

THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

FIRST PUBLISHED IN 1893

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

Printed in the USA

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Vol. 8 | No. 6 | June 2014

IBEW News

Manufacturer Fights Cheap Knockoffs

Counterfeits threaten IBEW jobs **2**

Proudly Union

New 'IBEW-Made' website **3**

Little Chips and Big PLAs

Under construction in N.Y. **3**

Wis. manufacturing success **4**



...and the Winner Is

Member wins IBEW quilt **4**

Ensuring grid reliability **5**

Possible FairPoint sale? **5**

Sunny skies for solar wiz **6**

New tech, chances in Sask. **6**

Recovery after Wash. mudslide **20**

In This Issue

North of 49° **7**

Transitions
Circuits **8**

In Memoriam
IEC minutes **9**

Local Lines **10**

Retirees **15**

Officers' Editorials **18**

Letters to the Editor

Who We Are **19**



The IBEW and SPX Transformer Solutions in Waukesha, Wis., are working together to grow union manufacturing.

Locals Chart Course to Manufacturing Success

Manufacturing Excellence

- ▶ Counterfeit crackdown, **2**
- ▶ IBEW-Made Website, **3**
– Small chips, Big Jobs in N.Y.
- ▶ Wis. Manufacturing Success, **4**

After two decades of offshoring and plant shutdowns, North American manufacturing is making a comeback. The U.S. economy added approximately 500,000 manufacturing jobs from 2010 through 2013, and expects to see more growth this year. That still doesn't come close to making up for the 6 million manufacturing jobs lost in the 2000s, but it does show that there can be a future for the Made in the USA and Made in Canada labels.

But as IBEW members, our concern isn't just bringing back jobs—it's creating good jobs that provide workers with a solid spot in the middle class. And that means reviving union manufacturing.

Articles in this issue of the Electrical Worker highlight success stories from the IBEW's manufacturing branch, shooting down conventional wisdom that union plants can't compete in today's global economy.

From actively promoting IBEW-made products to consumers and signatory contractors, to building links with manufacturing unions around the planet, to adopting the Code of Excellence in every IBEW-represented facility, local unions are taking the lead in renewing union manufacturing in the United States and Canada. At many of these facilities, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers is a leading force in their success, working with management to win back even more work from overseas.

It continues to remain a rocky path to full recovery, but the articles in this and future issues of the Electrical Worker show that the IBEW is hard at work creating the blueprint for manufacturing success in the 21st century.

MANUFACTURING SUCCESS *continued on page 2*

BLUEPRINT for Manufacturing Success



IBEW Joins Fight Against Counterfeit Electrical Equipment

Cheap Knockoffs Increase 50% for Three Years in a Row, Jeopardize Safety

Counterfeiting. It's a crime as old as money itself. In Colonial America, currency sometimes carried the warning, "to counterfeit is death." The death sentence no longer is in effect for passing fake currency. But serious injury or death could still be the penalty for IBEW electricians and others who inadvertently install or depend upon counterfeit circuit breakers and other electrical equipment.

The flow of cheap electrical equipment knockoffs, mostly from China, is spiraling. In 2013, more than \$270 million worth of consumer safety and critical technology was seized by U.S. Customs and Border Control, an 85 percent increase from 2012. This is the third year in a row this has increased by more than half.

"We're fighting to keep a vibrant manufacturing plant in Beaver. We can't tolerate counterfeit products that threaten our members' jobs."

—Eric Hoover, business manager, Beaver, Pa., Local 201

The International Anti-Counterfeiting Coalition projects that nearly \$2 trillion in counterfeit and pirated goods will be trafficked globally in 2015, costing the electrical products industry \$600 billion annually. Experts estimate that 750,000 jobs are lost every year worldwide because of counterfeiting. And some of them are IBEW manufacturing jobs.

Counterfeit products look exactly like the real products but are made with inferior materials, inaccurate manufacturing processes and without functional or safety testing. They are part of a growing "gray market," undermining responsible producers and employers in a number of North American industries.

Eaton Corporation, a manufacturer of electrical, hydraulic and mechanical products, is taking a leading role in sounding the alarm about the growing dangers of counterfeit items. They include faulty circuit breakers that can lead to overheated and short circuits, resulting in fires, shocks or explosions.

The company's efforts are being

applauded by International President Edwin D. Hill, who says Eaton's clarion call will not only protect electricians, but also the jobs of 300 members of Beaver Local 201 who manufacture circuit breakers in Western Pennsylvania.

"There is no better time than now, when the IBEW is launching a major effort to promote products made by our members, to join Eaton's call to protect our nation and members of our trades from the unconscionable fraud of the counterfeiters," Hill says.

Eaton's campaign, entitled "I Didn't Know" (it was Counterfeit), aims to provide each individual along the supply chain for electrical devices with knowledge and tools needed to avoid and detect counterfeit electrical products.

A full-page ad in trade magazines touting the effort warns that companies could be financially responsible for damage suffered from products purchased from unauthorized sources.

Counterfeiters prey on recognized brands with high volume and relatively low costs competing in markets for items such as control relays for industrial equipment, receptacles, ground fault circuit interrupters, power strips, surge suppressors, power cords and circuit breakers.

"Stopping the sale of counterfeit products is everyone's responsibility—manufacturers, distributors, resellers and customers alike," said Tom Grace, Eaton brand protection manager.

"We're fighting to keep a vibrant manufacturing plant in Beaver. We're competing for our product lines with brother and sister plants," says Local 201 Business Manager Eric Hoover. "We can't tolerate counterfeit products that threaten the jobs of members of IBEW Local 201."

Many of the circuit breakers produced in Eaton's Beaver plant end up in the coal mining industry. "Regulation and

legislation have led to job elimination in our market for mining products," says Hoover, whose local represents members in 14 job classifications from assemblers to testers and group leaders.

"The counterfeiting is very visible in underground coal mining. Every counterfeit breaker installed in coal mines jeopardizes the lives of coal miners and the electricians who install the switch gear. And every counterfeit breaker jeopardizes the jobs of my members."

Wary of theft, Eaton refuses to share proprietary information on its manufacturing processes and has worked with the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration to combat counterfeit products. In one case, Eaton collaborated with MSHA, the FBI and the United States Attorney's Office for West Virginia's Southern District to successfully prosecute a mining repair shop owner for federal counterfeiting violations. The owner was sentenced to a term of probation for three years and will be ordered to pay Eaton restitution.

Eaton has set up exhibits and led educational sessions on counterfeiting at trade shows, including some sponsored by the National Electrical Contractors Association. "The best deterrent against counterfeiting is awareness," says Grace.

Eaton's campaign melds well with IBEW's priorities. At the 38th IBEW Convention in Vancouver, delegates voted unanimously to support a campaign to promote products manufactured by IBEW members.

Hoover, who helped develop the IBEW-Made program (www.ibewmade.com) introduced at the IBEW's Broadcasting, Manufacturing and Telecommunications Conference in April, says the product identification program will protect the jobs of IBEW members in manufacturing.

When combined with the Code of Excellence, the market share of IBEW-represented manufacturers will grow, resulting in more profits for IBEW employers and more local union members.

"It is not only about keeping our members in manufacturing working. It's about protecting the safety of consumers and workers from substandard products that flood our economy from the 'gray,' counterfeit market," he says.

"Knowing a safety device such as a circuit breaker was manufactured and tested in an authorized facility, keeps IBEW electricians safe. Counterfeiting electrical products creates grave dangers for electricians in the field," says Hoover.

"Everyone knows how common knockoffs are in handbags and watches," Grace says. "But when you're dealing with circuit breakers, we are talking about real

Organizations Fighting Counterfeiting

- Canadian Anti-Counterfeiting Network
<http://cacn.ca>
- CACP – Coalition Against Counterfeiting and Piracy
www.theglobalipcenter.com/get-involved/cacp
- Counterfeit Kills – Don't Electrocute Your Customer
www.counterfeit-kills.co.uk/uk/index.php
- CSA International
www.csagroup.org/us/en/homeEFC
- Electro Federation of Canada
www.electrofed.com
- ESFi – Electrical Safety Foundation International
www.esfi.org
- International Anti-Counterfeiting Coalition
www.iacc.org
- NEMA – Anti-Counterfeiting
www.nema.org/Policy/Anti-Counterfeiting/pages/default.aspx
- UL – Anti-Counterfeiting Operations
www.ul.com/global/eng/pages/offering/services/programs/anticounterfeitingoperations

safety risk." Deception is heightened when counterfeiters stamp their products with fraudulent third-party testing labels.

Eaton executives say counterfeiting has been a problem for responsible manufacturers for more than 20 years. But the rip-offs are now getting more recognition as the problem proliferates across industries. Pfizer Pharmaceuticals estimates that since 2004, the company has prevented almost 65 million doses of counterfeit medicines from reaching patients.

"We are trying to get people away from the mindset that if a product looks the same, it performs the same," says Paul Cole, Eaton's manufacturing manager at the Beaver plant. Cole also oversees the company's breaker service centers in Beckley, W.Va. and Evansville, Ky.

Eaton stresses the need for contractors to turn to original equipment manufacturers or authorized distributors and

resellers for purchase, service and repair of all electrical products and to notify manufacturers if they have any questions about a product's authenticity. And the company is also lobbying for legislation that will help deter counterfeiting.

Supplementing the company's public relations campaign, Eaton and other manufacturers are employing new technologies to authenticate their products, including covert laser markings, unique moldings, cartons and special serial numbers that can trace products through their complete life cycle. Having the right product in stock when the customer needs it is another critical piece of the company's strategy, says Grace.

Numerous coalitions and organizations representing manufacturers and law enforcement agencies from more than 60 nations are focused on stemming the tide of counterfeit products. ■

GET YOUR ELECTRICAL WORKER DELIVERED EACH MONTH VIA E-MAIL.

It's convenient & helps cut down on paper waste. Go to www.ibew.org/gogreen and sign up today!

Scan with a QR reader



IBEW-Made Website Showcases Excellence

IBEW pride and excellence. These qualities are packed into every lighting fixture, switch, transformer or circuit breaker produced by members of the union's manufacturing branch.

But what happens when these devices hit the marketplace? Will signatory electrical contractors and utility companies buy union? Will they buy IBEW? Will they and thousands of members even know which items are made by their union brothers and sisters?

Finally, with the May rollout of a new website, IBEW-Made (www.ibewmade.com), the answer is "Yes."

Comprised of features unprecedented in the labor movement, the site, introduced at the 2014 Broadcasting, Manufacturing and Telecommunications Conference in Connecticut, is already drawing widespread attention from other unions and employers in the U.S., Canada and overseas.

IBEW-Made enables contractors and individual members to go straight to the catalogues of signatory manufacturers to review the specifications of their products and find out which retailers carry them.

New orders will help improve the profitability of employers, enhance the job security of members who have been hard hit by outsourcing of production, and help to organize new units in the manufacturing sector, says IBEW Manufacturing Department Director Randy Middleton.

"This exciting new website combines synergy and union solidarity," says Middleton. "It enables members in the construction and utility branch to stand by our manufacturing members while giving them quality products to work with." But, he says, "This tool is only effective if it is picked up and used."

"IBEW-Made is long overdue. It is a tool that gives mainstream America the chance to see what our members make. And it gives our members pride in being able to say, 'I made that,'" says Robby Evans, assistant business manager, Atlanta Local 613.

Evans is one of 13 local union members of the Product Identification Team that conceived the website, designed by the IBEW Information Technology Department.

"We're excited," says Anthony Esponda, business representative, N.Y. Local 3, another member of the team who represents members in several plants producing lighting fixtures. "This website will promote our manufacturing Code of Excellence."

Each product posted on the site will go through an extensive vetting process. Local union business managers will sug-

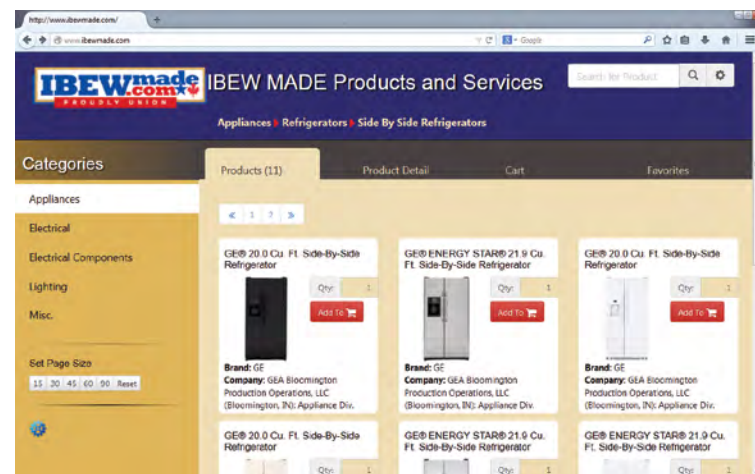
gest items to be included. All products listed will be reviewed by the Manufacturing Department to ensure that they are made by members covered by active collective bargaining agreements. The site will also show which products were produced under the Code of Excellence or already carry union labels.

"IBEW-Made will help grow the IBEW," says Kenneth Ingram, assistant business manager, Memphis, Tenn., Local 474. "After getting authorization cards signed in an organizing campaign, we can go to a company and show what we have to offer and counter the stereotypes they may have about unions."

All requests for products and information from the site's users will be

tracked. That's another powerful tool, says Chelsea, Mass., Local 1499 Business Manager John Horak, who represents manufacturing members in a few New England states. "We can bring those requests to our employer and suggest that they begin to manufacture items at home in our shops that they have abandoned or outsourced."

IBEW-Made is the main spoke of a larger effort to bolster the union's manufacturing base, says Middleton. Discussions are taking place with employers about increasing the use of the union's labels on products and "putting stickers right on the outside of cartons where every customer can see IBEW-Made merchandise while shopping."



'The IBEW-Made website enables members in the construction branch to stand by our manufacturing members while giving them quality products to work with,' said IBEW Manufacturing Department Director Randy Middleton.

"We hope IBEW-Made will be a template and a model for other unions to follow," Richard Kline, president of the Union Label and Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO, told attendees at the Broadcasting, Manufacturing and Telecommunications Department meeting in April.

Members of the Product Identifica-

tion Team also include Eric Hoover, Beaver, Pa., Local 201; Doug McKay, Vancouver, B.C. Local 258; Bob Priest and Adrian Saucedo, Houston Local 716; Cruz Serna, Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245; Mike Bruening, Milwaukee Local 2150; Chad Donathan, Mt. Sterling, Ky., Local 2246 and Carven Thomas, Bloomington, Ind., Local 2249. ■

Small Chips Mean Big Jobs for Albany Local

Malta, N.Y., is perhaps best known as the lifelong home of George Crum, the inventor of the potato chip. With streets of modest homes beneath mature oak and maple trees, the small Hudson Valley town of 13,000 doesn't look like it would also be the site of one of the largest construction projects in the United States.

Malta is where the world's largest semiconductor manufacturer, GlobalFoundries, has been building its North American manufacturing campus. Since groundbreaking in July 2009, more than 3 million square feet of office, research and production facilities have been built; total capital investment by the company is nearly \$8 billion. Production began less than 18 months later, and company officials have already announced plans for an additional \$9-10 billion to expand the facility.

The GlobalFoundries project is also the largest private project labor agreement in IBEW history, according to the IBEW's business development office.

"We have averaged 2 million-plus man-hours every year since 2009. No less than 200 members have been on site since groundbreaking and we've had up to 800," said Albany, N.Y., Local 236 Business Manager Don Rahm. "If I had to guess, I think it will be another 10 to 15 years before things level out and they stop expanding. The future looks very bright."

Third District International Vice President Donald C. Siegel said the project is notable not just for its size but for how smoothly the work has gone.

"Generally, when a project is this big, you expect to have problems and we haven't heard anything like that, and that is a very good thing," Siegel said. "That tells me this is a well-designed PLA and it says a lot about the workmanship and integrity of our people in Local 236 and the influence of the Code of Excellence on us all."

Company officials also said that construction has been notably free of drama.

"The campus has successfully hit all major construction, operations and customer milestones, and is fulfilling its mission to ramp on existing manufacturing production



The moment construction was completed in 2013, company officials announced multibillion dollar plans to expand the plant and begin construction on a research building nearby.

technology while in parallel developing advanced manufacturing technologies on future production nodes," said a company spokesman.

Rahm says he and members of the building trades have been in conversation with GlobalFoundries about extending the PLA should the company build a second chip fabrication plant at the site. Siegel and Rahm are confident that the members of Local 236 have proven their value over the last five years.

"Why would they change the formula when it has been working so well?" Siegel said.

There are only so many different ways to build a building, but Rahm says there is a very steep learning curve working in the heart of the plant, the 300,000-square-foot clean room where the chips are made. As big as six football fields, it must be kept entirely

free of dust and contaminants. Workers have to wear special clean suits and masks, wash all parts, including conduit inside and out, and follow detailed instructions for installations.

"The protocols are specific—extremely specific—and while doing the work precisely is not specialized, doing it efficiently and precisely is," Rahm said.

Before Fab 8's construction, semiconductor production was shrinking in the U.S. Nearly all chip engineering and design happens in the U.S., but for several decades, new factories were built in Europe and Asia, not in the U.S.

Nearly a decade ago, New York launched an aggressive campaign to turn that around. Generous subsidies were announced—GlobalFoundries has received significant tax incentives and grants over the last decade—and a former rocket and missile fuels testing ground was cleaned up and converted into the Luther Forest Technology Campus, 1,400 acres pre-approved for semiconductor and nanotechnology manufacturing.

"The IBEW and the state building trades have been important partners at every step of this project," Rahm said. "For years our members were at every planning, zoning and community meeting because we knew what it would mean for our members." ■

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

Tree trimming is one of the most dangerous jobs out there, so having a voice on the job is vital. Hear from some New England tree trimmers who found their voice with the IBEW. YouTube.com/TheElectricalWorker

Vimeo

The IBEW is now on Vimeo.

Watch, download and share your favorite IBEW videos in crystal clear HD.

Vimeo.com/ibew



HourPower

Learn more about the IBEW Life Saving Award and two recent recipients from President Ed Hill in the latest video posted on IBEWHourPower.com!



ElectricTV

Intel recently put the finishing touches on their most advanced site in the world in Oregon, and they trusted the NECA-IBEW team to build it! Check out the story on ElectricTV.net!



Wis. Local Sees Manufacturing Success

IBEW Local Helps Renew Union Manufacturing

Some of the biggest items found on the new IBEW-Made website are the two-story tall transformers made by SPX Transformer Solutions Inc., formerly Waukesha Electric Systems. The transformers, which range from 2.5-2,000 megawatts, are produced by members of Milwaukee Local 2150.

The plant, located 20 miles west of Milwaukee, is one the rare success stories in the post-NAFTA manufacturing era, and it's a blueprint for how unions can play a leading role in winning back high-skilled manufacturing jobs to North America.

“There are plenty of IBEW-represented utilities who should be our customers, and IBEW-Made can help connect us.”

— Mike Bruening, Local 2150 Business Agent

“Things continue to head in the right direction,” said Local 2150 Business Agent Mike Bruening. The plant, owned by North Carolina-based SPX, was organized more than a decade ago by Local 2150, a tough win that had some questioning whether labor and management could work together

to make the company thrive. Negotiating a first contract took more than 18 months of contentious bargaining.

But Local 2150 members helped defy the critics. While other plants have shut their doors and moved overseas, SPX has seen consistent growth and a growing market share in the power industry.

SPX Transformer Solutions owns numerous nonunion plants, but in 2010, it invested \$70 million in a 140,000-square-foot expansion of the Waukesha unit. Corporate officials said that the positive relationship they had with Local 2150 was a major factor in selecting the Waukesha site for expansion. The job was completed two years ago.

Originally a unit of 320 members, Local 2150 now represents more than 400 workers at the facility.

Business Manager Michael Follett credits the IBEW's manufacturing success to the Code of Excellence and a new attitude on the part of both employers and employees.

He says that there is a willingness to work together to efficiently produce high quality products the customer expects. The Code is an agreement between managers and the IBEW to increase labor-management cooperation and professionalism in the workplace. Originally developed in the construction branch, it was adopted in manufacturing last year.

What the Code of Excellence means, says Follett, is that both sides have a stake in the company's success.

The transformer market faces strong competition from both nonunion and foreign producers, making maximizing productivity and quality vital to reviving union manufacturing.

Utilities will need Waukesha's larger transformers to transmit power across long distances, which is of particular importance as wind and solar—often generated far from distribution centers—make up a bigger and bigger share of the country's energy portfolio.

Local 2150's Bruening says the new IBEW-Made.com website is a great tool to help companies like SPX Transformer Solutions promote their products to a wider audience.

Bruening served on the product identification team that helped create the site.

“Who's a better salesman than the 725,000 members of the IBEW?” he said. “There are plenty of IBEW-represented utilities who should be our customers, and IBEW-Made can help connect us.” ■



SPX Transformer Solutions has seen steady growth thanks in part to a strong partnership between the company and Milwaukee Local 2150.

Pride and Generosity:

RAFFLE NETS THOUSANDS FOR VETERANS GROUP



New York Local 3 member Cesar Perez, center in yellow shirt, won the T-shirt quilt raffle that netted \$33,000 for World War II veterans to visit Washington. He's pictured with children Christen and Carina, and co-workers, including Business Rep. Anthony Esponda (second from left), a member of IBEW's product ID team.

Members attending the 2014 Broadcasting, Manufacturing and Telecommunications Conference in Connecticut in late April loudly applauded after hearing from George Farrell, a retired fire chief who coordinates Rhode Island's “honor flights” program.

Farrell encouraged attendees to purchase raffle tickets at the conference to help fund the program that provides free transportation to World War II veterans to visit the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. Thousands of veterans, many of whom suffer from terminal diseases and disabling conditions, have made the trip.

The raffle offered ticket purchasers the chance to win a large quilt fabricated from T-shirts provided by manufacturing locals. The quilt was produced by Teresa Ekstein, a 41-year member of Lincoln, Neb., Local 2366. The “Tapestry of Solidarity” was the subject of a February story on www.ibew.org.

“I was speechless,” says IBEW Manufacturing Department Director Randy Middleton, who expected to present a few thousand dollars to Farrell.

Conference attendees bought \$13,000 worth of the \$10 tickets. Then Hartford, Conn., Local 42 and Boston, Mass., Local 104 announced that they would donate \$10,000 each to the proceeds.

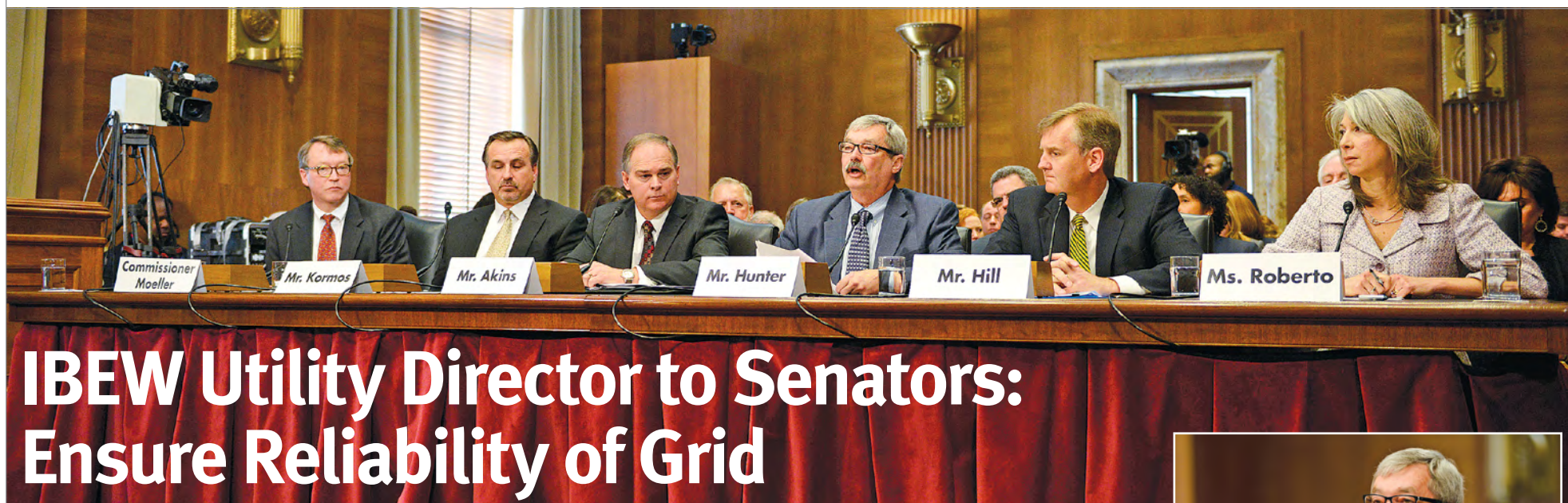
“The generosity of our members,” says Middleton, “makes me so proud to be an IBEW member.”

Farrell, who attended the reception where the winning ticket was pulled, said:

“You never know what to expect when you ask for support for Honor Flights. The IBEW's participation was incredible. It was an overwhelming experience for me and Steve Hay, one of the Honor Flight organizers. We were inspired by the members who came up at the reception and supported not just our program, but America's veterans.” ■



Milwaukee Local 2150's commitment to the Code of Excellence has helped both the company and local grow in Waukesha.



IBEW Utility Director to Senators: Ensure Reliability of Grid

Senate Hearing Called in Response to Union Activism

In Congress, where all progress seems to creep at a snail's pace, an IBEW request has helped initiate a timely hearing to discuss how the shutdowns of coal-fired power plants will affect the nation's electrical grid, especially during extreme weather emergencies.

On April 10, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee convened a hearing entitled: "Keeping the Lights On—Are We Doing Enough to Ensure the Reliability and Security of the U.S. Electrical Grid?" The hearing was held in direct response to a March letter to the committee's chair, Sen. Mary Landrieu (D-La.) from the IBEW, the United Mineworkers, the Utility Workers and others.

The unions' request for a hearing was supported by Sen. Joe Manchin (D-W. Va.) and Rob Portman (R-Ohio).

"We [IBEW members] don't have multimillion dollar models for predicting plant closures," IBEW Utility Department Director Jim Hunter told senators. "But we have common sense and practical knowledge of the system."

Testifying as part of a panel that included Nicholas Akins, CEO of American Electric Power, Hunter recapped the union's 2011 warning to the Environmental Protection Agency predicting that prematurely removing 56 gigawatts of coal-fired generation could cause blackouts during extreme weather emergencies. At the time, the EPA disputed the IBEW's numbers. However, the agency now confirms the union's predictions. The closings will lead to 50,000 direct job losses.

"Our experience enabled us to see what the agency's models could not," said Hunter, who informed senators that 80 to 90 percent of the plants scheduled to close were required to run during last winter's polar vortex to prevent grid disruptions.

PJM, the regional utility organization covering a large swath of the U.S., has not done any winter modeling in over 10 years. "Luck is a poor substitute for proper planning," Hunter told senators, who also heard from another panel of industry experts focusing on the nation's readiness to counter threats to the grid's security from cyber or physical attacks.

Responding to the reliability panel, Manchin linked the coal plant clos-

ings to the need to replace as many as 100 nuclear power plants by 2050 if their licenses are not extended.

"Where does this leave us? We need coal. We need nuclear," Manchin said. "We need them along with gas, wind, solar and hydro. But without these two workhorse fuels providing baseload power 24/7, 365 days a year, we will not be able to guarantee the reliability of our grid." In the face of future weather emergencies, he said, "Make no mistake—the grid will fail and people will die—our elderly and most vul-

nerable people."

A member of the Environmental Defense Fund and the CEO of a company invested in renewable energy also addressed the committee. They argued that leaving the nation's electrical energy grid to the deregulated marketplace would ensure that prices will come down for cleaner energy sources to replace coal, leaving enough supply to forestall any emergencies.

Hunter disagreed. "The electrical industry is still suffering the economic stress fractures caused by the partial deregulation of the industry in the 1990s," he said, presenting senators with IBEW's recommendations to help to prevent catastrophic losses of electrical power:

- **Seasoned and knowledgeable commissioners** on the Federal Energy

IBEW Utility Department Director Jim Hunter urges senators to consider the effect of coal-fired power plant closures on the reliability of the electrical grid.



Regulatory Commission who can make changes to the market to ensure adequate supplies of energy;

- **Better coordination** between FERC, the EPA and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and more flexibility in implementing new rules;
- **An end to "double jeopardy"** facing companies that could be ordered to restart shut-down coal-fired power

plants by FERC or regional utility organizations, thus placing them in a position to be sued under the Clean Air Act.

"The IBEW wants clean water and clean air as much as anyone," Hunter told the committee. While the EPA has extended some deadlines to comply with new environmental regulations, remaining problems, he said, "must now be solved by FERC and Congress." ■

FairPoint Sale Could Put New England IBEW Jobs in Jeopardy

When telecom company FairPoint Communications first bid to take over Verizon's New England landline service in 2008, there were both promises and worries.

The promises were the possibility of jobs. In addition to touting planned broadband Internet upgrades, FairPoint predicted nearly 700 new jobs would be created in New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine once it assumed control of the Verizon system.

The worries were that a small, regional company wouldn't have the necessary technology or human power to maintain or improve upon landline and Internet services that Verizon had offered customers for years.

In 2009, the worries won out. Lacking the necessary company infrastructure to maintain the three-state system, FairPoint issued inaccurate bills to customers, failed to repair necessary services and even had to provide \$11 million in credits because of its shoddy performance to ratepayers. In 18 short months after the deal went through, FairPoint declared bankruptcy. The promised jobs never materialized. Instead, IBEW locals in the tri-state area all saw members endure layoffs.

Now, after FairPoint has spent three years climbing out of bankruptcy and investing in a baseline level of infrastructure, labor and community activists are wary that the company is maneuvering itself for yet another sale. This could play havoc with the livelihoods of more than 1,700 IBEW members in the region, as activists proceed with new contract negotiations that began in April.

"FairPoint has made it clear that they expect this to be a concessionary contract," said IBEW International Representative Bob Erickson, who is helping lead negotiations. "The company appears to be positioning itself for a sale at the expense of the employees." One financial analyst called FairPoint "a compelling merger and acquisition opportunity," the Bangor Daily News reported in April.



Signs show that FairPoint Communications may be looking to sell to a new buyer.

Photo used under a Creative Commons license from Flickr user Bernard Pollack.

That's good news for four of the company's top five shareholders, which are corporate hedge funds.

"Wall Street investors are not interested in growing the company for the long haul," Erickson said. "They are interested in getting a quick return on their investment."

None of which comes as a surprise to other IBEW leaders and activists close to the FairPoint workforce.

"Prior to the deal in 2008, we anticipated and predicted that the company would run into significant trouble, that the cutover from Verizon would be disastrous," said Martha Pultar, IBEW Broadcasting and Telecommunications Department Director. "Just about everything we said at the time turned out to be true."

Lawmakers in Maine passed a bill in April to help ensure that any sale or merger of the state's biggest telecom provider would result in a "net benefit" for citizens – but Gov. Paul LePage vetoed the legislation later that month.

The bill would have allowed the state's Public Utilities Commission greater authority in deciding whether or not a potential deal with a new buyer goes through.

"This bill was an opportunity for us to raise that bar of approval for a new sale," Augusta, Maine, Local 2327 Business Manager Peter McLaughlin told the Bangor Daily News.

"If a company buying FairPoint has an interest in investing in new technology and products, that could be a win-win for the consumers and the employees, as it would help ensure that our members continue to have steady work," said Erickson.

The IBEW represents FairPoint workers out of Manchester, N.H., Local 2320; Montpelier, Vt., Local 2326; and Augusta Local 2327. The workers comprise IBEW's System Council T-9. Their contract expires on Aug. 3. FairPoint is seeking a 60 percent reduction in starting salaries for new hires and other concessions.

On May 12, members of IBEW and CWA attended FairPoint's annual shareholder meeting, calling for fairness in negotiations, contrasting the company's concessionary demands with the 37 percent increase in pay for CEO Paul Sunu since 2011. "We believe every working person deserves respect and a fair deal. FairPoint, a company based right here in North Carolina but owned largely by Wall Street hedge funds, is attempting to destroy good jobs in northern New England. We came out today to support our brothers and sisters who traveled more than 1,000 miles to demand justice," said Ashley Howard, a trustee of the Southern Piedmont Central Labor Council.

For more upcoming reporting on bargaining at FairPoint, visit www.ibew.org. ■



Sky High Opportunity: IBEW's Solar Power in California

Local 569 member Cesar Chaidez installs the final panel for Sullivan Solar's project at Long Beach City College. Below, Daniel Sullivan, Founder and CEO of Sullivan Solar and former IBEW journeyman, in front of the 60 kilowatt solar project his company built on the Broadway Pier in the Port of San Diego.

After Dan Sullivan topped out of San Diego Local 569's apprenticeship program in 2001, he went back to the training center for the class that changed his life.

Sullivan was 23, married to his high school sweetheart and working for a contractor in his hometown when he took that class on small-scale photovoltaics in 2012.

"A light bulb went off," Sullivan said. "I thought to myself, 'This is a massive opportunity.'"

Throughout his apprenticeship, California had been wracked by the failure of the state's energy reforms. Each day brought new disruptions: brownouts, price spikes, the bankruptcy of PG&E and, ultimately, the recall of the governor Gray Davis.

"Out of that came the state programs to spur renewables, and I went to my supervisor and said we had to get into solar installations," Sullivan said. "He said no one would buy this [stuff]."

With only \$2,500, an old Ford Ranger pickup and some power tools, Sullivan put out his shingle. Twelve years later, Sullivan Solar is the largest solar-only contractor in southern California and the 10th fastest growing energy company in the country in 2013, according to Inc. Magazine.

"I'm not easily deterred," he said.

Local 569 Business Manager Johnny Simpson said Sullivan's success has been a high profile rejection of the claim that a unionized workforce hamstring employers in fast changing industries.

"He's been very aggressive and shown everybody that this is IBEW," said Simpson, who also credited signatory Baker Electric for its residential solar work. "We are proud of his success. It is a good business and one we are very competitive in."

Sullivan said being a union shop has set him up for success, from the management experience he gained working as a foreman to the large pool of skilled electricians he can call on.

"As we have grown, we have been



"When you are building something to last 50 years, the small things—wire management, proper wire choices, how the conduit runs—they really matter."

— Dan Sullivan

able to bring on talented electricians when we need them and we can get them up to speed so much faster than some guy who was hanging dry wall last week and now wants to be an electrician," Sullivan said.

The skill of his workforce has been central to his marketing strategy as well.

"Too many contractors think price is all that matters, but not everyone is a Walmart shopper. Really, most aren't, but I knew that I would still need the most compelling presentation customers had ever seen to teach them what quality meant and why it was important," Sullivan said. "I was using my knowledge as a journeyman inside wireman as a sign of quality."

In many parts of the country, solar work has been dominated by nonunion contractors, many attached to new companies like Solar City and Sun Run that function primarily as financial operators, leasing cookie-cutter solar systems to homeowners, and then subcontracting installation.

The price of solar panels has been falling precipitously in recent years—down 50 percent last year alone, according to the MIT Technology Review—and panels now make up only 20 percent of a solar system's total cost. Solar leasing companies are now at the forefront of an effort to reduce installation costs by integrating panels, inverters and rack systems and then using unqualified electrical workers to snap them together.

Cutting out high-skilled labor may increase a company's profits, Sullivan said, but it comes at a high price down the road, one most often borne by the homeowners.

Local 569 member Mike DeCarli, a residential project manager for Sullivan Solar, says he has seen it out on jobs many times before. Panels that aren't installed flat or oriented correctly underperform. Systems that are designed to be easy to install are more complex, less durable and harder to repair. Quickie installations can damage the roof or worse. And without sufficient electrical experience, they simply won't understand what can go wrong or what to do if it does.

"These plug-and-play systems are nice because they are quick, but they are all made for some average roof and there is no such thing. There are no standard layouts; every roof is different," DeCarli said. "Sometimes simple things are better. They last longer. When you are building something to last 50 years, the small things—wire management, proper wire choices, how the conduit runs—they really matter."

Sullivan says that message has resonated with customers of all kinds, from the early adopters with long hair and Birkenstocks to today's customers who are often much more focused on the green in their pocket.

"I'm not losing sleep over the competition. They may have a huge heap of cash and an army of unskilled labor but they aren't the top solar company around here. We are," he said. "If we are at the table, we win." ■

Changing Technology Opens New Horizons in Saskatchewan

Automated electricity meters have been a double-whammy for many locals. Meter reader jobs disappear and the replacement work has proven extremely resistant to organizing on both sides of the border.

Regina, Sask., Local 2067 broke through that model and brought in 150 meter replacement workers, improving safety training, wages and benefits and career opportunities for the new members.

"Something like 95 percent of all meter replacement has been nonunion, so we are extremely proud that this will be our work," Local 2067 Business Manager Neil Collins said. "Most importantly, the men and women doing it will be properly trained and supported so the job gets done safely."

The new members will replace the traditional energy meters with automated ones across the service area of Saskatchewan Power. The job is expected to take two to three years.

More than 1,500 Local 2067 members already work at Saskpower, but when the company decided to update the meters, it signed with GridOne, a nonunion contractor that was going to hire unqualified electrical workers to do the work.

"When a meter is removed, it exposes a live 250-volt, 300-amp connection which, under provincial law, only trained electrical workers can work on," Collins said.

Saskpower needed an exemption from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Workplace Safety, an exemption it had granted to Saskatoon Light and Power and companies in Alberta and British Columbia had received similar exemptions from their provincial authorities. In Alberta, for example, meter replacement workers were contracted six months at a time, paid by the piece, had no benefits and supervisors had no electrical training.

"One supervisor I spoke to said he was normally a truck driver," said First District Regional Organizing Coordinator Darrell Taylor. "They were sending them out, mostly young people, with no one looking out for their safety, and there wasn't much we could do. It was almost impossible to even find them."

Local 2067 fought the exemption request.

"From the company's perspective, it isn't dangerous because untrained workers have done it in other places, but we had serious reservations about the potential for injury or property damage and the lack of qualified supervision," Collins said. "They didn't even have emergency plans in place. Unfortunately, it is difficult to make the case when so many meters have been replaced by non-experts."

Despite the safety concerns, the exemption was issued in late 2013 and Local 2067 appealed, but Saskpower moved forward with GridOne, a division of Asplundh, the international tree-trimming conglomerate.

However, as work was about to get underway, some electricians working at GridOne filed a petition to organize with the provincial labor relations board. It was accepted, and they began investigating who might be eligible for the bargaining unit.

The project looked like it would be held up by either the LRB application or our appeal," Collins said. "Despite this disagreement, we have a good relationship with Saskpower, so the company came to us to see if we could find a solution that would protect the workers and keep the job moving forward."

After only four days of discussions, a deal was announced March 1 that brought the meter replacement workers into Local 2067, beefed up safety training and increased wages and benefits. The local also negotiated time to explain to the new members the benefits they will receive, including more time off, higher wages, medical and dental benefits and the ability to apply for jobs internally at Saskpower.

Taylor says the agreement also gives organizers a tool to go after this work in other parts of Canada. He said:

"It is really wonderful that these new members get a taste of union work, and the wages and benefits that come with it," Taylor said. "We just want everyone doing electrical work to get the same chance." ■



Igor Gil, one of the 150 smart meter replacement technicians working for GridOne and SaskPower that were successfully organized by Regina, Sask., Local 2067.

NORTH OF 49° | AU NORD DU 49° PARALLÈLE

Ontario Tories Target Trades College

Ontario's highest regulatory body for the skilled trades could end up on the chopping block if Progressive Conservative Leader Tim Hudak forms the next provincial government.

Hudak vowed to abolish the Ontario College of Trades in a speech earlier this year, saying it was a bureaucratic obstacle to young people getting jobs in construction.

"The College of Trades is Ontario's newest bureaucracy, which taxes both trades people and employers hundreds of dollars a year in 'membership fees' that are just another tax on businesses that form the backbone of local economies," according to the Tories' website.

Established last year by Premier Kathleen Wynne's Liberal government, with support from the New Democrats, the college is a self-regulating association that maintains professional standards for dozens of skilled trades, including electricians and pipe-fitting.

"It's not any different from a medical college or bar association," said John Grimshaw, executive secretary treasurer of the IBEW Construction Council of Ontario, which represents 15,000 members throughout the province.

Ontario has required formal licensing for most trades since the 1960s, but these rules were often ignored by low-road contractors and employers who knowingly hired unqualified workers for construction projects.

"There was open flaunting of the law," Grimshaw said. "The government wasn't doing anything about it."

The IBEW, along with other unions, employers and public officials, lobbied for the college to ensure that every construction project in Ontario was staffed by trained professional workers.

"Customers should feel confident that the people they hire meet provincial standards when it comes to training," Grimshaw said. "It's a quality and safety issue."

The College of Trades has the authority to declare a trade "compulsory." To work in a compulsory trade, an individual must produce a certificate of qualification and pay a \$120 annual fee. More than 20 trades are considered compulsory.

The Tories' new position is the result of heavy lobbying by the nonunion Ontario Electric League as well as the party's sharp right turn on unions. "Many of the league's contractors are some of worst abusers of the system," Grimshaw said.

Last year, leaked internal documents revealed that Hudak was planning to make repealing the Rand formula and instituting a Canadian version of right-to-work one of his top legislative priorities.

Public backlash and unrest in his caucus forced him to back off right-to-work, but critics say Hudak's attacks on the College of Trades are just the latest volley against unions by the Conservatives.

Windsor Local 773 Business Manager Karl Lovett says the College of Trades is vital to maintaining high standards for the trade in his jurisdiction.

"Our members don't mind paying the \$120 because they know it means the government is making sure the proper trades are doing proper work," he said.

He says that he has seen too many low-road contractors use non-electricians to do electrical work.

"If the college was gone, it would be devastating for the organized building trades," he said. "It would create an industry-wide race to the bottom."

A growing blue-collar skills shortage

across Canada has many policymakers looking at different approaches to training and recruitment.

Grimshaw says that Hudak's is the wrong approach when it comes to construction recruitment.

"He thinks that throwing out all the rules and throwing as many workers into

the industry regardless of the skills or training is the way to go," he said. "Flooding the market with unqualified workers feeds the underground economy and increases the chances of accidents." ■

L'Ordre des métiers de l'Ontario dans la mire des Conservateurs

L'Ordre des métiers de l'Ontario, un des plus importants organismes de réglementation des métiers spécialisés, pourrait être éliminé si le parti progressiste-conservateur de Tim Hudak forme le prochain gouvernement.

Lors d'un discours prononcé plus tôt cette année, Hudak a promis d'abolir l'Ordre des métiers de l'Ontario déclarant que ce n'était qu'un obstacle bureaucratique à l'accès aux emplois dans le secteur de la construction pour les jeunes.

« L'Ordre des métiers n'est qu'une nouvelle forme de bureaucratie pour l'Ontario qui impose aux gens de métier et aux employeurs une cotisation de quelques centaines de dollars par année, pour être membre; cette cotisation n'est qu'une autre forme de taxes pour ce secteur qui constitue la base des économies régionales » peut-on lire dans le site web des Conservateurs.

L'Ordre est un organisme d'autoréglementation professionnel indépendant qui maintient des normes professionnelles pour des douzaines de métiers spécialisés, incluant les électriciens et les tuyauteurs et il a été établi l'année dernière par Mme Kathleen Wynne, première ministre et chef du Parti libéral de l'Ontario, avec l'appui des néo-démocrates.

« Cela ne diffère pas de l'Ordre des médecins ou de l'Association du Barreau » dit John Grimshaw, Secrétaire-trésorier exécutif du Conseil de la construction de la FIOE en Ontario, qui représente 15,000 membres dans toute la province.

Depuis les années 60, l'Ontario exige un permis officiel pour la plupart des métiers, mais ces règles n'ont pas toujours été respectées par des entrepreneurs mesquins et des employeurs qui embauchaient sciemment des travailleurs non qualifiés pour des projets de construction.

« Ils ont enfreint ouvertement les dispositions de la loi et le gouvernement n'a rien fait pour les empêcher » poursuit le confrère Grimshaw.

Plusieurs syndicats, incluant la FIOE, des employeurs et des fonctionnaires ont fait pression en faveur de l'Or-

dre, pour s'assurer que toute la main-d'œuvre utilisée sur les projets de construction en Ontario soit composée de travailleurs qualifiés et spécialisés.

« Les clients doivent être convaincus que les personnes qu'ils embauchent sont conformes aux normes provinciales sur le plan de la formation. C'est une question de qualité et de sécurité » ajoute-t-il.

L'Ordre des métiers a le pouvoir de déclarer qu'un certificat est obligatoire pour un métier. Si un individu désire travailler dans un métier où un certificat est obligatoire, il doit fournir un certificat de compétence et payer une cotisation annuelle de 120 \$. Plus de 20 métiers sont considérés à certificat obligatoire.

La nouvelle position des Conservateurs est le résultat des fortes pressions exercées par l'Ontario Electrical League, une association pour les entrepreneurs non syndiqués, et du brusque virage à droite du parti en ce qui concerne les syndicats. « Plusieurs entrepreneurs de cette association sont parmi ceux qui abusent le plus du

système » dit le confrère Grimshaw.

L'an dernier, suite à une fuite dans les documents internes, il a été révélé que M. Hudak avait l'intention d'abolir la formule Rand et de faire adopter une version canadienne de la législation du « droit au travail », une de ses principales priorités législatives.

La réaction négative de la population et l'agitation au sein de son caucus l'ont obligé à laisser tomber sa politique du « droit au travail » mais selon les critiques, les attaques de Hudak contre l'Ordre des métiers ne sont que les plus récentes salves des Conservateurs contre les syndicats.

Le confrère Karl Lovett, gérant d'affaires de la section locale 773 de Windsor, affirme que l'Ordre des métiers est un organisme essentiel pour conserver des normes élevées pour les métiers dans sa juridiction.

« Nos membres préfèrent payer cette cotisation de 120 \$ car ils savent que le gouvernement s'assure de définir de façon adéquate le champ d'exercice des métiers » dit-il.

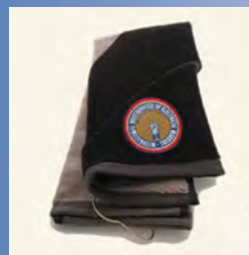
Il ajoute avoir vu beaucoup trop d'entrepreneurs mesquins avoir recours à des employés non spécialisés en électricité pour effectuer des travaux électriques.

« Si l'Ordre disparaît, la situation va être désastreuse pour les syndiqués des métiers de la construction. Cela va créer un nivellement par le bas » ajoute-t-il.

Vu la pénurie grandissante de cols bleus compétents au Canada, plusieurs décideurs politiques tentent de mettre en place de nouvelles approches en matière de formation et de recrutement.

Comme le précise le confrère Grimshaw, la méthode Hudak est la mauvaise quand il s'agit de recrutement dans le secteur de la construction.

« Il croit que laisser de côté toutes les règles et plonger un aussi grand nombre de travailleurs dans l'industrie, sans tenir compte de leurs qualifications ou de leur formation, est la voie à suivre. Inonder le marché de travailleurs non qualifiés alimente l'économie souterraine et augmente les risques d'accidents. » conclut-il. ■



Golf Towel • \$11.00

High quality golf towel with IBEW logo and sturdy clip. Measures 15 1/2" x 24"



IBEW Titleist DT Solo Golf Balls • \$21.00

Titleist DT Solo Golf Balls with IBEW logo - dozen/box.



Golf Bag • \$250.00

Black and tan golf bag with IBEW initials and logo.

www.ibewmerchandise.com

IBEW
MERCHANDISE

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

TRANSITIONS

DECEASED Ray Edwards



The officers regret to report that former 11th District International Vice President Ray Edwards died on May 3. He was 83. Brother

Edwards was born and raised on his parents' farm in Hartville, Mo., a small town in rural southern Missouri. He became an apprentice soon after graduating from Hartville High School and was initiated into Kansas City, Mo., Local 53 in 1954 as a journey line-man. Two years later, he took a job with Springfield City Utilities and transferred to Springfield Local 453.

"I think he was the best organizer the IBEW ever had," said former International Secretary Jack Moore. "It was his level-headedness. He never went in half-cocked, but when he put his heart into it, he gave it completely with everything he had."

Moore ran for business manager in 1956, and only two years after Edwards joined Local 453, Moore included him on his slate. When they won, Edwards became the local's vice president, starting a working relationship between the two that would last nearly 40 years in some of the most important and powerful offices in the IBEW.

He sat on the Springfield Labor Council and the Springfield Building and Construction Trades Council. In 1959 he was appointed the steward for City Utility.

"I appointed him, but it was his peers that really chose him," Moore said.

In 1961, Moore brought Edwards on staff as assistant business manager. Within a year, they had negotiated the first health and welfare benefits for construction members. But Moore says Edwards' greatest accomplishments were expanding manufacturing, adding Zenith's more than 3,000 members and Lilly Cup's 1,200. By 1972, Local 453 had grown from about 300 members to more than 6,000.

"There were 11 elections at Lilly Cup. We were the eleventh. All of them failed until we won, and by a fair margin," Moore said. "He organized everything that was loose."

In 1968, Edwards was appointed an international representative and assigned to the 11th District, where he took charge of organizing campaigns across Iowa, Missouri, the Dakotas and Nebraska.

"He was tenacious and he was honest and those are the two most important things in organizing," said former 11th district International Representative Craig Hoepner, now retired. "He never promised what he couldn't deliver, when he said something, that was how it would be."

Hoepner said Edwards' tenacity was legendary. In 1976, nearly 1,000 members at Lilly Cup went out on strike. Negotiations stalled, and the walkout dragged on for weeks. Moore had just been appointed 11th District International Vice President and he made Edwards his administrative assistant. Hoepner was a new internation-

al representative overseeing the unit.

"He asked me what it would take to end the strike, and I told him they were hurting and if we could get, I think it was 10 cents an hour more, we could settle it," Hoepner said. "Well he comes back and says there's a problem."

Federal mediators had ordered the two sides not to negotiate, to put their final offers on the table.

"But instead of asking for the dime,

he asked for 15 cents and was now worried they would find out that we would've settled for 10," Hoepner said. "He said, 'I couldn't just ask for 10.' He couldn't help but run the rabbit and see what happened."

In 1985, when Moore was appointed International Secretary, Edwards was appointed 11th District International Vice President, a position he held until he retired in 1998.

"If you were straight with him, did a full day's work, he might lean on you from time to time, but he never let you swing," Hoepner said. "He thought everyone deserved to have a union, they deserved that choice. That's what mattered to him."

After nearly 44 years serving his brothers and sisters in the IBEW, Edwards returned to his first loves: hunting and fishing.

Edwards was followed into the IBEW by his sons Charles and Gale, both now retired after long careers, Charles out of Local 453, and Gale out of Springfield Local 753.

Brother Edwards is survived by his sons, daughter Twana, three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

The IBEW's officers, staff and members send our most heartfelt condolences to Brother Edwards' family and many friends. ■

CIRCUITS

Press Play: IBEW Videos Come to Your Smartphone

Thousands have watched our vivid IBEW videos on YouTube and Vimeo. Here's an easy way to view them on your phone while you are on the go. Just scan the QR code, press play and enjoy the latest IBEW action from across the U.S. and Canada.

(If you don't have a QR code scanner, they are available to download for free from the App Store and Android Market).

Next Gen. of IBEW Organizing

It's a problem every union faces. How do you motivate and mobilize the younger generation of union members to grow the labor movement? Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245 is doing a bang-up job of it. Watch seasoned veterans and newly-minted organizers talk about their fresh strategies and string of victories since the Great Recession battered working families.

IBEW Lights Up 2014 NAB Show

Las Vegas Local 357 members work behind the scenes to set up for the 2014 National Association of Broadcasters Show. It's the world's largest expo of advanced media and entertainment technologies, and it's a chance for talented members to show companies what the IBEW's Code of Excellence is all about. "The exhibitors love to know that they are getting the value in the dollar that they spend," said general foreman Kenny Kahl.

'Keeping the Lights on for You'

Between tornados, floods and thunderstorms, Mother Nature can do her worst. When events strike, IBEW linemen know that the only thing that matters is keeping electricity flowing to hard-hit communities. Check out stirring shots of members powering up downed lines after a storm in our latest national commercial, "Keeping the Lights on for You." The 30-second spot is airing on CNN, ESPN, MSNBC and CBS.

IBEW Builds New 49ers Stadium

When the San Francisco 49ers needed a team to build their new stadium, they drafted the IBEW.



Now, over 300 members of San Jose, Calif., Local 332 are constructing the new \$1.3 billion facility. Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara opens in mid-2014 with a number of unique features: stadium-wide WiFi; two colossal HD scoreboards; and over 50,000 square feet of solar panels. The stadium will also host Super Bowl 50 in 2016. ■

CLUW Helps Train Next Generation of Union Women

A popular button often seen at labor rallies and conferences reads, "A woman's place is in her union."

And as young activists go, Cody Beltrami is one member living out that sentiment.

The Anchorage, Alaska, Local 1547 member joined with fellow women trade unionists March 27-29 in Chicago for a conference marking the 40th anniversary of the Coalition of Labor Union Women.

Beltrami was among 10 winners of the Berger-Marks Foundation scholarships, which provide monetary assistance to union activists seeking to orga-

nize more women into the movement. It is named for Edna Berger—the first female lead organizer for the Newspaper Guild-CWA—and her songwriter and activist husband Gerald Marks.

Beltrami speaks highly of the leadership training that CLUW offers budding change-makers in the labor community.

"CLUW does a wonderful job of arming the attendees with the knowledge and tools to make a positive change in their unions, or at least get the ball rolling to get others involved in such a movement," she said. "They gave us a way to learn and understand important information by providing classes on how to incorporate social media in organizing, community partnership and engagement, common-sense economics and more. Having these skills and knowledge are crucial if you want to help make a positive change."

An IBEW member since she was 18, she started her career by working for a signatory contractor before becoming a shop steward. She now serves on the Local 1547 staff.

The daughter of Alaska AFL-CIO President Vince Beltrami, a member of Local 1547, Cody has worked to chart her own path in the labor movement with an eye toward building on the gains of her forebears.

"As a young leader I am focusing on gaining support within the community and increasing participation among younger union members," she said. "I

also have hopes of working alongside the older generations and using their experiences to help us. We have a lot to learn and a lot to give. I am very honored and excited for the path I am on and for the opportunities I have been given. This is only the beginning."

IBEW Director of Civic and Community Engagement Carolyn Williams said that the training and support offered by groups like CLUW are critical to help advance the needs of working families, especially at a time when younger workers are facing starker economic realities than in generations past.

"CLUW is a great resource to help inspire and educate women moving into leadership roles," she said. "It has a lot to offer the younger generation."

To learn more about the Coalition of Labor Union Women, visit www.cluw.org. ■

2014 IBEW Women's Conference Sept. 17-20

Hundreds of IBEW sisters are expected in San Antonio Sept. 17-20 for the Seventh IBEW International Women's Conference.

Items on the agenda include workshops on getting women involved in the 2014 election, empowering women to become leaders in the IBEW and organizing skills building.

Pre-conference events include a session on grassroots lobbying and a labor film festival. There will also be branch and International Vice-Presidential district meetings as well.

"2014 is shaping up to be a very important year in the fight for workers' and women's rights," said Civic and Community Engagement Director Carolyn Williams. "The conference is great opportunity to show how women members can become more involved—at our workplace, union hall and community."

All locals from across the IBEW in the United States and Canada are encouraged to participate.

Local unions may register delegates for the conference online through "Local Connections" at <https://secure.ibew.org>. Registration is \$75. For questions or additional information, call the Civic and Community Engagement Department at (202) 728-6204 or CivCommEngage@IBEW.org. ■



Anchorage, Alaska, Local 1547 member Cody Beltrami, right, attends CLUW conference.

LOCAL LINES

Trades March in Unity

L.U. 6 (c,i,st&u), SAN FRANCISCO, CA—San Francisco's 163rd annual St. Patrick's Day parade was second to none. Hats off to our members who contributed their time and effort to create a float with that much character.

With the use of a pipe bender and math skills, our volunteers created beautiful shamrocks and letters to complete our float. The St. Patrick's Day parade has been a means of organizing against injustice and fighting for better conditions for working people. It has always been a great meeting place for workers from all the trades to gather and march in unity. Erin go Bragh!

Tom O'Rourke, A.B.M.

IBEW Midwest Softball Tourney

L.U. 8 (as,em,i,mar,mt,rts,s&spa), TOLEDO, OH—Hello, brothers and sisters. As analysts continue to say the recession is over, our work situation proves that construction is the last to recover. We hope that by the time this is published, those long-awaited projects that were supposed to man up in the spring will be in progress and our number on the book will have decreased significantly. Thanks to our sister locals for welcoming our traveling brothers and sisters.

For the first time, Local 8 will host the IBEW Midwest Softball Tournament, to be held July 26 & 27. We expect to have 30+ teams participate in this 43rd annual event competing in two divisions. We'll have good times and great games in T-town so bring your sluggers.

Work safe, play safe and have a great summer.

Mike Brubaker, P.S.

Anniversary & Awards Banquet

L.U. 12 (i,o&se), PUEBLO, CO—We held our 114th Anniversary Banquet and Awards Ceremony on Feb. 22 and had a good turnout. We awarded service pins, and we had 11 new retirees who received watches. We also acknowledged our graduating apprentices from 2013. We hope the new journeymen enjoy of a long and fulfilling career. We wish the retirees a long and well-deserved retirement! Congratulations to all!

At this writing, the work picture is still pretty slow since the few big jobs have ended in our area. We hope the warmer weather brings an improved word picture.

Susan J. Johnson, P.S.



Local 12 Bus. Mgr. Dean Grinstead (left); 55-year-pin recipient Chuck Trent, Main Electric contractor; Local 12 Pres. Kelly McGlamery; and Int. Rep. Guy Runco.

Promote Union Message

L.U. 16 (i), EVANSVILLE, IN—Many thanks to the Entertainment Committee and all who helped with the Easter Egg Hunt. Although it is a lot of work to gather the supplies, stuff thousands of eggs, make the arrangements and maintain a semblance of order with 100+ children and adults, their enjoyment makes it all worthwhile.

The Political Action Committee has been very active with a spring cornhole tournament and their annual golf scramble. These events, along with the pre-meeting cookouts, allow the local to raise funds to promote the union's message and help elect like-minded candidates. During this midterm election year, it would be advantageous to all working people if Indiana's anti-labor super majorities could be brought into balance.

Thanks to Rick Koressel for giving his time to attend the IBEW's school for election judges. The local's election is its opportunity to form one voice that will be heard, to decide the tone it will take with the contractors and the community, and to chart the future course for the membership. It is imperative that everyone accepts the responsibility to participate and support the Brotherhood.

Donald P. Beavin, P.S.

IBEW Presence in Nebraska — Work Outlook is Strong

L.U. 22 (i,rts&spa), OMAHA, NE—IBEW Local 22 has started a joint venture with fellow Nebraska IBEW Local 265 in an effort to expand the IBEW presence in outstate Nebraska. A new Greater Nebraska Collective Bargaining Agreement has been created that merges counties in Local 22's Area B, with 50 Local 265 counties. The agreement creates a new Labor Management Cooperation Committee and Apprenticeship Trust and will have its own joint negotiations for contracts and wage packages. The IBEW presence in greater Nebraska has been growing. This new

agreement gives the IBEW members in that area their own identity and offers increased flexibility for contractors seeking work opportunities across the state.

At this writing, we are fortunate to have a lot of work in our area. We have more electricians currently working in our local than ever before. More than 2,000 inside wiremen are working, plus our residential and low voltage technicians. The Council Bluffs Facility South project accounts for a little under half of our currently

employed manpower, and continues to grow. This project is designated a Code of Excellence Project. The work outlook for the jurisdiction looks good for the foreseeable future. We are working closely with general contractors and builders in the area to stay on top of projects as they emerge.

Chris Bayer, P.S.

AFL-CIO/Building Trades Rally



Local 24 Bus. Mgr. Gary Griffin addresses AFL-CIO/Building Trades rally at the Maryland State House.

L.U. 24 (es,i&spa), BALTIMORE, MD—Thank you to all the members who braved the cold on March 24 to attend the AFL-CIO/Building Trades rally in Annapolis.

Congratulations to Dave Springham, who won the March 29 run-off election for the fifth seat on the Executive Board. Thank you to all members who exercised their right to vote.

At this writing the weather seems to be breaking, and hopefully work will break as well.

The annual picnic is scheduled for Aug. 10 at Conrad's Ruth Villa. I hope to see you there. Have an enjoyable and safe summer.

Gary R. Griffin, B.M.

Fundraisers a Great Success

L.U. 26 (ees,em,es,govt,i&mt), WASHINGTON, DC—Thanks to everyone who participated in the Poker Run for Special Love on May 3 and our Dollars Against Diabetes Golf Outing on June 2. These events were a

huge success and we were able to make a generous donation to both of these worthy causes.

Also, local union officers and agents have been extremely busy. The Minority Coalition recently held its Annual Black History Month Luncheon; we attended the IBEW Construction Conference and the National Building Trades Conference downtown; and we attended the JATC graduation. Also, we have finalized plans for the Manassas, VA, picnic on June 21 and the Edgewater, MD, picnic on Aug. 2.

At this writing we are awaiting the announcement of scholarship winners for this year. A total of 18 applications were submitted.

We mourn the loss of members who passed away since our previous article: Joseph F. Massey Jr., James M. Grof, Kenneth L. McCloud, Robert O. Hardesty, Matthew S. Regalia Jr., Paul E. Horan, Waller T. Jenkins, Matthew P. Slattery, Ralph W. Robinson and Frank L. Morris.

Best wishes to recent retirees: Francis E. Abner, Robert J. Atwell, Earl L. Barrett, Thomas J. Bridges, Andrew Butler, Stanley M. Lee, David E. Abbott, William N. Herbert III, Freddie M. Motes, Roderico A. Ordonez, Samuel C. Roseberry, Glenn E. Davis, James R. Coggins and Teresa L. Watson.

Charles E. Graham, B.M.

'Big Projects Coming Our Way'

L.U. 38 (i), CLEVELAND, OH—Our work outlook continues to improve because of several big projects coming our way. At the time of this writing, the new American Greetings building in Westlake has just gone out to bid for its \$20 million electrical package. Work is scheduled to begin this fall.

Construction has started on the new 600-room Hilton Hotel next to the convention center. Lake Erie Electric will be on-site soon.

Gateway Electric was awarded the site work for Phase II of the East Bank Flats, which recently broke ground. This phase includes 250 apartments, seven restaurants and music venues, a new office building



At the jobsite of a Local 38 project in Maple Heights, OH: Tina Goebel (left), Ed Devine, Scott Wilke, Bryan Lufkin, Kyle Vanderkaay and Rich Taylor.

Submitting Local Lines Articles

Local Lines are printed monthly on an alternating even/odd schedule. They can be submitted by designated press secretaries or union officers via e-mail (locallines@ibew.org) or U.S. Mail. We have a 200-word limit. We make every effort to assist local unions in publishing useful and relevant local union news; however, all final content decisions are based on the editor's judgment. Our guidelines and deadlines are available at www.ibew.org/articles/journaldeadlines.htm. Please e-mail or call the Media Department at (202) 728-6291 with any questions.

Trade Classifications

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

and a new boardwalk along the Cuyahoga River.

The accompanying photo shows a Local 38 crew on the jobsite at the Maple Park Apartment project located in Maple Heights. This project is a three-story, 44-unit senior living residence being wired by Gateway Electric.

Dennis Meaney, B.M./F.S.

2014 Apprentice Graduation

L.U. 42 (catv,em,govt,lctt&o), HARTFORD, CT—Local 42 held its Annual Dinner Dance & Apprentice Graduation on Saturday, April 26, at the Marriott Hartford downtown. We congratulate all the Local 42 apprentice graduates. The new journeyman linemen members are: Jesse Belanger, Michael Chemerka, Shane Ezyk, Gary Guyette, Michael Johnson, Justin Martin, Christopher Munday, Jacob Percy, David Williams, Andre Brown, Bronson Dean, William Fisher, Thomas Hoefle, Michael Jurovaty, Gregory McNamee, Robert Oleksak and Frederick Sharpe Jr.

Reminder: dates for upcoming 2014 union functions are as follows. The Dinner Cruise is June 14; the Chartered Fishing Trip is July 12; the “BA” Member Picnic is July 26; the “A” Member Picnic is Aug. 23; and the Fall Fishing Trip is Sept. 27.

Congratulations once again to our graduates. It truly is an honor to become a journeyman lineman. Most importantly, remember to always work hard and be safe out there.

Jacquelyn Moffitt, P.S.

100th Anniversary Party & Political Education Meetings

L.U. 58 (em,i,rtb,spa&t), DETROIT, MI—Local 58 wishes to thank Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill; Sixth District Int. Vice Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson; Brian Baker, senior executive assistant to the International President and the International Secretary-Treasurer; and the many other distinguished guests for attending our local’s 100th Anniversary Party. This event could not have happened without the hard work and dedication of our great volunteer members. Copies of “100 Years of Brotherhood” are for sale at the union hall. Don’t miss out on the chance to own this piece of Local 58 history.

We have been holding monthly political education meetings at the Port Huron Labor Temple. These are necessary to help facilitate educated political conversations with our members, families and friends. Michigan faces an uphill battle against the anti-labor movement. We will need as much help as we can get to return our state to the forefront of the labor movement. Our goal is to help members become comfortable talking to others about the issues that affect our communities. Being a part of the labor movement gives us a perspective that many others are unfamiliar with. Get involved. Stay involved. Fight back with PAC.

Andy E. Dunbar, Pres.

‘Calls Reach Book II Daily’

L.U. 68 (i), DENVER, CO—Greetings, brothers and sisters. Local 68 is still seeing calls reach Book II daily. Not much overtime showing up yet but if you are thinking about seeing Colorado, come by and check in with the dispatch office; or if you haven’t decided to visit yet, call our dispatcher at 303-297-0229 to check the call status.

Organizing efforts are going well for us, but we can still use apprentice applicants as well as CE/CW prospects. Anyone interested can call the DJEATC at 303-295-1903 or Local 68 at 303-297-0229.

On March 15, Local 68’s WBF (Wireman’s Brotherhood Fund) bowling tournament was a great suc-

cess. With a sellout crowd, more than \$1,000 was raised to benefit sick and injured members, as well as Widows & Orphans at Christmas time. Everyone had a great time and brotherhood was in the house.

A political season is here again. We must get labor friendly politicians in office to promote jobs and fair wages. Please help out with election efforts at your local level and “Get Out to Vote.”

Mark your calendars: On Aug. 16, our Annual Summer Picnic will be held at the Westminster Elks.

Stay safe out there and take care of your fellow members.

We extend deepest sympathy to the families of our recently deceased brothers: Edmund T. Harden, John R. Goldsworthy, James H. Williams and Roger Keaton.

Jack Cox, Pres.

Work Picture Picking Up

L.U. 80 (i&o), NORFOLK, VA—Local 80 congratulates the brothers who retired in the last year. Bros. Thomas Bosio, Edward Ferebee, Glenn Fleming, Mark Frazier Sr., Donald Koonce, Lee Norton, Joseph Thornton Jr., Cornelius Turner and William Wessells all put their tools down for the final time in 2013. Thank you for all your years of service in the local and enjoy your retirement, brothers.

Work is beginning to pick up in our jurisdiction with several jobs beginning over the summer. This should put all of the local brothers back to work as well as get many brothers working off of book II. If you sign book II and accept a call from Local 80, you must be registered on ERTS through your home local.

Local 80 recently held a steward training class; more than 20 brothers and sisters completed the training and are able to serve the local in an additional capacity. Thank you to all who took part in this training for your participation and your dedication to the IBEW.

W. Dennis Floyd, A.B.M.

Solar Energy Projects

L.U. 96 (i), WORCESTER, MA—Congratulations to Ekaterina “Kat” Pashkevitch, Local 96 journeyman electrician, for making it to the 2014 Winter Olympics Games in Sochi, Russia. Becoming a part of the Russian Women’s Olympic hockey team takes hard work and dedication and is a great accomplishment. Your fellow brothers and sisters of Local 96 are proud of you, Kat. Ekaterina is pictured in the photo below with the graduating apprentices in 2012.

Thank you to Kenneth Balkus for spearheading the retiree luncheon. It was a nice afternoon and a great opportunity for our retired members to reconnect. If you are interested in participating in future retiree events, please contact the hall.

The sun is still shining for Local 96. Solar energy jobs, throughout Worcester County, are keeping our brothers and sisters at work. In addition to providing jobs, these solar farms are providing a green energy alternative.

Visit us online at www.ibewlocal96.org. Like us on Facebook.

Luke E. Carpenter, Treas./P.S.



2014 Olympian and IBEW Local 96 member Ekaterina Pashkevitch (second from left) at apprentice graduation banquet in 2012.

Union Solidarity & Pride

L.U. 124 (ees,em,i,mar,rt,se,spa&t), KANSAS CITY, MO—Local 124’s work outlook is good. We expect to stay busy in our local through the summer.

Organized labor is under attack from the right-wing ideologues elected to represent us. The “right-to-work” threat brought out organized labor for a rally on our Statehouse lawn. This was an incredible show of force by an estimated 2,000 people from all across Missouri. We heard inspiring speeches from the governor, state representatives including two IBEW members, and other speakers. This show of solidarity will make all members proud to be union. Thanks to all who participated.

We remember recently deceased members: Clifford E. Altis, Donald L. Burke, Richard J. Cavanaugh, Donald L. Clifton, John S. Dick, Aaron M. Dieckman, Robert L. Elkins, Richard L. Hartsock, Ralph Q. Hensley, Joseph R. Herndon, James L. Kennard, Paul A. Kiefer, Andrew Moszczyński, Elbert J. McNabb, William F. Noel, Kenneth R. Ward, Ernest E.L. Wehr, Gary L. Welborn, William J. Zeller, Roy David Shriver, Paul J. Trester, Donald L. Laney, Roger Bohlman, Melvin C. Lewis and Emmert S. Hansen.

Congratulations to recently retired members: Scott F. Bryant, Samuel T. Kelly, Kevin Kissinger, Steven W. Miller, Gerald L. Tilk and Jerry S. Weimer.

Steve Morales, P.S.



IBEW Local 124 contingent meets with Missouri state Rep. Joe Runions (front row, second from left) and state Sen. Paul Levota (front row, center).

Elections, Directions & Cranes

L.U. 134 (catv,em,govt,i,mt,rt,spa&t), CHICAGO, IL—Midterm elections are always crucial. Our St. Patrick’s Day PAC Party exceeded all others in politician participation. A steady flow of members and politicians streamed through our union hall including: the mayor, the speaker of the Illinois House, the Cook County Board president, various aldermen and local township office holders. These politicians know that Local 134 will get out the vote. The always entertaining dancers of the Dillon-Gavin School of Irish Dancing and the Shannon Rovers marching band kept the mood festive.

Our local’s first ever “State of the Union” event was held Saturday, March 29. Nearly 1,000 members attended to hear the message of where we have been, where we are, and more importantly where we plan on going together in the future. The floor was then opened for discussions on comments and concerns. Overall, this was a very positive endeavor and favorable to the membership.

Also, it is projected that the City of Chicago will be releasing close to 30 permits for construction cranes this year. Here’s hoping that this turns out to be a very good sign of things to come for the entire area.

Frank Cunningham, B.R.

Support for Proposed Plant & Power for Summer Festivities

L.U. 146 (ei,i&rts), DECATUR, IL—Congratulations to Galen Garrett, Rich Underwood, Dave Robison, Kelly Robison and Danny Weatherford on their recent retirement.

Several happenings are going on at Local 146. At press time, negotiations were ongoing for the inside agreement and the residential agreement, with an expiration date of May 31, 2014, for the current agreements.

We graduated apprentices on May 17. Congratulations to the graduates on their successful completion of apprenticeship training.

Several members and officers traveled to Champaign, IL, to show support for construction of a proposed \$1.2 billion Cronus Fertilizer Plant in the region. It’s good to report that a related water agreement was passed by a district board and the Cronus project is still progressing.

We will once again be powering the party at the Decatur Celebration and the Macon County Fair this summer.

The work picture is still slow in the local; we are thankful for the sister locals that are able to put some of our members to work.

Rich Underwood, R.S.

Upcoming Events

L.U. 150 (es,i,rt,spa), WAUKEGAN, IL—Plans are proceeding nicely for the 100th anniversary banquet for Local 150. By now the ice breaker at the Lake County Fair Grounds has already been held and

hopefully a good time was had by all. Please watch for a mailing about the banquet in which ticket information is provided. You will have until July 31, 2014, to purchase tickets and then the opportunity has passed. Please come celebrate this historic event in Local 150 with us.

The annual picnic will be held June 21, 2014, at the Lakewood Forest Preserve. We will be at our usual spot...Shelter B. This is always a fun event for the entire family and a chance to catch up with old friends. Plan on attending!

There will be a golf outing this year. Time, location and date are to be announced soon.

New apprentices will be starting soon. Take the time to introduce yourselves and help them out. We were all green and just out of the box once too! Best wishes to them all for long and profitable careers.

Lastly, if you have any photographs of jobs that you have worked on outside of Local 150’s jurisdiction please see me at a union meeting or drop them off at the Hall. I just want to scan them and they will be returned to you.

Wendy J. Cordts, P.S.

Solar Array Installed for Green Bay Boys & Girls Club

L.U. 158 (i,it,mar,mt&spa), GREEN BAY, WI—The month of March was very rewarding for Local 158. At the IBEW Construction and Maintenance Conference in Washington, D.C., in early March, our very own Marsha Nebel received the Hour Power Journeyman Mentor of the Year award. It was thrilling to see her receive this award and watch the video featuring her that was shown. She gave a moving acceptance speech and represented our local to the highest degree.

Also in March, our local received the 2014 AFL-

LOCAL LINES



IBEW Local 158 volunteers installed solar panels at Green Bay Boys & Girls Club.

CIO Greater Green Bay Labor Council's Gerald Koester Award for our volunteer community service work on a solar installation at the Green Bay Boys & Girls Club. In partnership with Eland Electric and Wisconsin Public Service, Local 158 members volunteered their time and knowledge toward this worthy cause. The Boys & Girls Club staff and the kids were very appreciative of our combined efforts. As we were working on the roof, the kids were on the ground eating ice cream bars that we provided and they all at once thanked us for what we were doing. That was worth it right there. I was honored to accept this award for our volunteers.

Donald C. Allen, B.M.

Foremanship Training Course

L.U. 164 (c,em,i,o&t), JERSEY CITY, NJ—In 2007, Local 164 began offering a 40-hour Foremanship Training Course. The course was developed by our own Ken Bieber and has been supported by Local 164, our JATC staff, and guest speakers.

The course teaches foremanship concepts and strategies for managing jobs and talent in all divisions of the IBEW. To date, 400+ journeyman, apprentices and telecommunication members have attended classes.

Foremanship Concepts Training was offered as technical instruction at the National Training Institute in Ann Arbor, MI, in 2012 and 2013; the course was taught by Local 164 instructors Ken Bieber and Paul Lagana. They are also slated to instruct the course at NTI in August 2014.

NJATC Exec. Dir. Michael Callanan has called the course one of the finest foremanship training classes he has seen. "Each year we review all of our training classes conducted at NTI, and the Local 164 foremanship class has consistently received the highest marks from our participants," Callanan said.

Local representatives who have attended the course received a Local 164 class-training packet, handouts, personal training exercise CDs, and our Code of Excellence sign-on program.

We acknowledge and thank NJATC Exec. Dir. Callanan and staff for their support and encouragement and for the opportunity to provide our Foremanship Concepts Training at NTI.

Warren Becker, V.P.

Top-Notch Skills & Training

L.U. 196 (govt,mt,o,t&u), ROCKFORD, IL—A construction upgrade on our union hall wrapped up recently and the final product is top notch! The all union, multi-trade workforce provided a very positive reminder of the benefits a customer should expect when using well-trained, efficient and professional tradesmen.

As a result of our recent negotiations with the American Line Builders NECA Chapter, I am happy to announce that on April 7 our new full-time training director, George Arhos, reported for work and is currently building a program from the ground up to provide our membership with all the training and safety tools they need to show our customers and contractors how beneficial a well-trained and safety minded workforce can be.

This commitment to safety and training will help move the outside electrical construction industry forward as the program is developed and implemented

in our area. This will also provide one more benefit to any nonunion contractors that are considering becoming signatory with our local union.

The new and improved safety and training program will give the local one more avenue to work cooperatively with our contractors to put out a better product for our customers. The outside construction work picture in our area continues to improve and our local union continues to grow.

Work safe, attend your local union meetings and have a great summer!

Eric Patrick, B.M.

Strong Work Picture

L.U. 222 (o), ORLANDO, FL—The work picture in Local 222 has been very good, and we are working quite a few travelers as of press time. We thank those brothers and sisters for coming down and helping out. As you read this, we are getting ready for the summer storm season. Please remember to work safe, everyone, and watch out for your pole-buddy and crew.

The 2014 meeting of Southeast LAMPAC (Labor and Management Public Affairs Committee) will be held in Florida in September. IBEW Fifth District Int. Vice Pres. Joseph S. Davis also serves as SE LAMPAC vice president and co-chair. Local 222 looks forward to the opportunity to help sponsor the meeting in our jurisdiction. The LAMPAC mission of co-operation between the utility companies and the construction industry is vital to our future.

In the last 12 months, we lost Bros. Michael Gross, Fredrick "Dean" Cowder, Barry Cowins, George Matcovich, Cecil Jordan, Richard Giroux, Tommy Johnson and John "J.J." Griffiths. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families, friends and co-workers. They will be missed.

Continue to work safe and please attend your union meetings.

William "Bill" Hitt, Pres.

Presentation at Career Day

L.U. 234 (i&mt), CASTROVILLE, CA—On March 25, Local 234 made a presentation at San Benito High School's annual Career Day. The always popular "Jacob's Ladder" exhibit, and having the only booth with lights, proved once again a hit for garnering student attention. The enthusiasm displayed by some students to pursue a career as an electrician right out of high school was very encouraging. Encouraging too was the interest shown by other students, whom we expect to see again in the future. Also of significance, a number of other presenters visited our booth to get information on how their spouses could advance their stalled careers through our apprenticeship program.

Although we are a relatively small local, this has not slowed our enthusiastic drive to implement the latest training for emerging technologies. Our local



Local 234 display at San Benito High School Career Day.

takes great pride in being the first ever to run the new NALCTP 5.0, National Advanced Lighting Controls Training Program. The program, which initially began in California as CALCTP, was a means of preparing electricians to properly install energy-saving complex lighting control systems and has evolved into one that is now being put to use throughout our nation. Thank you, NALCTP.



Minnesota IBEW unions assemble for annual IBEW Day on the Hill.

Stephen Slovacek, P.S.

Community Service Volunteers

L.U. 236 (catv,ees,govt,i,mo,rtb&t), ALBANY, NY—This spring, our Tri-City JATC Class of 2014 put down their books and pencils, left the classroom and spent three days volunteering on a project that we hope will make the lives of families with seriously ill children just a little bit easier. The Ronald McDonald House of the Capital Region—which provides rooms and meals for families with children who are being treated at nearby hospitals—recently acquired a home next to its original home in Albany, NY. This newly acquired home was totally gutted, and our fifth-year apprenticeship class installed a new 400-amp service and completely rewired the house. When completed, the home will provide an additional 10 rooms and a larger kitchen area to the existing 16 rooms, which are at full capacity most of the time.

The original Albany Ronald McDonald House, when renovated in the 1980s, was also wired by volunteers from our local union. It is great to see our members still giving back to the community!

Thank you to Schenectady Hardware and Electric; JATC Dir. Rick Cataldo; JATC Instructors Sal Genovesi and Rob Fitzgerald, and the entire fifth-year apprenticeship class for all their hard work!

Michael Torres, P.S.

Standing in Solidarity

L.U. 292 (em,govt,i,rtb,rts&spa), MINNEAPOLIS, MN—During our IBEW Day on the Hill, members met with their state representatives and rallied in support of a responsible contractor bill, helping to move it out of committee. The show of red shirts throughout the Capitol was impressive, showing the politicians that the IBEW is strong. [Photo at top, right.]

The committee "IBEW Sisters in Solidarity" is continuing its meetings and remains very active in the local; we thank the participants for helping out at our events. The history committee continues to have monthly movie nights, and is organizing a walking tour of the 1934 Teamsters' strike in the north loop of Minneapolis. The EWMC committee is growing in numbers and will apply to the IBEW-EWMC for recognition of the Minneapolis Local 292 Chapter.

FMS Corp. is a medium-size manufacturer that employs 82 IBEW members. During contract negotiations, the company insisted on 12-hour work days and the members stood united, voting it down 75-0. Red IBEW T-shirts were worn on payday and IBEW 292 members not affiliated with FMS called the company asking for support of their IBEW brothers and sisters. These actions brought the company to the table, ready to work with the members; because of the strong unionism the 12-hour work day was no longer under consideration and a contract was approved. We thank everyone who helped with the FMS campaign; if we stand together, there is no end to what can be accomplished.

Carl Madsen, B.R.



Three crews of Local 236 apprentice volunteers renovated and rewired a Ronald McDonald House as a community service project.

'We Are the Community'—Introducing the IBEW

L.U. 302 (i,rts&spa), MARTINEZ, CA—We need to introduce our union to our community!

We are a diverse, multicultural, well-trained—and continually trained—workforce. We are men, women, young and old. We are educated. Many are veterans.

We build America's future. We make buildings and manufacturing facilities out of molehills. And when it rains, we get wet. When it is hot, we sweat. When it freezes, we shiver.

We know our job so well that we are not just installers; we are often also the quality control. In return, we demand a locally negotiated living wage, a family health plan, and safe working conditions. That makes us a productive tax-paying asset rather than a burden.

And we are local! Some large companies siphon capital away from a community. Not us. We live in the communities we build and spend our hard-earned dollars there.

We are wiremen 40 hours a week, give or take. But we are friends and neighbors, Little League and football coaches and community volunteers for 160+ hours.

We bring a lot to our cities and counties—and to America. Brothers and sisters, when you speak with your neighbor or local grocer, tell them what you do. I want them to know what a wireman looks like!

Bob Lilley, P.S.

Important Election Year

L.U. 306 (i), AKRON, OH—By now the snow has finally melted and with the arrival of spring we hope the work outlook will have warmed up. Local 306 thanks the surrounding Ohio and Pennsylvania locals for the work opportunities during our slow season.

One thing that is heating up in Ohio is the upcoming election. If we are to fight the threat of so-called “right-to-work” legislation and the further eroding of the middle class, then we need to prevent Gov. John Kasich from being re-elected to a second term. We in Ohio have not forgotten what he tried to do to us with SB-5. And if re-elected we know he will push for “right to work” (for less). Add to that his aspirations to run for president in 2016 and this election could be extremely important, not just for Ohio, but for the entire country for years to come.

On a lighter note, the annual Easter Egg Hunt was April 12. As always the social committee did an exceptional job and the kids had a wonderful time. Also, thanks to the Easter Bunny for hopping by.

It is with sadness that we report the passing of retired Bro. Marvin “Mickey” McEndree. We send our deepest condolences to his family.

Work safe; vote smart.

Thomas Wright, Mbr. Dev.

Burt & Ken: IBEW Members And U.S. Park Service Workers

L.U. 322 (govt,i,it,lctt,o&u), CASPER, WY—Burt Russell, a Native American member of IBEW Local 322, started working at Grand Teton National Park in 1964 at age 19. Six years ago he was informed he could become a member.

Bro. Russell has been a dedicated seasonal employee with the National Parks trails program for 50 years and has worn out probably 30 pairs of hiking boots. He has trained hundreds of other trail workers around the country, and his peers note that “He is a patient, respectful and thoughtful teacher.” Bro. Russell has never called in sick during his 50-year career.

Kenneth Haslett, age 87, is also a seasonal worker and has been a truck driver at Yellowstone National Park for 21 years. He is a faithful 10-year member of IBEW Local 322. When a supervisor asked Ken why he comes back into membership each spring and implied it wouldn’t help him, Ken replied: “Because my membership can help someone else.” Ken loves driving his truck. Speaking of Ken, a co-worker said, “We are lucky to have him.”

At Local 322, we feel both of these men show integrity that should be recognized.

Chris Morgan, Pres.

Stewardship Committee— Participation Strengthens 332

Local 332 (c,ees,i&st), SAN JOSE, CA—About three years ago with the economy barely limping along, we knew the recession would one day end. We also knew a re-energized economy could mean a huge backlog of large construction projects breaking ground around the same time. With that foresight, our Stewardship Committee was formed to meet the coming challenge of on-site contract protection.

Now the large jobs are in progress and on the near horizon; the training and discussion in the Stewardship Committee are showing results. We have a pool of mem-



Participants gather for Local 340 Member to Member class. Bus. Mgr. Tom Okumura snapped the photo.

bers we can count on and entrust as job stewards.

Though not every member of the Stewardship Committee will ultimately be an official steward, each one is contributing to the strength of our local by actively participating. Each member gives of his or her time to learn about what can be done to keep our agreements and our local strong.

David Bini, Organizer

‘Member to Member’ Class

L.U. 340 (i,rts&spa), SACRAMENTO, CA—Our local recently held a Member to Member class conducted by IBEW Int. Reps. Tracy Prezeau and Greg Boyd along with IBEW State Organizing Coordinator Henry “Hank” Lewis. [See photo, above.]

Promoting union morale and volunteerism among IBEW members is a major focus of Member to Member classes. This was my first introduction to the class and as I sat there with 20 other IBEW Membership Development Volunteer Committee members, it hit me that this is exactly what Local 340 (and maybe other locals) need right now—members talking to other members in a positive way. For me, the class drove home the fact that even when the work picture slows down, we don’t have to be down! We can still show our union spirit and IBEW pride by staying involved in union events and in the communities where we live. It is good to promote our IBEW local union and let the public know we’re here to stay.

Part of this Member to Member class was for us to go knock on the doors of other brothers and sisters to both share ideas and hear their concerns. We distributed a list of the many opportunities available to members who want to increase their participation with the local. I am happy to report that, as a result of the March 2014 Member to Member class, member involvement has definitely increased.

Tom Okumura, B.M./F.S.

Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 354 (i,lpt,mt,rts&spa), SALT LAKE CITY, UT—Local 354 held a graduation banquet for the 94 recent apprentice graduates. Congratulations to the new journeymen and to our new communication technicians.

The new journeymen and journeymen are: Michael Adams, James Asay, Blaine Austin, Eric Barlow, Aaron Bartlett, Chad Bell, Jake Bond, Mike Boswell, Tyler Brothersen, Benjamin Carey, Andrew Cazier, Emmett Chase, Cody Christiansen, Jeremy Clarke, Thomas Cooley, Jack Correia, Austin Cox, Andrew Cunningham, Bryson Davis, Josh Denys, Matthew Dougherty, Tracy Druce, Benjamin Ellis, Russell



At Local 354’s recent apprentice graduation banquet.

Evans, Trevor Ewell, Jason Fisher, Devlin Flynn, Sione Fonua, Natalie Frank, Todd Garber, Rod Garn, Jay Gibson III, Daren Gray, Shahab Hajarian, James Haley Jr., Dustin Halling, Brandon Hansen, Stephen Hansen, Steven Haskett, Adam Hathaway, Joshua Heyrend, Nick Howard, Bill Hoyt, Code Jenson, Cory Jex, Charles Johnson, Derek Johnson, Kendall Johnson, Douglas Larsen, Mark Leavitt, Robert Lewis, Andrew Longoria, Mike Lopez, Patricia Markland, Ryan Marsden, Jett Marshall, James Martin, Lucas Mascarenas, James McGee, Marty McIntyre, Ryan Miller, Cody Moore, David Moser, Cody Nalder, Joshua Newman, Martin Pesantes, Casey Peterson, Eric Rasmussen, Miguel Robles, Russell Rogers, Michael Russon, John Sadowski, Admir Salijevic, Sheldon Sartor, Scott Shane, David Sorenson, Justin Stanley, Steven Stauffer, Jonathan Strelbel, Daniel Taylor, Jared Thurgood, Jared Tilley, Nelson Valle, Tanner Venema, Nicholas Weston, Samuel Westwood, Zachary Whetman, Eric Winn and Clayton Worthington.

The new communication technicians are: Trystan Bond, J.C. Flores, Tyler Janiszewski, Vincent Luce-ro and Shane Nielson.

Jeb Bruce, P.S.

Young Workers Group

L.U. 440 (i,rts&spa), RIVERSIDE, CA—At last year’s Ninth District Progress Meeting, all locals in attendance had one or more delegates present to represent the new and upcoming generation of IBEW workers, union activists and labor leaders.

It was requested that on their return home, locals establish a Young Workers Group of members ages 18 to 35.

Here in Riverside County, we established such a group and our membership is enthusiastic to help make the YWG successful. We elected a chairman, co-chairman and recording secretary. We established a mission statement: “We will build on the optimism and energy of our younger brothers and sisters, to influence excellence within our craft and promote positive involvement within our community, in order to secure a brighter future for our Brotherhood.” We are finalizing our logo for stickers and shirts. Group members agreed to monitor city councils, planning commissions and school boards.

YWG meetings are held at 4 p.m. the same day

as our general membership meeting. Meetings are agenda based and goal oriented and will not run past 5:30 p.m.!

Group members volunteer in their communities. They are leading the way in making the IBEW presence known. Local 440 allows members of all ages to participate in our “Young Workers Group.” We welcome any and all to help foster brotherhood and camaraderie—and to promote IBEW Local 440 as a positive community group.

Bernie J. Balland, Mbr. Dev.

‘Bringing the Union to You’

L.U. 494 (em,i,mt,rts,spa&t), MILWAUKEE, WI—It isn’t every day that a business manager and several business representatives visit a jobsite to say “thanks” and update members on recent efforts. Local 494 made the decision to start bringing information shared at the union meetings directly to the membership.

“I realize our members are busy at work and in life, so to keep them informed I felt I needed to go to them,” said Bus. Mgr. John Bzdawka.

So far the officers have visited three projects and updated more than 70 members on the union’s current and future efforts, while at the same time growing their relationship with the contractors.

Bzdawka is aware of what the officers’ presence means to members, and the jobsite visits also help to stay ahead of potential problems. Sixth District Int. Rep. Terry Roovers also attended one of the jobsite visits.

“The [union’s] future leadership as well as the entire union construction industry should take note of 494’s efforts,” Roovers said. “Seeing firsthand how important it is for members to have direct union leadership contact on the jobsite is paramount.”

The goals are simple: Connect with contractors, show members and contractors support by touring jobsites, thank members for their hard work, and inform them of important union information.

John Bzdawka, B.M./F.S.



Local 494 Bus. Mgr. John Bzdawka (left); members Chris Wenner, Mike Moody, Rob Schultz and Tim Klatt; and Int. Rep. Terry Roovers.

A Day of Remembrance

L.U. 530 (i,o&rtb), SARNIA, ONTARIO, CANADA—Once again, Local 530 participated in the International Day of Mourning on April 28 at Centennial Park. This is an important day, as it is to remember all workers who have died on the job or through occupational illness.

While we still have many members unemployed at the time of this writing, we would like to thank Local 1687 (Sudbury), Local 105 (Hamilton) and Local 424 (Edmonton) for helping our members with jobs.

Local 530 is saddened to report the recent passing of Bro. Ron Best.

Al Byers, P.S.

LOCAL LINES

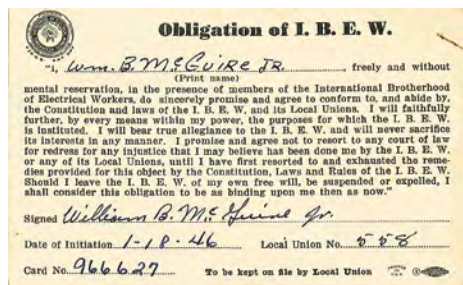
A Legacy of Service— Former Apprenticeship Director

L.U. 558 (catv,em,i,mt,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), SHEFFIELD, AL—Greetings, brothers and sisters. At Local 558, we are in the final stages of our annual spring outage at Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant as of this writing. We had a very successful outage and anxiously await the fall outage scheduled for this year. Work has been steady throughout the jurisdiction for the first quarter of 2014. It appears that 2014 will be a busy year with several projects in the making.

We wish to recognize the late Bro. William B. “Mickey” McGuire Jr., who passed away on Feb. 4 at the age of 91.

A World War II veteran, Bro. McGuire formerly served as Local 558 assistant business manager and as south regional director of NECA. Most notably, Bro. McGuire was our first apprenticeship director at Local 558. He was obligated by IBEW Local 558 on Jan. 18, 1946. Bro. McGuire faithfully served this great union for 68 years. His efforts and dedication have had a long-term impact on the lives of many. He deserves recognition and will be greatly missed by all of us.

Tony Quillen, Pres./A.B.M.



Local 558 “Obligation of IBEW” card signed by Bro. William McGuire Jr. in 1946.

Negotiations Underway

L.U. 570 (i,mo,spa&u), TUCSON, AZ—Local 570’s work picture is still slow for the inside group. Fortunately, some of our members have had the chance to work in outlying areas of the jurisdiction on mine projects at Freeport-McMoRan in Morenci, AZ. Others have traveled just northwest on I-10 to work out of Local 640 on the Cascade project in Mesa, AZ.

In the hope of more jobs, Local 570 has continued our support for the Rosemont Mine, proposed to be built southeast of Tucson.

As for our unit members, we have ratified the contract with the San Carlos Irrigation Project and are in negotiations with Exelis and ASARCO.

Scott W. Toot, Pres./Org.



Hundreds of members and their families gather to enjoy the Local 570 annual picnic.

‘Holding Steady’

L.U. 654 (i), CHESTER, PA—Ongoing projects include: the Enbridge railcar unloading project at Eddystone Power House, multiple projects at the Sunoco Logistics Marcus Hook facility, a data center at SAP Corp., multiple school and hotel construction jobs, etc.

The work picture is bright, but we face an ongoing battle with our current anti-union governor, “One Term Tom” Corbett, who appears determined to silence us. The biggest issue facing union workers in

Pennsylvania right now is HB 1507, otherwise known as the “paycheck deception” act—which, if passed, would be the beginning of right to work (for less) in Pennsylvania.

We recently won a major victory when the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania withdrew a resolution that supported legislation to prohibit the collection of membership dues by unions. This would be a mirror image of what happened in Wisconsin. Passage of this legislation would weaken unions by decreasing dues revenue and political support; right to work would surely follow. We cannot overemphasize how important this fight is! Get out and vote, be involved, be heard—be union!

James Thompson, P.S.

IBEW Community Service

L.U. 666 (i,mt&o), RICHMOND, VA—There has been a systematic campaign for decades to portray unions and union members in a bad light. Some people may forget that we are simply their neighbors and community members who simply want a fair day’s pay for a fair day’s work.

The labor liaison to the United Way is gathering stories of union members in central Virginia who give back to their community. So many good things we do escape notice. Please call me at the hall if you are active in our community and tell me what you do. We are looking for the stories of members who coach Little League; participate with the PTA; volunteer for scouting, etc.

Congratulations to recent retirees: Davis B. Gooding, James E. Farmer, Dudley B. Ledford, Herbert B. Warren, Carl E. Pippin and G. Jerzy Pianko. Enjoy your retirement, brothers.

Charles Skelly, P.S.

Looking Toward Summer

L.U. 692 (i,mt&spa), BAY CITY, MI—Our members are starting their Code Update classes. Paul LeVassuer, apprenticeship director/instructor, is conducting these classes for our members. We appreciate his taking time to do this for our membership.

We had a cold and snowy winter season in Michigan. It was a good winter for the great outdoor winter sports of Michigan. We thank our members who kept the jobs going, working with steadfast endurance through the very cold and snowy winter.

Let us all be ready to take some time to volunteer during this midterm election year. It is so important for all of us to be involved.

We are sad to report the passing of retired Bro. Gerhardt O. “Gary” Behmlander and retired Bro. John “Clem” Johnroe. Our sympathy and prayers are with their families.

We thank our military men and women for serving and sacrificing for our great country! God bless America!

Be involved in our country and our union!

Tammy Gottleber, P.S.

Line Clearance Agreements

L.U. 702 (as,c,catv,cs,em,es,et,govt,i,it,lctt,mo,mt,o,p,pet,ptc,rtb,rts,se,spa,st,t&u), WEST FRANKFORT, IL—In February, we received a favorable decision from the Council on Industrial Relations (CIR) in Washington, D.C., for our Line Clearance Agreements covering Missouri, Illinois and Indiana. The three-year agreements include a 3 percent wage increase each year of the

agreement; meal stipends increased from \$12 to \$15; and an additional 25 cents for any Lineco increase during the three-year term.

We welcome Bro. Kerry Ferguson from the Mattoon Unit as a new Executive Board member, and we are proud to have Bro. Scott Kerley back on staff as business representative.

Our local is hosting the Outside Business Manager’s Conference at Rend Lake, June 9-11, for the Fourth, Sixth and Eleventh Districts. The IBEW Local 702 Golf Tournament will be Friday, June 20, at the West Frankfort Country Club.



Local 702 Bro. Jay Kruger, Sikeston Unit chair, wins a Union Sportsman Alliance gun giveaway prize.

Local 702 news and information, please visit us at www.ibewlocal702.org.

Mark Baker, B.R./P.S.

Summer Construction Season

L.U. 704 (catv,em&i), DUBUQUE, IA—After a long and brutal winter in the Midwest, Local 704 members welcome the change of seasons.

Thanks to all of our traveling brothers who worked with us on the Rentech Fertilizer Plant located in East Dubuque, IL. During this major expansion, it was great to know that when the need arose, we had IBEW brothers willing to travel in and assist in filling the calls.

We are proud to announce our recent apprenticeship graduates: Bros. Scott Didesch, Mitch Haufe, Craig Marx and Tyler Kennedy. Congratulations on successfully completing this five-year commitment, brothers. It may seem like a long process when you are just a first-year apprentice, but now as you join the ranks of journeyman wiremen you appreciate the accomplishments you have achieved. We wish you a long, fruitful career with the IBEW.

Local 704 also wishes to acknowledge the lifelong accomplishment of a group of journeymen who recently retired: Bros. Tom Ellwanger, Bob Wirzbach, Dave Meyers, Dan Dolter and Rick Ackley. It is has been my pleasure to work alongside these brothers. Congratulations, gentlemen, and thank you for your longtime dedicated service in the electrical industry.

Our local is on the second year of a three-year agreement. With no negotiations scheduled, we can concentrate on current projects and focus on keeping all our members actively employed.

Ron Heitzman, P.S.



Local 776 Bus. Mgr. Chuck Moore (left); apprenticeship graduates Carter Moore, Michael Harding, Demond Taylor, Corey Morris; and CJATC Training Dir. Jason Steele.

JATC Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 776 (i,o,rts&spa), CHARLESTON, SC—Congratulations to our newest journeyman inside women: Michael Harding, Carter Moore, Corey Morris and Demond Taylor. Kudos to these JATC apprenticeship graduates for putting in the long years that it took to be the finest electricians hands down.

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

Steward Training Class

L.U. 1466 (u), COLUMBUS, OH—On Saturday, April 5, Local 1466 held a stewards training class at the union hall in Columbus. We wish to thank everyone who took the time to attend. Your dedication to helping your brothers and sisters, and to creating a more fair and equitable workplace, is invaluable and will ultimately strengthen our local for the future. We also thank the International for helping to put the training together and make it a success.

In other news, for those who have not heard, American Electric Power’s wage offer of a 2.5 percent increase has passed. This offer was approved by the members of Local 1466, as well as a majority of locals on Utility System Council U-09. As usual, for our local, our raise will go into effect in July. Thank you to all who voted and made their voices known.

If this coming summer’s heat is anything like last year’s, it could get pretty brutal. Please continue to look out for one another and stay safe.

Jimi Jette, P.S.

Workers Memorial Day

L.U. 2324 (t), SPRINGFIELD, MA—On April 25 and April 26, IBEW Local 2324 members attended two ceremonies for the annual Workers Memorial Day put on by The Western Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health. [See photo, below.] Workers Memorial Day is the day we set aside to recognize the many workers who were seriously injured or killed on their jobs and to commemorate the signing of the Occupational Safety and Health Act in 1970. Along with members of the Berkshire Central Labor Council and the Pioneer Valley Labor Council, our members attended an organizing seminar and ceremonies for our fallen brothers and sisters. Always remember we must mourn for the dead and fight for the living.

Christine Casino, Exec. Brd.



Members of the Berkshire Central Labor Council stand in the rain to honor workers killed while on the job.

RETIRES

Annual Barbecue a Success

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, NORTH FLORIDA CHAPTER—Our chapter held its annual barbecue at the Delray Beach South Civic Center on March 14 and many Local 3 retirees attended.

Our meetings feature informative talks by invitees, primarily about retirement. Currently we are having lively discussions about employment and the new contract benefits; and questions are answered about other union benefits.

The chapter meets on 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 “snowbirds” and we welcome all Local 3 retirees to our affairs and meetings.

Dick Dickman, P.S.



At a gathering of the Local 11 Retirees Club.

What is a party without a song? “The Twelve Days of Christmas” was conducted by Dominic Pironti and Martin Hogan.

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

Thanks to Guest Speakers

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 11, LOS ANGELES, CA—Club members wish to thank our guest speakers for the March meeting, Local 11 Asst. Bus. Mgrs. Kevin Norton and Kim Craft, who gave an outstanding report. Though we’re no longer working with the tools, old habits die hard. Information about current and future jobs still gets us excited. We’ll continue to root for our active brothers

and sisters, in the hope that they will have many opportunities to provide for their families and build for a secure future and retirement! [See photo, at top.]

Congratulations to Local 11 members, the negotiating committee and staff on the ratification of a new five-year Inside Wireman’s Agreement.

On the topic of Social Security: The Los Angeles Times recently published two informative articles by Pulitzer Prize-winning business columnist Michael A. Hiltzik. Pass the knowledge on to the youngsters who are interested/uninformed. The articles by Hiltzik are as follows:

- 1) On the Reality of Social Security, She Tells it Like it Isn’t,” LA Times, Wednesday, March 19, 2014. (Details false “facts” on Social Security.)
- 2) “Don’t Let Paul Ryan Near Your Money,” LA Times, Sunday, April 6, 2014. (Describes Ryan’s designs on Social Security’s trust fund.)

Remember to RSVP for the Retirees Club’s Summer Lunch, scheduled for 11:30 a.m. at the ETI, on Wednesday, June 11.

Harvey “Butch” Bachand, Pres.

2014 Meeting Schedule

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 42, HARTFORD, CT—The Retirees Club wishes to invite anyone who’s a retired member of Local 42 to come and join them. If you would like to get out of the house or take some time out of your busy life for a couple of hours, then stop in and join them.

Club meetings are held bimonthly on a Tuesday at Local 42’s hall; this year’s schedule is listed below. Annual dues are \$12. The Retirees Club meeting starts at 9 a.m. They start the meeting by discussing upcoming business and

upcoming events. That is followed by talking about old times and sharing funny stories while relaxing and enjoying coffee and donuts. The Retiree’s Club would love to have you join them. If you’re interested call us at (860) 646-7297.

The Retiree’s Club wishes to thank all the ladies in Local 42’s office for all their hard work and for making everyone feel welcome. They work very hard putting all the events together and making them enjoyable. The ladies of Local 42 greet everyone with a warm smile and are always ready to help attendees with whatever is needed.

Scheduled upcoming meetings for 2014 are as follows: May 20, July 15, Sept. 16 and Nov. 18. The December meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Jacquelyn Moffitt, P.S.

Spirit of Brotherhood

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 60, SAN ANTONIO, TX—Over the past nine months, the club shared some really great fun and laughter, along with some really good food.

We regret the passing of friends and together we honor their memory.

It is summer time, time for our summer break (for June, July and August) from monthly meetings. Communication among members will still go on; the practice of brotherhood does not take a break. The purpose of this club shall be to carry out “the spirit of the Brotherhood, to aid and assist each other as necessary, and to promote the Social, Economic, Health and Political Welfare of its members.” Membership consists of any Local 60 retired member or honorary member, and/or spouse or widow/widower. Please join us the second Thursday of each month, starting in September, 12 noon, Plumbers and Pipefitters training building, 3630 Belgium Lane.

At the time of this writing, the club’s second annual golf tournament fundraiser is almost upon us. The results will be published in our next retirees article in the September publication. We hope this golf tournament is just as successful as the first one, since the tournament is the club’s only source of funding. Have a fun and safe summer, everyone ... from our family of retirees to yours.

Sandy Rogers, P.S.

Holiday Party & Service Pins

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 99, PROVIDENCE, RI—The Local 99 Retirees Christmas Party was Dec. 17 last year at the West Valley Inn in West Warwick, RI. We had a feast of family style soup, pasta, chicken, pot roast and salad.

Retirees Club Pres. Robert Pierce reminded us of brothers who passed away in 2013 and led a moment of silence in tribute.

Pres. Pierce and Local 99 Bus. Mgr. Michael Daley also presented service pins to 75 retirees. Sixty-year pins were awarded to Bros. Ernest Imondi, Edward Lewis, Thomas O’Neill, Arthur Shaffell and Arthur Watson. A 65-year pin was presented to Bro. Francis L. Derouian.

We thank Bus. Mgr. Daley and Local 99 for their support in keeping our Retirees Club active.

All the retirees of Local 99 wish everyone a happy, healthy and safe 2014.

Frank J. Colucci, P.S.

Summer Month Meetings

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 113, COLORADO SPRINGS, CO—At this writing we are all anxiously awaiting spring, after what seemed an unseasonably cold winter. Those of us who have lived very long in the Rocky Mountain region know that Mother Nature plays mind games with us during this season, 70 degrees one day, followed in a couple of days with yet another winter storm warning.

Some in our group were fortunate enough to enjoy the warmth of the Sonoran Desert for part of the winter, where they met for an “unofficial” retirees’ luncheon followed by a boat cruise on Saguario Lake near Mesa, AZ.

Official business at home included nomination of officers for our club. Election results will follow in our next article.

Our Bro. Jim Polders has suffered a setback in his recovery from an accident of last fall. Please continue to remember him in your prayers as he fights to regain his health and mobility. He enjoys visitors. Please call the hall for his current location.

Remember, our monthly meetings continue through the summer months at 11:30 a.m. on the second Friday of the month. Meeting location is the Country Buffett at the Citadel Crossing shopping center.

Bill Campbell, P.S.



Local 3, North Florida Chapter, Retirees Club members at annual barbecue with co-chairmen Bob Rosenbouch and Martin Freifeld.

Christmas/Hanukah & Gold Members Club Recognition

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, WESTCHESTER/PUTNAM CHAPTER—On Dec. 17, 2013, our annual Christmas/Hanukah luncheon was held at the Leewood Country Club in Eastchester, NY. Although we had inclement weather, 94 members and guests attended.

As we entered this impressive dining and adjoining cocktail room, the holiday decorations appeared, beautifully arranged. Representing our servicemen, each table had a miniature stand, holding the American flag and flags of all armed services. Stands and flags were given away as gifts.

The food was outstanding; there was a cocktail hour and a beautiful Viennese table, filled with numerous desserts.

Eight members, who had reached the golden age of 80, received a Certificate of Special Recognition and were entered into the Gold Members Club.

Accepting their awards were John Rich and Frank Campo. Unable to attend were: Edward Smith, Robert Hecker, Simon Kelly, Walter Piekarcz, George Cancel and Donald Bohmann. Their awards were delivered.



At Local 3, Westchester/Putnam Chapter, luncheon are: Martin Hogan (left), Dominic Pironti, Frank Campo, John Rich, Dick Mills and Dominic Malandro.



At a Local 113 Retirees Club gathering, from left: Terry Turner, Bill Campbell, Linnea Campbell, Phyllis McNamara, John McNamara and Linda Turner.

Club Activities

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 130, NEW ORLEANS, LA—On March 17, we had our monthly bus trip to the Silver Slipper Casino in Bay St. Louis, MS. We enjoyed coffee and donuts in the Alexander room before we loaded the bus. Everyone had a wonderful time, especially those who had the pleasure of winning.

Our quarterly meeting was March 24 and was catered by Hobnobbers Café. We had 48 retired members in attendance. Everyone enjoyed the meatballs and spaghetti, with plenty of extras to take home.

At the time of this early spring writing we were making preparations for our annual crawfish boil scheduled for May 22, 2014.

RETIREES



Some of the Local 134 Retirees Club board members at the March election meeting, joined by Bus. Agent Don Finn (fourth from right). From left: Mario Coletta, Bernard Martin, Kevin Gibbons, Jim Fliris, Bus. Agent Finn, Jim Jennings, Lou Rodriguez and Walter Felde.

With deep regret we report the recent loss of several brothers: Frank I. Bauer, LeeRoy J. Breaux, Sebastian J. Guerrero, Seymour J. Hirsch, Walter A. Johnson, Anthony V. Lamonte, Malcolm J. Rouquette and Junius Tate. May their souls rest in peace!

Until our next meeting, God bless America.

George Clesi, Pres.

Board Members Elected

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 134, CHICAGO, IL—On March 12, we had nominations and elections of Local 134 Retirees Club officers; we also had a delicious catered luncheon. [See photo, at top left.] Unfortunately the weather was cold and snowy in Chicago that day and the turnout was approximately 50 members. We had plenty of extra food attendees could take home.

On June 11 we will celebrate and honor all of our members who have 50-, 55-, 60-, 65-, and 70 years of service. All members, if able, should attend; it will be a good opportunity to have a great time with members you may have lost touch with.

Let's give a big thank-you to all the newly elected board members, who will serve and enhance our Retirees Club. Our new board members are: Pres. Mario Coletta, Vice Pres. Jim Fliris, Rich Connolly, Kevin Gibbons and Jim Jennings.

Come to the meetings and remember: There are no strangers at Local 134, only friends you haven't yet met! We welcome all Local 134 retirees. To join the club, call Mario Coletta at (773) 736-1480. We meet on the second Wednesday of the month at the union hall, 600 W. Washington Street. Noon to 1 p.m. is "greet & meet" time, and the regular meeting continues until 2:30 p.m.

Louis Rodriguez, P.S.

'Rest in Peace, Brothers'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 212, CINCINNATI, OH—With deepest sorrow I report the passing of several members: William Day, IBEW member for 67 years; Phil Allen, a member for 65 years; Cecil Dickey, 53 years; Joseph Walser, 44 years; Joseph Scott, 44 years; and Frank Frondorf, 33 years. Rest in peace, dear friends.

Welcome to new club members: Dale Brunner, Denny Dickerson, Jim Amend and Tom Babel.

A 212 Historical Committee has been formed, with a focus on honoring deceased members from throughout our local's 113-year history. The goal is to create a permanent Wall of Honor with accurate information on each departed member, such as initiation date, date of death and years of service. Members making significant contributions—such as charter members, and those with longtime IBEW membership or military service, etc.—will also be recognized. Preliminary research has identified approximately 1,000 departed members from 1941 to the present; members from 1901 to 1940 are yet to be identified. Help is always welcome. We have boxes of photos to be identified, records and minutes to be researched, and artifacts to be cleaned. This information will eventually be displayed throughout the union hall.

The Retirees Club Picnic will be July 2 at Fernbank Park. The Local 212 Annual Family Picnic will be some time in August at Stricker's Grove.

Bob Schaefer, P.S.

Monthly Luncheon Meetings

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 257, JEFFERSON CITY, MO—Although our winter season was very cold, the Retirees Club was able to have all of its monthly luncheon/meetings. Our Christmas luncheon was again hosted by Local 257 and we appreciated their doing this for us. Instead of exchanging gifts at our Christmas luncheon, a collection was taken with the proceeds sent to the St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. Our monthly luncheon/meetings for January, February, March and April were held at the Golden Corral, in Columbia, MO; the American Legion in Jefferson City, MO; the Knights of Columbus in Westphalia, MO; and the American Legion in Ashland, MO, respectively. [Photo, at bottom.] Although we took no trips over the winter, we do have a few in the planning stages for spring.

Volunteers again helped judge and grade the Skills USA Competition held at Linn State Technical College in April.

We congratulate Jim Winemiller, Local 257 organizer, on his retirement. We appreciate everything he has done for our Retirees Club. We wish him and his wife, Linda, the best.

Delores Melloway, P.S.

Service Awards Presentation

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 270, OAK RIDGE, TN—Our latest meeting was combined with the December union meeting, and all members of Local 270 had refreshments and fellowship afterward. This combination of active members and retired members was a great success and everyone had fun. Years-of-service pins were presented to retired members who were celebrating 50 and 60 years of service. [Photo at right.] We invite all retirees to join us the next time we meet.

Regina Guy, P.S.



Participants gather for Local 291 Retirees Club event.

'Welcome to Join Us'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 291, BOISE, ID—The March luncheon was held at The Great Wall Chinese restaurant in Meridian, with around 30 in attendance. We are patiently waiting, as of this writing, for the return migration of the snowbirds after the long cold winter. It is always a colorful and story filled event.

Club elections were held in January. Elected were: Pres. Dave Wolff, Vice Pres. Dave Barr and Secretary Janette Wolff. We extend a huge thank-you to Joe and Linda Sirani, who together held the position of president/secretary for the past four years. They will be a hard pair to follow.

We still have a few members who are in ill health and we continue to wish them well. The majority of the club members are well and looking forward to the warm Idaho spring weather.

Dawn Walsh and Mark Zaleski, from IBEW Local 291, attended the luncheon. Bus. Mgr. Zaleski reported that the local work is improving, but more work is necessary to bring home the traveling members.

Our luncheons are the second Thursday of each month. Please feel welcome to join us if you are in the area. Contact the union hall for time and location.

Dave Wolff, Pres.

Retirees Stay Involved

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 306, AKRON, OH—Summer has finally returned and so have our "snowbirds." But many of our retirees never leave and stay involved by helping with social and political events, volunteering their electrical knowledge and abilities for charitable causes, and staying active for the good of the union. One such instance was the recent informational picket we set up on a nonunion project where we were joined by four of our retired officers (see photo, on Pg. 15). Thanks to these brothers and the many more who continue to give back to the IBEW long after they have retired from the trade.

The retirees wish to thank pension Bro. John Felber, who recently stepped down, for his many dedicated years as president of the Retirees Club. The retirees also wish to invite all Local 306 retirees to join their large group for a breakfast meeting at the Waterloo Restaurant on the third Friday of each month.

With deep sadness we report the passing of retired Bros. Marvin "Mickey" McHedron and Clifford Boggs. We send our condolences to their families.

Thomas Wright, Mbr. Dev.



Local 270 retirees receive service awards. From left: 50-year member Bill Sanford; and 60-year members Johnny Wright, J.P. Hickman, A.J. Gentry and Otis "Blackie" Butler.

Annual Pin Presentation

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 353, TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA—Our Retirees Club is enjoying its 29th year and wishes to welcome IBEW retirees from former Locals 894 (Oshawa) and 1739 (Barrie) as amalgamation is being finalized.



Local 257 Retirees Club members at Westphalia, MO, in March 2014.



Local 306 retired members picket nonunion project. From left: George Manus (left), Bentley "Buz" Hudson, Jim Betz and Vern Saylor.

This year, at our 4th Annual Pin Presentation Breakfast for members with 50 years of service or more, Local 353 will honour 118 members with pins. This brings Local 353 living pin recipients to more than 500 members.

We will present one 70-year pin (to Edwin Hoyle); eleven 65-year pins; eight 60-year pins; and fifty 55-year pins. Forty-eight 50-year members will receive pins and watches. Congratulations, brothers.

At a Local 353 special called meeting in April, it was announced that both our pension plan and benefit plan performed well in 2013, and the votes gave comfort that Local 353 working members and retirees and their spouses will continue to enjoy pensions and health and welfare benefits. Thanks to TEIBAS (Toronto Electrical Industry Benefit Administrative Services) and our staff and Local 353 trustees.

The Local 353 Sports, Entertainment & Retirees Trust Fund also enjoyed some topping up through improving employment and additional funding, which will allow working members and retirees to continue to participate in planned events. ... "Continuing to Raise The Bar."

Robert Rynyk, P.S.

Retirees Spring Meeting

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 570, TUCSON, AZ—Retirees had the spring meeting in April before the summer break. [See photo, at bottom left.] We look forward to seeing many retirees at the meetings when they start back up Oct. 9. Have a safe and healthy summer.

Mark Gibson, Vice Chair

100th Anniversary Celebration

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 611, ALBUQUERQUE, NM—The Retirees Club, six years ago, took on a project of researching the history of Local 611 for its 100th anniversary.

This involved searching through numerous minute books, IBEW archives, local records, library city directories and personal interviews from past members. The project paid off with the printing of a 100th anniversary book, and a wonderful 100th

anniversary celebration.

To mark 100 years of service in New Mexico, on Feb. 17 the local held an open house display of local history dating from 1914 to the present; exhibits included tables set up to display plaques, charters, old JATC and agreement books, etc. Members and guests also enjoyed a video featuring almost 1,000 pictures from years past.

The actual celebration was Feb. 27 at the Isleta Fun Center and Hotel/Casino. The all-day family events included golf, fishing, bowling, billiards, laser tag and an arcade for all ages, along with plenty to eat. The celebration closed in the evening with a dinner/dance

and free casino table games. The Isleta Hotel/Casino went all out to help make the occasion a success.

The 100th year anniversary was a once-in-a-lifetime celebration! A special display case is being built to house the 100th year artifacts. Order the 100th anniversary book, read it and be proud to be an IBEW Local 611 member.

Tracy Hall, Pres.



Local 611 Pres. Carl Condit (left) and Retirees Club Pres. Tracy Hall, historian, stand beside 100th anniversary display.

Club's 40th Anniversary Year

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 640, PHOENIX, AZ—This June is a special occasion for us "Golden Age Road Runners," as we celebrate our 40th anniversary as an organization.

Through the benevolence of Mr. Fred Ponting, an electrical engineer and member of Local 640, a sum of money was donated to form and maintain a retirees group. This money was wisely invested and has helped sustain this changing group over the years. Fred has long since traveled to that "Big Bench" in the sky, but the Roadrunners continue to serve as a meeting post for Local 640 retirees.

We are now enjoying our summer hiatus, from June until October.

It was a good year for our club. We hosted some very interesting speakers at many of our meetings. We



Local 640 Retired Members' Club charter.

set up a booth at our union picnic in March, at which time a handmade rocking horse was donated and raffled off by our treasurer, Jim Weaver, for the benefit of the club. We also had our board member nomination meeting in March, and we held elections in April, along with a BBQ lunch. There will be some new smiling faces on the board when we reconvene in October.

It was a very good year!

Daryl Knupp, P.S.

2014 Retirees Luncheon

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 702, WEST FRANKFORT, IL—The 2014 Retirees Luncheon was Tuesday, April 22, at Rend Lake Resort Conference Center with approximately 180 in attendance. Local 702 Bus. Mgr. Steve Hughart opened with a welcome to all. He

extended a thank-you to Jim Nolen, who retired as president of the Retirees Club, and introduced new club Pres. Gary King. [See photo, at right.]

The local office staff were introduced to the retirees and then Bus. Mgr. Hughart extended his appreciation to the members and their families for their continued dedication and loyalty to IBEW Local 702.

Retirees Club Pres. King read the names of those who departed in recent months and a moment of silence was held in their honor. Pres. King then encouraged all retired members to join the Retirees Club.

Door prize winners were: Loretta Deason (St. Louis Cardinals tickets, April 30 game); Alan Morgan and Bob Gott (Logan's Roadhouse gift certificates); Howard Jarrells and Dave Clark (Cracker Barrel gift certificates); Steve Dailey and Martin Lee (Red Lobster gift certificates).

After a brief presentation by insurance representative Estel Hoffard about post-retirement medical coverage, the luncheon was concluded.

To stay up on the latest Local 702 news and information, please visit us at www.ibewlocal702.org.

Mark Baker, P.S.

'Spring Report'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 756, DAYTONA BEACH, FL—The February meeting was a good one with our delicious low country boil enjoyed by all. Our March meeting was a BBQ, again cooked by Greg Stone and the guys. We are lucky to have some great cooks in our club who take their own time to prepare our main dishes. We are very grateful to all of them. April brings us southern fried chicken. Our last meeting in May before our summer break was the popular fish fry.

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Kenneth "K.P." Coleman, a 57-year member and a Navy veteran. He loved working with the apprentice program and taught so many the art of knot tying and rigging. He will be missed by all.

We wish you a safe and happy summer and as always, we wish to invite any retired and unemployed brothers and sisters and their spouses who are in the area to come and join us. Our meetings are held the second Thursday of each month, 11:30 a.m., at the Local 756 Union Hall, Port Orange, FL.

Diane Gibbs, P.S.



Incoming Local 702 Retirees Club Pres. Gary King (left) receives the gavel from outgoing Pres. Jim Nolen.

Luncheon Meetings

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 995, BATON ROUGE, LA—On March 3, the club held a lunch meeting at Drusilla Seafood. We had a good turnout and the food was super.

At our regular meeting in April, we planned our June luncheon. This luncheon will include the wives and we all have to bring some type of dish. It will be held at the union hall on June 2 at 11 a.m. I hope to see all club members there.

W. Roland Goetzman Sr., P.S.



At Tucson, AZ, Local 570 Retirees Club's April meeting.



Attendees enjoy a Local 995 Retirees Club luncheon.



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Edwin D. Hill
International President

Salvatore J. Chilia
International Secretary-Treasurer

INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Chairman
Robert W. Pierson

First District
Joseph P. Calabro

Second District
Myles J. Calvey

Third District
John R. Clarke

Fourth District
William W. Riley

Fifth District
Michael Walter

Sixth District
Joe P. Smith

Seventh District
Patrick Lavin

Eighth District
Ross Galbraith

INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

First District
William F. Daniels

Second District
Frank J. Carroll

Third District
Donald C. Siegel

Fourth District
Kenneth Cooper

Fifth District
Joe S. Davis

Sixth District
Lonnie R. Stephenson

Seventh District
Steven Speer

Eighth District
Jerry Bellah

Ninth District
Michael S. Mowrey

Tenth District
Robert P. Klein

Eleventh District
Curtis E. Henke

THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

Editor
Edwin D. Hill

Mark
Brueggjenjohann

Malinda Brent

Len Shindel

Carol Fisher

Alex Hogan

Lucas Oswald

James H. Jones

Curtis D. Bateman

John Sellman

Erin Sutherland

Asifa Haniff

Ben Temchine

Sean Bartel

Colin Kelly

C. James Spellane

FROM THE OFFICERS**IBEW-Made, IBEW Proud**

Edwin D. Hill
International President

Members of IBEW's manufacturing branch have survived and thrived, even in the face of the loss of 6 million U.S. manufacturing jobs over the past decade. This is no small achievement for workers like those workers at SPX Transformers in Waukesha, Wis., featured in this issue of *The Electrical Worker*.

Our members, our signatory contractors and employers in construction and utilities are often in the market for transformers, electrical components, tools and devices that our own manufacturing members produce. Too often, however, we have failed to make it easier for them to buy IBEW and buy union.

No more. Our new website www.ibewmade.com is live. The site allows purchasers to view products made by our members and review their specifications.

Please look to IBEW-Made first before ordering equipment. It's part of union members looking out for each other. And it's part of not giving up on the need to strengthen and grow our nation's manufacturing sector, where too many bad trade deals and too many plant shutdowns have undermined our national economy.

While we continue to oppose trade deals like the Trans-Pacific partnership that have undermined our manufacturing base, we also know that a globalized economy is not going away. We need to build alliances with trade unionists overseas who are employed by the same corporations with whom we bargain at home.

That's why we invited a representative of IG Metall, Germany's largest metalworker's union, along with representatives of the IUE-CWA to this year's Broadcasting, Manufacturing and Telecom Conference. All of our unions represent members at Siemens, a global giant.

We pledged to work together to convince Siemens to stay neutral, rather than oppose organizing drives at their nonunion U.S. plants. And we traded notes with German unionists who have a major voice in their workplaces through workers' councils.

We are putting all of our union's resources behind supporting our manufacturing branch and reviving American manufacturing. We can start by buying IBEW-made products. ■

Messin' With Texas

Corporate welfare takes many shapes, but few are as wasteful and counterproductive as state and local incentives to lure companies to relocate from another state.

The latest, but by no means the worst example, was Toyota North America's April announcement that it was moving its headquarters to a suburb of Dallas. Texas Gov. Rick Perry said it was a combination of "employer-friendly" laws and \$47 million in state and local incentives that led to his state's "victory."

What do taxpayers get for their generosity? Some jobs will be lost in California, some will be gained in Texas, but even when construction jobs at the new site are accounted for, economists have found that no new net jobs are created when companies move.

Last year, Toyota made \$18 billion in profit, up 200 percent from five years ago. Profitable companies do not need this kind of money, but the people of Texas sure could use some help. According to the Texas Legislative Study Group's 2013 report "Texas on the Brink," the state ranks 50th in high school graduation rate and first in percentage of people without health insurance.

Creating jobs should be the No. 1 job of lawmakers, but strategies like Perry's that focus on shuffling around jobs from other parts of the country using a race-to-the-bottom model is flat-out wrong.

Our communities don't just need jobs—they need good jobs, the kind that give working people a solid spot in the middle class. Instead of spending money on TV ads and lobbyists to steal jobs from other states, Perry should be focusing on improving the jobs Texas already has.

Economists are in agreement that there is no evidence that tax breaks and subsidies create jobs or even influence where a company locates. But as you can read in this issue, investing in workers through training, good wages, benefits and a voice at work is a proven road to creating jobs and growing the middle class. ■



Salvatore J. Chilia
International Secretary-Treasurer

HOW TO REACH US

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

Send letters to:

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

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

©2014 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

The Electrical Worker (print)
ISSN 2332-113X

The Electrical Worker (online)
ISSN 2332-1148

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

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

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

Paid advertising is not accepted.

Publications Mail Agreement No. 40011756.

Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:
2835 Kew Drive
Windsor, ON Canada N8T 3B7



“LETTERS TO THE EDITOR”

Calling All Hands: Organize

Whether you are union or nonunion, we are still brothers. Henry Miller, the first president of the IBEW, welcomed all into our brotherhood. Our current president, Ed Hill, said “nothing is acceptable for keeping people out who want to be part of us.” (IBEW Journal, November 2003). There are many great, qualified people who wish to join us, yet many are restricted. The little voice inside tells us that this is wrong. I have heard remarks against the nonunion segment of our industry. Maybe an apprenticeship was for whatever reason out of their grasp. Maybe they were refused. We linemen are all in this together. Let’s help bring those who need a little more help back into the light. All those who wish to join us deserve fair and just treatment.

With necessary upgrades to our transmission and distribution infrastructure, the future that is coming for linemen is awesome. With all this we will need linemen, instructors, trainers, inspectors, contractors and our numbers will increase immensely.

Lean in to your strengths and help others. The trials and adversity we face today build character and prepare us to be the champions that we are for the cause.

Mike Glueckert, Local 44 member
Butte, Mont.

A So-Called Patriot?

Received my Electrical Worker paper today and could not believe the letter to the editor by a so-called “brother” from Local 57 in Salt Lake City. I had to reread it (“Scott Walker, True Patriot?” April 2014) several times to believe a member of the IBEW could write such an idiotic and untrue article. He implied that Gov. Scott Walker was a true patriot because he was giving millions back to the people of Wisconsin as he had promised in his campaign. Does it not matter to him that so-called patriot Scott Walker has taken away the rights of working people in the state of Wisconsin? The so-called patriot Gov. Scott Walker has cut jobs of hard-working union and nonunion workers, screwing with people’s pensions and denying previously negotiated benefits. Does the brother from Salt Lake City know that the funds for the so-called patriot Scott Walker’s winning campaign came from organized, out-of-state labor haters?

Robert E. Fritz, Local 53 retiree
Hartford, Conn.

For the last two months there has been discussion about the pros and cons of Gov. Walker’s politics. For me the obvious issue is: if you don’t like what he is doing, then get to the polls and vote. His winning voter margin was so small that a decent turnout of union voters could have defeated him.

I respect all the brothers and sisters who write about this issue. But if we don’t get union members to vote, we won’t have a forum to speak our minds. Make sense of what is in all of our best interest. The future of labor needs our vote.

William Larsen, Local 159 retiree
Madison, Wis.

Solidarity, Brothers and Sisters

I came late in my working life to our union, looking for work that paid a livable wage, with benefits for myself and my family. The IBEW was there for me. For that I wear my pride of membership and gratitude on my shoulder for those before me, for those who gave the last full measure in the labor struggle in our country and around the world, to the men and women who perform the mundane tasks necessary for the functioning of such an organization.

During the winter of 2010-2011 as our brothers and sisters in labor were in the field in Madison, Wis., and Columbus, Ohio, and elsewhere, my heart would swell with pride with account after account in this paper of brothers and sisters who traveled cross-country to stand with the workers under siege. I stuck clippings on the fridge door for my daughters to see what true patriots look like. More than worker solidarity, I saw in these men and women a modern version of Christ’s parable “...a public sector worker lay along the road, beaten by corporations and their lackeys... a politician came along and crossed to the other side... a private sector worker did the same, then a worker came along, and lifted the injured worker and carried her... Now tell me who was the good neighbor?”

For those who day in day out reap the benefits resulting from the struggle of labor over the years but cannot recognize that there aren’t public sector workers and private sector workers but just our neighbors, perhaps then I respectfully submit that they should reconsider their union membership.

John Andrechak, Local 44 member
Butte, Mont.

WHO WE ARE

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

State Lawmaker is Union Member First and Foremost

Massachusetts State Rep. Paul Mark will tell you that climbing a telephone pole as a line technician comes first on his resumé before “attorney” or “legislator.”

Without tuition reimbursement collectively bargained with his employer, Verizon, the member of Worcester, Mass., Local 2325 might never have been able to obtain five college degrees.

Without union members knocking on doors, Mark, age 34, might never have been elected to office in 2010 to represent an expansive district in the state’s northwest, encompassing 22 communities, rural and urban.

Without union roots, Mark might just have been another pol, lacking the firsthand knowledge of the issues in the hearts and on the minds of his constituents, like proposing innovative ideas to make college more affordable. That’s one of his missions as the vice chairman of the Joint Committee on Higher Education.

His grandfather and father were union members. Young Paul had even worked hustling hotdogs at Fenway Park at age 16, paying dues to UNITE-HERE.

“Paul is a solid union man who went everywhere and anywhere when there was work to be done.”

— Bruce Lambert, a former Springfield, Mass., Local 2324 president

But it was on the picket line, six months after his hiring by newly-formed Verizon, where Mark says, “I learned why this union thing mattered.”

The company, formerly Bell Atlantic, was seeking major reductions in health insurance and pension benefits. Then 21 years old, he says he was inspired by “men and women older than me who were willing to go on strike and sacrifice everything they had to protect their health care benefits and job security.”

Mark, a Massachusetts native, made the rounds of telecom locals in Massachusetts and New Hampshire after being hired at age 20 as a temporary worker in Manchester, N.H., and completing his technician training in 2000.

In 2002, he threw himself into Manchester, N.H., Local 2320’s campaign opposing right-to-work legislation in the state and saw the true value of grassroots organizing. “We won a tangible victory,” he said. Later, Mark organized a robust political program as chairman of the COPE Committee of Local 2325.

While working full time, he earned a bachelor’s degree in economics from Southern New Hampshire University in



Third-generation IBEW member Paul Mark, a former Verizon line technician, leads the Mass. legislature in efforts to make higher education more affordable.

2005, then a master’s degree in labor studies from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Figuring he could win more grievances as a shop steward if he had a law degree, Mark enrolled in the evening division of Suffolk University’s Law School, graduating in 2009. “I found winning wasn’t really that simple,” he says.

In 2010, Verizon instituted another reduction in force, and Mark, who had begun his run for legislative office, took a buy-out and left the company.

Mark’s interest in politics was first fueled at age 8 with a handshake from Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis during his run for the presidency. “I was so disappointed when he lost,” says Mark, who, at 16, volunteered for Bill Clinton’s re-election campaign.

“Paul is a solid union man who went everywhere and anywhere when there was work to be done,” says Bruce Lambert, a former Springfield, Mass., Local 2324 president, who worked with Mark, encouraged him to run for office and directed his campaign. Mark’s union roots helped drive his winning message.

His grandfather, Paul, was a Boston Local 103 electrician. His father, Paul Jr., had worked as a Teamster before the warehouse where he worked shut down, leaving the family in some tough times. Better times came when his father went to work for Bell Atlantic and later Verizon, joining Local 2320.

“It’s a testament to Paul’s leadership that he won his first race, ran unopposed for his second and looks to be running unopposed for his third term in November,” says Lambert. “He’s got the admiration of a lot of people and you’ll be hearing a lot more of Paul in the future.”

In one of Mark’s first votes, he was one of only 40 Democrats out of 130 to vote against changes to the state’s pension plan that he felt were unfair to workers.

“There simply aren’t enough union



members running for office,” says Mark, who is dismayed that the assertions of corporate lobbyists often go unchallenged. “Workers have an important story to tell. More of us need to be involved.”

“Some think tanks say the answer to budget problems is to get rid of employee benefits and shift the burden onto the backs of public workers, but all that really does is take dollars out of the local economy,” he says.

Mark says he is encouraged by recent developments. The election of Boston Mayor Marty Walsh, a union member, shows the promise of unions pulling together.

“It’s becoming clearer that tax cuts and corporate giveaways are simply not creating jobs,” he says.

Mark has co-sponsored a bill to require companies that are closing or merging operations to consider selling their businesses to employees.

“Paul is smart. But he is also wise. He’s loyal to his friends and brave in his votes. I am so proud to be his colleague and his friend,” says state Rep. Denise Garlick, a former president of the Massachusetts Nurses Association who is vice chair of the Joint Committee on Education.

Mark advises members who want to run for office to focus on issues wider than the immediate concerns of unions.

“We need to proudly display our unionism,” says Mark. “But it’s only one piece of who we are and what we should be concerned with.” ■



'It was devastating,' Local 77 member and rescue effort volunteer Paul Walsh said of the March 22 mudslide in Oso, Wash., that claimed 41 lives. 'The whole area looked like a war zone.'

After Fatal Mudslide, Members Aid Recovery Effort

In the days and weeks after March's tragic and sudden mudslide that devastated the small Washington community of Oso, the nation watched as newscasters and reporters piled up grim figures.

Forty-one dead. Two missing. Nearly 50 homes destroyed. An entire square mile of rural country buried under thick mud and debris.

For Tim Harper, those numbers aren't statistics. They're people—sons and daughters, wives and husbands, who he'd known growing up in the logging community in the northern part of the Evergreen State.

"I'd say I knew about 95 percent of the people who lost their lives," said Harper, 34, a married father of two.

The Seattle Local 77 member has since devoted countless hours to helping the relief effort. As a volunteer firefighter with Oso Fire District 25, he was on the scene within half an hour after an unstable hill collapsed March 22, channeling mud over the Stillaguamish River, blocking the highway and engulfing a neighbor-



Seattle Local 77 member Tim Harper, right, is lieutenant of Oso Fire District 25, an all-volunteer team instrumental in the relief efforts.

hood below.

"I was out in the field for 10 full days immediately after the mudslide," said Harper, who is the lieutenant of the volunteer fire squad. His team—which includes Harper's brother as chief—was instrumental in assessing the situation, helping plan the search and rescue procedures and paving the way for the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the U.S. Forest

Service to assume control of the scene.

Now back at work as an operator foreman and project manager for signatory contractor Burke Electric in Bellevue, Harper continues to participate in nightly strategy meetings with representatives from local and federal relief teams.

"My history is in logging," Harper said. "When the accident happened, I called all my old cutting buddies. I said, 'Get your saw, and if you don't have one, come borrow one from me.'"

With uprooted and demolished trees scattered across the site, professional tree-trimming experience was vital. Fellow Local 77 member Paul Walsh—an arborist for the Snohomish County Public Utility District—volunteered with the search and rescue effort days after the event. He was joined by his son, Local 77 lineman John Walsh.

"We were out there with search dogs while clearing debris," Paul Walsh said. "There were piles of trees, logs and brush."

The Walshes also helped dismantle the rooftops of submerged houses to help



look for casualties. "It was devastating," Paul Walsh said. "The whole area looked like a war zone."

In the aftermath, as the volunteers and recovery teams assist survivors and those who lost family members, Harper's thoughts turn toward helping families attain some level of closure to begin the healing process, he said.

"I need to make sure the victims are taken care of," he said. "Part of my project now is to make sure donations are going in to people who need them. I'm working with a handful of people looking to purchase some land in Oso to help build new homes. We found some property about a mile away, and we're working with the county to try to get about 15 houses built."

In a small community like Oso, the collective grief in the wake of the tragedy is widespread, Harper said.

"Someday it will probably sink in more for me, with all that's happened," he said. "But now I have to be there for my

friends and my community. I have to be strong to give them someone to lean on right now."

Seattle IBEW Locals 77 and 46 have donated money to help the relief effort. Harper expressed additional gratitude to Asplundh employee and volunteer Quin Nations, and to his own employer for its support.

"People in the electrical world—the IBEW, Burke Electric and our suppliers—have been generous," Harper said. "Which makes me proud because I'm a lifetime employee, I'm not going anywhere. So to see that support is great. You can't fathom the help you get when you are in the middle of a situation like this and people have your back. That's the overwhelming part for me."

The staff at Burke Electric established an online donation page for anyone who would like to contribute to the relief effort. To make a donation, please visit www.gofundme.com/84v5y4. ■