOE et l'entreprise de services publics appartenant au secteur privé, qui fournit l'électricité à la région de l'Intérieur-Sud de la Colombie-Britannique, venaient de sortir de négociations infructueuses lorsque l'employeur a décidé de fermer ses portes en imposant un lock-out.

« Il est regrettable que les parties n'aient pu conclure une entente considérant le mouvement substantiel que nous avons fait durant les négociations » dit Rod Russell, agent d'affaires de la section locale 213.

Les négociations entre la section locale 213 et la compagnie, qui appartient à la société Fortis Inc., la plus grande entreprise privée de services publics au Canada, étaient en cours depuis le mois de janvier dernier.

La section locale représente les travailleurs des systèmes et des installations de production, de transmission et de distribution d'électricité.

« Les dirigeants de l'entreprise étaient particulièrement agressifs, se concentrant principalement sur une concession clé : avoir le contrôle exclusif sur le contenu et les termes utilisés dans les descriptions de travail » ajoute le confrère Russell.

La S.L. 213 voulait avoir son mot à dire dans l'élaboration de nouvelles

descriptions de tâches et obtenir une augmentation salariale annuelle de 3% ainsi qu'un jour de congé additionnel combiné avec un nouveau congé provisoire.

Les négociations sont à un point mort depuis le mois d'avril. Les deux parties se sont entendues sur l'ordonnance émise par la Commission des relations de travail de la province sur le maintien des services essentiels, laquelle engage le syndicat et l'entreprise à maintenir les services essentiels de base pour la durée du conflit de travail, limitant le syndicat à très peu de moyens de pression.

« Nous pouvons exercer certains moyens de pression tels que le refus d'effectuer certains travaux qui ne mettent pas la sécurité de la population en danger, les débranchements ou les projets d'immobilisation » poursuit le confrère Russell.

La compagnie a forcé la tenue d'un vote sur son offre finale, laquelle a été rejetée par une écrasante majorité des membres.

Après avoir fermé ses portes, les gestionnaires de l'entreprise FortisBC ont commencé à enfreindre l'ordonnance qui avait été émise, en effectuant des travaux considérés non essentiels spécifiquement interdits dans celle-ci. Par exemple, les agents de la S.L. ont surpris des dirigeants en train de photographier des compteurs aux fins de la facturation, contournant ainsi la définition du gouvernement qui déterminait la lecture des compteurs comme ne faisant pas partie des services essentiels.

Selon le confrère Russell, un héritage du manque de respect des dirigeants et l'antagonisme au travail viennent encore plus alimenter cette mésaventure.

« L'intimidation et une indifférence générale à l'égard de la convention collective sont monnaie courante » dit-il.

Le harcèlement continue sur la ligne de piquetage alors que les travailleurs se font dire par les dirigeants de la compagnie qu'ils sont facilement remplaçables. Au cours d'un autre incident, un employé sur la ligne de piquetage a même été agressé par un dirigeant.

« C'est une mauvaise attitude qui a rendu difficile le processus de négociation équitable » déclare-t-il.

Et pour ajouter l'insulte à l'injure, la compagnie a mis à pied 20 membres de la FIOE un peu avant le lock-out.

La section locale 213 souhaite résoudre le différend le plus rapidement possible.

« En vérité, les positions des deux parties ne sont pas très éloignées. Nous voulions régler le problème à l'interne mais depuis le lock-out, toute la population est maintenant concernée ».

Comme l'indique le confrère Russell, l'entreprise FortisBC réclame une hausse des tarifs de 3 pourcent pour la prochaine année; les travailleurs ont donc décidé de demander aux clients et à la collectivité en général de mettre de la pression sur l'entreprise afin de conclure un contrat de travail équitable.

Consultez le site IBEW.org pour les dernières nouvelles sur le lock-out de FortisBC. ■

Transitions

Circuits

DECEASED
Robert W. McAlwee

We regret to report that former director of the IBEW Journal (now Media) Department, Robert McAlwee,

died on July 14. He was 92.

A Washington, D.C., native, Brother McAlwee served in the U.S. Navy during World War II before being initiated into Local 26 in 1948. He served as COPE chairman, press secretary and recording secretary before his election as business manager in 1959.

He served as president of the Washington Building Trades Council and chaired several committees of the Greater Washington Central Labor Council (now Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO).

Active in local job-training efforts, he was one of the founders of "Project Build," a pre-apprenticeship program for minorities and economically distressed youth in the D.C. metro area.

He also served as a member of the National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee and the Council on Industrial Relations.

In 1969 he was appointed to the Journal Department by then-International President Charles Pillard. He served as editor of the IBEW Journal, which at the time was the union's official publication.

In 1971, he was appointed director of the Journal Department. As director he was responsible for publishing the IBEW Journal, serving as official spokesman and overseeing the IBEW library and archives.

In addition to his work at the Journal Department, McAlwee served as convention manager for five International Conventions.

McAlwee retired in 1987.

He studied at Strayer's Business College and the Columbus School of Law at Catholic University.

"He was always friendly and always encouraging," retired Local 26 member Charles Brown wrote on McAlwee's online obituary page. "Never failed to ask 'How are you?'... I was privileged to be able to call him friend and am blessed to have known him."

He is survived by a son, a daughter, six grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

The IBEW members, officers and staff send our deepest condolences to Brother McAlwee's family and friends. ■

Boston Member Honored for Actions after Marathon Bombing

When the first bomb went off near the finish line of the Boston Marathon April 15, Boston Local 103 member Stephen Shinney was less than a 100 yards away, talking on the phone with his sister Kaitlyn, who was somewhere in the crowd nearby. They were in the middle of an everyday conversation ("Where are you?"; "Where are you?") so common in the mobile phone era when an explosion shattered the afternoon.

The first pressure cooker filled with nails, ball bearings and gunpowder erupted in the crowd, shredding muscle and breaking bone, killing three people and maiming 264 others.

"I just started telling her to run," Shinney said. "I knew it was a bomb. In my head, I knew people were hurt, that people were dead."

Still on the phone, Shinney says his sister was telling him to leave too. From opposite sides of the blast site, Shinney, a trained emergency medical technician, and Kaitlyn, a veteran firefighter and paramedic, ran toward the smoking hole on Boylston Street. They didn't see each other, didn't even know that they had ignored each other's advice to get to safety. They were still on the phone 13 seconds later, when the second bomb went off a block away.

Shinney said when he cleared the barricade at the first bomb site, he came to the body of Krystle Campbell, a 29-year-old from Medford, Mass., one of three killed by the bombs. Everywhere he looked, Shinney said, there was blood and ash.

"When I got there, I saw everything. Everywhere people were screaming," he said. "I knew people needed to be transferred, so I began to bring people out."

Pictures and closed circuit videos show Shinney running back to the bomb site with an empty wheelchair then bringing injured patients back to the marathon's medical tent several hundred yards away. He shuttled the injured to the tent until the bomb site was sealed off.

"Then I stayed at the medical tent, handing out IVs and helping the medics roll people onto stretchers, holding their heads in line with their backs in case their necks were broken," Shinney said.

Kaitlyn stayed with the injured at the first bomb site, identifying the worst injured, getting them into wheelchairs or ambulances or treating them herself.

It wasn't until he got home and watched the scene he'd just left on television that he began to think about what had happened and what he had done, and he hasn't really stopped thinking about it since.

"When I saw it, it finally sunk in. All the little kids that were hurt," he said. "When I am at work, every time I hear a loud bang, or someone drops a piece of steel, I see exactly where I was when bomb one went off. It's happening less often now."

IBEW Second District Vice President Frank Carroll said Shinney's "courage and generosity after the bombs went off is a powerful reminder that the good done by Shinney and others will outlive and outshine that day's darkness."

Videos and newspaper stories were the first to call him a hero. Then he and Kaitlyn were given citations by the mayor and city council of their hometown, Weymouth, for heroism. Shinney insists he didn't do anything extraordinary that day.

"His humility is a testament to his character but there is no other word for it," said International President Edwin D. Hill. "On that day, Brother Shinney embodied our deepest ideals and was a credit to himself, his family and his union."

"Growing up in our family, we were taught if someone needs help, you give it," he said. "Just say I did a good thing." ■

Federal Workers Alliance, IBEW Challenging Furloughs

A coalition of 20 unions including the IBEW, has launched a campaign to challenge the furlough of 650,000 Department of Defense civilian employees. Since July 1, the Federal Workers Alliance has been urging members of Congress to eliminate 11 unpaid furlough days that are part of the federal government's budget sequester.

Using an array of tactics to influence elected officials including office visits,



Boston Local 3 member Stephen Shinney and his sister Kaitlyn were presented signed Red Sox jerseys and an award for their actions after the Boston Marathon bombing.

electronic constituent letters, phone calls and social media activism, FWA is spreading the message: "Federal employees have already sacrificed more than \$103 billion in pay and benefits, and unpaid furlough days are the last straw."

Many of the 65,000 IBEW members who work in the federal sector—like shipyard workers, Army Corps of Engineers civilian employees who operate locks and dams or members at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—are not currently affected by the sequester. But others who work under the Service Contract Act, including represented employees at Andersen Air Force Base on Guam, could lose their jobs due to the cuts triggered by the sequester.

IBEW members affected include members of Jackson, Miss., Local 605 and Cleveland, Miss., Local 985 who work for the Air Force Space Surveillance System, which will close all sites on Oct. 2.

Whether or not IBEW members are immediately affected by furlough days or layoffs due to sequestration, says IBEW Government Department Director Chico McGill, "Our members need to support the DoD workers now. The men and women being furloughed today provide essential support to our soldiers, supporting their missions abroad and defending our families against threats at home."

"The austerity measures that reduce their pay by as much as 20 percent could be deepened over the next 10 years, impacting tens of thousands of federal workers—including our own members, and our surrounding communities." Some of the furloughs are nonsensical and self-defeating, says McGill, like telling security workers at a military base in Georgia to stay home, causing civilian workers to stand in line for hours before they could enter security screening to start their workdays.

McGill urges IBEW members to contact their congressional representatives to

stop the furloughs. "Studies have shown that \$900 billion could be put back into the economy if the government ends sequestration," he says, citing estimates of increased spending by people earning salaries, helping spur economy recovery.

McGill encourages all local unions with jurisdiction over federal workers to respond to a questionnaire sent from the International Office detailing how their members are affected by austerity measures.

Congressional Republicans and President Obama agreed to the sequester in the summer of 2011. Under that agreement, failure to slash the deficit by \$4 trillion by 2013 would result in automatic across-the-board cuts. Obama and congressional Democrats have offered numerous plans to avoid the cuts since then, but have been blocked by the GOP, which rejects any budget plan that does not involve cuts to Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid.

FWA Chairman William Dougan, speaking for 300,000 federal workers whose unions belong to the alliance, says, "It is entirely possible to reduce mandatory furlough days due to a quirk in the sequestration law requiring all accounts at a federal department/agency to be cut equally."

With thousands of members engaged in shipbuilding from the Naval shipyard in New Hampshire to Huntington-Ingalls historic yard in Mississippi, the IBEW, says International President Edwin D. Hill, has a serious stake in both budget policy and military readiness.

"Some experts already say that our nation's naval fleet is not large enough to meet our worldwide obligations," says Hill. "We can't be silent while politicians claiming to be acting in the public interest cut into the muscle of our nation's defense and deplete our skilled manufacturing base."

IBEW's members in the federal sector cover a wide range of responsibilities and skill sets and work across the United States. They include men and women who maintain trails in Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks for the Department of the Interior, printers at the Government Printing Office in Washington, D.C., and in the Bureau of Reclamation in Denver who study the effects of dam development on surrounding natural resources. ■



The Federal Workers Alliance has helped coordinate the struggle against furloughs with stickers, online petitions and lobbying.

Local Lines

Three-Year Agreement Ratified

L.U. 1 (as,c,ees,ei,em,es,et,fm,i,mt,rts,s,se,sp a,st&ws), ST. LOUIS, MO—In June, the Local 1 membership ratified a new three-year contract with signatory contractors. Through a collective effort, the Labor Management Committee negotiated for months to complete terms of the agreement. The Local 1 representatives who sat through months of negotiations are commended for their tireless work for the membership. Their work ethic and dedication to the well-being of the Brotherhood are the reason they were selected to represent our local. Sincere thanks to our negotiating committee for their efforts.

In June, Bus. Mgr. Frank Jacobs sent a letter to the membership outlining issues we currently have with Laborer's Local 110. Please be mindful of the instructions in the letter on how to handle any situations that may arise on your project. As always, Local 1 members will always follow the principles of union solidarity. If you have any questions, please contact the hall for further information.

With regret we report the death of the following members: Loyce Criner, Larry Stevens, Arthur Walsh, Thomas Przyzycki, David Woodson, Neil Gwin, Robert Faudi, Walter Wise, Warren Kuhnert, Joseph Friedman, Vonza Wilborn, Harold Heineman, James Whitehead, John Cotner, John Sanfilippo, Carroll Quinn, Charles Peat, Delores Boehner, Robert Schaeffer, Leodis Waller, John Bender, James Lampson Jr., Donald Rolf, Thomas Foerstel, Owen Prince, Frank Thompson, Nicole Galloway, Alvin Kroeter, Ronald Kinzler, Darryl Sklebar, Robert Franklin, David Linneman and Roland Speer.

Matt Gober, P.S.

Next Generation Youth Caucus

L.U. 11 (i,rts&spa), LOS ANGELES, CA—The Next Generation Youth Caucus from Local 11 is seeking to recruit members who are ages 35 and younger (members of all ages are welcome).

The Youth Caucus meets the second Wednesday of every month at 4 p.m. in Commerce, CA. They were originally formed as an offshoot of the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus and had their first meeting in August 2012. [To read more, see "EWMC Honors Legacy, Empowers Young Workers," *The Electrical Worker*, July 2013.]

The main goal of the Youth Caucus is to get more youth involved in Local 11 and community activities. Newly elected Youth Caucus officers are: Pres. Alton Wilkerson, Vice Pres. Horacio Garcia, Treas. Katy Haugland and Rec. Sec. Corey Davidson.

On June 20, the Youth Caucus brought the



IBEW Local 11 Next Generation Youth Caucus members: Corey Davidson (left), Alton Wilkerson, Jayson Lee, Horacio Garcia and Francisco "Paco" Arago.

2nd Food Truck Festival to our training facility. They hope to continue to host fundraising events throughout the year and continue to participate in community outreach.

Local 11's future looks bright and we look forward to the present and future leaders produced from our Youth Caucus who will continue to lead this local. Check out their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/pages/Ewmc-Next-Generation-Youth-Local-11/346266842090428?fref=ts

Diana Limon, P.S.

'Smart Grid' Back on Track

L.U. 15 (u), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn vetoed the Energy Infrastructure Modernization Act legislation; the General Assembly overrode the veto and the "Smart Grid" is back on track. This will result in billions of dollars being spent to modernize the electrical grid and thousands of jobs for IBEW members.

Our local held its election of officers. Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dean Apple, Vice Pres. Terry McGoldrick and Rec. Sec. Christine Watkins were re-elected for a three-year term.

On the fossil side, Kincaid Station is waiting for FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) approval to transfer ownership to EquiPower. Our members at Kincaid voted (67 yes to 2 no) to take the EquiPower benefits plans between the date of transfer and the collective bargaining agreement expiration (September 2013) over "mirrored" Dominion plans.

As a result of the Midwest Generation "Lean Operations" reduction in force, all 70 members who requested the severance package were able to retire. Fewer than 10 members were involuntarily

laid off. Midwest Generation got bondholder and court approval to continue negotiating the Powerton/Joliet leases until Sept. 30, 2013. The prior deadline was July 1, 2013.

The Nuclear side held a "State of Nuclear Meeting" to discuss major issues. We now have a new travel agreement in place for Local 15 members to go to Clinton Nuclear Station to assist during an October outage.

We started a Job Call pilot program on the Commercial side to improve the process of filling open clerical positions. The first job call was a big success. In May, a group of our Underground workers started their cable-splicer apprenticeship.

Our aerial group was called to assist an Iowa utility with some challenging 345-kilovolt lines that stretched across the Mississippi River. They completed the job safely and efficiently.

Local 15 wishes all a safe, happy Labor Day!

Doug Vedas, P.S.

NextGen Meet & Greet

L.U. 37 (em,o&u), FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA—Local 37's NextGen Committee recently hosted a meet and greet for members age 35

and under from the Fredericton area. The goal was to bring together some of our younger union members for a bite to eat, give them a chance to meet some other members, chat with the business manager, share some laughs, and win some prizes—all in a fun and casual environment.

The result? A great turnout with members sharing the kinds of perspectives, questions, ideas, and trends that we all need to pay attention

to—youth are one of the key drivers to ensuring our union grows and survives. It was encouraging to see instant camaraderie and connection in a group of people that, although similar in age, are very diverse in background and interests.

The NextGen37 Committee looks forward to planning their next event and hopes to connect with even more members!

Mary J. Williamson, A.B.M.



Local 37 members enjoy the NextGen Meet & Greet. From left are: Jennifer Roy, Rob Gillies and Bus. Mgr. Ross Galbraith.

Volland Electric Success

L.U. 41 (em,es,govt,i,se&spa), BUFFALO, NY—In June, Local 41-represented Volland Electric celebrated its 70th year in business.

The company was founded as an electric motor repair shop in 1943 by Alexander T. Volland. Mr. Volland saw the need for quality, on-time rebuilding of electric motors during the World War II era shortage of new motors. Volland Electric has continually practiced the philosophy of anticipating



Local 41 steward Joe Kondziela (left) with Ron Graham, Chris Graham and Kirk Graham of Volland Electric.

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			(se) Sign Erector	
(ees) Electrical Equipment Service	(it) Instrument Technicians	(mar) Marine			

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.

customer needs and providing quality customer service and equipment.

Today, the family owned business—now run by CEO Ron Graham, son-in-law of Mr. Volland, and Graham's sons Chris (president) and Kirk (vice president)—understands that meeting customers' needs has meant diversifying into multiple areas, which has broadened the work force.

Volland Electric now sells, services and installs cranes, hoists, welders, magnets and pumps. Each time a new line of equipment is added, Local 41 members at Volland are willing to step up to meet the new challenge head on.

The vision of management and the high-quality skills of IBEW Local 41 members have helped keep Volland Electric prosperous for 70 years. Thanks to all for their continued success.

Gregory R. Inglut, A.B.M.

Apprentice Graduation Ceremony

L.U. 43 (em,i&rts), SYRACUSE, NY—The Central New York Joint Electrical Apprenticeship and Training Committee's Annual Graduation Ceremony took place Saturday, June 1. Twenty-five apprentices graduated to journeyman wireman status. Training Dir. Jeff DeSocio in his remarks had kind words and advice for the graduating class.

Congratulations to the entire graduating class. Special congratulations to award recipients, including Jeffrey Richmond as Scholarly Apprentice of the Year. Jeffrey finished the program with a final classroom average of 96.1 percent and more than 9,000 on-the-job training hours.

Other awards included: the Most Outstanding Apprentice Award presented to Matthew Haynes, and a Perfect Attendance Award received by apprentice Jasminko Corbic.

A final award, presented by Bus. Mgr. Don Morgan to William Towsley Jr., was one of personal sentiment, for Towsley's continued dedication to the IBEW.

Congratulations to the newest journeyman wiremen of IBEW Local 43!

Gene Townsend, P.S.

Lineman's Rodeo & Annual Stewards Conference

L.U. 47 (lctt,mo,o,u&uow), DIAMOND BAR, CA—Happy Labor Day! The annual Southern California Edison/IBEW Local 47 Lineman's Rodeo was June 8. The winning journeyman team was SCE's Kevin Smith, Ryan Roth and Jason Patterson. The winning

senior team was SCE's Jack Flavin, Willie Rios and Juan Pulido. The winning apprentice was Steven Escamilla from SCE. Gerad Coburn, SCE, won the Groundman Competition. Congratulations to everyone who participated.

More than 200 stewards attended our Annual Stewards Conference in Pala, CA. Bus. Mgr. Pat Lavin welcomed guest speakers including Ninth District Int. Vice Pres. Michael S. Mowrey; Kirk Groenendaal, special assistant to the International President for Membership Development; and Int. Reps. Charles Randall and Tracy Prezeau. Also on hand was California State Controller John Chiang.

After more than a year of negotiations, a first contract was agreed to and ratified by the workers at ArborMetrics, a line clearance, patroller company.

Local 47 was recognized as the bargaining representative for a group of municipal utility workers at the City of Vernon. Bargaining will begin soon.

We are sad to report the passing of retired member William Shiver. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.

Work safe, live well, work union!

Stan Stosel, P.S.



Winners of the 2013 IBEW Local 51 Scholarship Golf Outing.

Contracts Ratified

L.U. 51 (catv,lctt,o,ptc,rtb,t,u&uow), SPRINGFIELD, IL—We welcome clerical and technical workers at EnerStar Power Corp. in Paris, IL, into the local union. These new members ratified their first-time agreement on May 13. Additionally, our members at NECA-IBEW Benefits Administration ratified a new, three-year agreement.

After more than a year of contract negotiations, our Frontier and Frontier Legacy contracts were recently ratified. Both are four-year agreements. A two-year Wireless USA contract was also ratified.

At press time, we are still in negotiations with Dynegy Midwest Generation regarding our coal plant

agreements, and a federal mediator is involved. The company wants major concessions from the union and we hope to reach the best deal that we can.

Congratulations to our brothers from the LaSalle area on winning our 2013 golf outing. We were able to award seven \$500 college scholarships to the following recipients: Susan Bloemke, Molly Clifton, Sydney Edwards, Brian Hartrup, Brian Jennings, Daniel Smith and Joseph Tomlovich.

Local 51 recently held its election of officers. Elected were: Bus. Mgr. Jim Bates, Pres. Walter Westfall, Vice Pres. Wesley Heckman Jr., Rec. Sec. Debra Perry and Treas. Julie Brandt.

Please work safely and attend your monthly unit meeting. We look forward to seeing you at our annual fish fry on Sept. 21 at Clinton Lake.

Karlene Knisley, B.R.

Local Update

L.U. 53 (lctt,o,rts&u), KANSAS CITY, MO—IBEW Local 53 and Associated Electric Cooperative Inc. reached a tentative agreement July 18. At the time

of this writing, a membership vote on the contract was scheduled at Thomas Hill Power Plant on Aug. 14 and at New Madrid Power Plant on Aug. 15. There are some major changes in the tentative agreement, with one of the biggest being medical. Under the tentative agreement, the employees would have a choice between a PPO and a HAS.

Local 53 held its 25th Annual Crappie Tournament on June 8 at Truman Lake. The lake was about 14 feet high this year, which made it a little tougher.

First place went to the team of Nathan Warstsadt and Jason Moppin (representing Southwest Co-op) with a total weight of 9.12 pounds. Second place went to the team of Gary Jump and James Fleeman (Southwest Co-op) with a total weight of 7.48 pounds. Third place went to the team of Darin Lankford and Doug Shelling (representing Construction) with a total weight of 7.32 pounds. Fourth place went to the husband and wife team of David and Shelley Johnson (Laclede Co-op) with a total weight of 7.10 pounds. Fifth place went to husband and wife team Jim and Jeanie Gaylord (representing Construction) with a total weight of 6.75 pounds.

The staff of Local 53 fried plenty of fish. Each paid entrant received a goody bag with some nice door prizes. Everyone had a good time.

Hope all finds and keeps you well ... Local 53!

Tracy A. Riley, V.P.

Members Ratify Contracts

L.U. 57 (lctt,mo,o,t&u), SALT LAKE CITY, UT—After 10 months of tough negotiations and multiple ratification votes, the members working for Rocky Mountain Power, a MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company, voted to accept the tentative agreement. While the terms are acceptable, MidAmerican continues to use a strategy of regressive and concessionary bargaining, as has been witnessed by all who are employed by MidAmerican and its subsidiaries.

On a positive note, the Rocky Mountain Power (Laramie) agreement was extended for a year, and the Idaho Falls Power agreement was ratified. With the assistance of the International Office, we have also launched an informational Web site aimed at Idaho Power employees. The employees have been asking questions, so it was a good time to try out the site. If you know of anyone who works for Idaho Power, have them check out www.abetteridahopower.com or contact us at the Local 57 office.

Be safe and keep your focus during your workday.

Scott Long, P.S.

Apprenticeship Graduation

L.U. 103 (cs&i), BOSTON, MA—Congratulations go to the 151 recent electrical apprenticeship graduates. They are commended for their commitment to both themselves and to Local 103. They have spent the last five years learning the mechanical portion of the trade, attending classes at night to learn about electrical theory, electrical code requirements and much more. Their commitment to work and education has provided them with a solid foundation, which they will utilize throughout their careers.

The 36th Annual Pin Night was June 18. On Pin Night members receive a pin and certificate for their years of service and dedication to the electrical industry. Members who have served 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, or more years receive the honor. This year 317 members received a service pin. Recognized for the most years served was Brother Robert W. Baker, with 71 years of IBEW service. Congratulations and thank you to all for your service.

A portion of the Pin Night event was dedicated to the 2013 Local 103 IBEW scholarship winners. A total of \$100,000 was awarded equally in college education scholarships to five sons/grandsons of members and to five daughters/granddaughters of members. Best of luck to the students in the fall.

Kevin C. Molineaux, P.S.



2013 SCE/IBEW Local 47 Lineman's Rodeo winners. Next it's on to the International Rodeo in Kansas City in October.



Local 103 congratulates recent apprenticeship graduates.

Local Lines

Spirit of Union Brotherhood

L.U. 111 (em,govt,lctt,mt,o,rtb,spa&u), DENVER, CO—The general election for local union officers was held June 7. Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Michael A. Byrd was re-elected for a fourth term. Also re-elected were: Pres. Mike Kostelecky, Vice Pres. Kristie Knudson, Treas. Robert Estrada and Rec. Sec. Patrick Quinn. Elected to the Examining Board were: Jeff Jablonski, Michael R. Moore and Reginald Vigil.

Due to an unfortunate error on the initial ballot, the Executive Board election was approved to be re-run, with ballots mailed June 8 and counted July 12. Elected to the Executive Board were: Ron Geary, Nate Gutierrez, Kevin “Smiley” Henderson, Rich Meisinger, Richard Sisneros, Alfred Wallace and Charles Young. All officers and board members were sworn in Aug. 2.

Another noteworthy topic is the outpouring of membership support for a fellow union brother in crisis. Bro. Matt Bucholz was diagnosed with leukemia, which has been a struggle for him and his young family, wife Crystal, and three young sons. Fundraising efforts got underway immediately. The outpouring of love and support for this young family is what union brothers and sisters do for a fellow member in times of crisis and hardship. These efforts exceeded expectations when members from other employers, who don't even know Matt and his family, collaborated in widespread fundraising efforts to help this family. This is what union brotherhood is all about.

Mike Kostelecky, P.S.



Local 125 Executive Board Rec. Sec. Ray Cowell (foreground, left) and Vice Pres. Paul Dietrich (far right) receive awards.

Annual Benefit Golf Classic

L.U. 125 (lctt,o,t&u), PORTLAND, OR—The 17th Annual Benefit Golf Classic was held in June. This annual event raises funds for the Oregon Burn Center at Legacy Emanuel Health Care Center in Portland and specifically helps fund burn prevention education. Last year, the facility treated approximately 400 patients—many injured on the job.

The local's Executive Board Rec. Sec. Ray Cowell and Vice Pres. Paul Dietrich were honored with “Sponsor of the Year” recognition, which is given to sponsors and/or volunteers whose time and/or monetary contributions make the tournament possible. As anyone who knows Brothers Cowell and Dietrich would assume, each man demonstrated absolute humility when presented with this recognition. Congratulations, Ray and Paul!

Marcy Grail, P.S.

Welcome to New Apprentices

L.U. 153 (em,i,mt,rtb,rts,se,spa&st), SOUTH BEND, IN—The Local 153 elections recently took place, and

we wish to congratulate those members who were elected. Thanks to the outgoing officers for their service to the local over the past three years.

We have started and welcomed new apprentices, in both the Inside and the Residential programs, to Local 153 and the IBEW family. These are the largest apprenticeship classes we have had for some time, and we hope this is a sign of an improving economy.

At the June union meeting, Billy Brenneman was recognized by the trustees of our Money Purchase Plan (MPP), and also by the large membership crowd in attendance, for his 20 years of service to the MPP.

Stan Miles, Mbr. Dev.

A Voice for Workers

L.U. 193 (i,lctt,o,rts,spa&u), SPRINGFIELD, IL—Happy Labor Day! The holiday is taken to show the world that labor is united to fight for fair wages, good conditions and fair work for a fair day's pay. The parade and picnic are just a part of all of this, to refocus on our Local 193 and other labor locals. Our struggle is to make the voices of working people heard and to never be taken for granted. We never want to see a devastating so-called “right-to-work” measure in Illinois!

The IBEW Poker Run for Charity and the Rick Ross IBEW Golf Outing were both held in August. Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers who make these events happen. At this writing, the Cubs vs. Cardinals bus trip was planned for Aug. 10 (a report to follow for our next article).

Apprentice classes start in September; Local 193 welcomes all of the apprentices to the IBEW-JATC program. The Sixth District Progress Meeting will be held in Minnesota; it is always an informative gathering.

Habitat for Humanity completed houses 91 and 92, and at press time Habitat volunteers were starting number 93. The entire county thanks our wonderful volunteers.

Our condolences go to the families of recently deceased members Luther Bach and Timothy Curtis. Our brothers will be missed.

Don Hudson, P.S.

Labor Day Parade: 'Buy Local—Build Local'

L.U. 197 (em&i), BLOOMINGTON, IL—At this writing, Jack Roberts and Robin Roberts were hard at work completing preparations for the 25th annual golf outing. The festivities were scheduled for July 27 at Fairlakes Golf Course in Secor. Jack and Robin have co-chaired the golf committee for years and it's always a great outing.

Work is still slow in our jurisdiction. A few calls have trickled in, but nothing like we have hoped. If you are on Book I, we encourage you to get out and sign some books.

The theme for the Labor Day parade is “Buy Local—Build Local.” Places like Kroger and Dunkin Donuts have brought in workers from outside our community with little to no benefits and pay substandard area wages to complete their projects. In turn they want the local community to support



IBEW Local 197 members turn out on a Saturday to attend a Building Trades job rally at a Kroger store on College Avenue in Normal, IL.

their stores. Instead of buying groceries, coffee and donuts from these stores, I would encourage everyone to patronize the merchants who have used our labor.

Come out and march together at the Labor Day parade. We start lining up at 9 a.m. in front of Diggers in downtown Bloomington. The Labor Day T-shirts can be picked up at the hall prior to the parade or on parade morning. Stay involved in the union!

Mike Raikes, Pres.

Upcoming Projects Anticipated

L.U. 223 (em,govt&i), BROCKTON, MA—As we go through the summer we wait for the Massachusetts Gaming Commission to select the location where the slot parlor authorized by the Massachusetts Legislature will be located. At press time the two front runners are the former Raynham dog track and the Plainridge horse track. Both will provide much needed construction jobs in Massachusetts.

We are reaching out and meeting with open-shop contractors to discuss the benefits of being signatory. With the economy finally starting to turn the corner, it is our hope to show these contractors the benefits of being an IBEW contractor. Our commitment is to provide highly skilled journeymen and trained apprentices to these contractors.

The work outlook reflects the expectation for the projects set to begin. It is hoped there will be no more delays as the projects in the pipeline are beginning to come to fruition.

Doug Nelson, B.A.

Honoring Our Past



Local 269 retiree Philip Narusewicz, age 97, attends retirees dinner. He is recognized as the local's oldest member.

L.U. 269 (i&o), TRENTON, NJ—Active members and retirees gathered recently for the annual dinner honoring our retired members for their service and commitment to our local. New faces have joined the ranks and, sadly, some faces were conspicuously absent. The yearly event is always marked by good friends, good food and good spirits, and this year's

dinner was no exception. Service pins were handed out along with the customary good-natured roasting of the recipients by the guests. Once again, this year's dinner went off without a hitch, thanks in large part to all who helped organize and plan the event. A job well done by all!

The membership also welcomed back Bus. Mgr. Steve Aldrich at the July meeting. Steve suffered a severe accident at his home but has returned to resume his full-time duties. He was warmly received by the members and he went out of his way to thank everyone who provided help and support during a very difficult time. We look forward to having Steve around a good deal longer.

Brian Jacoppo, P.S.

Labor Day History 101

L.U. 343 (i,spa&st), LE SUEUR, MN—Happy Labor Day, brothers and sisters! Local 343 has an abundance of work. The Rochester Proton project, Prairie Island steam turbine upgrade, Le Suer bio-gas project, Bingham Lake ethanol plant and other projects throughout the jurisdiction are providing our members the long-awaited opportunity to work closer to home.

But what about Labor Day? The first U.S. Labor Day was celebrated in New York City's Union Square on Sept. 5, 1882, to appease city workers after numerous strikes. It became a federal holiday in 1894, but at a cost, a cost measured in lives. Following the deaths of 30 striking American Railway union members at the hands of U.S. Marshals and the U.S. Army during the Pullman Strike, the U.S. Congress unanimously voted to approve rush legislation making the first Monday of September, Labor Day, a national holiday. Traditionally, Labor Day was celebrated with street parades to show the public “the strength and esprit de corps of the trade and labor organizations,” followed by festivals for the workers and their families.

Let's show our strength, comradeship, enthusiasm and devotion to the cause of the IBEW. We are the American working class and proud of who we are.

Be American ... buy American.

Tom Small, P.S.

Congratulations to Officers

L.U. 347 (em,i,mt,rtb,rts&spa), DES MOINES, IA—Local 347 congratulates all of the new officers of

the local. Elected to office are: Bus. Mgr. Pat Wells, Pres. Scott Farnsworth, Vice Pres. David Butler, Rec. Sec. Matt Deangelo and Treas. Kyle Overton. Executive Board members are: Edward Allen, Jason Ballard, Tim Hawthorne, Michael O'Brien, Dale Wion and Douglas Wolf. Al DeHeer is business agent, and Doug Buchman is organizer.

Local 347 also wishes to thank former business manager Kevin Clark, Jerry Kurimski and Courtland Pfaff for their service to the local during the previous term. Bro. Kurimski served as assistant business agent and Bro. Pfaff as organizer.

Work in the area looks promising in the coming months. Have a great Labor Day.

Mike Schweiger, P.S.

A Career of Service

L.U. 357 (c,i,mt&se), LAS VEGAS, NV—Congratulations to our 2013 scholarship winners! They are: Trevor Davis, Shelby Hinricksen, Kenneth Kuhn, Ciara Cihak and Dillion Lacy.

We are having great success with our Member to Member and Member to Future Member drives, thanks to the hard work and dedication of all the brothers and sisters who reach out and lend their time to these important events.

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of retired member Gary Pitts, who died July 6. He is survived by his wife and children, as well as his father, Cliff Pitts, who is a retired fellow member. Bro. Gary joined the IBEW in 1983 following in his father's footsteps. He served his local as a business agent from 1998-2001 and was an assistant business agent from 2001 until his retirement in 2011. Our sincere condolences go out to Bro. Gary's family. He will be greatly missed.

Jennifer Tabor, P.S.

Helping to 'Make a Wish'

L.U. 441 (as,i&rts), SANTA ANA, CA—Local 441 recently held its election of officers. Congratulations to all newly elected officers!

They are: Bus. Mgr. Richard Samaniego, Pres. Doug Chappell, Vice Pres. Randy Long, Treas. Mike Gale and Rec. Sec. Neal Lauzon. Executive Board members are: Dean Francis, Matt Iantorno, Shane Levoit, Stephen Westbrook and Fred Young. Examining Board members: Joel Cypert, Kevin Dykema, John Leyvas and Nick Sparks.

Our local is proud to recognize member Charlie Hobbs for volunteering his services to help the Make a Wish Foundation. A member of Local 441 since 1989, Charlie recently got involved in



Local 441 member Charlie Hobbs and young Colette Foster.

the Make a Wish Foundation of Orange County. He donated material and labor to install electrical work for a project known as "Colette's Garden." Colette is an 8-year-old girl who can't be exposed to the sun for an extended period of time, leaving her to spend most of her time inside her home in Huntington Beach. Charlie and the other volunteers renovated the house, focusing on a new driveway, fresh paint, barbecue, water fountains and new gardens for the front and back yards so Colette has a scenic view from inside the house. Local 441 is proud of members like Charlie, who so willingly offer their time and talents for the community.

Richard Vasquez, B.R.

Officers Elected

L.U. 449 (catv,em,i,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), POCATELLO, ID—I wish to first thank everyone who participated in the local elections. Newly elected officers are: Bus. Mgr. Rodney James, Pres. Chris Lochridge, Rec. Sec. Aaron Mayer, Treas. Colby Averett; Executive Board—Chris Abernathy, Colby Christensen, Phil Colman, Clay Hirning, Gary Oneida; and Examining Board—Leola Duke. The choices that are made in elections at the local level are important and help determine the direction of each local. The people who run our International Office began their careers at the local level. So you can see how important it is.

As of this writing, events were scheduled as follows: our regular summer picnic on July 13; our Western Counties picnic, in conjunction with the Magic Valley Central Labor Council, on Aug. 24; and the annual Chukar's Baseball Night on Aug. 17. Hope everyone has enjoyed a safe and prosperous summer.

Congratulations to Thomas Stears, Robert Simpson, Keith Burke and William J. Dalton on their retirement. Local 449 thanks them for their years of service. The local wishes them well and hopes they have many years of relaxing retirement.

Chris Lochridge, Pres.



Local 459's rodeo team: Jeremy Tarbay (left), Thomas Zimmerman and Jason Halverson.

NSUJL Linemen's Benefit Rodeo

L.U. 459 (ees,em,govt,so&u), JOHNSTOWN, PA—Local 459 members Thomas Zimmerman, Jason Halverson and Jeremy Tarbay out of Somerset, PA, competed at the NSUJL Linemen's Benefit Rodeo in Claysburg, PA, on June 1.

The NSUJL (National Sisterhood United for Journeyman Linemen) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing assistance to families of fallen or

injured IBEW journeyman linemen and apprentice linemen. NSUJL hosted their inaugural rodeo this year. The Local 459 team of three took second place overall and plans to participate in upcoming years.

Teams from as far away as California participated in the NSUJL's event. The organization had a successful first year. Family and friends of all participants had fun while learning about the NSUJL and the support the organization provides for families of injured and fallen linemen.

Jeremy Tarbay, S.S./P.S. Pro Tem

'Greetings from the North Bay'

L.U. 551 (c,i&st), SANTA ROSA, CA—We put all of our local hands out to work through the past winter and spring, and were able to get a good chunk of travelers out too! Thank you to all involved for coming out and giving Local 551 a hand to get our jobs done! With our larger project at peak, the work picture is starting to stabilize. As usual we are working hard to open more jobs as others come to a close.

We hope to see all our members, with family and friends in tow, at the North Bay Labor Council's Labor Day Pancake Breakfast. Politics and pancakes—good times, people!

And now the election results! Congratulations to our business manager and all officers. Onward to the next three years!

The Local 551 election of officers was held June 4. Officers elected are: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Jack Buckhorn, Pres. John McEntagart, Vice Pres. Denise Soza, Treas. Sergio Sales, Rec. Sec. Mitch Clarey; Executive Board members John Caster, Michael Donegan, Gary Giuliani; and Examining Board members Robert Barsi, Charles O'Neil, Thomas Ritch and Steve Stobel. The election judge was Denise Anderson, and election tellers were Dave Borgeson, Charlie Crocker, Rob deRutte and Hanna Dolan.

Denise D. Soza, P.S.

Graduation & Awards Ceremony

L.U. 569 (i,mar,mt,rts&spa), SAN DIEGO, CA—Local 569 held its annual graduation ceremony June 14. Congratulations to all of the graduating journeyman inside wiremen and journeyman soundmen.

More than 400 attendees gathered to honor the graduates and award recipients. Award

recipients included the following: Outstanding Inside Wireman Graduate—Matthew Russell; Outstanding Sound Graduate—James Golden; IBEW Local 569 Service Award recipient—Charles Brown; and apprenticeship scholarship recipient—Eloy Bazan Jr. Several graduates received Perfect Attendance Awards: Chad Barsoom, Brett Browne, Ben Cusey, Octave Damond, James Golden, David Laabs, Christin Rivera, Matthew Russell, Douglas Smith and Michael Wheeler.

We also congratulate other award winners: Journeyman Trainer of the Year—Ron Zieber; Lifelong Learning Award recipient—Arturo Pino; and Certificates of Appreciation awardees—Student Council Pres. Michael Wheeler and Sound Technician program Student Council Rep. Matthew Santiago.

A Certificate of Meritorious Service Award—from the California Apprenticeship Council, Division of Apprenticeship Standards—was presented to each of the following Local 569 members for their years of service on the JATC board: Alex Concha, David Taylor and Cas Wesolowski. Concha and Taylor have served on the JATC board for five years, and Wesolowski for 10 years.

Congratulations to all for a job well.

David Taylor, Pres./P.S.

A New School Year Begins

L.U. 595 (c,govt,i&st), DUBLIN, CA—Our new ZNE training center is up and running. Students and instructors are very excited about their new digs. Gov. Jerry Brown, U.S.



Mel Switzer retires.

Rep. Barbara Lee and IBEW Ninth District Int. Vice Pres. Michael S. Mowrey joined many other dignitaries at our ribbon cutting ceremony in May.

Mel Switzer, who served as apprenticeship coordinator and longtime JATC instructor, recently retired. After working in the field as a foreman for over 30 years, Mel joined the JATC staff and never looked back. In 2011 Mel was recognized by IBEW Hour Power as the first Instructor of the Year award winner. Mel has shown great commitment to Local 595 and to his students. He has been a leader in the field and will be greatly missed. Congratulations and best wishes to Mel.



Local 569 congratulates the class of 2013 graduating Inside and Sound apprentices.

Local Lines

When we ratified our new contract in June, our members made a statement about doing something about a declining market share. We have expanded the scope of the CE/CW program in Alameda County and have rolled out the program to our NECA partners to go after work lost to non-signatory electrical contractors. The results will be threefold: more projects for our contractors, more work hours for our members and an increase in IBEW membership as we organize a new work force that will work side by side with our journeymen and apprentices on jobs that we otherwise would not be doing. It is a bold move that we are taking to grow our ranks and our market share. We received marching orders from Int. Pres. Hill to do what it takes, and our members are up to the challenge.

Tom Mullarkey, B.R.

Graduation & Summer Events

L.U. 601 (f&rtb), CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, IL—Local 601 held its class of 2013 apprentice graduation May 31 at the I Hotel. Congratulations to our new journeyman wiremen: Roger Ponder, Stephen Adams, Dan White, Ryan Logsdon, Chris Wehrle, Mike Maxwell, James Barron, Matt Horton, Justin Robl, Jarrett Clem, John Moore, Dan Kaiser, Cody Jones, Chase Nappe, Darin Kresin, Jamie Matthews, Jake Dalton, Stuart Weiss, Brett Shilts and Ryan Bensyl.

Local 601 held its election of officers June 4. Congratulations to newly elected officers, and happy retirement to former business manager Michael Herbert.

Newly elected officers are: Bus. Mgr. Charles Hoss, Pres. Bryan Holderfield, Vice Pres. Kenny Schrock, Rec. Sec. Chet Gentile and Treas. Ted Burgin. Executive Board members: Bob Withers, Tui Lynch, Dan Bender, Toby Allen and Shane Street. Examining Board members: Jake Malloch, Blake Withers and Dan Fletcher. Assistant business managers: Frank Rubenacker and Pat Smith.

Our work picture is still slow. We have 46 on book 1 and 167 on book 2. A few jobs will hire a few more electricians, but several projects are winding down.

At this writing, Local 601's summer golf league and softball league had started. The softball team's spring fundraiser was well attended; thanks to all who helped.

Also at this writing, the 37th Annual Invitational Softball Tournament was scheduled for Aug. 10-11.

At press time, plans were underway for a Labor Day celebration for the entire family with free food and drinks. The Labor Day event includes a parade, a band and a softball tournament as well

as games and inflatable rides for the kids.

*Robert Withers, Tr. Dir.
Dan Hatter, P.S.*

Apprentice Graduation Banquet

L.U. 611 (catv,es,govt,i,lctt,o,spa,t&u), ALBUQUERQUE, NM—On July 12 our annual apprenticeship graduation ceremony banquet was held at the Holiday Inn Pyramid. Completion certificates were presented to Derrick H. Clark, Andrew J. Cusimano, Nevarro Jay Davis, Brandon W. Fontaine, Christopher Goodrich, Michael J. Hawkins, Alan K. Jander, James M. Johnson, Charles F. Kessler, Manuel C. Marquez, Raul A. Martinez Jr., Anthony R. Ortiz, Patrick A. Pollard, Ryan D. Ralston, William J. Rigo, Benjamin J. Roberts, Daniel G. Rodriguez Jr., Andrew W. Romero and Michael R. Trujillo. This year's outstanding apprentice was Charles F. Kessler; Charles was also the district contest winner. Congratulations to Charles and to all of the new journeymen.

This year's recipient of the C.S. Mitchell Award was Michael Bochte. Congratulations, Michael.

Our local held a special election in July. The winners are: Bus. Mgr. Mark Trujillo, Rec. Sec. Cliff Trujillo and Treas. Lloyd Beebe. Congratulations to all the winners.

Local 611 extends condolences to the friends and families of members who recently passed away: Frank K. Hunt, Clyde E. Rodgers, Olen C. Chambers, Wallace J. Curley, Jose B. Roybal, Billy F. Smith, Delbert W. Noblitt, Thomas R. Clark, Patrick K. Thompson, Eustacio Padilla, George E. Carnahan Jr. and Roy L. Carpenter Jr.

Remember: Our regular monthly union meetings are on the third Saturday of each month.

Darrell J. Blair, P.S.



Local 611 apprentice graduates.



Local 601 congratulates the class of 2013 apprentice graduates.



Local 617 class of 2013 apprenticeship graduates.

2013 Apprenticeship Graduates

L.U. 617 (c,i,mo&st), SAN MATEO, CA—Congratulations to the Apprenticeship Class of 2013! The local welcomes into its ranks the new inside wiremen and Sound and Communications installers. The inside wireman graduates are: Gareth Baker, Thomas Becerra, Paul Boissiere, Christopher Bonini, Sean Burke, Alex Cerna, Casey Cerna, Dave Del Carlo, Paul Do, Carlos Downing, Brenton Eddens, Kenneth Engelhart, Samba Fall, Tony Finau, Michael Garcia, Sean Gates, John Gilbert, Christopher Gomes, Jason Grove, Matthew Hertzberg, Markos Hionis, Brandon Howe, Anthony Johnson, Jacob Kelly, David LaVey, Danny Lopez, Michael MacDougall, Christina Paparic, Jason Pollard, Lalesh Prasad, Lucas Salazar, Casey Scatena, Greg Schmidt, Paul Swinfard, Samuel Torres III, Beau Tyrrel, Jose Milex Viernes, Derrick Williams and Bryon Winton. The Sound and Communications installer graduates are: Marco Carrizales-Hernandez,

Lance Davidson and Michael Estrada.

Christopher Gomes was recognized as Outstanding Electrical Apprentice of the Year, and Michael Estrada was awarded Outstanding Sound and Communications Apprentice. We are proud of you all, sisters and brothers!

The local is proud to welcome back the winning team of officers re-elected for a third term and sworn into office in July: Bus. Mgr. Dominic Nolan, Pres. Mark Leach, Vice Pres. Dan Pasini, Rec. Sec./

Treas. D.J. Siegman, and Executive Board members Frank Thomas, Paul Martin, Scott Wright and Dave Mauro. Congratulations to Examining Board members Long Nguyen, Matt Schlecht and Daniel Eaves. Thank you all for your service to the local!

Dan Pasini, V.P.

'Dedication to the Trade'

L.U. 625 (ees,em,i,mar&mt), HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA—Congratulations to Nathan Page, Trevor D. Boutilier, Adam Bates, Pat Currie and Stephen Schnare for finishing their apprenticeship and receiving their Red Seal Certification for construction electricians. Now it's your turn to mentor, brothers.

Recently retired members are: Ozzie Gray, Eric White, Eric Nelson, Jim Clattenburg, Lee McCulloch, William Joudrey, Gary Dow, Ken Reid, Stephen Pulsifer, Gus Gallant and Ronald Bennett. Thank you, brothers, for a lifetime of devotion to the trade and union.

Our condolences go out to friends and family of recently departed members. This year, Bro. Derry Gillis, 65, passed away Feb. 5; and Bro.

William Pitcher, 62, passed away Feb. 12. Late last year, Bro. Jack McGee, 71, passed away Nov. 12 and Bro. David MacNabb, 64, passed away Dec. 4.

Local 1432, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, has requested Local 625 accept their charter and the amalgamation has passed, has been approved by the International Office and is awaiting final approval from the PEI Labour Board. Bro. Ray McBride, business manager for 28 years, will stay on until the last document is signed. Local 625 is happy to welcome our brothers on the Island into our local.

Local 625 is undergoing changes too. Five construction units are now two units. Unit 1 and 2 monthly meetings can be attended online live through the member section of our Web site.

Our new Collective Agreement provides for more mobility and name hire to promote activity in the outlying areas. Our wage increases over three years are higher than any other building trades received.

Remember: "Give eight hours of work for eight hours of pay."

Tom Griffiths, A.B.M.

'Hero Award' for Utility Member

L.U. 627 (u), FORT PIERCE, FL—IBEW Local 627 member Phinehas Weatherly, a Florida Power & Light power delivery employee, received the NextEra Energy Inc. Chairman's Hero Award. FPL is a subsidiary of NextEra Energy Inc.

Congratulations to Bro. Weatherly for his quick thinking. He received recognition by NextEra Energy Inc. Chmn. Lew Hay for the actions he performed upon arriving at an accident scene. The Chairman's Hero Award is given to an employee for helping someone in a life-threatening situation.

The local also thanks Rick Kuykendall, journeyman instrument and control technician, for his 31 years of service. We wish Rick a happy and healthy retirement.

Craig Bushman received notification of certification for completion of the requirements for Senior Reactor Operator. Congratulations to Bro. Bushman.

Local 627's annual picnic was a success and enjoyed by all attendees. Numerous thank-you notes from the membership were sent to the picnic committee, headed by Bro. Pete Wilson. Members appreciate the effort put forth in organizing the event.

Ray Vos, P.S.

Bus. Mgr. Mitchell Retires



L.U. 647 (u), LITTLE ROCK, AR—In 1970, after returning home from Vietnam, a young Marine Corp veteran went to work for Arkansas Power & Light Co. and joined the IBEW.

Local 647 Bus. Mgr. Gary Mitchell retires.

He began as a draftsman and later moved to a transmission line crew, but was laid off during a downsizing in 1976. Fortunately, the story didn't end there. He was eventually re-hired as a mechanic at that "new power plant," Arkansas Nuclear One.

At ANO he led an active role in his local as a steward and by serving on contract negotiation committees. In 1989, he became assistant business manager. In 1992, Bro. Gary Mitchell was elected business manager/financial secretary of Local 647.

As business manager, Bro. Mitchell has dealt with the many challenges that have faced the IBEW—everything from storms and outages to coal plant scrubbers and nuclear dry fuel storage—with an attitude that has clearly stated, "we are the IBEW and we want the work!"

In September, Bro. Mitchell will start a new chapter of life ... retirement; and after all he has done for the IBEW, we think he deserves it.

The officers, members and delegates of Local 647 thank him for his service. May God bless him with a long and happy retirement.

Shannon Walters, Treas.

Election of Officers

L.U. 649 (i,lctt,o,rts,spa&u), ALTON, IL—Local 649 elected officers for a three-year term, to serve from 2013 to 2016. Mark Woulfe will serve a second term as president. Phil Davidson replaces Ed Taylor as vice president. Ryan Griffin will serve a third term as recording secretary. Tim Wieckhorst will replace outgoing treasurer and former vice president Bill Gottlob. Bill has been an active member of Local 649 since 1971. We wish him all the best.

Executive Board members are: Robb Ridenour, John Gottlob, Rick Kessinger, Joe Elliott, Pete Dochwat, David Mahanay, Daniel Daine, Tim Wense, Dave Burns, Ron Miller and Scott Wagner. Special thanks to outgoing board members Scott Frenz, Tim Zini and Tim Kusmierczak. Dan Mandorca, Steve Naylor, Mike Shewmake and David Wiseman are on the Examining Board.

Jack Tueth retired after six terms as business manager. The local made great progress under Jack's leadership. We wish Jack a long and happy retirement. After 12 years as assistant business manager, Charles Yancey was elected business manager/financial secretary. Alan Rubenstein remains in his job as organizer. Former training director Terry Shewmake is our new assistant business manager.

Charles Yancey, B.M./F.S.



Just some of the toys that Local 673 helped collect for the Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital.

Benefit for Children's Hospital

L.U. 673 (catv,i,rts,spa,t&u), PAINESVILLE, OH—On June 28, the first annual Jacob and Isaac King benefit dinner was held to benefit the children at Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital.

Bro. Bob King and his wife, Michelle, were making an effort to turn their own personal tragedy (they lost two sons) into "positive healing" by organizing this benefit. The original goal was to collect 100 toys to distribute to the children at the hospital. That goal was surpassed, and well over 200 toys were collected along with cash donations that totaled over \$2,500.

The June 28 evening featured a pasta dinner, a DJ, Chinese Auction, a 50/50 Raffle and other prize drawings. Members commented on what a wonderful job Bob and Michelle did organizing this wonderful benefit.

Local 673 is proud of the work Bob and Michelle have done and looks forward to contributing to their cause again next year.

Jim Braunlich, P.S.

Reunion Celebrates Brotherhood

L.U. 683 (em&i), COLUMBUS, OH—The 45th IBEW Reunion in June was held in Buckeye Lake, Oh. Many brothers and sisters from all over the country attended, upholding the theme "In Brotherhood Everyone Wins." This was a great event with good food and brotherhood. We wish our brothers and sisters in Tennessee continued success hosting the 46th reunion.

The political season is starting up again. Educate yourself about the candidates who will help unions and working families in your state.

Have a safe and happy Labor Day!

Eric Evans, V.P./P.S.

2013 Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 725 (i,rts&spa), TERRE HAUTE, IN—Congratulations to the apprenticeship graduating class of 2013! This year, we graduated 35 apprentices to journeyman inside wireman status. [See photo, at bottom.]

The 2013 graduates are: Joshua D. Anderson, Jeremy R. Auterson, Ronald J. Banta, John A. Batchelor, Riley D. Bishop, Wade G. Burton, Bret M. Campbell, Richard E. Duchene, Isaac C. Eccles, Robin G. Evans, Nicholas J. Fusco, Danny J. Hall, Dustin A. Hardiman, Wesley A. Hawkins, Gregory R. Hays, William D. Hayes, Robert L. Hert, Carla M. Johnson, Matthew R. Ketner, Alex J. Kyle, Jerry L. Love, Erwin D. Loveland, Kyle D. McGlothlin, David L. Meeker, Jim K. Moreland, Joshua J. Pickering, Adam R. Price, Seth M. Recknor, Nicholas D. Rentschler, Wesley B. Richards, Brandon D. Rohrmayer, Brent A. Sappingfield, William L. Trosper, Douglas L. Wilkins and Michael A. Wilson. Outstanding job!

Two members received special recognition as Outstanding Apprentices: Richard E. Duchene and Gregory R. Hays.

Local 725 held its election of officers June 7. Congratulations to the newly elected officers: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Joe Kerr, Pres. Paul A. Rupska, Vice Pres. Larry Boyles, Rec. Sec. Nathan H. Bartlett, Treas. John Hedden II; Executive Board members Rich Beeler, Mike Belfi, Eric Biernbaum, Tracy Wayne Cook, Mike McNabb, Byron "Lee" Stupp; and Examining Board members Tony L. Cargle, Donald Scott Jenkins and Chuck Jennings.

Tom Szymanski, P.S.

Central Labor Council Honoree

L.U. 827 (catv&t), EAST WINDSOR, NJ—Retired Local 827 member Pete Busacca was honored June 29 at the Hudson County (New Jersey) Central Labor Council's COPE Legislative Brunch. Bro. Busacca began serving as a delegate on the CLC in 1989. He was council secretary/treasurer for five years and

has served as council president since 2004.

Bro. Busacca served Local 827 as a steward and unit chairman before retiring from Verizon after 35 years. While employed, he worked as an installer, frame attendant, switchman and power technician. Pete is a dedicated family man. He and his wife of 45 years, Doreen, have three grown daughters.

Suzanne M. Wallin, R.S.

Kudos to Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 915 (i&mt), TAMPA, FL—This year's graduating apprenticeship class had 36 apprentices graduate to inside journeyman status. Three graduates had perfect attendance for all five years: Ruth Ann Braden, David Harrison and Jose Wells Jr.

The fifth-year outstanding apprentices were: for September—Jose Weil; for December—Caleb Breitbach; and for April—Leon Justin. The Brad Felkner Award went to Nicholas Tandy. Our best wishes to each graduate for a successful and prosperous career.

Local 915 hosted a Contractors Training course, conducted by Matt Kolbinsky from Pro Union Consulting, to aid in educating those interested in becoming a contractor. Local 915 had 20 of its own members attend along with approximately 13 others from the Fifth District. Attendees spoke highly of the training and knowledge they acquired from this program.

It is a great honor to recognize former business manager Bill Dever's new appointment as an IBEW International Representative as of this July. With Bro. Dever's resignation as Local 915 business manager, the Executive Board appointed Bro. Randall King business manager to fill the remainder of the unexpired term. Bro. Jon Dehmel was appointed president to fill the position vacated by Randall King. We are proud of all and wish much success.

Theresa King, P.S.



Local 915 class of 2013 graduating apprentices.



Local 725 class of 2013 apprentice graduates.

Local Lines

Two Longtime Members Retire

L.U. 949 (em,t&u), BURNSVILLE, MN—Local 949 Bus. Rep. Mike O'Connor reports the retirement of two members from Frontier Communications of International Falls, MN, who, between them, have nearly 86 years of service!

Tom Urban was initiated in November 1969 and Dean Gelineau in October 1970 into former Local 1716, when the company was Continental Telephone. They were part of a group transfer when then-Local 1716 amalgamated with Local 949 in 1993. Both Bro. Urban and Bro. Gelineau retired in December 2012. Congratulations and best wishes in retirement to each of them.



Local 949 recent retirees Dean Gelineau (top) and Tom Urban.

Cy Grover, P.S.

'Active on Legislative Issues'

L.U. 1049 (lctt,o,u&uow), LONG ISLAND, NY—In June, after 43½ years of dedicated service, Executive Board then-chairman Thomas Russo retired. Tom served the local as a volunteer on numerous committees, as a steward and as an Executive Board member for many years. His experience and steady hand at the helm of the Executive Board will be missed.

On behalf of Bus. Mgr. Don Daley, the business staff, Executive Board, my fellow officers and newly elected Executive Board Chmn. William Roulette, I wish Tom and his family the best that life has to offer.

Bus. Mgr. Daley and the business staff have been working tirelessly with National Grid, PSEG and Long Island Power Authority regarding the many issues surrounding the bifurcation of the work force as well as the new LIPA legislation. We, at Local 1049, have been extremely active in the entire legislative process. And, thanks to member support at public meetings, we have been able to affect positive changes in the legislation. One of these changes will allow our cross-trained members to participate in electric storm restoration. Other changes will help keep good paying jobs on Long Island. The issue has always been about retaining jobs and returning jobs to Long Island. We will continue applying pressure to those who have made commitments to that end.

With all of the potential changes and rumors of same, I encourage you to attend the general meetings.

Thomas J. Dowling, R.S.

Election of Officers

L.U. 1245 (catv,em,govt,lctt,o,pet,t&u), VACAVILLE, CA—Bus. Mgr. Tom Dalzell was elected to his third full term in office in a mail ballot. Mike Davis was re-elected president. Also re-elected were Vice Pres. Art Freitas, Rec. Sec. Chris Habecker and Treas. Cecelia De La Torre. Executive Board members re-elected were Anna Bayless-Martinez, Mike Cottrell and Tom Cornell. Pedro "Pete" Sandoval defeated Mike Jacobson for the Southern Area Executive Board seat. Stan Zamora was elected to the newly created PG&E General Construction Department seat on the Executive Board, and Mike Scafani won a six-way race for the newly

reconfigured Northern Area Executive Board seat. Elections were also held for Advisory Council positions, and units elected unit officers.

Line Clearance tree trimmer Justin Casey received the 2013 Young Organizer Award, presented by the Public Interest Network. PIN honored five organizers under age 30 from a national pool of nominees.

Work remains robust in Outside Construction for Local 1245.

The local created an on-line "pension calculator" to help members at PG&E choose between new retirement benefit options negotiated by the local.

Congratulations to retiring longtime Sr. Asst. Bus. Mgr. Dorothy Fortier on her 38-year career. She was a skilled grievance handler and negotiator, and will be remembered as a tireless advocate for Clerical members.

Several Local 1245 units sponsored charitable and sporting events recently, with more in the pipeline. Community service activities engage our members while building bridges to our communities.

Four Clerical members from PG&E—Jose Rey Mendoza, Cruz Serna, Georgette Carrillo and Valdemar Guzman—played a key role in the successful campaign to defeat Measure G, an attack on city workers in Fresno.

Eric Wolfe, P.S.



Don and Pam Clifton were among several dozen riders in the IBEW Local 1245 Motorcycle Rally in May. The rally honored the local's late president Howard Stiefer while raising money for charities.

IBEW WWII Veteran Honored

L.U. 1249 (catv,lctt,o,t&u), SYRACUSE, NY—James Van Splunder, a retired journeyman lineman from IBEW Local 1249, was invited to participate in a special Memorial Day service in Washington, DC, this past May. The World War II veteran, now age 91, was given the honor of representing veterans from that war by placing a wreath at the national World War II Memorial during the ceremony.

Bro. Van Splunder lives in a small town in Erie County. The town of Holland, NY, which posted a story about James on its Web site, had 36 residents from the community attend. Some 35 family members from around the country also attended, including his wife and two sons.

Van Splunder's wife, Ruth, noted what an honor it was and that they are a truly patriotic family. Van Splunder started with the Merchant Marines in 1941 and in the five years he served, he traveled the world. He spoke of the opportunities he experienced, as well as the dangers and close calls. "It was quite a war, I'll tell you that," he said.

Van Splunder is still involved in his community and continues to show his patriotism. We are proud to call him "Brother."

Jennifer Schneider, P.S.

Dedicated Service

L.U. 1253 (i), AUGUSTA, ME—IBEW Local 1253 held elections for officers in June. The results are as follows: Bus. Mgr. Charles Fraser, Pres. Nick Paquet, Vice Pres. Charles Young, Rec. Sec. Harry Lyons; Examining Board members Scott Cuddy, Jeff Rose, Chris Trider; and Executive Board members Colin Clark, Mike Corcoran, John Weed and Lee Whitaker.

Former business manager Jeff Rose decided not to run for a third term, choosing instead to hand the reins over to the next business manager. Jeff stewarded Local 1253 through the Great Recession and one of the worst construction markets in 80 years. We are grateful for his dedicated service, and we are a stronger local because of his vision.

We also experienced great loss recently. Nichole Cable, daughter of member Dave Cable was killed in May. More than 20 brothers turned out to search for the missing girl during a 500 person manhunt. This was a great tragedy for the whole community.

Scott Cuddy, P.S.

Officers Sworn In

L.U. 1393 (catv,lctt,o,t&u), INDIANAPOLIS, IN—The local swore in newly elected officers during the July Executive Board meeting.

Officers are: Pres. Michael J. Edwards, Vice Pres. Ronald W. Thompson, Rec. Sec. Rick Byrer, Treas. R. Greg Madden and new Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Robert C. Fox. Executive Board members sworn in at that time are: Unit 1—Donald Small; Unit 2—Steven Moore; Unit 3—Bradley Colter; Unit 5—Michael Griggs; Unit 6—Gary Henry; Unit 7—Timothy Overman; Unit 8—James Fitzgerald, 1st term; Unit 9—Brent Lewis; Unit 10—Mark Kelley; Unit 11—Zachary Kolb, 1st term; and Unit 12—Kevin Crull.

The elected delegates to the AFL-CIO Indiana State Convention are: Pres. Michael Edwards, Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Robert C. Fox, Kevin Crull, Mark Kelly, Scott Kinnett, Zachary Kolb, Brent Lewis, Nick Neal and Donald Small.

Special thanks to outgoing officers—former business manager/financial secretary Thomas Bailey, Unit 8 Executive Board member Joey Robinson and Unit 11 Executive Board member David Friedt—for their time and service for the membership.

Robert C. Fox, B.M./F.S.

Safety on the Job

L.U. 1439 (u), ST. LOUIS, MO—The last six months have been very disappointing to our local, the members, families and friends. We experienced two electrical contacts. One resulted in the loss of an arm from the elbow down; the other was a fatality. These types of accidents can shake a local down to its foundation. Safety is paramount to Local 1439 and the IBEW.

The membership recently ratified a four-year

agreement with Ameren/Missouri. Members also ratified a one-year agreement with the City of Potosi, MO. And at press time we were scheduled to vote on an agreement with Liberty Utilities.

The Local 1439 "GEN-UP" Committee is off to a good start. We look forward to the progress of our future leaders.

Mike Walter, P.S.

Int. Pres. Hill Visits Local

L.U. 1505 (em), WALTHAM, MA—Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill recently visited Local 1505's hall and met with Bus. Mgr. David Johnson and his staff. Pres. Hill was in town to film the Manufacturing Code of Excellence video at one of the local's represented locations.

Shown in the photo below are, from left: Asst. Bus. Mgr. Harry Robbins, Office Mgr. Linda Hilton, Chief Steward Dennis Griffin, Bus. Mgr. David Johnson, Chief Stewards Steve Castagno and John Wheeler, Int. Pres. Hill, Chief Steward Rosa Ortega, Asst. Bus. Mgr. John Cassin, Chief Stewards Kevin Wells and Edward Brown, Pres. Betty Lapointe, and Chief Stewards Rick Xavier and Dave Laorenza. Not pictured is Chief Steward Bob Garnhum.

David Johnson, B.M.

Guidelines for Grievances

L.U. 1579 (i&o), AUGUSTA, GA—As we head into the final months of 2013, I would like everyone to think about grievances. Think about why we file them and when should we file a grievance. Grievances are not something to file when the water on the job is cool instead of cold or when your foreman is in a bad mood.

There are some guidelines to follow when considering a grievance: (1) Have you really been wronged? Is your grievance legitimate or frivolous? Can you, your steward and the foreman involved settle the problem without a grievance? (2) When you decide to file a grievance, write down everything right away and continue to update the situation as time goes on. (3) If the grievance is not settled in the first couple of steps, it may go to an arbitrator. Remember, the arbitrator will hear the case like a judge, so the more detailed information you have will make the case stronger. (4) Never lie or mislead your steward (or anyone else). Never leave out information that may come up during the grievance process. If untold information comes up, we can be made to look foolish by the contractor. (5) Remember, grievances cost time and money so let's use this procedure wisely.

The future in our jurisdiction looks good. With all the work and jobs that we have coming, protect your work by doing a great job, show up every day and help your fellow brothers and sisters, don't bash them. We are IBEW; prove it.

Until next time, God bless.

Will Salters, A.B.M.



Local 1505 officers and staff meet with Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill (back row, center).

Retirees

Standing in Solidarity

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 1, ST. LOUIS, MO—Retirees of Local 1 send greetings to all of our brothers and sisters everywhere. At mid-year, we hope we will have good things to report for the rest of 2013.

The work situation has improved slightly, but there is still a long way to go. We know our local is fighting a difficult battle with those who would take our work, break down our working conditions and wages, while destroying the things that generations before us have built. We retirees stand with our working members in this fight. We call for the support of everyone who believes in the prosperity that comes from a strong union work force.

The retirees had a golf outing in June and all had a good time. Our president recently had a hole-in-one. Congratulations, Pres. Richard Weller!

Plans are underway for retirees to partner with apprentices in the construction of a float for the Labor Day parade. Good luck!

The retirees meeting of July 17 was well-attended and informative. A guest speaker informed us of benefits available to military veterans. We also had short reports from the business manager and the financial secretary of Local 1.

Meetings for the rest of 2013 are: Sept. 18 (luncheon) and Nov. 20.

Don Appelbaum, P.S.

Tribute to Longtime Brothers

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, NASSAU CHAPTER—It is my sad duty to announce the passing of two of our most beloved brothers. We were saddened by the passing of our oldest member, Joe Franco, at age 96, and our past chairman Vinny DiFazio. I have never been to a meeting without those two gentlemen being there. They will be dearly missed.

Vinny left behind a great legacy. He helped bring the club together as he planned trip after trip to many different places, and you could be assured that the price you paid was a rock bottom price; his negotiating skills were something to behold.

At the June meeting we give an award to a member who has helped the club in a positive way. This year's award went to Vice Chmn. Irving Raver.

Irving took on the task of getting members checked for asbestos-related problems. He worked with the people who could get settlements if members had a positive X-ray. He worked to get appointments, and kept the retirees informed of the need to get checked. Thank you, Irving Raver.

Hope everyone has enjoyed a safe and happy summer.

Bob Cooper, P.S.

Annual Barbecue

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, NORTH FLORIDA CHAPTER—Our chapter held its annual barbecue at the Delray Beach South County Civic Center on March 15. Many Local 3 retirees attended.

Our meetings include informative talks by invited guest speakers. Currently we are having lively discussions about employment, upcoming contracts and benefits. Our questions are



Golfers attend the Local 3, Southwest Florida Gulf Chapter, Retirees Club annual golf outing. Among attendees are Local 3 former presidents Ed Cleary (immediately left of banner) and Dennis McSpedon (in green shirt, second left of banner).

answered concerning other union benefits.

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

Dick Dickman, P.S.



Attendees gather for Local 3, North Florida Chapter, Retirees Club annual barbecue.

Service Awards Luncheon

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, NORTH NEW JERSEY CHAPTER—On June 10 this year, 640 union members received awards at the Service Awards Luncheon held at the Electrical Industry Center in Flushing, NY. Among them were five retirees from the North New Jersey Chapter: Ronald DePaola, Anthony LaBate, Marty Beck, Kenneth Hillenmayer and Bob Huth. Congratulations, brothers. We asked Local 3 Pres. John Marchell to join us for the group picture (see photo above). Thank you to all involved.

The speeches by Local 3 Pres. Marchell and Bus. Mgr. Christopher Erikson were very informative regarding the new contract and benefit increases.

We get all the benefits of retirement. We still have to show our support. Show up at the Labor Day parade, at the rallies. Volunteer to man the phones. Walk that extra mile to show that Local 3 is strong.

The Local 3, North New Jersey Chapter, summer get-together was June 24-27 at Woodloch Pines, Hawley, PA.

The picnic was July 10 at Congers Lake Memorial Park. Thanks, Carl Soreco, for organizing it.

On August 12-15, we gathered at the

Educational Center, Cutchogue, NY.

All these great activities have made for a fun summer. Those who could not attend the events were missed. Good health to all.

Anthony LaBate, P.S.



Local 3 Pres. John Marchell (third from left) gathers with service award recipients from the Local 3, North New Jersey Chapter, Retirees Club. From left: Ronald DePaola (50 years of service), Anthony LaBate (75 years), Pres. Marchell, Martin Beck (60 years) and Kenneth Hillenmayer (50 years). Not pictured: Bob Huth (55 years).

Fifth Annual Golf Outing

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, SOUTHWEST FLORIDA GULF CHAPTER—Blessed with a beautiful Florida sunny day on April 11, the SWFL Gulf Coast Chapter held the Fifth Annual Golf Outing at the Raptor Bay Golf Club in Bonita Springs. Attended by many visiting IBEW retirees from Florida's east coast—with a great golf course, good food and spirited repartee—the event was a good time for all.

The SWFL monthly Retirees Club meetings regularly include the pension director's report, which contains information on the current state of Local 3, updates on political developments locally and in Florida, and details of upcoming social events such as the Fifth Annual Christmas Party on Thursday, Dec. 19 at the Raptor Bay Golf Club in Bonita Springs. Chm. Hank Schwietering has promised that this year's party would be the best yet.

We meet in Fort Myers, FL, 12 months a year

on the second Monday of the month. If you live in Florida or are planning a visit and would like to attend a meeting, just e-mail Sec. Nick Faello at: faello18@embarqmail.com or Chmn. George Dondero at: gdondero@aol.com for times and dates. Looking forward to seeing you.

George Dondero, Chmn./P.S.

NYC Trip & LI Education Center

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, SUFFOLK CHAPTER—Our trip to the United Nations and the Lincoln Center was a great success. Thanks to Olivia and Hank Schmidt for their hard work and planning.

Our chapter was

invited to the Long Island Education Center by Local 3. Upon arrival we were greeted by Pension Dir. Thomas Gallager. He explained some facts regarding the new contract.

Tuesday morning after breakfast we went to the conference center. We attended a class about healthy living and heard from guest speakers.

Our Tuesday night barbecue was a great success due to the hard work of the volunteers who cooked and served. Then it was on to the fun and games. We had horse racing and some interesting games. A club member made Fourth of July souvenir cups for all.

On Wednesday morning at the conference center a nutritionist discussed diabetes prevention and nutrition. The club made arrangements for a tai chi class. In the evening we had ice cream sundaes. We enjoyed a musical performance by one of our members.

Thursday morning we had closing remarks by



Local 3, Suffolk Chapter, Retirees Club enjoys a trip to the Long Island Education Center.

Local Lines

Chmn. Jack Foley and our first lady Ann Foley. They thanked all the volunteers who helped with the cooking, entertainment, cleaning and setting up.

Harvey Goldman, P.S.

Seven-Day Cruise

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, WEST FLORIDA CHAPTER—In March, six members of our Retirees Club and their wives took a seven-day cruise aboard Celebrity Cruise Line’s newest ship, “Reflection.” Club members pictured in the photo below are: A. Parrilla, C. Phillips, T. Connors, F. Ledetsch, T. Broderick and B. Costa.

Ports of call included San Juan, St. Maarten and St. Kitts. This was our fifth group cruise. It was smooth sailing all the way and everyone looks forward to our next outing.

Ben Costa, P.S.



Local 3, West Florida Chapter, Retirees Club members and their spouses enjoy March cruise.

Aiding Meals on Wheels

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, WESTCHESTER/PUTNAM CHAPTER—Nothing is more touching than the story of a retiree and chapter member, John Hansen, and his participation in the Meals on Wheels volunteer program.

Born in Port Chester, NY, John says this program gives him a strong connection to the surrounding communities and by serving meals to the homebound and elderly, he feels a sense of accomplishment.

Since 2001, John has supervised meals five days a week delivered to approximately 30 people on two routes that encompass neighborhoods in Port Chester, Rye, and Rye Brook. He is dedicated to giving back to the community and plays an active role helping those in need.

I asked John why he decided to commit himself and become a volunteer. He told me, “I had a friend who was an amputee and needed Meals on Wheels for lunch, so I decided to join after my retirement.”



Local 3, Westchester/Putnam Chapter, Retirees Club member John Hansen.

As Margaret Mead said, “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

A chapter donation of \$250 was made to Meals on Wheels of Port Chester, Rye, and Rye Brook.

John Rich, P.S.
Bob Cuneo, P.S.

Summer Events

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 11, LOS ANGELES, CA—A special thanks to the members and guests who participated in the Summer Lunch at the ETI on June 12. We’re already looking forward to the Holiday Party on Dec. 11 at Taix’s Restaurant. Mark your calendar and pass the word!

Hope you stopped by the club’s booth at the Local 11 picnic. At the time of this writing, we were expecting a big turnout at the Pico Rivera Sports Arena.

Also at this writing, plans were being made to tour the historic naval ship USS Iowa at the Long Beach Harbor on Aug. 22.

Have a great season ahead and enjoy every day of your well-deserved retirement.

Harvey “Butch” Bachand, Pres.

September Dinner Cruise

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 42, HARTFORD, CT—The Retirees Club wishes to invite anyone who’s a retired member of Local 42 to join them. The club meets several times a year at Local 42’s hall. Retirees meet at 9 a.m. to discuss business, talk about old times, share funny stories and enjoy coffee and donuts. If you would like to come and join them, the club would love to have you. If you’re interested call us at 860-646-7297.

The Retirees Club thanks all the ladies in Local 42’s office for their hard work in putting all the events together. They always greet everyone with a smile and are ready to help.

The Dinner Cruise was cancelled for June 15, 2013, due to all the rain we had. The Connecticut River flooded Charter Oak Landing. The cruise is rescheduled for Sept. 7, 2013. The rest of our events so far have been very successful.

Remember: The Annual Christmas Smoker will be held at the Dec. 12, 2013, union meeting at the Knights of Columbus in East Hartford, CT.

Jacquelyn Moffitt, P.S.

Golf Tournament Fundraiser

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 60, SAN ANTONIO, TX—As a fundraiser, the Retirees Club held a golf tournament in April. A lot of fun, an excellent lunch and amazing golfers added up to a huge success. The tournament would not have been such a success without the support of all the sponsors and those wonderful volunteers. Our gratitude and



First-place team in Local 60 Retirees Club golf tournament: Pete Sanchez (left), Henry Salinas and Chris Flores.

thanks go out to everyone. Looking forward to maybe another tournament next year.

I wish to acknowledge the members of our club who dedicate their tireless effort ensuring a successful and fun club, the Retirees Club officers.

Returning to office are Pres. Gene Chamberlain, Vice Pres. Tommy Huckelba and Treas. Bobby Wolff. Elected to office is Rec. Sec. Betty Cannon. Executive Board members are: Bobby Caldwell, David Gonzalez, Robert Hall, Owen Ray and Al Reina. Sgt. at Arms: Don Nichols. Congratulations to all and thank you.

After a short break for the summer, the Retirees Club will resume monthly meetings this month. We meet the second Thursday of each month, 12 noon, at the Plumbers and Pipefitters Training Bldg., 3630 Belgium Lane. All Local 60 retirees are welcome; you will never meet a stranger, just friends. Please join us!

Sandy Rogers, P.S.

A New Season Begins

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 90, NEW HAVEN, CT—On June 4, the Local 90 Retirees Club held its last meeting of the current season. As we do every June, we held our election of officers at that meeting, followed by a pizza party. The officers at our next meeting will be: Pres. Robert Mantovani, Sec./Treas. Hugh McGuire and Vice Pres. Gerry Asplund.

Our new year begins Sept. 3, 2013, the date for our next scheduled meeting. It will be held at 2 North Plains Industrial Rd., Wallingford, CT, at 1:30 p.m.

In that same week, thanks to Local 90, the retirees have been invited to the annual membership outing held Sept. 7, 2013, at the YMCA Camp Mountain Mist in Meriden, CT.

We hope everyone had an enjoyable summer season, and we wish all IBEW members a good season ahead.

Richard Launder, P.S.

‘A Festive Occasion’

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 99, PROVIDENCE, RI—We held our annual May Breakfast at the Providence Marriott

Hotel; the event was sponsored by the local union. Bro. Gerald Trottier began the event with a blessing for the wonderful food, and Pres. Robert Pierce led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Pres. Pierce read the names of our recently deceased brothers, Charles Dalton and William F. Altham, and held a moment of silence in their honor.

Pres. Pierce introduced Rhode Island Attorney General Peter Kilmartin and Secretary of State Ralph Mollis. Both gentlemen addressed the group and spoke of creating an even playing field in the state for the construction trades.

Pres. Pierce also introduced our Local 99 Bus. Mgr. Michael K. Daley, who welcomed everyone to the festive occasion. It was a wonderful day, filled with great food and fun reminiscing with friends.

Following the breakfast, Pres. Pierce gathered the sunshine committee together to visit Bro. John T. O’Brien and present him with a 55-year service pin. The group enjoyed coffee and doughnuts with Bro. O’Brien and his wife at their home.

Raymond J. Germershausen, P.S.



Local 99 Retirees Club committee presents service award. Front Row: Pres. Robert Pierce (left) and awardee Bro. John O’Brien. Back row: Robert Ferreira, Paul Forest, Ray Germershausen, Donald Simpson, Richard Irace and Gerald Trottier.

Club’s 40th Anniversary

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 103, BOSTON, MA—The Retirees Club celebrated our 40 Year Anniversary and remembers those brothers and sisters who served before us. It was an enjoyable luncheon and many of our members were present. There is always room for more to attend and take part in seeing old acquaintances.

The Golf League is playing at Presidents Golf Course in Quincy on Wednesdays. All are welcome.

Best wishes to all retirees from the board of directors.

Rich Leary, P.S.



Local 103 Retired Members Club certificate includes names of the original board members.

A Life of Union Service

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 113, COLORADO SPRINGS, CO—We were deeply saddened by the sudden, unexpected passing of then-business manager Charles R. Johnson Sr. on Feb. 18, 2013. He was 58.

Bro. Charley had served the local as vice president, president and was elected business manager/financial secretary in June 2010. He had also served as a delegate to the area labor council; additionally, he had served on the JATC and numerous committees. He is missed by all who knew him.

The Executive Board appointed then-president Mike Ham as business manager/financial secretary for the balance of that unexpired term. Bro. Mike was subsequently elected business manager in June. We wish him much success as he continues in this leadership position.

Our retirees group honored Claudette Kunau and Jean Kitchens with plaques of appreciation for the many years they served as callers, notifying members about club activities. While Claudette continues to serve as our secretary/treasurer, Marilyn Sears has volunteered to fill Claudette's position as a caller.

Our monthly luncheon meeting is at 11:30 a.m. on the second Friday of each month at the Country Buffet, Citadel Crossing shopping center. We look forward to seeing you there!

Bill Campbell, P.S.



Local 113 Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Mike Ham (left) and former business manager Charley Johnson, who passed away this year.

Annual Crawfish Boil

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 130, NEW ORLEANS, LA—On May 30, we had our annual crawfish boil. A total of 118 confirmed, and 86 people actually attended. We had a phenomenal celebration and plenty of leftovers.

On June 20, we ventured to the Hollywood Casino in Bay St. Louis, MS. All participants played their card. In conclusion, we were awarded with \$100.

On June 27, we had our quarterly meeting. Forty-eight people were in attendance. We had plenty of food and drinks for all.

With deep regret we lost the following brothers: Kenneth R. Herty, Robert L. Ferreira, Henry R. Taylor and Lynn Zeringue. May their souls rest in peace.

Until our next meeting, God bless America.

George Clesi, Pres.

25th Anniversary Celebration

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 134, CHICAGO, IL—The 25th anniversary celebration for our Retirees Club was spectacular. More than 150 members and guests attended a catered luncheon that included a wonderful sweet table.

We also honored our founding president, Irv Blaszyński, as well as past presidents.



Local 134 retirees and guests attend 25th anniversary celebration.

Additionally, 50-, 55-, 60- and 65-year members were honored. Honorees included: George Tzinares, Dan Enwright, Jack Amaro, Ronald Sowizol, Roger Van Wazer, Charles Yeksigian Joseph Keenan, Chuck Sugrue, John Krueger, Kurt Arntzen, Tom Payton Sr., Lawrence Kulik, Wilfred Diesel, Anton Schnauffer, Frank Hauser, Bob Fee, Norman Becker, Richard Eshoo, Don Mahoney, Paul Wiora, Tom Sinclair and Edward Polaski.

Our club's current and former leadership gathered to pose for pictures for posterity. Assembled were current board members: Pres. Richard Sipple, Don Mahoney, Bernard Martin, Jim Fliris, Walter Felde, Tom Bohn, Hugh O'Connell and Vito Alberotanza. The past presidents included: Irv Blaszyński, Roger Van Wazer, Robert Mersch, Louis Rodriguez and Mario Coletta.

Come to club meetings—there are no strangers at Local 134, only friends you haven't yet met! Welcome to all Local 134 retirees. To join the club, contact Mario Coletta at 773-736-1480. From 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 Blvd., Chicago.

Louis Rodriguez, P.S.

Community Volunteers

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 197, BLOOMINGTON, IL—The Retirees Club recently held their quarterly breakfast at Times Past Inn, and attendees had a good time. We want to remind all the retirees that we get together the third Tuesday of the month at 9 a.m. at the hall. Come out and enjoy coffee and donuts,



Retirees Club of Local 197 enjoys breakfast at the Times Past Inn.

and reminisce with other retirees.

We heard reports that retirees Ken McLean, Don Armstrong and Tom Willen are busy volunteering their time helping with community projects. Whether by helping the Bloomington Township Fire Department with electrical upgrades or assisting a senior citizen who doesn't have the resources to hire a contractor, these retirees have been there to lend a hand.

Mike Raikes, Pres.

Busy Year 2013

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 212, CINCINNATI, OH—After many years of renting and several failed attempts to purchase a suitable office building, Local 212 finally has a home: 212 Crown Pointe Place. Our building should serve our needs for many years. Our charter members would be very proud to see the progress we have made.

In March, the 14th annual S.W. Florida 212 reunion gathered at the home of Danny Johnson in Fort Meyers. Great food, desserts and drinks mixed with an afternoon bull session made for a great day. In attendance: Stan Johnson, Danny Johnson, Jay Rizzuto, Dick Braswell, Dan Archibale, Al Niederhelman, Walt Zimmer, Don Wedgewood, Tom Miller and their "dates." Next year—Venice, FL.

At the May meeting, the membership elected officers: Pres. Mike Himes, Vice Pres. Wayne Myers Sr., Treas. Bob Simon, Sec. Jean Kumler; and E-Board members Kurt Kube, Steve Hill, Elwood Schneider and Dick Warman. Congratulations and thank you to everyone who agreed to run for office.

Service pins were awarded to club members: Dick Braswell—for 65 years of service; Elwood

Schneider, Tom Lanter and Noel Bruzina—for 55 years; Milt Binder, Bud Brown and Paul Kallmeyer—for 50 years.

In July, we picnicked at Fernbank Park on the river. Busy, busy.

Bob Schaefer, P.S.



Local 212's new home. Photo by Klaus Grismayer.

June Picnic at Settlers Park

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 291, BOISE, ID—The June picnic was held in Meridian at Settlers Park. There was a small turnout and it was probably because of the weather and a few members who were unable to attend due to medical problems. As always, we had our die-hard members who showed up to make it a great event. We had great food furnished by our members, especially those great snickerdoodles. Pat Penn won our monthly \$5 drawing. Thanks to Phil Oakes for stepping in to help with the barbecue, since Bob Leeper was recovering from knee injury. Special thanks go to everyone who came early and stayed late to help with setup and cleanup.

Work is picking up and the future is looking brighter for those who are still in the work force. Continue to pray for our service men and women, our country, our leaders and the unemployed.

Look for the union label! Defend and protect the right to be union members, always!

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Local Lines



Boise, ID, Local 291 Retirees Club gathers for June picnic.

Our luncheons are held the second Thursday of each month. Please contact any club member or the union hall for time and location. Everyone is welcome!

Joe Sirani, Pres.

New Club's Holiday Gathering

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 502, SAINT JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA—It was a dark and stormy winter night for the first holiday gathering of the newly chartered Local 502 Retirees Club. (The club was chartered in August 2012.) In spite of the first snowstorm of the season, 96 retirees, spouses and widows arrived at Branch #69 Royal Canadian Legion to enjoy a delicious turkey feast prepared by the Legion. Retirees Club Pres. George Willard welcomed the assembly and emphasized that the evening was for the enjoyment of our members and there would be no speeches. This would be a time of socializing, renewing old friendships and making new ones. Bro. Willard did draw our attention to the professionally decorated hall. Installation and decorations were provided by Local 502.

Bro. Willard introduced Bus. Mgr. Jean-Marc Ringuette and Pres. David Steven of Local 502.

Pres. Willard and Vice Pres. Doug Hansen presented door prizes to the retirees. A great time was had by all and we look forward to our next social gathering.

The Executive Board of our club includes: Pres. George Willard, Vice Pres. Douglas Hansen, Treas. Edward Ross and Sec. David MacPherson. Executive Board members also include: Hartley Bastarache, Michael O'Brien and Robert Clark.

David MacPherson, Sec.

Sarnia Happenings

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 530, SARNIA, ONTARIO, CANADA—This month I wish to highlight two members of our retirees group who attended the first retirees meeting in 1994 and continue to attend and support our club.

James Wright served a year in the Royal Canadian Navy during World War II. In 1948 Jim received a degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Toronto. Jim joined the Comstock local in 1950. When work turned scarce he took a teaching assignment in two Sarnia high schools, teaching Electricity for 5½ years. In the early 1970s, he went to work for BG Checo, and at that time became a member of Local 530. Jim turned 88 years of age in June.

Eric Lawton served in the British Grenadier Guards in WWII. Eric was a reconnaissance tank driver and was wounded in Holland. He then went to Germany as part of the occupation army. Eric came to Canada in 1948. He received his electrical training in England but wrote all of his exams in Canada. He joined Local 530 in 1952. With a work shortage he found employment with CNR for two



Local 530 Retirees Club founding members James Wright (left) and Eric Lawton.



Founding members of Local 502 Retirees Club: David MacPherson (left), Jack Morrell, Doug Hansen, George Willard, Gilbert Soucey, Mike O'Brien and Hartley Bastarache.

years; he then worked for Polysar Corp. for 16 years. Eric celebrated his 90th birthday on July 2. Great guys to have around, I feel.

Nancy Stinson Philbin, P.S.



Local 640 Retirees Club members line up to enjoy April buffet luncheon.

'Fine & Active Group'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 640, PHOENIX, AZ—After an eight-month 2012-2013 meeting season, the Golden Age Roadrunners are on their four-month hiatus as of this writing. At press time, members have scattered to cooler climates, or are hidden at home with the AC on high!

With the exception of April, our October through May 9:30 a.m. meetings feature a freshly prepared breakfast before the general meeting. We try to feature a speaker who enlightens us "more mature" folks regarding any changes the government mandates that affect our financial or health matters.

The April meeting began at 11 a.m. with a buffet luncheon prepared and served by a team of apprentices. All proceeds are made available to apprentices who might be in need of financial assistance, and in slow times this can be helpful. After the luncheon, nominations for board members and officers were taken from the floor; the general meeting and monthly raffles followed.

Carlos Santa Cruz will take over the reigns as president from Jim Riley, who did a fine job as leader for the past six years.

We encourage all Local 640 retirees to attend our meetings and become a member of this fine and active group.

Daryl Knupp, P.S.

Popular Fish Fry

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 756, DAYTONA BEACH, FL—Our very popular fish fry before our summer break was attended by a wonderful crowd of 62 people on May 9. Everyone had a great time and as usual the fish and all the sides were delicious. Thanks to Greg and the guys for their dedication!

Our Pres. Jimmy Warren stepped down due to personal commitments, and his leadership will be missed. At press time, Vice Pres. Joe Gardner was stepping in to fill the vacancy until a new president is chosen.

We wish to invite any retired and unemployed

brothers and sisters and their spouses who are in the area to come join us. Our meetings are on the second Thursday of each month, 11:30 a.m., at the Local 756 union hall in Port Orange, FL.

Our next meeting is Thursday, Sept. 12, 2013. We look forward to seeing you in September.

Diane Gibbs, P.S.



Pete and Althea Davies are among the crowd at the Local 756 Retirees Club's Fish Fry. The club especially thanks Althea for all her assistance at meetings.

Luncheon & Service Awards

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 995, BATON ROUGE, LA—On June 3 we had a luncheon with the wives attending. The food was good as usual. Approximately 60 people attended.

This quarter the local gave out four 50-year service award pins, 14 55-year pins and five 60-year pins. Receiving 65-year pins were: George Abbott, Leo Davis, Gus Guarino, Julius T. Hill, Aubrey Jackson, Leslie G. Mitchell and Boyd G. Shelton.

W. Roland Goetzman, P.S.



Attendees gather for Local 995 Retirees Club Luncheon.

Campaign Gets Results

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 1245, VACAVILLE, CA—Local 1245 retirees at NV Energy are getting additional financial assistance for their medical care, thanks to a three-year campaign launched by the local in 2009.

The additional assistance comes in two ways. NV Energy has increased the "cap" on company contributions to retiree medical premiums, and established a new "discretionary fund" that will be administered by a trio of retiree activists.

The assistance for retirees didn't come easy. In 2009, NV Energy acted unilaterally to freeze its contributions to retiree medical premiums, forcing retirees to absorb all future increases in premium costs. IBEW 1245 responded with a multifaceted "Shame on NV Energy" campaign that widely publicized the retirees' plight.

In late 2012, a settlement of the dispute created mechanisms to assure that retirees will pay

June International Executive Council Meeting

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



Inaugural Gathering

RETIRES CLUB OF L.U. 1547, ANCHORAGE, AK—The IBEW Local 1547, Unit 102, Retirees Club held its inaugural gathering at the Fairbanks Hall.

The group will meet on a regular basis to share highlights of old times, socialize and stay connected with activities happening at the hall. Pictured in the photo below are: standing, Roger Burns, Randy Britschgi, Zinn Decker, Don Mcadoo, Derrall Johnson, Rick Spencer, John Giuchici, Scott Matthews, Dave Huffman, 'Red' Miller and, seated, Bev Roof, Bill Digan, Don Moore and Bill Moberly.

Melinda Taylor, P.S.

Administering discretionary fund are (clockwise from left) trustees Rita Weisshaar, Ron Borst and Tom "T-Bird" Bird, assisted by Local 1245 Bus. Rep. Bryan Carroll.

no more in premiums in 2013 and 2014 than they would have before the 2010 cap. In addition, the company placed money in a "discretionary fund" that can be used to help bargaining unit retirees with a demonstrated need.

"People's costs are not going to be 100 percent compensated, but at least it's some assistance on premiums and medically related out-of-pocket expenses," said Ron Borst, president of the Reno/Sparks chapter of the IBEW Local 1245 Retirees Club and one of the new fund's trustees. The other trustees are retiree activists Rita Weisshaar and Tom Bird. The local's benefits specialist is Bryan Carroll.



Eric Wolfe, P.S. Local 1547, Unit 102, Retirees Club holds inaugural gathering.

The regular meeting of the International Executive Council was called to order at 8:30 a.m., by Chairman Pierson, on Tuesday, June 11, 2013, in Williamsburg, Virginia. Other members of the council in attendance were Calabro, Calvey, Clark, Riley, Walter, Lavin, Smith and Galbraith.

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 Vice President Robert P. Klein recommended continuing the trusteeship of Local Union 1658. A motion was made, seconded, voted upon and approved unanimously by the International Executive Council to continue the trusteeship of Local Union 1658.

Death Benefit Determination

The International Executive Council reviewed the death benefit claim of the family of Victor L. Lovelady. The International Executive Council required additional research in the death claim and a motion was made, seconded, voted upon and approved unanimously to table the determination until the next meeting.

IBEW Consolidated Balance Sheet/Income Statement covering the 3-month period ending March 31, 2013

Reviewed and Filed

IBEW Pension Benefit Fund Consolidated Statement of Net Assets/Changes in Net Assets covering the 3-month period ending March 31, 2013

Reviewed and Filed

IBEW Per Capita Objection Plan and LM-2 Reports for each International Executive Council member for the period January – June 2013.

Reviewed and Filed

Retirement of International Vice President

Jonathan B. Gardner, International Vice President, IBEW Seventh District Effective—June 1, 2013

Retirement of International Representatives

Peter M. Routliff, International Representative, IBEW First District Effective—April 1, 2013

Rickie D. Tira, International Representative, IBEW Fifth District Effective—March 1, 2013

Retirement of Lead Organizer

Kitty A. Prouse, P & I Lead Organizer, Membership Development Effective—April 1, 2013

Retirement of International Office Employees

Patricia L. Joyner, Secretary, Government & Railroad Departments Effective—March 8, 2013

Janet A. Wong, System Analyst, Information Technology Effective—April 2, 2013

Vested Pension

Hazel H. Baker, IO, Vested Effective—December 25, 2012

Lynn Clark, IO, Vested Effective—September 13, 2012

This regularly scheduled meeting was adjourned on Wednesday, June 12, 2013, at 11:30 a.m. The next regular meeting of the International Executive Council will commence at 8:30 a.m., on Wednesday, September 11, 2013, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

For the International Executive Council

Patrick Lavin, Secretary June 2013

The International Executive Council acted on numerous applications under the IBEW Pension Benefit Fund. For a complete listing, consult www.ibew.org, clicking on the International Executive Council link on the "About Us" page. ■

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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

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International President

Salvatore J. Chilia
International Secretary-Treasurer

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FROM THE OFFICERS**President's Economy Tour Needs Powerful Follow-up**

Edwin D. Hill
International President



Salvatore J. Chilia
International Secretary-Treasurer

We've got a bunch of construction workers who aren't working right now. They've got the skills. They want to get on the job." The venue was an early-August airing of *The Tonight Show* with Jay Leno. The speaker was President Barack Obama, who called upon Congress to pass legislation to rebuild our nation's aging infrastructure. During Leno's show, the president—who has been touring the nation talking about the need to "reignite the true engine of economic growth—a thriving middle class"—also proposed raising the minimum wage from \$7.25 an hour to \$9.

The response to the president's remarks was boringly predictable and shallow. Leading Republicans in Congress excoriated him for showing up on a comedy show during a week when U.S. embassies were shut down due to terrorist threats but offered no ideas of their own to improve the lot of the American people. News media analysts who bothered to comment said Obama's economy tour was simply an attempt to raise his 48-percent approval rating, down four points since his election last year.

The National Employment Law Project says that three-fifths of all jobs created during the recovery have been low-wage work. With thousands of our own members still looking for long-term work in the construction industry, including many who have family members working at or near the minimum wage, we fully support President Obama's call to re-focus our nation's attention on the middle class. He's right when he says our nation must and can do better.

But the IBEW would do our members and the nation a disservice if we became unthinking cheerleaders for the president. While recent experience has irrefutably shown that there are few Republicans with a plan to spur economic recovery, Democrats, including our president, need to do more to stand on the side of working families.

We have publicly called upon the president to make changes to the Affordable Care Act to protect multi-employer health care plans. We demanded an open debate and end to the secrecy surrounding the new trade agreement, the Trans-Pacific Partnership, so that another bad trade deal doesn't hurt American workers, slow the economic recovery and create a needless rift between his administration and the

champions of American working families.

Naturally, the president's opponents seized on our criticism, crowing that he is losing his "base." No matter. We know what they want for unions and the middle class. But years of experience clearly show that when Democrats waver in support of working families, only the voice of the wealthy and powerful is heard.

One year ago this month—after tens of thousands of IBEW members had just returned home from the August 11 Workers Stand for America Rally in Philadelphia—we addressed in this column the need to build a movement to save the middle class in America with a Second Bill of Rights.

We wrote, "Without real economic opportunity and the chance to get a decent education and health care, without the right to speak out and make our voices heard—whether at the ballot box or the workplace—then our democracy is all but dead."

In March, 62 percent of those asked in a Morning Joe/Marist poll said the top priority for the country should be creating jobs. Only 35 percent said it should be to reduce the deficit. In two April polls, nearly two-thirds said across-the-board federal spending cuts had hurt and not helped the economy and large majorities opposed either raising the age of eligibility for Medicare or reducing Social Security to cut spending.

The American people are being very clear. They are tired of hammering golden nails into their own coffins.

Between now and the midterm congressional elections of 2014, billions of dollars will be spent to turn these poll numbers around, to get working Americans to support so-called "deficit reduction" measures that shovel money to the very richest.

Mr. President, you're on the right track. But only by truly listening to the voices and honoring the dreams of America's working families, will you or your party have the power to create the America its people deserve. ■

We would do our members and the nation a disservice if we became unthinking cheerleaders for the president. While recent experience has irrefutably shown that there are few Republicans with a plan to spur economic recovery, Democrats, including our president, need to do more to stand on the side of working families.

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

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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.

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Letters to the Editor

End of An Era?

After reading in the August issue of the Electrical Worker about the decommissioning of the San Onofre nuclear plant in California, it saddens me that San Onofre and many other nuke plants in America may soon be suffering the same fate, and that many IBEW brothers and sisters will lose their jobs and careers because of it. The demand for electrical power in America is only increasing as I speak, and wind and solar power won't nearly meet the demand in the coming years. When nuclear plants were starting to come online in the 1960s, the engineers knew that all these facilities had expiration dates, as did the operators. Well, the expiration dates are arriving for many of these nuclear facilities, and now some tough decisions must be made.

*Doug Szabo, Local 68 retiree
Denver*

The Oldest Contractor?

This is in regard to the letter in June 2013 ("A Storied Career") in which Bro. Bill Mitchell from Huntington, W.Va., Local 317 states that he retired from Hatzel & Buehler, Inc., and that H&B is the oldest electrical contractor in the country, established in 1894. H&B may be one of the oldest, but it is not the oldest. I worked for Terminal-Andrae, Inc., out of Milwaukee, Wis., and have a coffee mug stating "The first electrical contractor in the nation, Est. 1882." Anybody else older than that?

And we do read the Electrical Worker from front to back to keep up with what is going on. Keep up the good writing.

*Peter Hettinger, Local 461 retiree
Aurora, Ill.*

The Blame Game

Why do politicians blame unions for the economic hardships in our country? Where did all of our factories and jobs go? You can blame big business, Wall Street and our politicians. Our factories have gone overseas for slave labor or cheaper labor while Wall Street chomps on big profits. You can blame our politicians with their trade agreements and tax incentives for making it very profitable to do business in other countries. Our politicians sit in Washington with their big pensions and special lifetime health care paid by the sweat of Americans and do nothing for its people. Nothing! These elected politicians have legal inside trading knowledge and overseas accounts to cheat the tax man to become millionaires once they get in office. Oh, the money floating around Washington makes me want to gag. No factories, no jobs, no Social Security money, no IRS money. Politicians, bring our factories home! It's a no-brainer!

*George O. Curry, Local 126 member
Philadelphia*



From Facebook: Every month the IBEW Facebook page receives thousands of comments from our dynamic and engaged community of members and friends.

Dangerous Trend, or Lifesaver?

These CWs are ruining our industry. Contractors around the country are bringing in these unqualified workers into our locals and are allowing them to run jobs over qualified journeyman wiremen with 30 years' experience. Our workmanship and high standards are slipping, and these newly sworn-in CWs have questionable loyalty to labor union principles. This current trend is an endangerment to our livelihood.

*John Hall, Local 300
Montpelier, Vt.*

[Editor's Note: The construction wireman/construction electrician (CW/CE) program was initiated union-wide in the mid-2000s for two reasons. One, to go after the work that we were losing to our nonunion competition and two, to fulfill our constitutional duty to organize all workers in the electrical industry. Currently, there are thousands of workers doing electrical work who can't be categorized as either apprentices or journeymen. The reality is that these workers will continue to work in the industry, regardless of our intentions. But with the CW/CE program, we have a means to recruit them to the IBEW right away, raise their wages and benefits and boost their skills as well as our market share—market share that helps put long-time journeymen like you to work. Business managers across the country have reported in the pages of this publication that the CW/CE program has made the IBEW competitive against nonunion firms and gotten us jobs we wouldn't have had in the first place, while winning over the best from the nonunion side.]

Who We Are

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

Member Brings Light to a Darkened Yard

When Curt Fernandez arrived for his first day repairing diesel locomotives for Canadian National Railways, he expected it to be dirty, difficult work.

Fernandez, a member of Proctor, Minn., Local 366, had been laid off for a few months and he said he was eager to get to work on the Duluth-Mesabi and Iron Range railway lines in early 2010. He had worked for almost a year at the ore docks where freight trains dump their cargo of pellets made of clay and iron into the holds of lake freighters bound for the steel mills outside Chicago. He thought he knew something about dirty and difficult work.

But he was unprepared for what he saw in the repair building. Darkness. A 50,000-square-foot room lit by about 300 widely spaced lights that were too dim to break through the gloom and yet so harsh they made seeing in the darkness somehow harder.

"There was an absolutely soul-sucking feeling, even on the brightest day and, as bad and dim as it was, the light was orange," Fernandez said.

Everyone in the building used head lamps attached to their hard hats or flashlights brought from home and nearly all of the veteran machinists, boilermakers, electricians and car men wore thick-lensed glasses to counter the damage of years in the orange haze. Color wiring diagrams were unreadable. Repair jobs inside the giant locomotives were often hidden in darkness or glare.

"The attitude in that place was the worst. Everyone was mad and had these thick glasses on. It was a caustic environment," Fernandez said.

For 10 months Fernandez repaired locomotives. He was eventually made the sole facilities maintenance electrician for almost 35 buildings, four rail yards and one bridge owned by DMIR line. Despite the breadth of his responsibilities, he says he had one overriding goal in the new job: replace the lighting in the Proctor diesel yard.

"It was like a quest for me," he said. "There were a couple dozen people in there and I just wanted to make their lives better."

He spoke to his supervisor about how better lighting would increase productivity, reduce accidents and improve morale, but he says his first requests met with near complete indifference. So he made sure that whenever something



Curt Fernandez of Proctor, Minn., Local 366, accomplished his mission to make a train car repair yard a brighter and safer work site for more than three dozen workers.

needed work in the repair shop, he'd drop everything else to finish the job.

"I'd jump right on it, because I was after a favor. I wanted him to trust me," Fernandez said of the shop supervisor.

He finally got his chance five months after his first request, when the ventilation system at the yard office failed. Fernandez said he came up with a way to repair instead of replace it, which would've cost thousands of dollars and require a contractor to be brought in.

"I got an 'attaboy' and I traded it in for the lights. I basically said, 'The lights only cost a grand and I just saved you a bundle.' So he says, 'Yeah. OK,'" Fernandez said.

There were dozens of old orange lights in the building. Fernandez was given the go-ahead to replace only four. He wanted to place them where they would create the maximum interest and demand for more lights. He put them all above the workstation of one of the most senior machinists who had been vocally opposed to changing the lighting.

"I figured if I could win the most senior guy over, he would push the supervisor and convince the other guys this was an OK idea," Fernandez said. "Then this [veteran]... who used to be all crabby, he said to me, 'You know those lights aren't too bad.' I had cracked the ice."

By the time a new supervisor—a former machinist named Eddie Lopez—was appointed, workers were, if not clamoring for new lights, at least open to the idea. When Lopez called Fernandez in and asked him why the lighting was only part way done, Fernandez says he recounted the history of resistance he

had faced. Fernandez said that Lopez listened to his story and then told him to "light it up."

"I was so thankful," Fernandez said. "He went out on a ledge to fulfill my dream."

Nevertheless, Fernandez took it slow and only ordered a few fixtures at a time.

"I was worried that some bean counter would get wind of it and wonder why we were not bidding the work out. I wanted it to be my work. No contractor would have thought of this, so why give them the work?" Fernandez said. "There used to be seven guys in facilities maintenance. Now it is me. I knew I was fighting for my job with this because I was proving that it's good to not contract everything out."

The last light went up in March, more than two years after the first four. Fernandez had installed more than 300 overhead lights, 50 lights angled out to illuminate the repair bays and more than 30 spotlights that illuminated the undercarriages of the locomotives.

Matt Jones, a journeyman locomotive electrician, said "it was an astronomical improvement. There were no more headlights or flashlights. You could actually see the work you were doing inside the locomotive."

Fernandez said after the lights at the workstation of one of the younger machinists were replaced, the man came up to him to thank him and say he hadn't really known how bad his eyes were getting until the lights were installed.

"When he said thank you, that was the chocolate cake and the frosting. I did something right," Fernandez said. ■

ATTENTION Federal Sector IBEW Union Members

Under the requirements of the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 (CSRA) as revised, your union is advising you of your rights as a federal sector union member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. These rights are as follows:

Bill of Rights As a local union member, you have:

- Equal rights to participate in union activities
- Freedom of speech and assembly
- A voice in setting rates of dues, fees and assessments
- Protection of the right to sue
- Safeguards against improper discipline

Collective Bargaining Agreements Union members (and other employees affected by the agreement) have the right to receive or inspect copies of collective bargaining agreements.

Constitutions, Bylaws and Reports Unions are required to file an initial information report (Form LM-1), copies of constitutions and bylaws and an annual financial report (Form LM-2, 3, 4) with the Office of Labor-Management Standards (OLMS). Unions must make these documents available to members and permit members to examine the records necessary to verify the financial reports for just cause. The documents are public information and copies of reports are available from OLMS and on the Internet at www.union-reports.dol.gov.

Officer Elections Local union members have the right to:

- Nominate candidates for office
- Run for office
- Cast a secret ballot
- Protest the conduct of an election

Officer Removal Local union members have the right to an adequate procedure for the removal of an elected officer guilty of serious misconduct.

Trusteeships The local union may not be placed in trusteeship by its parent body except for those reasons specified in the standard of conduct regulations.

Protection for Exercising CSRA Rights The local union or any of its officials may not fine, expel or otherwise discipline a member for exercising any CSRA right.

Prohibition Against Violence No one may use or threaten to use force or violence to interfere with a local union member in the exercise of his or her CSRA rights.

Local Union Officer Responsibilities

Financial Safeguards Local union officers have a duty to manage the funds and property of the union solely for the benefit of the union and its members in accordance with the union's constitution and bylaws. The union must provide accounting and financial controls necessary to assure fiscal integrity.

Prohibition of Conflicts of Interest A local union officer or employee may not (1) have any monetary or personal interest or (2) engage in any business or financial transaction that would conflict with his or her fiduciary obligation to the union.

Bonding Local union officers or employees who handle union funds of property must be bonded to provide protection against losses if their union has property and annual financial receipts that exceed \$5,000.

Labor Organization Reports Union officers must file an annual information report (Form LM-1) and annual financial reports (Forms LM-2, 3, 4) with OLMS. They must retain the records necessary to verify the reports for at least five years.

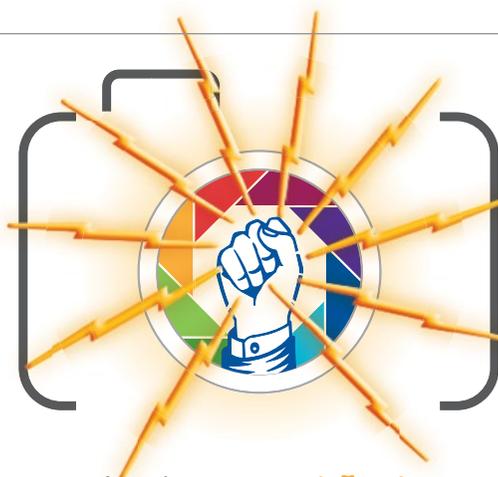
Officer Elections The local union must:

- Hold elections of officers of the local union by secret ballot at least every three years.
- Conduct regular elections in accordance with the IBEW Constitution and bylaws and preserve all records for one year.
- Mail a notice of election to every member at least 15 days prior to the election.
- Comply with a candidate's request to distribute campaign material.
- Ensure that local union funds or resources are not used to promote any candidate (nor that employer funds or resources be used).
- Permit candidates to have election observers.

Restrictions on Holding Office A person convicted of certain crimes may not serve as a union officer, employee or other representative of a union for up to 13 years.

Loans A union may not have outstanding loans to any one officer or employee that in total exceeds \$2,000 at any time. Although this is part of the regulation under the CSRA, the IBEW or its local unions do not loan union funds to officers or members.

Federal employees should contact their local union for further information. ■



picturethis:

YOUR PHOTO winning IBEW's 2013 Photo Contest!

Our yearly photography contest is a chance for members to connect their powerful skills with a camera to the often unsung and underappreciated work that they do every day.

For more than 15 years of competition, the IBEW Journal and The Electrical Worker have been honored to print hundreds of photos of and by IBEW members at work—restoring the power after storms, helping build their era's architectural masterpieces, driving the development of new energy sources—and performing hundreds of other jobs that contribute so much to communities across North America and even beyond.

We invite all IBEW members to enter the 2013 IBEW Photography Contest. It's your chance to not only match your skills with brothers and sisters across our union's landscape, but to help chronicle—for posterity—the shining achievements of a union that is prepared and equipped for its future.

[Deadline: **Oct. 31**]

\$200
1ST PLACE

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Photo Contest Rules:

1. The contest is open to active or retired IBEW members only. The person submitting the photo must be the person who took the photograph. Members may enter more than one photo.
2. International Officers and staff are not eligible.
3. Photos can be submitted as digital files of at least 300 dpi, in color or black and white, on slides or prints. The preferred print size is 8"x10".
4. All submissions become the property of the IBEW Media Department.
5. Photo entries must have an IBEW theme of some sort, with IBEW members at work, engaged in a union-related activity or subjects conveying images of the electrical industry or the union.
6. If members are featured in the photo, they should be identified. If large groups are pictured, the name of the group or the purpose of the gathering (e.g. a safety committee, a linemen's rodeo, a union meeting) can be submitted in place of individual names.
7. Photos previously published in IBEW publications or the Web site are not eligible for submission.
8. All entries must include a completed contest entry form. Please note that photo entries may be submitted through the IBEW Web site at www.ibew.org.
9. Please fill out the contest entry form and affix it to each photo you submit for the contest and mail it to the IBEW Photo Contest, 900 Seventh Street NW, Washington, DC, 20001.
10. Fifteen finalists will be selected and posted on www.ibew.org for final judging by the public. The winners will be featured in the January 2014 issue of the Electrical Worker.

Contest Entry Form

Name _____

Address _____

City and state _____

Zip code _____

Phone number _____

E-mail address _____

Local union number _____ IBEW card number _____

Photo description _____

www.ibew.org