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Who We Are

NOTE: *In Memoriam* will return
next month



IBEW's Norcross Runs for U.S. HOUSE

Donald Norcross, assistant business manager for Folsom, N.J., Local 351 and a state senator, is running for an open seat in New Jersey's 1st Congressional District.

One of the only journeyman wiremen ever to run for Congress took a break from the campaign on Labor Day to lay a wreath at the grave of Peter McGuire, a giant of the 19th century labor movement, and the man credited with creating the only national holiday honoring working men and women.

Folsom, N.J., Local 351 Assistant Business Manager Donald Norcross has been coming to McGuire's grave in Arlington Cemetery in his hometown of Pennsauken every Labor Day for decades. First he

A CANDIDATE of OUR OWN

came as child with his father, George Norcross Jr., a legendary figure in the South Jersey labor community, then as a member of Local 351, as president of the Southern NJ AFL-CIO Central Labor Council, state senator and now as the Democratic candidate in New Jersey's 1st Congressional District.

"The fight for a decent life for working families began with people like McGuire. All these years later, we're still fighting for it," Norcross said about the founder of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners who called for a national day of rest in 1882. McGuire died in Camden in 1906.

The 1st District is a heavily Democratic semi-circle across the Delaware River from Philadelphia.

Unlike many congressional districts gerrymandered to hold one race or class, the district has a bit of everything from the wealthy suburbs near Cherry Hill, the former industrial powerhouse of Camden—now best known for being one of the poorest and most violent cities in America—and sandwiched in between, the working class neighborhoods where Norcross grew up with his three brothers George III, Phil and John.

"My parents said we could be anything when we grew up, whether it was a Ph.D. or an electrician," Norcross said. "The measure of your success was if you worked hard and served your community."

If he wins, Norcross will be in the select company of union tradesmen who served in Congress, a group that includes at least one other IBEW member. In 1922, Frank J. McNulty was elected for a single term to represent New Jersey's Eighth District. At least one other member of the trades currently serves in Congress: Steve Lynch of Massachusetts, an ironworker.

NORCROSS continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

A Candidate of Our Own: IBEW's Norcross Runs for U.S. House

"It makes a difference having us in the room," said New Jersey State Senate President Steve Sweeney, an ironworker and an old friend of Norcross. "It makes a difference having someone who worked outside through the winter, who had to come home from a job and tell his wife he'd been laid off. It makes a difference because it is harder for politicians to make unions into something they're not when one of our own is there in the room to remind them what working men and women look like."

Norcross comes from a storied family in South Jersey labor and politics. His father, George Norcross Jr., was a civic and labor leader in southern New Jersey for more than 50 years. From 1955 to 1993, he was president of the Union Organization for Social Service, a nonprofit group created so unions could provide free services to the Camden community. He was also president of the Camden Central Labor Council and a longtime board member of the Camden United Way. The Southern New Jersey AFL-CIO's annual humanitarian award is named in his honor.

His brother George Norcross III has established a reputation over the last two decades as one of, if not the, premier power broker in New Jersey politics, the phone call every governor and senator has to take. His brother John is a professor of psychology and the youngest, Phil, is a lawyer.

"I knew how to build things," Norcross said. "And my father told me that electricians were top of the food chain on the job site, so I applied for the apprenticeship and got in. The second time around."

Norcross worked with the tools for 10 years before taking over UOSS when his father retired in 1993.

"I kept my card, and kept coming to monthly union meetings the whole time though," Norcross said.



Norcross and a local businessman, Tim Ellis, at the groundbreaking of a new memorial near McGuire's grave.



Norcross attends the annual Labor Day event honoring AFL-CIO pioneer Peter J. McGuire, the holiday's founder, who is buried in Norcross's hometown, Pennsauken.

In 1995, Norcross was elected president of the South Jersey AFL-CIO. He said his role included recruiting and preparing candidates for office. Norcross said his goal was to stop endorsing traditional politicians who promised to be labor supporters and start running union members instead.

"Back then, unions weren't that involved in state politics beyond making some donations," Norcross said. "It's hard to believe, given where we are now, but when we started there was maybe one or two statewide."

Nearly a decade later, Norcross said more than 100 union members form a

coalition that has a real say in Trenton, where three IBEW members serve in the state legislature.

"Some people call us a machine, but there's really only one machine: the voting machine," Norcross said. "We are successful to the extent that people believe what's good for working people is good for everybody. And our success speaks for itself."

Returning to the IBEW

In 1994, three South Jersey locals were amalgamated into Local 351. When Edward Gant took over as business manager, he said the first call he made was to Donald Norcross.

"I was from Atlantic City, and needed a business agent with knowledge and relationships on the west side of the state," Gant said. "Donald was the first person I called."

For the last 14 years, Norcross has been working for Local 351's 2,000 members, first as business agent, then as assistant business manager. In 2010 he added three new titles in quick succession: candidate, assemblyman and then state senator.

"I had knocked on dozens of doors and asked people to run for office. When a seat opened up in Camden, the knock was on my door," Norcross said.

A successful run for the state Assembly led to a quick promotion when State Sen. Dana Redd quit to become mayor of Camden. In the last five years, Norcross has won four elections, yet he has spent at least part of nearly every day working out of Local 351's hall.

"In New Jersey, being a senator is a part-time job," Gant said. "Most other

legislators have another job. This is his."

Norcross said he is still "turning jobs, getting the bad guys out and building relationships to put our members to work."

Gant said that having a member in the state legislature means a great deal to



N.J.'s 1st District is centered on Camden and Cherry Hill, across the Delaware River from Philadelphia.

"Even without any legislation, I think it is realistic to think that a congressman who understands the issues involved could help open that process up and then we might have a better shot," Gant said.

Ann Miller, director of the IBEW's

"Some people call us a machine, but there's really only one machine: the voting machine."

— Donald Norcross

Local 351 and all union members. There have been important bills making state solar projects subject to prevailing wage legislation and requiring crane operators be licensed, but he's been extremely valuable making sure that the rules on the books get enforced.

"It makes a difference when a senator calls the Department of Labor to ask about wage enforcement actions rather than just some guy from the union," Gant said. "You don't think they move a little faster when a senator calls?"

Working for the People Full Time

Gant said knowing the many different kinds of power legislators have -- beyond just writing laws -- will be useful in a Congress that is seemingly incapable of passing legislation. As an example, he said even though Local 351 has the manpower and knowledge, they have been unable to break through and win contracts at New Jersey's many military bases, which Gant attributes to a lack of transparency and anti-union bias in the bidding process.

political department, said that when Norcross wins, he will have an immediate impact. Unlike most candidates for Congress, Norcross is running to replace a representative who left before his term was up. Come November, voters will be deciding not only who will serve from 2015 to 2017, but who will finish the last few months of former Rep. Rob Andrews's final term.

"There are crucial votes on the budget, potentially another sequester or even a shutdown, and Norcross will be in the thick of it almost the day after Election Day," Miller said.

Gant said that Norcross has an excellent chance this fall against Garry "G" Cobb, a political newcomer, but one with high name recognition from his time playing for the Philadelphia Eagles and his post-football career as a conservative radio host. The Cook Political Report rates the district solidly Democratic and Cobb has had trouble raising money.

"People know Donald here. They respect him and they'll vote for him," Gant said. "He'll finally be able to work for the people full time." ■

DEMOCRACY in an Age of Cynicism

A special message about the upcoming election from President Ed Hill

The more people who vote, the better democracies work. Countries, unions and workplaces respond best when the people they serve are active and involved. But nearly every election, fewer people vote. Is it any wonder that government doesn't seem to look out for working people? They are disappearing from the voting booth. It's become a vicious self-reinforcing downward spiral. Lower participation leads to worse laws, leading to disgust with government and fewer people voting.

And it is no accident. As election 2014 approaches, we are facing a frighteningly effective campaign funded by a few, very powerful people and the only purpose I can see is to keep citizens at home Nov. 4.

What other purpose could the endless parade of ads serve? Does it inform us? Is anyone persuaded by the endless negativity? Because of changes to our country's laws, the wealthy few can spend unprecedented sums on elections and it is becoming obvious that this money is not trying to move voters to one side or the other but to simply move them out of the way.

Why else would so little attention be spent on the issues most important to us, including a near silence about Social Security and Medicare? That's not to say that important issues aren't being decided by the election. Far from it. We have a fine example in Kansas, where a Republican governor purged his own party of moderates and unleashed the full menu of pro-corporate, anti-worker austerity laws that as conservatives have promised for decades, leads to the economic promised land. The result? So many tax cuts that the state is broke (see related story).

But the avalanche of money buries it all. It can make you want to throw up your hands and walk away. Every election, tens of thousands of union members do, giving up their most valuable right as citizens, the right to vote, and they give it up for nothing.

No one is going to tell you how to vote, but on these pages we aim to lay out the reasons why you should. This is about secret networks and backroom deals hashed out and paid for by the enemies of working people. It's the very antithesis of democracy, which should be of the people, for the people, by the people. This election is not about a grassroots debate over the fate of the country. It's a hijacking of democracy, a hostile takeover by the powerful.

The working men and women of this country cannot match their dollars, but we don't have to. All that money is wasted if all of us simply vote.



Ill. Candidate Channels Reagan's Union Busting

When President Ronald Reagan fired more than 11,000 striking air traffic controllers in 1981, it cast a chilling effect on the movement that reverberated years down the line.

It also won approval from Bruce Rauner, an Illinois multimillionaire who is running a largely self-funded campaign to be the next governor in a state with union density of more than 16 percent.

"We may have to go through rough times," Rauner told attendees of a March dinner meeting of the Tazewell County Republicans. "We may have to do what Ronald Reagan did with the air traffic controllers. Sort of have to do a do-over and shut things down for a little while."

Rauner is trying to unseat Gov. Pat Quinn, a proven friend of labor. "Thanks to Gov. Quinn, we have more project labor agreements in Illinois than all other states combined," said Chicago Local 134 Business Manager Terry Allen.

Quinn passed the largest capital infrastructure bill in state history to fix roads, schools and bridges. According to statistics compiled by the state AFL-CIO, Illinois' economic growth is the highest in the Midwest, adding 242,000 private sector jobs under Quinn since his election in 2010.

Watch Rauner's union-busting statements: www.bit.ly/unionbusting.

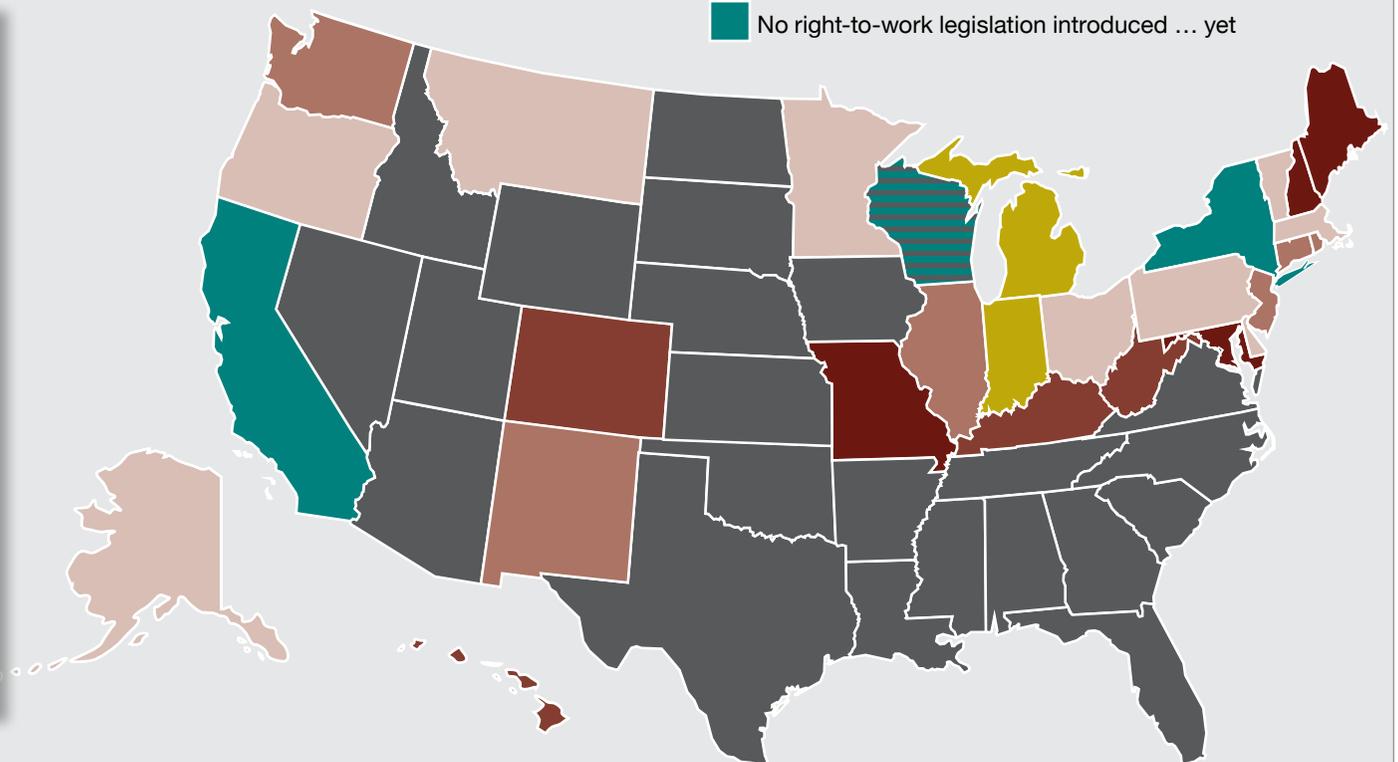
2014 ELECTION COVERAGE *continued on page 4*

Meanwhile, in a Statehouse Near You ...

Since the Supreme Court's 2010 Citizens United ruling, which effectively removed the cap on special interest spending in political campaigns, anti-worker lawmakers—funded by big business—have tried to pass right-to-work in nearly every state that didn't already have the laws.

Union-busting state legislators are getting more aggressive, and each new year brings additional threats of right-to-work laws in states with high union densities.

- Right-to-work **prior** to 2010
- Right-to-work **since** 2010
- Right-to-work introduced **four times** since 2010
- Right-to-work introduced in **three** of the last four years
- Right-to-work introduced in **two** of the last four years
- Right-to-work introduced **once** in the last four years
- No right-to-work law, but thousands of public workers lost bargaining rights under Gov. Scott Walker in 2011
- No right-to-work legislation introduced ... yet



You Have the Right to Work— for Less

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

This creates a "free rider" problem. Workers benefit from the protection of a collective bargaining agreement without contributing to the union responsible for negotiating their contracts, which include higher wages than most nonunion employers offer. That gives unions fewer resources to effectively enforce contracts to support workers.

It gets worse: studies show that right-to-work laws drive down wages for all workers by an average of \$1,500 a year, whether they are in a union or not.

They said what?

Going Scott Walker

"My plan would be to go all Scott Walker on Minnesota... If we had a Republican Senate and Republican House, then we can go all Scott Walker."

Jeff Johnson

Republican nominee for Minnesota Governor
July 17, 2014, Tea Party Meeting

Source: www.madison.com

Shut It Down

"We may have to go through rough times. We may have to do what Ronald Reagan did with the air traffic controllers. Sort of have to do a do-over and shut things down for a little while. That's what we're gonna do."

Illinois' Republican gubernatorial nominee Bruce Rauner

Tazewell County Republican dinner
March 9, 2013

Source: International Business Times

He'd Sign It

"I know there's a strong effort for paycheck protection. I've told everyone, if you get that bill to my desk, I'll sign it."

Republican Tom Corbett, Governor of Pennsylvania

Associated Builders and Contractors of Pennsylvania meeting
April 29, 2014

Source: www.pennlive.com

Break Unions' Backs

"We need to break the back of organized labor in the schools..."

Republican Gov. John Kasich, Ohio
Ashtabula County Republican Party
Lincoln Day Breakfast
March 24, 2009

Source: www.politico.com

Deep Pockets vs. Working Families in Alaska Senate Race

Anchorage, Alaska, Local 1547 activists are mobilizing to help send labor-friendly Sen. Mark Begich back to Washington. His challenger, Dan Sullivan, has received support from American Crossroads and the Chamber of Commerce—organizations which support so-called right-to-work laws and the rollback of union gains at the bargaining table.

"With Begich, people feel like they have a fair deal," said Local 1547 Communications Director Melinda Taylor. "When he was mayor of Anchorage, he focused on construction projects and building up the city. As a senator, he's carried that same philosophy forward for the rest of the state."

Begich supported legislation that would grant collective bargaining rights to public safety officers, and he co-sponsored the Employee Free Choice Act in 2009, which—had it passed Congress—would have removed onerous restrictions on workers organizing for better wages and benefits.

"If members vote in their own economic interests, we should do well," Taylor said, adding that the local union always supports candidates based on who's best for good-paying jobs. "We've also supported many Republicans—you just have to find out who is on your side or not on your side, regardless of party."

Kansas Elections Boiling Over

Kansas is situated dead-center of the continental U.S. But under the leadership of incumbent Gov. Sam Brownback, a former U.S. senator, the state has veered politically to the far right.

Since his election in 2010, Brownback enacted an agenda to lower all taxes and "get government out of the way." Brownback promised those policies would create jobs and prosperity for working families.

Brownback's experiment has been a dismal failure for all workers. Job creation in Kansas lags behind neighboring states, as the state budget has been drained of essential funds like those for transportation projects. The state's bond rating has been downgraded by Moody's and two other investor services even as corporate tax rates have been reduced. Some local chapters of the Chamber of Commerce have decried Brownback's budget and tax cuts as hurting small businesses.

In the race for U.S. Senate, incumbent Republican Pat Roberts is also at risk of losing his seat. No friend of working families, the 34-year congressional veteran has voted for the labor-endorsed position 13 percent of the time, according to the AFL-CIO scorecard.

IBEW Shipyard Workers Back Shaheen for Senate

For Paul O'Connor, president of the Metal Trades Council at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, the contrast between the records of U.S. Senate candidates Jeanne Shaheen and Scott Brown should shout out loud enough to require the ear protection worn by workers at the Maine yard.

"Jeanne Shaheen has been a great friend to the shipyard and a supporter of rights of workers here and to all people across New Hampshire," says O'Connor.

Shaheen's opponent, former Massachusetts Sen. Scott Brown (R), who moved to New Hampshire after his re-election defeat by Elizabeth Warren in 2012, has reportedly collected over a quarter million dollars in profits as a board member of Kadant Inc., which outsourced American jobs to China and Mexico.

Brown praised the company's use of "low-cost manufacturing bases in China and Mexico" to increase its profits.

"It makes me sick to my stomach when I hear about people like Scott Brown who profit from companies that are sending American jobs overseas," says O'Connor.

Shaheen has fought military base closures that could have jeopardized the future of the Portsmouth yard, employing 5,000. She has won federal funding for infrastructure projects, helped restore unemployment benefits and improve job training for the state's workers and strongly supported small businesses.

In an e-mail supporting her colleague, Warren said, "There's no need to be personal, it's Scott Brown's voting record that stinks."



Alaska Sen. Mark Begich has been a reliable ally to working families since taking office in 2009.

Photo used under a Creative Commons license from Flickr user Jesse.

Union Members Take on Anti-Worker Governor

It wasn't long after taking office in 2011 that Maine Gov. Paul LePage made clear his disdain for working families in a very public move.

LePage removed a 36-foot-wide mural from the state's Department of Labor building that highlighted the history of Maine workers, from colonial-era apprentices to contemporary paper mill employees.

He also ordered conference rooms in the building—named after famous labor advocates like Cesar Chavez and Francis Perkins—to be renamed.

LePage's interior decorating moves were symbolic, but proved to be the first shots from an administration that has pushed policies punishing the middle class, while rewarding the top 1 percent with tax cuts.

From promoting right-to-work-for-less legislation to rejecting access to Medicaid for 70,000 working families, LePage has brought an extreme tea party agenda to Augusta that has alienated legislators and citizens on both sides of the aisle.

"I have spent a lifetime fighting for higher wages, better benefits and working conditions."

— U.S. Rep. Mike Michaud, candidate for Maine governor

"Republicans and Democrats used to be able to come together and get things done," said IBEW Maine Political Coordinator Don Berry. "That is until LePage got here."

Berry, who also serves as president of the Maine AFL-CIO, says the labor movement is working to mobilize union members throughout the state to unseat LePage and elect Rep. Mike Michaud.

A former paper mill worker and lifelong union member, Michaud previously served as president of the state Senate.

"I have spent a lifetime fighting for higher wages, better benefits and working conditions," he told delegates to the Steelworkers convention in August. "And I'm willing to give up a safe seat in Congress to do that for the people of the state of Maine."

"The issue for us is jobs," Berry said. "And LePage is spending his time scapegoating welfare recipients because he hasn't done anything about good jobs."

Berry is referring to LePage's efforts to restrict aid to low-income Mainers.

The Portland Local 567 member says that numerous paper mills, once the lifeblood of Maine's economy, have shuttered since LePage took office, and the governor has done nothing about it.

But LePage's attacks aren't restricted to the poor. He has also denounced Social Security, Medicare and even unemployment insurance as government "welfare" and "wealth redistribution."

"If LePage wanted to get people off welfare, he'd support a living wage," said Berry.

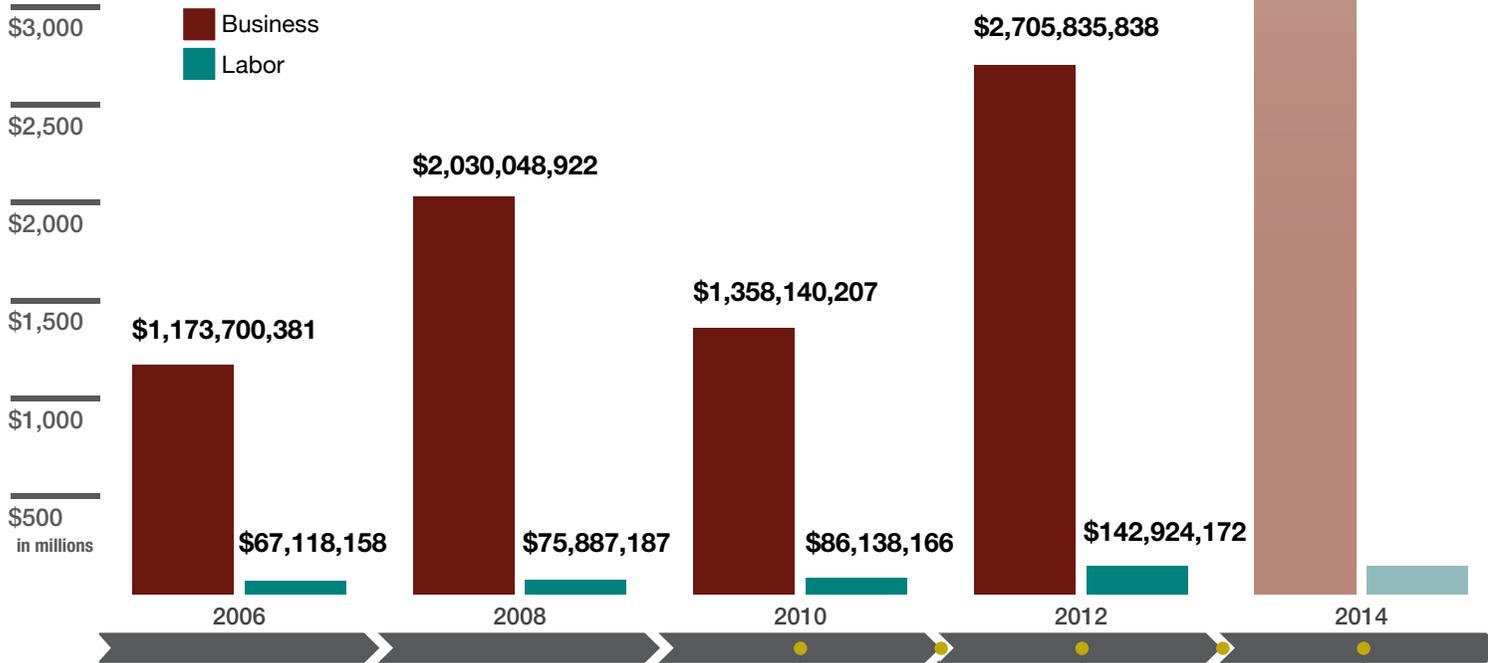
The governor has received millions in dollars from out of state to run attack ads on Michaud. While Maine labor can't compete with that kind of money, Berry says that the power of grassroots union voters can turn the tide.

"They can run all the commercials they want, but voters still trust person-to-person contact more, and that's why we will be knocking on doors and making phone calls to union members and their families," he said.

Following the Money

Business Outspends Everyone

Money and influence have always gone together in politics, and business has always had more of it than labor. After several years of record profits, corporate America is sitting on unprecedented stockpiles of money. In 2010, the U.S. Supreme Court overturned key laws that kept corporations from flooding elections with financial contributions. Now we're seeing that tidal wave of cash swamping everybody else.



Citizens United Opens the Floodgates

A 5-4 U.S. Supreme Court decision eliminates the ban on corporate spending on elections.

Wisconsin Attacks Collective Bargaining

Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker takes away nearly all collective bargaining rights for public sector workers.

Indiana Becomes the Nation's 23rd Right-to-Work State

Michigan Turns Right-To-Work

Once a pro-labor bastion, Michigan becomes the 24th right-to-work state, after the DeVos family spent millions funding a statewide campaign. This was legal under the Citizens United decision.

McCutcheon Takes Corporate Funding to a New Level

Another 5-4 Supreme Court ruling that removes limits on how much donors can contribute to federal candidates, PACs and political parties.

Right-to-Work Hits Local Level

Fort Wayne, Ind., ends collective bargaining for municipal workers.

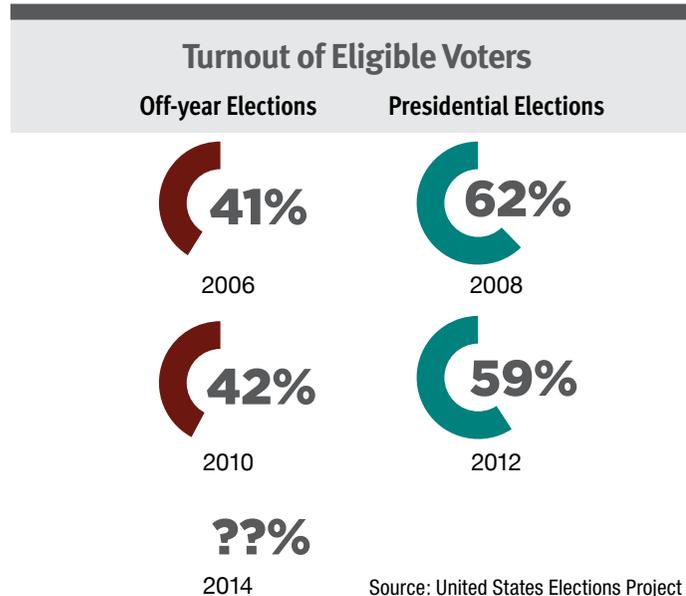
Sources: Center for Responsible Politics, www.fairvote.org/research-and-analysis/voter-turnout/

They Want You to Stay Home Nov. 4

Voter turnout rises for presidential elections and falls for off-year elections, like the one coming up in November. But for working families, the stakes are just as high in elections further down the ballot (see page 3 map).

The working men and women of this country cannot match their dollars, but we don't have to. Corporations still can't vote, and there are more working families than wealthy ones.

Your Vote Makes a Difference



They said what?

Right to Work: Not Anti-Labor; It's Pro-Business

"I favor a right-to-work state because it would set us apart in stark contrast to the other states in the rest of the region and the country that New Hampshire is open for business. Some people think of that as an anti-labor union position. It is not. It's a pro-business position, and frankly, the context of right to work is not anti-labor at all."

Walt Havenstein, Republican candidate for governor, New Hampshire Aug. 8, 2014

Source: www.wmur.com

Out at the Knees

"What we would like to see is to take the unions out at the knees so they don't have the resources to fight these battles."

Scott Hagerstrom, Americans For Prosperity-Michigan Executive Director

Source: www.thinkprogress.org

Priority No. 1: Kill Davis Bacon

"The Davis-Bacon Act is legislation from the Great Depression era that is even older and more obsolete than the Brent Spence Bridge itself, it needs to be repealed. I will make it a top priority if I'm majority leader next year."

Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY) Northern Kentucky Chamber meeting June 18, 2014

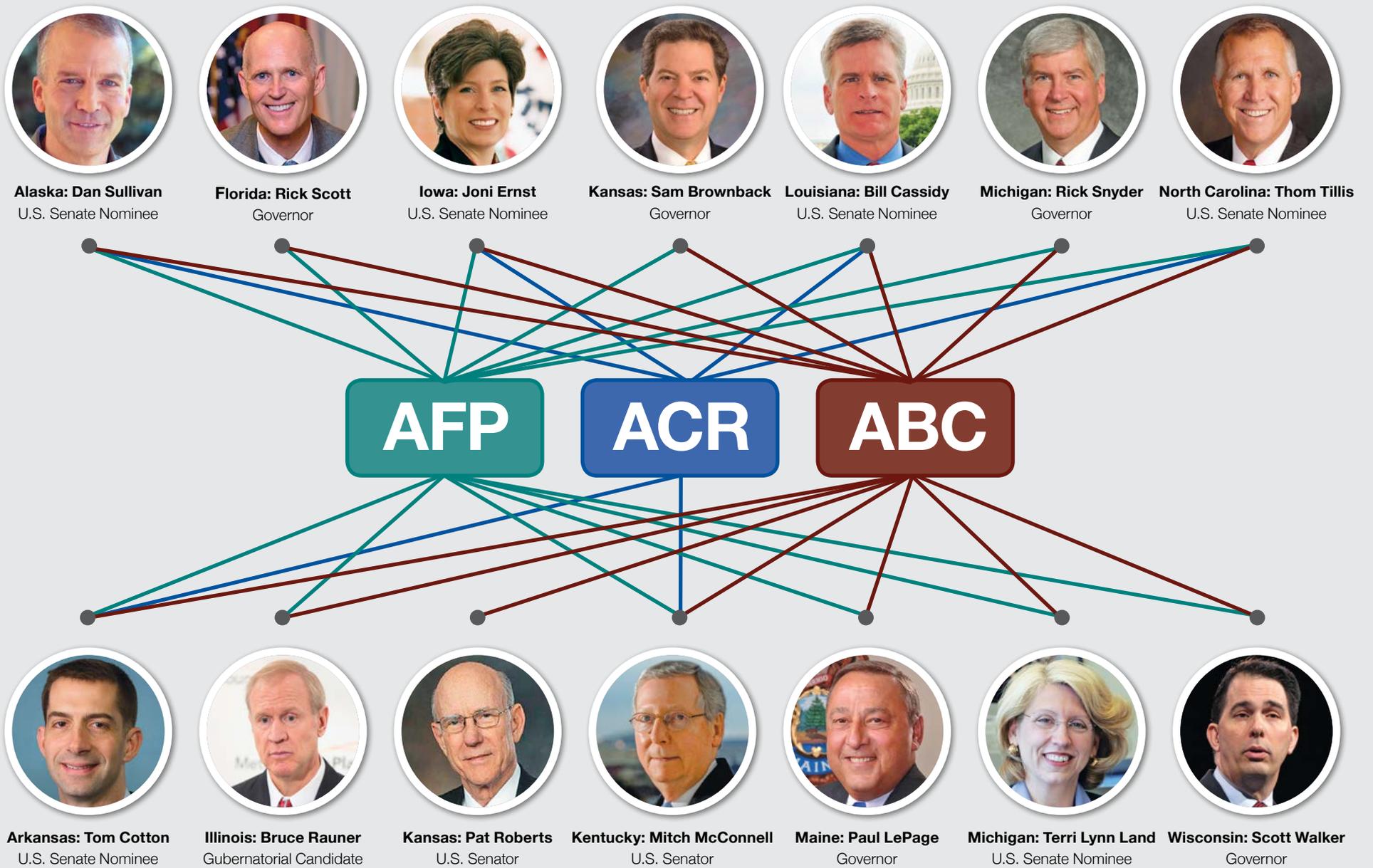
Source: www.wcpo.com

Taking Unions ‘Out at the Knees’

Who’s in the ‘Network’?

To know who’s on your side (and who’s not), all you need to do is follow the money. D.C.-based ultra-conservative groups are spending millions of dollars this election cycle in anonymous “dark money” to promote their favored candidates. But these funds come with strings attached. Candidates with the backing of these powerful organizations are committed to their full agenda—which includes promoting right-to-work-for-less, weakened workplace protections and an end to Wall Street regulation.

Here are some of 2014’s top candidates, and the groups behind them.



The Funders

Americans for Prosperity/Koch Brothers **AFP**

Funded by billionaire brothers David and Charles Koch, Americans for Prosperity spends hundreds of millions of dollars in secret cash to support candidates who share their anti-union, anti-middle class agenda.

American Crossroads/Crossroads GPS **ACR**

Founded by former President George W. Bush chief advisor Karl Rove, American Crossroads has raised more than \$100 million in anonymous donations to win back the U.S. Senate for candidates committed to weakening worker and consumer protections.

Associated Builders and Contractors **ABC**

An association of anti-union construction contractors, ABC’s legislative priorities include eliminating prevailing wage, project labor agreements and other laws that raise wages and standards in the industry.

Content Sources: Campaign finance disclosure and political spending listed on www.opensecrets.org; numerous official Associated Builders and Contractors websites from across the U.S.

Photos courtesy of U.S. Senate and candidate websites or sourced under a Creative Commons License from Wikimedia.org and Flickr.com

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

Eaton Corporation and IBEW Local 201 in Beaver, Pa., are getting the word out about counterfeit circuit breakers. YouTube.com/TheElectricalWorker

Vimeo

Even with all the training and



protections available, tragedy can still strike brave linemen who encounter risk on the job every day. Watch a stirring video of this year's Climb for Fallen Linemen. Vimeo.com/ibew/fallenlinemen.

HourPower

This year's IBEW motorcycle ride was a ride with a purpose — the Ride 4 A Cure!



Come along with us to relive the action on IBEWHourPower.com.

ElectricTV

Billed as the greenest skyscraper in the world, The Tower at PNC Plaza was built by NECA and the IBEW. ElectricTV.net has behind-the-scenes access to the site — check it out today!



IBEW leaders at Halifax, Nova Scotia, Local 1928 successfully fought efforts by Nova Scotia Power, preserving hundreds of union jobs.

Nova Scotia IBEW Defeats Utility's Outsourcing Plan

Public campaign successfully pushes back against the company's use of contractors

When management at Nova Scotia Power announced last year that they were looking to outsource unionized services, IBEW linemen in the province were taken aback. How would the company be able to keep the lights on for 500,000 residents and businesses with a lesser-trained workforce?

"Our men and women are the best at what they do," Halifax Local 1928 Business Manager Jeff Richardson told the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in May. Richardson represents about 850 NSP employees. "You can't just replace them. It takes years of training."

The company started implementing its plan last fall. Since then, about 50 union employees have been laid off and others left the province to seek work in western Canada. NSP claimed the layoffs were a necessary cost cutting measure, despite criticisms and protests from Local 1928's leadership.

But the situation got more complicated the morning of July 5, when Tropical

Storm Arthur steamrolled through the province, knocking out power to 200,000 people and raising questions about the utility's commitment to training and customer service. While a diminished IBEW crew worked to get the lights back on, NSP called in contractors from outside the province to help.

In the days that followed, newspapers and blogs throughout the province told stories of seniors and disabled residents without power, frustrated ratepayers striving in vain to get repair updates and scant communication via the utility's website—which crashed due to online traffic.

Local 1928 leaders said that NSP's diminished line service and the use of outside contractors accounted for slower response time and longer outages for customers.

"We want to make sure that people are aware that even if we're putting the power back on and there are delays, it's not because we're not out there," Assistant Business Manager Andrea McQuillin told NovaNewsNow.com the day

before Arthur hit the province. "It's because of the direction that Nova Scotia Power has taken."

McQuillin later told the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation that most of the crews restoring power were private contractors of parent company Emera Incorporated. The workers were less knowledgeable about the local electrical system and work more slowly as a result, she said.

In the aftermath of the storm, the public relations skirmish and the looming threat of even more layoffs and outsourcing, leadership at Local 1928 secured a deal with NSP in late August to cease any attempt at outsourcing for the next 10 years. The membership voted Aug. 29 strongly in favor of the proposal, halting the company's efforts to slash 200 more union jobs.

In talks, Richardson said the company pressed a hard line to completely do away with the union's defined benefit pension plan. Richardson and McQuillin were able to ensure that the current plan for existing members remained untouched for the next 15 years. But part of the deal mandates that new hires will not be covered by the same defined benefit plan other union members presently receive.

"I told the company that if they went through with their outsourcing tactics, they could look forward to a work stoppage," Richardson said. "We have a con-

tract coming up for negotiation in March, and we are very determined to stay strong and protect what we've gained to the best of our ability. Fortunately, they were willing to hear most of our concerns."

By stymying the layoffs and outsourcing, Local 1928 activists are going against the grain of management tactics that have defined NSP for the last two decades. The utility was a publicly owned Crown corporation until 1992, when the provincial government privatized NSP in what was, at the time, Canada's largest private equity transaction in history. The move created a board of shareholders who, in 2000, created Halifax-based Emera to oversee the utility.

Before privatization, the utility had about 350 linemen on the job. There are now only 167 in-house linemen on staff, and the company has not replaced those who were laid off or who left by attrition last year.

"They're relying on contractors to pick up the pieces," Richardson said. "But it's tough to get qualified linemen."

Premier Stephen Mitchell is asking Nova Scotia's utilities regulator to review and assess NSP's handling of the storm response.

In the meantime, Richardson is lobbying the company to take back the union workers who were laid off, while activists begin mobilizing for new contract talks next spring. ■

Notice to Employees Covered by IBEW Union Security Agreements: Fee Payers Objection Plan for 2015

Many collective bargaining agreements between employers and the IBEW or its local unions include “union security” provisions stating that employees must become and remain members of the union as a condition of employment. The National Labor Relations Act permits employers and unions to negotiate these clauses where they are not otherwise prohibited by state law. These provisions are also permitted under the Railway Labor Act and under many state public employee bargaining laws. Under these laws, employees may fulfill their “union security” obligations either by joining the union and thereby enjoying the full rights and benefits of union membership, or by simply fulfilling their financial obligations to the union.

Employees who elect to become agency fee payers—that is, who choose not to become full-fledged IBEW members— forfeit the right to enjoy a number of benefits available only to union members. For example, only union members are entitled to attend and participate in union meetings; to run for union office and to nominate and vote for candidates for union office; to participate in contract ratification and strike votes; to participate in the development and formulation of IBEW policies; to participate in the formulation of IBEW collective bargaining demands; and to serve as delegates to the International Convention.

Agency fee payers are generally charged the same dues and initiation fees uniformly required of IBEW members. However, agency fee payers who object to supporting certain union activities may pay a reduced fee to ensure that none of their money is used to support those activities. In particular, objectors are charged only for activities or projects that are reasonably related to collective bargaining. Examples of such “chargeable” activities are negotiating collective bargaining agreements; meeting with employer representatives; meeting with employees on employment-related issues; participating in proceedings on behalf of workers under the grievance procedure, including arbitration; and managing internal union affairs.

Among activities considered “nonchargeable,” which objectors are not required to support, are support of political candidates, general community service, legislative activities, certain costs of affiliation with non-IBEW organizations, and members-only benefits.

The IBEW Agency Fee Payers Objection Plan establishes the procedure for obtaining a fee reduction and is set forth in full below. By way of summary, fee payers must file their objections during

the designated open period (usually the month of November) or within 30 days of becoming agency fee payers. Current fee payers who wish to file objections for calendar year 2015 must do so during the month of November 2014. Objections must be addressed to the International Secretary-Treasurer, IBEW, 900 Seventh Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001, and must be postmarked during the November open period. Objections filed during this open period will become effective on January 1, 2015, and will remain effective for as long as the objector remains in the bargaining unit.

No special form is required to register an objection. However, please include your full name, your mailing address, the local union to which you pay fees, your nonmember identification number (if known), and your Social Security number. In addition, if you move, please advise the International Secretary-Treasurer of your new address.

Dues and fees paid by employees covered by IBEW bargaining agreements consist of a portion retained by the local union and a portion that is transferred to the International. During January of each year, or as soon as possible after receiving a timely mid-year objection, the International will mail a check reflecting the reduction in the International’s portion of the fees to each objector who has filed a timely objection with the International Secretary-Treasurer, along with a detailed explanation of the basis for the fee reduction. During these same time frames, the local union that represents the objector will provide him or her with a reduction in its portion of the fees, either by sending a reduction check or by adjusting the amount of the objector’s periodic payments, and will provide information explaining the basis for its reduction.

The reductions are based on the percentage of the unions’ expenditures that were devoted to “chargeable” and “nonchargeable” activities during the previous fiscal year, as defined above. For example, the International determined that during its 2012-13 fiscal year, 46.9% of its expenditures were for “chargeable” activities and 53.1% of its expenditures were for “nonchargeable” activities. The locals’ portions vary, with most local unions devoting between 90 and 95 percent of their annual expenditures to “chargeable” activities. In no year has any IBEW local union spent a smaller percentage of its expenditures on “chargeable” activities than the International, although some of the locals use the International’s percentage to calculate their own annual reduction—thereby giving objectors a larger

reduction than if the locals used their own figures.

Some public sector collective bargaining laws require different procedures for honoring the rights of non-members. If you are a public employee covered by such a law, your local union will advise you of the proper procedure to follow to register your objection.

The IBEW Agency Fee Payers Objection Plan¹

1. Nonmembers’ Right to Object.

Any employee who is not a member of the IBEW and who pays agency fees to an IBEW local union (LU) pursuant to a collectively bargained union security provision in the United States has the right to object to expenditures of his or her fees for activities that are not reasonably related to collective bargaining. For purposes of this plan, such activities will be referred to as “nonchargeable activities.” The agency fees paid by a fee payer who perfects an objection under the procedures set forth below will be reduced to reflect the expenditures of the LU and the IBEW that are used for “chargeable activities” (including, for example, negotiating and enforcing collective bargaining agreements, dealing with employers on employment-related concerns, and union administration).

2. Procedure for Filing Objections.

Each fee payer who wishes to file an objection must do so in writing, addressed to the International Secretary-Treasurer (IST) at the International Office of the IBEW, 900 Seventh Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. In registering their objections, objectors must include their name and address, the LU to which they pay fees, their nonmember identification number, if known, and their Social Security number. Objections must be postmarked during the first 30 days after an employee becomes an agency fee payer (either by being hired or transferred into the bargaining unit, or by resigning from union membership) and becomes obligated to pay agency fees to an IBEW LU under a collective bargaining agreement or, for current bargaining unit members, during the month of November. (The open period may be extended in Convention years.) Objections will be effective for as long as the objector is in the bargaining unit.

3. Reduction in Agency Fees.

No later than January 31 of each year (or as soon as possible, in the case of timely mid-year objections), both the International and the LU to which the objector pays agency fees will mail to each objec-

tor who has perfected his or her objection under this plan a check reflecting the reduction in payments to which he or she is entitled for that calendar year, or will otherwise advise the objectors how their payments will be reduced for the year. Unless advised otherwise by their respective LUs, objectors will be expected to remit the full amount of fees charged by their respective LUs.

Agency fees are composed of a portion forwarded to the International as per capita payments and a portion retained by the LU. When the IST receives timely objections, he will forward the names of the objectors to the LUs to which they pay their agency fees. As set forth in greater detail below, the International will determine the percentage reduction to be applied to the per capita portion of the objector’s fees and will issue checks reflecting the reduction in per capita payments to which objectors are entitled. In addition, each IBEW LU will establish its own procedure for determining the reduction in its portion of the agency fees and for reducing the objectors’ payments by the appropriate amounts.

4. Calculation of Reduction in Per Capita Payments.

Before the beginning of the calendar year, the IST will calculate the International’s per capita reduction as follows: The IST will determine the International’s total operating expenditures for all purposes during the preceding fiscal year, the expenditures made for activities that are chargeable to objectors, and the nonchargeable expenditures. The IST will then calculate the ratio of chargeable and nonchargeable expenditures to total expenditures. The International’s expenditures and calculations will be verified by an independent auditor.

5. Per Capita Reduction Check.

No later than January 31 (or as soon as possible after receiving a timely mid-year objection), the IST will mail each individual who has filed a timely objection a check representing the reduction in per capita payments to which he or she is entitled for the entire calendar year. The reduction checks will be accompanied by a description of the major categories of expenditures, an explanation of how the amount of the reduction was determined and an explanation of the appeal procedure.

6. Appeal to Impartial Arbitrator.

An objector who has filed a timely objection and who believes that the per capita reduction provided by the IST does not accurately reflect the International’s expenditures on chargeable activities may appeal to an independent arbitrator.

a. The appeal must be made in writing and must be received in the office of the IST within 30 days of the date on which the IST mails the objector his or her per capita reduction check. The appeal should explain the basis of the challenge.

b. The impartial arbitrator will be appointed by the American Arbitration Association (AAA) through its Rules for Impartial Determination of Union Fees, issued on June 1, 1986.

c. Such appeals will be consolidated to the extent practicable and heard as soon as the AAA can schedule the arbitration. The presentation to the arbitrator will be either in writing or at a hearing, if requested by any objector(s). If a hearing is held, any objector who does not wish to attend may submit his or her views in writing by the date of the hearing. If a hearing is not requested, the arbitrator will set a date by which all written submissions must be received and will decide the case based on the records submitted. The International will bear the burden of justifying its calculations.

d. The costs of the arbitrator’s services and any proceedings before the arbitrator will be borne by the International. Individually incurred costs will be borne by the party incurring them.

e. While the appeal is pending, the IST will hold in escrow a portion of the fees paid by objectors in an amount sufficient to insure that the portion of the fee reasonably in dispute will not be expended during the appeal procedure. In the event that the impartial arbitrator determines that the objectors are entitled to a greater reduction in their fee payments than that calculated by the IST, additional checks will be issued for the balance of the reduction due, as determined by the arbitrator.

7. Appeals from Local Union Fee Reductions.

An objector who has filed a timely objection and who believes that the reduction provided by the LU to which he or she pays agency fees does not accurately reflect the LU’s expenditures on chargeable activities may appeal through procedures established by the LU. An objector challenging both the International’s and the LU’s reductions must appeal through the procedure specified in paragraph 6.a., except that the appeal must be received in the office of the IST within 30 days of (a) the date on which the International mailed the objector the per capita reduction or (b) the date on which the LU mailed its reduction, whichever is later. ■

¹ Where public employees are employed under a law requiring different procedures, the employees’ Local Union will provide information about the proper procedures to follow.

NORTH OF 49° | AU NORD DU 49° PARALLÈLE

Union Program Opens Up Opportunities for Women in the Trades

Joann Greeley was 35 when she moved back to her home province of Newfoundland. She held a series of office jobs, but couldn't find work that matched what she was making in Ontario.

That's when she got the idea to go into the skilled trades. The daughter of an electrician, she signed up to become an electrical apprentice.

"I actually didn't think I would run into any issues," Greeley said about entering a predominantly male occupation, as the only woman in the classroom of 17 students. "I've always considered myself a tomboy. I was always around construction growing up and I loved building things."

Then she tried to find a job. "I contacted every electrical contractor in St. John's and none of them returned my calls," she said.

Greeley asked a male friend to call up the same contractors. The employers usually called back right away to offer him the position.

And when she finally got onto a worksite, verbal harassment was all too common.

That was 10 years ago.

Despite the obstacles, she stuck with it and became a member of St. John's Local 2330, and has worked on numerous construction projects throughout Atlantic Canada. She's also a certified Red Seal electrician, the highest professional standard in the industry.

A lot has changed since she first started in the trade—mainly for the better, Greeley said. "I'm seeing more and more women on construction sites, and we're becoming accepted by our male co-workers."

Now her goal is to inspire more women to seek careers in the trades. Greeley is sharing her story with young people throughout Canada as a representative of Journeyman, a national program to promote, support and mentor women employed or considering careers in construction. The group was launched by Canada's building trades unions in May.

"I have a niece, and I want her to think it's not a big deal for her to join the trades," she said.

The program is represented by 14 members of various construction unions, including the IBEW, Iron Workers, Boilermakers and Bricklayers.

"They all have different stories," said Lindsay Amundsen, director of program development and operations for Journeyman of the program's participants. "Some did a career switch, some are single mothers looking for a good job to support their families, some are apprentices."

One of the organizers' goals is to get into the public eye to help break down stereotypes about women in the trades by making appearances at high schools, charity events and career fairs while

building media buzz about the program.

Program representative Calli Doucette never had the opportunity to talk with a female electrician before going into the trade. She says she wished she had. The third-year apprentice had been interested in construction technology since childhood, taking electrical classes in high school.

"I didn't know any women IBEW members, but I knew I didn't want to sit at a desk all day," she said.

Guidance counselors tried pushing her to go to college, but Doucette was set on becoming an electrician. "It just made sense for me," she said.

A member of St. Catharines, Ontario, Local 303, Doucette says although she's one of the few female electricians in the local, she's fully accepted by her male co-workers.

This fall, Doucette plans to speak to students at high schools throughout the

Niagara area.

Despite some progress in increasing gender diversity in construction, women still represent only 4 percent of the total industry workforce. And with Canada facing a looming skilled workers shortage as the baby boom generation retires, women represent an untapped workforce the country needs to keep construction projects going.

"More than 25 percent of the industry will turn over in the short to midterm," said Canadian building trades chief operating officer Robert Blakely. "Women have the ability to change the template, the workplace and the norm."

Two other IBEW members serve as Journeyman representatives: Kitchener, Ontario, Local 804's Jennifer Pigozzo and Vancouver, British Columbia, Local 213's Lisa Langevin.

"The most important advice I can give to women is to join a union," Pigozzo



Journeyman is a Canada-wide organisation committed to attracting women to the building trades. IBEW representatives to the group are, from left, St. Catharines, Ontario Local 303 member Calli Doucette; St. John's, Newfoundland Local 2330 member Joann Greeley; Kitchener, Ontario Local 804 member Jennifer Pigozzo; and Vancouver, British Columbia Local 213 member Lisa Langevin

said. "I don't worry that men are earning more money than I am, because in the union we are treated equally."

Langevin encourages women to not get discouraged. "Far too many women drop out early on because of a bad experience," she said.

"For me, feminism is about whether

or not women have the same career opportunities as men when they get out of high school," Greeley said. "I never looked to be treated differently from the men on the job, just to have the same opportunity as everyone else to succeed."

Go to www.journeymaninc.ca for more information. ■

Un programme syndical ouvre des portes aux femmes dans les secteurs de travail qualifiés

Joann Greeley avait 35 ans lorsqu'elle est retournée habiter dans sa province d'origine, Terre-Neuve. Elle a eu plusieurs emplois de bureau, mais n'arrivait pas à trouver un travail qui correspondait à ce qu'elle faisait en Ontario.

C'est alors qu'elle a eu l'idée de se diriger vers les métiers qualifiés. Fille d'un électricien, elle s'est inscrite pour devenir apprentie en électricité.

« Je ne croyais pas faire face à des problèmes », dit Greeley, lorsqu'elle parle de sa décision de choisir un métier à prédominance masculine, alors qu'elle était la seule femme dans une classe de dix-sept étudiants. « J'ai toujours considéré que j'étais un garçon manqué. J'ai grandi près de chantiers de construction et j'ai toujours aimé construire des choses. »

Puis, elle a essayé de trouver un emploi. « J'ai contacté tous les contacts en électricité de St John's et aucun d'entre eux n'a retourné mes appels. »

Greeley a demandé à un ami d'appeler les mêmes contracteurs. Les contracteurs le rappelaient presque toujours tout de suite pour lui offrir le poste.

Lorsqu'elle s'est enfin retrouvée sur un lieu de travail, le harcèlement verbal était fréquent.

Ceci se passait il y a dix ans.

Malgré les obstacles, elle a persévéré et est devenue membre du local 2330 de St John's, et a travaillé sur plusieurs projets de construction à travers les provinces atlantiques. Elle est également une électricienne certifiée des métiers sceau rouge, le plus haut standard professionnel de l'industrie.

Beaucoup de choses ont changées

depuis qu'elle a fait ses débuts dans l'industrie, surtout pour le mieux, dit-elle. « Je vois de plus en plus de femmes sur les chantiers, et nous commençons à être acceptées par nos collègues masculins. »

Son but est maintenant d'inspirer plus de femmes à faire carrière dans les métiers qualifiés. Greeley partage son histoire avec des jeunes à travers le Canada en tant que représentante de Journeyman, un programme national visant à promouvoir, à supporter et à effectuer un mentorat auprès des femmes employées dans le secteur des métiers qualifiés ou songeant à y faire carrière. Le groupe a été lancé par les syndicats de construction canadiens en Mai.

« J'ai une nièce, et je veux qu'elle réalise que ce n'est pas un problème pour elle de rejoindre le métier. » dit-elle.

Le programme est représenté par quatorze membres de syndicats de la construction varies, incluant la Fraternité Internationale des Ouvriers en Électricité, l'Association Internationale des travailleurs en ponts, en fer structural, ornemental et d'armature, la Fraternité Internationale des Chaudronniers Canadiens et l'Union Internationale des Briquetiers et métiers connexes

« Elles ont toutes des histoires différentes. » dit Lindsay Amundsen, directrice du développement et des opérations du programme à propos des participantes au programme. « Certaines ont fait un changement d'orientation de carrière, certaines sont des mères monoparentales recherchant un bon emploi pour subvenir aux besoins de leurs familles, certaines sont apprenties. »

Un des buts des organisateurs est

de rendre le programme connu du public pour aider à briser les stéréotypes au sujet des femmes de métier, en se rendant dans les écoles secondaires, les événements à caractère caritatif et les salons de l'emploi tout en construisant une visibilité dans les médias au sujet du programme.

La représentante du programme Calli Doucette n'avait jamais eu l'opportunité de parler avec une électricienne avant d'entrer dans le métier. Elle dit qu'elle aurait aimé en avoir l'occasion. L'apprentie qui complète sa troisième année a toujours été intéressée par les technologies de la construction, et a pris des cours sur l'électricité au secondaire.

« Je ne connaissais aucune femme membre de la FIOE, mais je savais que je ne voulais passer mes journées assise à un bureau. » dit-elle.

Les conseillers en orientation ont essayé de la pousser à aller à l'université, mais Doucette était déterminée à devenir électricienne. « C'était tout simplement logique pour moi. » dit-elle.

Membre du local 303 à St. Catharines en Ontario, Doucette dit que bien qu'elle soit une des seules femmes électriciennes du local, qu'elle est entièrement acceptée par ses collègues masculins.

Cet automne, Doucette planifie de parler aux étudiants d'écoles secondaires dans la région de Niagara.

Bien qu'un certain progrès ait été fait en ce qui a trait à la diversité de genre dans le domaine de la construction, les femmes représentent encore seulement 4% de la main d'œuvre de l'industrie. Alors que le Canada fait face à une pénurie de main d'œuvre qualifiée causée par le départ à la

retraite des *baby-boomers*, les femmes représentent une source de main d'œuvre inutilisée dont le pays a besoin pour poursuivre ses projets de construction.

« Plus de 25% de la main d'œuvre devra être renouvelée à court ou moyen terme. » dit le directeur de l'exploitation des métiers de la construction Robert Blakeley. « Les femmes ont la capacité de changer le modèle, le lieu de travail et la norme. »

Deux autres membres de la FIOE sont des représentantes de Journeyman : Jennifer Pigozzo du local 804 de Kitchener en Ontario et Lisa Langevin du local 213 de Vancouver en Colombie-Britannique.

« Le meilleur conseil que je peux donner aux femmes est de joindre un syndicat. » dit Pigozzo. « Je n'ai pas à m'inquiéter que les hommes gagnent plus d'argent que moi, parce que dans le syndicat nos sommes tous traités de façon égale. »

Langevin encourage les femmes à ne pas se décourager. « Trop de femmes abandonnent tôt à cause d'une mauvaise expérience. »

Greeley dit que les femmes ne cherchent pas un traitement particulier, simplement l'égalité de chances et d'opportunités. « Pour moi, le féminisme c'est surtout de savoir si les femmes ont les mêmes opportunités de carrière que les hommes lorsqu'elles sortent du secondaire. » dit-elle. « Je n'ai jamais voulu être traitée différemment des hommes au travail, je veux simplement avoir les mêmes opportunités de réussir que tout le monde. »

Rendez-vous sur www.journeymaninc.ca pour plus d'information. ■

CIRCUITS

Reid-Murphy Exhibit Opens at IBEW Museum

The IBEW history museum has opened a new exhibit commemorating the end of one of the most trying times in the union's history.

The Reid-Murphy split divided the IBEW into two competing unions from 1908-1913.

One faction was led by Frank McNulty, an inside wireman who was elected president of the IBEW in 1905. The other side was led by Jim Reid, a lineman and International vice president. Cleveland Local 38 member James Murphy was elected secretary of the Reid-led IBEW.

"By the time the IBEW was a decade old, the membership was expanding rapidly," said curator Curtis Bateman. "The organization wasn't able to hold together."

During this time, both factions held their own conventions and printed their own versions of the official newspaper, the Electrical Worker.

The exhibit tells the story of the split through IBEW publications, internal letters and memoranda, and even cartoons.

One highlight is a letter from American Federation of Labor founder Samuel Gompers criticizing both sides for dividing the union.

The split was finally healed in 1913 after the Ohio Supreme Court ruled in favor of the McNulty IBEW and ordered Reid to stop using the IBEW name. The museum, located at the International Office in Washington, D.C., is open Monday through Friday. ■

RENEW Members Boost Leadership Skills, Look to Future

For any budding journeyman wireman looking to advance in the trade, training is always the key.

The same could be said for young workers who are looking to make an



Members of the IBEW's RENEW initiative in Dearborn, Mich., for the Young Worker Leadership Institute, a six-day workshop hosted by the AFL-CIO.

impact on their job sites, at their locals and in their communities.

Fourteen members of the IBEW's Reach out and Engage Next-gen Electrical Workers—or RENEW—initiative traveled last spring to Dearborn, Mich., to attend the Young Worker Leadership Institute, a confab hosted by the AFL-CIO.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Local 405 journeyman wireman Jeff Cooling said the conference provided trainings to help him boost his activism back in the Hawkeye state.

"I learned many great things to bring back to my young workers group," said Cooling, a seven-year member currently working for a signatory contractor building a new dorm facility at the University of Iowa.

Forty participants from across the U.S. attended the six-day institute. The IBEW contingent was the largest of all unions represented. Attendees studied communication strategies, organizational development, political engagement, common-sense economics and more. Participants also discussed issues with AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Liz Shuler, who has made youth engagement one of the centerpieces of her role since taking her post at the federation in 2009.

For young workers like Cooling, 26, trainings like this help progress and refine burgeoning leadership skills.

"I joined the local in September of

2007 and started going to meetings right away," he said. "I had a big drive to go and see how the union worked. I started being active with the 2008 election cycle, when I knocked on my first doors." Since then, Cooling has mobilized for many regular and special elections and now serves as a registrar at his local. He is also the Eleventh District representative on the RENEW Advisory Council, which comprises of young IBEW leaders from each district who meet and strategize ways to increase union participation and activism among their peers.

In spite of many anti-worker lawmakers and a chorus of pundits and powerful interests vying for the hearts and minds of millennials, young people are overwhelmingly embracing the idea of unionism. A recent Pew Research Center Poll showed that 61 percent of respondents aged 18 to 29 held a favorable view of organized labor—the highest of any age demographic.

"I am always reaching out to everyone I meet," Cooling said. "I introduce myself as a union electrician."

Following the recent recession, the job market for today's youth remains difficult. A Harvard study published last year reveals that just six in 10 millennials—young people born between 1981 and 1996—have a job, half of which are part-time. In a February piece for the Atlantic, Jordan Weissmann writes that "at every education level, the 25- to 32-year-olds of 2013 confronted a higher unemployment rate than past generations did when they were stepping into the workforce."

Cooling said the ramifications of those statistics can cast a chilling effect on many members of his peer group. "We are in a time that mirrors the Roaring '20s in this country," he said. "Wall Street and big business are making record profits while jobs like mine, have not seen the wage growth needed

to keep a standard of living to raise a family. With my generation's high approval of unions and our thirst for knowledge, it is important that we, the IBEW, teach what a union is and what it can do for everyone going forward."

For more information on RENEW or to get involved, visit the group at www.facebook.com/RENEW.IBEW. ■

IBEW Helps Build Baylor Football's New Stadium

Football is a religion in Texas. But after 60 years, the shine was off Baylor University's high church, Floyd Casey Stadium. After two years of construction, Baylor unveiled its new cathedral of football, the \$250 million, 45,000-seat McLane Stadium. It would not have been ready for the Aug. 31 opening without the members of Waco, Texas, Local 72.

While the bulk of the electrical work went non-union, signatory contractors Parsons Electric from Minnesota and Energy and Automation from Waco won the bid to install the audio visual system that runs throughout the stadium. Hundreds of televisions, video cameras and speakers from the concourses to the skyboxes and the data boxes that light them up were wired and hung by nearly 40 members of Local 72.

"Austin Local 520 has the Longhorns and Houston Local 716 has the Aggies. Our jurisdiction is Bear country and we're very proud of our connection to the school," said Local 72 Business Manager Craig Miller. Baylor posted a time-lapse video of the construction at <http://bit.ly/1vTyuFS>.

The team of apprentices and journeymen built the mounts and installed more than 500 video screens throughout the stadium, pulling and connecting miles of coaxial, twinaxial and fiber optic cables to connect them to the control room and the nearly two-dozen data closets

throughout the stadium.

"They did a great job and startup testing went very well," Miller said, adding that nonunion contractors were still at the site doing construction work only five days before the opening game. "I am optimistic that our record on this job puts us in position to win away a fair bit of the maintenance and repair work that will likely be needed."

Miller said he would have liked Baylor to be "more supportive" but is proud of the relationship Local 72 has with the college. Ten members are already at work on the new business school and he expects at least 40 to be at work for Rosendin Electric by January.

Miller says the forecast is bright for the 140-member local off campus as well, citing furnace rebuilds and a new scrubber at the Owens-Illinois glass plant which makes the ubiquitous amber bottles for Coors Light and Miller Light. ■

Canadian National Railway Awards Member's Community Service

Charles Cox had always heard the pitch about charitable work, how volunteers gain more satisfaction helping others than serving themselves.

But Cox, business manager of Memphis, Tenn., Local 881, who represents workers at Canadian National Railway, was busy with his own family and his job representing workers from Centralia, Ill., to Baton Rouge, La., and Paducah, Ky.

That was until a friend, Neal



Memphis Local 881 Business Manager Charles Cox, left, received a Canadian National Railway award for community service.

Heaslett, a member of the board of directors of Youth Leadership in Memphis, convinced Cox to get up early on Saturday mornings to help young people from some of the city's toughest neighborhoods go to work cutting grass or cleaning up their neighborhoods, earning money desperately needed by their families.

"When the kids we were helping showed how appreciative they were," says Cox, "it made all my time worthwhile."



A new exhibit at the IBEW Museum explores a chasm in the early years of the IBEW.

TRANSITIONS

Last year, CN recognized Cox's good works by naming him one of six of the carrier's "Railroaders in the Community," donating \$5,000 to Youth Leadership in Memphis, a church-based fund that pays young workers in the program. Cox was featured in a story in the company's newsletter, CN People.

Plagued by crime and drug activity, Memphis gets a bad rap, says Cox. So the leadership group is "trying to make kids into men," instilling a work ethic in youth who, Cox says, come from dire economic circumstances.

The program insists that participants stay in school, attend church services and show up ready for work to earn their pay.

Before heading out to work, mentors and participants go to a local restaurant for breakfast. "Some of their families' rarely have enough money to go to a sit-down restaurant," says Cox.

Participants contribute some of their earnings to their families and save some for their own purchases, helping them learn to manage their own finances. Older youths gain leadership skills by directing younger participants.

"We have an 80 percent success rate, helping keep kids out of the criminal justice system and find productive work," says Cox, whose grandfather and great grandfather worked for Illinois Central Railroad, CN's predecessor.

Cox, an electrician, says he appreciates being recognized with an award for his work, but says that his employer's support has gone much deeper. Bo Harris, a CN manager, has contributed his own money to help buy backpacks and T-shirts for Youth Leadership in Memphis participants.

Cox says he derives satisfaction from representing his 70 members. But few things, he says, compare to having young participants in the youth leadership program come up and thank him for getting involved in their lives. ■

APPOINTED Jack Heyer



International Representative Jack Heyer was appointed Director of the IBEW Personnel Department at the International Office in Washington, D.C., effective Sept. 1. Heyer replaces Howard "Howdy" Ritchie, who has been appointed Director of the union's Pension and Reciprocity Department.

"It's a challenging opportunity," Heyer said. "It's something that will give me a chance to meet IBEW personnel I haven't met and to work with them to make them successful in their IBEW roles."

Heyer will interpret contracts, manage staff benefits, and help ensure solid labor/management relations between the IBEW leadership and the 200 employees at the International Office who comprise three separate unions—the Operating Engineers, the Office and Professional Employees International Union and the IBEW. The employees perform clerical, information technologies, administrative, research, education, media and other services for the IBEW.

"It's always a pleasure working with people who are part of the IBEW," Heyer said. "I've always worked for the betterment of the union, and this is another step in helping to make the IBEW successful."

Heyer served for seven years as an international representative in the Construction and Maintenance Department, working extensively on nuclear, renewable and community action issues. He helped lead the ADT Coordinating Council, which represents 1,800 security workers in the U.S. and Canada. Heyer assisted in planning the annual Construction and Maintenance Department conference in Washington, D.C., and serviced national agreements in various industries,

among other duties.

Heyer started his union career in 1977 as a member of Green Bay, Wis., Local 158. After topping out from his inside wireman apprenticeship, he worked his way up on job sites to serve as a foreman.

Union activism quickly became a way of life for Heyer, who served on numerous local union committees and was a member of the executive board. Other roles as union treasurer, recording secretary, and business agent prepared him for his position as business manager at the local. Heyer served on numerous labor-related committees in Wisconsin to help strengthen the electrical industry and the building trades as a whole.

At that time, the 600-member local union serviced contracts for construction employees, shipyard workers, municipal employees and more. The need to adapt quickly to different situations and work in multiple facets will help in his new position, Heyer said. "My experiences with this diverse group have given me a down-to-earth perspective when communicating and working together with people."

Heyer attended the University of Wisconsin campus in Green Bay and the School for Workers in Madison. He studied arbitration at the University of Illinois and attended the National Training Institute at the University of Tennessee.

In his spare time, Heyer enjoys hunting and fishing, riding his motorcycle, golfing, gardening and watching football and baseball games.

On behalf of the entire staff and membership, the officers wish Brother Heyer great success in his new position. ■

APPOINTED Howard Ritchie Jr.



International President Edwin D. Hill has appointed Howard "Howdy" Ritchie Jr. Director of the Pension and Reciprocity Department, effective Sept. 1.

Brother Ritchie was born in Washington, D.C., where he attended St. John's College High School. He joined Local 26 in 1972, topping out of his apprenticeship in 1975.

In 1986, he was elected to Local 26's examining board. Among other duties, he interviewed candidates for foreman positions.

In 1990, Ritchie was appointed to Local 26's staff by then-Business Manager John Widener, servicing and organizing workers in the federal government sector. He continued on staff after the election of Cecil "Buddy" Satterfield as business manager in 1992. Ritchie also served as a trustee on the pension and annuity, health and welfare and joint apprenticeship training funds and on labor-management committees.

When Satterfield was elevated to international representative in 1998,

Ritchie was appointed to serve out his term. He was then elected in 2001.

Brother Ritchie joined the International staff in 2003, being appointed International Representative in the Construction and Maintenance Department. He helped support the IBEW's efforts to break into the burgeoning renewable energy market, including wind and solar.

He also assisted then-director Mark Ayers on several major projects, including the administration of national construction and specialty agreements, Helmets-to-Hardhats and the transmission and Maintenance agreement.

In 2006, he was appointed director of the Personnel Department, where he was responsible for managing employee relations and administering the collective bargaining agreement at the International Office.

"I got to work with employees in every department, which gave me a good understanding of the full depth of what the IBEW does," he said.

Brother Ritchie says he is looking forward to his new position. "This gives me the opportunity to learn about another side of this union," he said. "I'm excited about servicing our members and locals in this vital area."

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

DECEASED Joseph M. Carrillo



We are saddened to report that retired Seventh District International Representative Joe M. Carrillo died on July 26.

Brother Carrillo, a native of Globe, Ariz., was a life-long community and political activist whose roots in the labor movement went back to the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union, later the United Steelworkers, organizing workers against stiff company opposition in the copper mines of the Southwest.

An electrician, Carrillo was initiated into Globe Local 518 in 1952, serving as business manager from 1958 to 1970. Local 518's effectiveness led to the International increasing its jurisdiction to three counties. Under Carrillo's leadership, the local grew its construction and maintenance membership, organized a pulp and paper mill and negotiated an agreement with the White Mountain Apache Tribe to train workers at a timber plant run by the tribe.

In 1970, Carrillo was appointed Seventh District International Representative, retiring in 1989.

"My father was a kind and generous man who was a really tough guy when it came to standing up for the rights of people to be treated fairly," says Joseph Carrillo, his son, a pediatrician in Napa, Calif.

A World War II U.S. Navy veteran who enlisted at age 16, Carrillo served

aboard the USS Tennessee (BB-43) and participated in the fierce bombardments of Tarawa. He later attended LaSalle Extension University and took courses at the University of Arizona.

Carrillo led a joint union negotiating committee in the copper mining industry. A chairman of his county's Democratic Party, Carrillo waged a campaign for state representative and was active in the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement. After his retirement from the IBEW, Carrillo worked as a building inspector in Globe.

"My father helped revitalize the Globe historic district, supporting the preservation of buildings in the city he loved," says his daughter, Catherine Covarrubias, whose husband, Reynaldo, serves as assistant business manager of Phoenix Local 266.

"Joe had a big heart and walked the walk," says Reynaldo Covarrubias. Overcome by emotion, he recalled his father-in-law encouraging his union activism, saying that one of his proudest moments was telling Carrillo that he had been chosen to serve in union office.

Horace Bounds was a new business manager of Tucson, Ariz., Local 570 when he first met Carrillo. "Joe gave me so much help manning jobs building Titan II missile silos," says Bounds. "We worked almost like we were one local and ended up setting up a joint pension plan."

The son of a "man-of-all-trades," Carrillo accompanied his father on trips to farmers' markets during the Great Depression where his father would load a truck with vegetables, distributing them to community members, asking only for gas money in return, his son said. Carrillo's son remembers helping his parents put together food baskets and toys to be given to copper workers during a particularly difficult strike.

"My family will always be so grateful to the IBEW. We were comforted knowing that my parents were well taken care of in their later years," says his son.

Brother Carrillo cared for his wife, Lillian, who suffered for years at home from Alzheimer's disease before her death in 2012. He was active in Holy Angels Catholic Church in Globe.

On behalf of the staff and the entire membership, the officers send our deep condolences to Brother Carrillo's family. ■

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LOCAL LINES

2014 Graduation Banquet

L.U. 8 (as,em,i,mar,mt,rts,s&spa), TOLEDO, OH—Greetings, sisters and brothers. The Toledo Electrical JATC held its graduation banquet in July. A total of 30 apprentices topped out as Inside, Residential or VDV (voice-data-video) journeymen. Special mention goes to the outstanding graduates: Jason Buckholtz, (Inside), Derek Berry (Residential) and Jason Florez (VDV). The 2014 Apprentice of the Year was Ryan Wagner. Congratulations to the entire class of 2014.

[Editor's Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) is rebranding this year and transitioning into the Electrical Training Alliance. See "NJATC Transitions into the Electrical Training Alliance," *The Electrical Worker* (Sept. 2014), and at www.ibew.org.]

Local 8 hosted the IBEW Softball Tournament in July, and it was a huge success. Thirty-two teams from 22 locals participated, and New York, NY, Local 3 took home the winning trophy. Congratulations to all the teams that participated.

Mike Brubaker, P.S.

Local's Annual Picnic

L.U. 12 (i,o&se), PUEBLO, CO—Our Local 12 annual picnic took place Aug. 9, and this year we rented one of the city pools for a couple of hours. With the picnic beginning earlier in the day this year, we planned the regular cookout menu and some time to catch up with each other. Then the wet fest began! The Planning Committee came up with some cool water games and, with all the squirt guns, I didn't see many people staying dry. The outing was a great success and fun for all. Thanks to all who participated.

Our local contractors are staying busy, but we don't have any big projects on the immediate horizon.

Susan J. Johnson, P.S.



Local 12 Executive Board member M.J. Griego (left) and Bus. Mgr. Dean Grinstead man the grill at Swim Jam Picnic 2014.

'Employment Prospects Good'

L.U. 16 (i), EVANSVILLE, IN—The IBEW congratulates the class of 2014 apprenticeship graduates of the JATC inside wireman program. These new journeymen are: Rayne M. Bitter, David M. Bittner, Charles W. Brendel Jr., Karl D. Cessna, Cody A. Clark, Joshua T. Elliott, Matthew J. Grass, Adam J. Merkel, Timothy J. Pike, Kenneth D. Ramsey, Todd A. Rogers, Joel Q. Ruedlinger, Kurt L. Scherzinger, Jason D. Schmitt, Daniel L. Schweizer, Jeremy D. Sowder, James B. Wagner Jr. and Kyle S. Wanninger. This year's academic award winner is Jason D. Schmitt, and the John D. Brenner Memorial Award went to Jeremy D. Sowder.

Local 16's employment prospects look very good for members who have Vanderburgh County electrical licenses, are instrument technicians, or who are certified welders. Local 16 members interested in working on projects with these requirements are strongly urged to contact the JATC at (812) 422-3343 or www.evvjatic.org for additional instruction.

[Editor's Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) is rebranding this year and transitioning into the Electrical Training Alliance. See "NJATC Transitions into the Electrical Training Alliance," *The Electrical Worker* (Sept. 2014), and at www.ibew.org.]

The union also thanks the following for attending this year's National Training Institute: Jeff Brady, Mike Chamberlain, Jeff Daub, Larry Dimmett, Kenneth Farmer, Robin Haskell, John Marlow, Ray Pritchett, Bob Scheller, Chad A. Thompson and Chris Thorsen. The NTI provides attendees advanced technical education to become the best in the industry.

Donald P. Beavin, P.S.

'Congratulations, Graduates'

L.U. 24 (es,i&spa), BALTIMORE, MD—The officers, staff and members of Local 24 congratulate the second class in 2014 to graduate the five-year Baltimore JATC program. There were 38 graduates in this class.



From left: Fourth District Int. Rep. Brian Malloy; Baltimore JATC Dir. Dave Norfolk; NTI graduates Tony Enfield, Don Olkowski, Rick Hannas, Jerome Miller; Local 24 Bus. Mgr. Gary R. Griffin; and Baltimore JATC Coordinator Neil Wilford. [See "Editor's Note" in article.]

Two had perfect attendance for all five years, and two finished with a 93.6 grade point average.

We also congratulate four of our JATC instructors who graduated the National Training Institute this year (see photo at bottom, center). We appreciate all they do to educate our apprentices.

[Editor's Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) is rebranding this year and transitioning into the Electrical Training Alliance. See "NJATC Transitions into the Electrical Training Alliance," *The Electrical Worker* (Sept. 2014), and at www.ibew.org.]

Hope everyone enjoyed a fun and safe summer.

Gary R. Griffin, B.M.



Local 26 Sporting Clays Shoot team: Rec Sec. Richard Murphy (left), Bus. Agents Lorne Seay and Jerry Lewis, and Pres. Butch Ramos.

Scholarships Awarded

L.U. 26 (ees,em,es,govt,i&mt), WASHINGTON, DC—Local 26 is proud to announce the four winners of this year's scholarship award: Rodrick Murray, Elsie Martinez, Hannah Murphy and Christopher Noyes. Rodrick is the son of Bro. Jamell Thrower and will attend Birmingham-Southern College. Elsie is the daughter of Bro. Misael Martinez and will attend the University of Maryland at College Park. Hannah, daughter of Bro. William Murphy, will attend St. Mary's College of Maryland. Christopher is the son of Bro. Thomas Noyes and will attend Brown University.

The 6th Annual AFL-CIO Capital Area Sporting Clays Shoot was May 30. Local 26 was proud to be a major sponsor of the event. The Local 26 team placed first in the Class A division (photo above).

With regret we report that several members passed away since our last article: Patrick R. Shelton, Daniel J. Bowman, Cary W. Lemons, Thomas A. Ricker Jr., William E. Leith, Michael P. Roth and Ralph W. Moore.

Best wishes to recent retirees: Don-

ald R. Brenner, Monte F. Brown, Stephen J. Dicarolo, Robert V. Hale Jr., Dwayne R. Limes, Calvin E. McCoy Jr., Michael J. Nadzadi, Samuel C. Peoples, Richard T. Puleo, Michael T. Schaefer, James E. Smith, Charles M. Southward, Gerald K. Wiseman, Richard O. Barton II, John B. Carter, Jerome S. Lozupone and Howard D. Clenney.

Charles E. Graham, B.M.

Flying Fish Festival—Joint USA, Labor Council Event

L.U. 34 (em,i,mt,rts&spa), PEORIA, IL—October is finally here. When you are not at work, I hope you are out in the woods trying to bag that 180-inch buck. Conservation and unionism have always gone hand in hand, but no organization has been able to capitalize on this relationship as well as the Union Sportsmen's Alliance. Recently the Union Sportsmen's Alliance teamed up with the Peoria Area Labor Council and area businesses to put on a Flying Fish Festival that featured a Bow Fishing Tournament and a charity dinner that raised money for upgrades to the Peoria Labor Temple and conservation projects around the country. The event was a great success. Thanks to all the people who organized and volunteered to make it happen.

By now I am sure everyone is tired of hearing about politics, but the importance of our participation at the voting booth cannot be overstated. Here in Illinois we are trying to keep a billionaire from buying the governor's office with money that was sheltered overseas to avoid paying U.S. taxes, as reported by Crain's Chicago Business newspaper. So please make time to vote this November—and if you're an Illinois resident, please vote for Gov. Pat Quinn and any other candidate who supports unions.

Marc Burnap, P.S.

Stadium Project in Cleveland

L.U. 38 (i), CLEVELAND, OH—First Energy Stadium, formally known as Cleveland Browns Stadium, is currently being renovated in a two-phase process.

The first phase, which will be completed before the start of the Browns' regular season, will include installation of two new scoreboards at the end zones. The new scoreboards are three times as large as the signs that were originally installed in the stadium back in 1999. LED signs, which will give fans up-to-date scores and football stats, along with a new state-of-the-art audio system will be ready for the start of the 2014 season. Escalators on the east and west sides of the stadium will provide easy entrance and exit to those newly renovated sections.

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



Local 38 members at work for Zenith Systems at the Cleveland Browns' stadium.

The two-phase \$120 million renovation, which will continue at the conclusion of this season, has had numerous Local 38 members on the project, which includes 50 inside journeymen and apprentices and 26 voice/data/video members.

You can follow progress online by doing a Google search for: "FirstEnergy Stadium—EarthCam.net." Or go to www.earthcam.net/projects/turner/firstenergystadium.

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

Work Picture Promising; Summer Events a Success

L.U. 42 (catv,em,govt,lctt&o), HARTFORD, CT—Local 42 held its Dinner Cruise on The Lady Katharine cruise boat on June 14. The boat departed from the Charter Oak Landing in Hartford. We all enjoyed a great buffet dinner and catching up with friends and family.

The Charter Fishing trip was July 12. The Frances Fleet went out of Point Judith, RI. Members enjoyed hamburgers and hot dogs and fishing all day. Congratulations to Shauna Quinn, who won the pool for catching the biggest fluke; she won \$340. Hope you all enjoyed your day.

Local 42 also held the "BA" member Family Picnic on July 26, at Lake Compounce in Bristol, CT. We all enjoyed the buffet at the picnic pavilion and the nonstop adventure of the amusement rides, as well as the water park.

The Local 42 work picture looks very promising. Upcoming will be the High Line project with Par Electric—and the railroad project with Ducci Electric is coming up soon as well. The Distribution jobs are holding steady for right now.

To all of our Local 42 brothers and sisters: Stay safe out there!

Jacquelyn Moffitt, P.S.

Salting Success Story

L.U. 46 (as,c,cs,em,es,et,i,mar,mo,mt,rtb,rts&st), SEATTLE, WA—In April we met with Bobcat Construction and Electric. The owner talked about concerns getting qualified help for a fast-track project the company had. The contractor's manpower consisted of people from Craigslist and employment agency referrals. The owner had heard that we supplied electricians (salts) to nonsignatory contractors and wanted to know if we could help. Over the next 30 days, Bobcat Electric hired our electricians for their project.

Bobcat was impressed with the skill and work ethic of the union electricians and decided to only employ electricians sent from Local 46. We met with our salts regularly and they understood they were making a difference for this contractor. Bobcat shared concerns about keeping the IBEW crew, with knowledge of other work available at the hall. We assured the owner that we would finish the job for him. He then asked for our wage and benefit information.

Before the job was to finish, we were informed that the company wanted to take the crew to the next job. Bobcat became a signatory contractor. We have the members who salted to thank for their great work bringing this contractor into Local 46.

This is the kind of organizing that Henry Miller would be proud of.

Frank Elduen, Mbr. Dev.
Angela Marshall, P.S.

2014 Family Picnic

L.U. 58 (em,i,rtb,spa&t), DETROIT, MI—This year's Local 58 Family Picnic was one of the largest in recent memory, with approximately 2,500 people attending. It was held at a new, larger location at Camp Dearborn, giving us more room to enjoy the festivities with our sisters and brothers and their families. Members competed in tug of war, euchre, and horseshoe tournaments for trophies. The children enjoyed a bounce house, face painting, train rides and a watermelon eating contest. Bro. Jay Fiondella's band kept things hopping with live music.

With the new picnic location came some new ideas from the Entertainment Committee. Space was set aside for a Classic Car & Bike Show. We hope this will continue to gain interest each year. Hamburgers, nachos and chicken were added to the menu, and everyone who attended received a picnic shirt.

Events like these cannot happen without the dedicated volunteers, who gave up their day so others could enjoy theirs. The volunteers show up long before the first wrist band is handed out, and they leave long after the last ice cream is eaten. We thank all the volunteers. Special thanks to the Entertainment Committee co-chairs Mike Curran, Beth Saigh and Rob Zawadzki.

Andy Dunbar, Pres.



At Local 58 Family Picnic, children step up for a watermelon eating contest.

'Work Picture Robust'

L.U. 68 (i), DENVER, CO—Greetings, brothers and sisters. The work picture here in Local 68 is still robust with calls reaching book two almost daily. We are still not seeing a whole lot of overtime, but if you need a working vacation come to Colorado.

June 28 saw the return of the WBF Golf Tournament. Everyone had a great time and it was once again a great event benefiting our Local 68 sick and needy fund.

On July 19, a Prudential group representative was here at the hall to talk to the members about their investments and retirement planning.

Our Building Association has met twice to talk about upcoming building repairs and improvements. New LED outside lights are up and burning, with more changes on the way.

At this writing, we were looking forward to the Local 68 Summer Picnic scheduled for Aug. 16. The picnic is always a great time to get together with some brothers and sisters you may not have seen recently.

The political season is firing up for November elections. For the sake of our middle class, please plan some time to help with phone banks, walks and rallies. Without union-friendly political leaders, our path becomes even more difficult.

Stay safe out there and take care of your fellow union brothers and sisters.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the families of our recently deceased brothers: Louis G. Varn Jr. and David W. Rolston.

Jack Cox, Pres.

2014 Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 82 (em,i,mt&rtb), DAYTON, OH—Local 82 officers and members congratulate the graduating apprenticeship classes of 2014! [Photo, at bottom.]

Graduates, now that you've successfully completed this chapter of your career, you are beginning a new chapter. It is time to take the knowledge and experience you gained in training, and all that you have learned working with other journeymen, and become the journeyman you want to be! You are not done learning—you will continue to learn throughout your career, but now it's your turn to help mold the upcoming apprentices. Remember to treat them as you wanted to be treated and train them well, because they are your future! Get involved with the local, become a leader and help your local grow! Remember that you get out of your local what you put into it! Congratulations again, graduates, and good luck on your future endeavors.

Doug Searcy, P.S.

Safe Work Practices Training

L.U. 98 (as,catv,em,i,it), PHILADELPHIA, PA—The alliance among IBEW Local 98, the Philadelphia OSHA office, and the Penn-Del-Jersey NECA Chapter has had great success improving safety for all members.

One major effort is to get all members NFPA 70E trained. The NFPA, or National Fire Protection Association, promotes standards to reduce risks of fire and other hazards.

JATC Training Dir. Mike Neill together with primary instructor Jim Dollard, a 70E technical committee member, developed an eight-hour class for journeymen. The Apprentice Training Committee is committed to getting every member trained.

[Editor's Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) is rebranding this year and transitioning into the Electrical Training Alliance. See "NJATC Transitions into the Electrical Training Alliance," *The Electrical Worker* (Sept. 2014), and at www.ibew.org.]

All members receive the following when they com-

plete their 70E training: a copy of the NFPA 70E standard, an NJATC arc rated shirt, Class O rubber gloves, leather protectors, canvas bag, and glove liners. In addition to training in electrical safe-work practices, all members are taught proper glove use and care. Members can then receive a newly tested pair every six months through the apprentice training facility.

Journeyman classes are held on Saturdays, and all apprentices receive 70E training. Retraining every three years is a requirement of NFPA 70E, and three-hour update classes on the 2015 edition will begin in the fall of 2014.

Congratulations to Local 98 member Ed Neilson, the newest member of the Philadelphia City Council. Good luck, Ed!

Bryan Burrows, P.S.



Local 98 members receive safety related materials at NFPA 70E training class.

Motorcycle Run Fundraiser

L.U. 102 (em,govt,i,mt,o&ws), PATERSON, NJ—The inaugural Local 102 Motorcycle Run and Cruise In was a big success as 130 motorcycles took to the streets to raise money for the Goryeb Children's Hospital.

As the bikes rolled back into the parking lot of Local 102, a contingent of classic cars was there to welcome them. There was great food, great music—and over \$20,000 on its way to the Goryeb Children's Hospital. We send a big thank-you to everyone who helped make this event a success.

Local 102 elections were held in June. We congratulate Bus. Mgr. Patrick Delle Cava and fellow officers on their re-election. We welcome Dan Petrozelli to the Executive Board; Dan was elected to the seat vacated by Mike Hadam, who retired from the board.



IBEW Local 102's new trailer is readied to roll out for a Habitat for Humanity project.



Local 82 congratulates the 2014 apprenticeship graduates.

LOCAL LINES

at the completion of his term. We wish Mike well and thank him for his years of dedication to our local union. We congratulate and welcome our newest officer, Eric Tscherne, to the Examining Board.

Our new trailer, emblazoned with the IBEW Local 102 logo, is heading out to Lambertville for our next Habitat for Humanity project. We thank Klein Tools, Milwaukee Electric Tool, 3M, and Monarch Electric for outfitting the trailer with the tools needed to help provide homes to those in need.

Bernie Corrigan, Pres.

Election of Officers

L.U. 124 (ees,em,i,mar,rts,se,spa&t), KANSAS CITY, MO—In June, Local 124 held its election of officers. Congratulations to Rick Rodriguez, elected as our new business manager. Congratulations also to B.Z. Parscale, our new financial secretary; Rudy Chavez, our returning president; and all other officers elected by the membership.

The newly elected administration, with its fresh ideas, is sure to keep Local 124 in the forefront of our district. Our union hall offices are going green with the installation of ground source heat and cooling. We will also install new LED lighting. This project should be completed by early fall. Our apprenticeship program is definitely topnotch. Congratulations to top apprentices Steve Ohmes and Kelly Anderson. Great job, brothers.

We remember recently deceased members: Charles R. Cooper, William C. Dick, Raymond F. Fisher, James T. Flowers, Debra McCollor, Chuck McCormick, James Rende, William R. Roberts, Alex Sadler, John A. Taber and Oliver Williams.

Congratulations to recently retired members: Howard E. Adair, Larry J. Banks, William L. Barry III, Ricky A. Crites, James D. Dickerson, Larry D. Franklin, Phillip B. Hickey, James B. Joyce Jr., John M. Marquez, David E. Nelson, Gerald D. Perkins, Niles D. Schaaf, John A. Taber and Tim Tutorino.

Steve Morales, P.S.



Local 124 Bus. Mgr. Rick Rodriguez (left) with Bus. Agents Phil Hulsey, Kevin Smith, Tim Knoth, Bob Goodrick, Dick Mathews and Todd Howerton.

In Chicago: Groundbreaking Partnership for Job Growth

L.U. 134 (catv,em,govt,i,mt,rtb,rts,spa&t), CHICAGO, IL—To encourage good-paying U.S. manufacturing jobs, Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel announced the “Build Chicago” partnership—a collaboration of the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) and the Chicago Federation of Labor—for the purchase of modernized rail cars.

The CTA will include a “U.S. employment” provision as part of the process of seeking bids from companies to manufacture the new 7000-series rail cars. The goal is to create U.S. job opportunities and revive Illinois’ manufacturing economy. [For more information, see “In Chicago, New Trains and Job Growth,” at www.ibew.org.]

IBEW Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill said: “By including incentives for U.S. job creation and workforce development in its procurement, the CTA is using its purchasing power for community benefit. IBEW applauds Mayor Emanuel and the CTA for using the power of this \$2 billion purse to spur job creation and opportunities for working families.”

“Let’s reward companies for doing the right things: creating good jobs with living wages; recruiting and

training veterans, women and minorities; and making workplaces safe,” said Local 134 Bus. Mgr. Terry Allen.

The new 7000-series rail cars will replace CTA’s oldest rail cars, with plans for procurement of up to 846 rail cars.

IBEW Local 134 represents over 500 members in the rail industry, at both the CTA and the Northeast Illinois Regional Commuter Railroad Corporation (METRA).

Frank Cunningham, B.R.

Labor Day Festivities

L.U. 146 (ei,i&rts), DECATUR, IL—Local 146 once again helped to sponsor the Labor Day picnic in the park following the 2014 Labor Day parade in downtown Decatur. Union brothers and sisters from the entire Decatur area enjoyed an afternoon of fellowship, food, refreshments, entertainment and the largest collection of bounce houses in town. This year’s labor event was the largest in Decatur history.

We also helped to support the 37th annual Mid-eastern Illinois Labor Council picnic held the last weekend of August in Charleston, IL. It was a great day for the picnic, attended by active and retired members and their families.

The Local 146 JATC apprentice instructors spent a week in Ann Arbor, MI, to get ready for the upcoming school year. We welcome and congratulate Alf Edwards on his selection as the new first-year instructor. Currently there are 58 indentured apprentice inside wiremen in training. [Editor’s Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) is rebranding this year and transitioning into the Electrical Training Alliance. See “NJATC Transitions into the Electrical Training Alliance,” *The Electrical Worker* (Sept. 2014), and at www.ibew.org.]

Congratulations also to our Bus. Mgr. Shad Etchason on his recent appointment by Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill to serve on the Council on Industrial Relations (CIR).

Everyone, have a great fall season. Don’t forget to vote for labor-friendly candidates in November, and help to re-elect Gov. Pat Quinn.

Rich Underwood, P.S.

‘A Local Union’

L.U. 150 (es,i,rts&spa), WAUKEGON, IL—The definition of a labor union is as follows: an

organization of workers formed to protect the rights and interests of its members. A fuller definition is: an organization of workers formed for the purpose of advancing its members’ interests in respect to wages, benefits and working conditions. What neither of these definitions mentions are the responsibilities of the union member.

As a member of a union, you do have responsibilities. You are to install your work in a neat and workman-like manner. Give eight hours of work for eight hours of pay. Be involved in your local union and attend meetings. Become informed as to your local contract and bylaws. You are to follow the IBEW Constitution and the local contract and bylaws. This means you don’t start early for straight time. You don’t work through break or lunch. You don’t work overtime for cash. And if you are on the road, you don’t stay on a job if they are laying off the local hands. That is simply bad form. It also gives your home local a bad reputation.

Remember to always act in accordance with our responsibilities as union members — and support your local union.

In solidarity,

Wendy J. Cordts, P.S.



Three generations of IBEW members, from left: Richard Payne (grandfather), Local 701 retiree; Robbie Payne (son), Local 158; and Rob Payne (father), Local 158.

2014 Midterm Election

L.U. 158 (i,it,mar,mt&spa), GREEN BAY, WI—Local 158 continues to have a good work picture. Our contractors are busy and there are many projects out there to be bid. We negotiated a new three-year agreement in May, hopefully bringing some relief to all involved. We have been able to bring in many new members and continue to look at bringing in more.

We are getting ready for the fall elections, as are all IBEW locals in Wisconsin. We have to do all we can to make sure Gov. Scott Walker is defeated in his re-election bid. Mary Burke is the gubernatorial candidate that our local and the state conferences support. I would hate to see what would happen if we don’t come out victorious. In recent polls these two candidates are about even in polls of likely voters.

Our local held its annual banquet in April. Looking at the pictures taken that night, it’s apparent that people had a very good time. It was one of the most well-attended banquets in recent memory. Years-of-service pins were awarded to eligible members, and the graduating apprentices were recognized. It was a great night.

Donald C. Allen, B.M.

Community Services Award

L.U. 164 (c,em,i,o&t), JERSEY CITY, NJ—On Saturday, May 9, Vice Pres. Warren Becker was awarded the Ed Purtil Community Services Award from the United Labor Agency of Northern New Jersey. The award was presented at the Philip J. McLewin Annual Community Services Awards Breakfast, held at the Hasbrouck Heights Hilton. Warren received this award for his years of service as the volunteer coordinator for IBEW Local 164, and for his years of volunteering as the electrical coordinator for Rebuilding Together Bergen County.

Warren’s community service, along with the Local 164 Volunteer Committee, includes residential electrical repairs and renovations for: low-income homeowners, the elderly, the disabled, veterans, Superstorm Sandy victims, and Local 164 members in need. In his acceptance speech, Warren accepted the award on behalf of all the Local 164 volunteers who teamed up for these projects. Local 164 Pres. Thomas Sullivan was honored to present Warren with the award. In 2003, this same community services award was presented to Local 164

Local 164 Volunteer Committee at Phillip J. McLewin Annual Community Services Awards event: Pres. Tom Sullivan (left), Ken Bieber, Ron Luppino, Bryan Klima, Bill Jones, Mike McCarthy, Vice Pres. Warren Becker, Ivan Tarabocchia, Marc Holmes, Bill Crowley and Scott Ritter. Photo: Charles Mondaro.



member John “Nurdy” Nordyk. Kudos, Warren!

Note: Thank you to Local 164 member William Jones Jr. for providing information for this article.

Thomas J. Sullivan, Pres.

GlobalFoundries Project

L.U. 236 (catv,ees,govt,i,mo,rtb&t), ALBANY, NY—It seems that the summer season passed by in the blink of an eye. This past summer—with the construction of GlobalFoundries, a semiconductor foundry, in full swing—we were very fortunate to have enjoyed full employment and the ability to provide many employment opportunities for our traveling brothers and sisters. Thank you to those who have helped, and those who continue to help, with meeting the manpower needs of our jurisdiction.

As November approaches, I would like to remind everyone to please take the time to vote on Election Day and show your support for those who support us.

Also, please take a moment on Veterans Day to honor our veterans who serve or have served in the U.S. armed forces. A simple gesture such as a handshake and saying “thank you” is something we can all do to let veterans know we appreciate their service.

Michael Torres, P.S.

‘NEC Challenge’ Competition

L.U. 292 (em,govt,i,rtb,rts&spa), MINNEAPOLIS, MN—The Minneapolis JATC has many outstanding teachers, and a recent National Electrical Code (NEC) Challenge proved their excellence. During the National Training Institute (NTI) competition held the weekend of July 26, Paul Holum and Derrick Atkins, both instructors at the Minneapolis JATC, topped the leaderboard with a score of 22. This led to a showdown that Paul Holum won with a record-setting 36 correct answers to code questions. At press time, the NEC Challenge Championship was scheduled for Sept. 28-30 in Chicago during the NECA Conference & Trade Show; last year’s champion was Derek Vigstol, also an instructor at the Minneapolis JATC.

[Editor’s Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) is rebranding this year and transitioning into the Electrical Training Alli-



Minneapolis JATC staff and instructors at the NTI in Ann Arbor, MI. Front row, Greg Hayenga (left), Gordy Mitchell, Asst. Dir. Derrick Atkins, Derek Vigstol; back row, Dir. Jim Nimlos, John Kjome and Paul Holum. [See “Editor’s Note” in article.]

ance. See "NJATC Transitions into the Electrical Training Alliance," *The Electrical Worker* (Sept. 2014), and at www.ibew.org.]

In the upcoming elections, we have an opportunity to support candidates who understand IBEW Local 292 issues. We need volunteers to back these candidates and we ask all of our members to vote in this critical off-year election. Voter turnout is historically low for midterm elections; however, the issues still remain and we need your voice and your vote to be heard on Nov. 2.

Our work picture looks better than it has in the last 10 years, and we would like to remind our members that we need to man our jurisdiction.

Carl Madsen, B.R./P.S.

'Dragon Boat' Fundraiser

L.U. 300 (govt,i,mt&u), MONTPELIER, VT—Hello, brothers and sisters. Work has been good in our local. We've had several out-of-state signatory contractors come into our jurisdiction this year, and on occasion even employed travelers. Solar installations, whether residential or larger, ground-mount farms, have been our bread and butter again this year. I believe we will be very busy with multiple solar installations at the time this article is published.

The most exciting thing happening in the local is an increased level of membership participation. Not only are the members taking part in the events, but they're also dragging family and friends along. The best part is that the majority end up having a great time and look forward to the next event.

We've done several wellness events and two cancer research fundraisers—the latest being a Dragon Boat Sponsorship (see photo below) captained by fourth-year apprentice Jazmine Thompson. These events were attended by the full range of our membership, from construction wiremen to retirees, with a large concentration of apprentices. To watch a video of Local 300 construction unit members in the annual Dragon Boat fundraiser for cancer survivors, go to <http://vimeo.com/103521111>.

Thank you, one and all, for proving that brotherhood is thriving in Local 300!

We said goodbye to Bro. Gary Chambers Sr., who passed away June 20. He will be missed.

Wishing everyone a great start to the holiday season!

Timothy LaBombard, Mbr. Dev.



2014 "IBEW Solar Dragons": Local 300 members participate in Dragon Boat Fundraiser.

2014 Graduation Banquet

L.U. 306 (j), AKRON, OH—On Friday, June 6, a banquet was held to honor our 2014 JATC graduates. Opening remarks were given by Bus. Mgr. Michael Might, who encouraged the graduates to, "Be the best electrician possible and learn something every day."

After the invocation by graduate Michael MacDonald, JATC Chmn. Larry Thompson and Training Dir. Paul Zimmerman introduced the guest speaker, IBEW Fourth District Int. Rep. David Moran. Diplomas and awards were presented by Chmn. Thompson and Dir.

Zimmerman followed by closing remarks by Jennifer O'Connell, NECA Akron Division.

[Editor's Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) is rebranding this year and transitioning into the Electrical Training Alliance. See "NJATC Transitions into the Electrical Training Alliance," *The Electrical Worker* (Sept. 2014), and at www.ibew.org.]

Residential graduates are: Bryan Brunson and Angela Vakasy. Commercial graduates are: Fadi Awadallah, Nicholas Badalucco, Genesis Cutright, Luke Hathaway, Ryan Hughes, Andrew Kern, Kevin Kumse, Ryan Lloyd, Michael MacDonald, Anthony Stewart and Nicholas Torio.

Highest grade point average: Commercial—Fadi Awadallah, 94.03 percent; Residential—Bryan Brunson, 92.47 percent.

Perfect attendance awards went to: Nicholas Badalucco, Genesis Cutright, Luke Hathaway, Ryan Lloyd, Michael MacDonald and Nicholas Torio.

Congratulations to all the graduates on successfully completing their apprenticeship.

Thomas Wright, Mbr. Dev.



At Ninth District Progress Meeting: Local 1186 Asst. Bus. Mgr. Tracy Hayashi (left), Local 340 Bus. Mgr. Tom Okumura, Local 1186 Bus. Mgr. Damien Kim, and Ninth District Int. Rep. Michael Meals.

'Mahalo'

L.U. 340 (i,rts&spa), SACRAMENTO, CA—This past summer I attended the annual Ninth District Progress Meeting. [Photo, above.] It was a great pleasure to meet so many business managers from other locals throughout the IBEW and take the opportunity to discuss the status of their work pictures, contract negotiations, and day-to-day happenings in their locals. I realized while talking to these business managers and delegates that we all want the same thing: excellent "health" for our members, which equates to steady work and good morale. We share a lot of the same struggles, but I believe Local 340 is on its way to much better health and I wish the same for all IBEW locals. A lot of ground is covered at these conventions in just a few days, and I found the workshops provided by the International Office to be very educational and the talks, very inspiring.

I especially want to thank Hawaii Locals 1186, 1260 and 1357 for the hospitality extended to myself and Local 340's delegates while visiting their beautiful Island of Maui. "Mahalo," brothers and sisters.

Rest in peace: Bros. Alson Bennett, Kenneth Braziel, Jack Duran, David Gair, Abner Knadler, Charles Moger, Jesus Sanjurjo, Bert Smith, Robert Sorn, Joshua Weidman, Gary Westlake and Vic Langdon.

Tom Okumura, B.M.

Service Award Night & Annual Golf Tournament

L.U. 354 (i,lpt,mt,rts&spa), SALT LAKE CITY, UT—Local 354 had several social events recently that were well-attended. In June, the Annual Golf Tournament

saw 29 teams participating. Thanks to all who helped to make it a great success.

In July, at the Service Award Recognition Night, many members were recognized for their years of membership in the local, ranging from 20 years of service to 65 years. Congratulations to all award recipients.

Jeb Bruce, P.S.



Local 354 Bus. Mgr. Russ Lamoreaux (left) congratulates Bros. Milton Ouzts and Lloyd McEwan on their 65 years of service.

A New Union Hall

L.U. 388 (em,i,rts&spa), STEVENS POINT, WI—IBEW Local 388 is proud to announce that Bus. Mgr. Dean Miller recently closed on a building that will be the new location for Local 388.

This building is in a great location with exceptional frontage on a major highway, which will afford us an excellent opportunity for advertising Local 388. Thanks go to Bus. Mgr. Miller, the E-Board members and the membership for making this purchase possible. As a result of the progressive action of all involved, we now have a facility that we can all be proud of.

The new building will be utilized for all of our training and job referrals, and it will also be big enough to hold our union meetings. At press time, we planned to soon announce the new address and the date when we will actually be in the new location.

Local 388 saw an increase of job calls during the summer; along with a few other projects that our local contractors have secured, we anticipate a busy couple of years.

We appreciate the help of traveling brothers and sisters who assist us in staffing our work. If you are in the area please, stop in and sign the book.

If you are traveling please be safe. I hope everyone had a great summer.

Guy LePage, P.S.



Local 388's newly acquired building will serve as its new union hall.

2014 Summer Activities

L.U. 424 (as,ees,em,es,i,mo,o,ptc,rtb,rts,spa&u), EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA—The summer fun started July 4 with the Unit 2 Pancake Breakfast & BBQ Lunch held in conjunction with the kickoff of the famous 10-day Calgary Stampede & Exhibition. Thank you to the Unit 2 retirees, E-Board members and business office staff for a job well done! Hard on the heels of the barbecue, the July 11 Unit 2 Golf Tournament was a great success.

Next was Tina Stevenson's July 12 Unit 1 Family Picnic at Dunluce Park. She and husband Scott did a superb job (as they have for many years) organizing the event and keeping the kids happy with entertainment, games and treats. With our large jurisdiction and so many members working away from home, the picnic is an affirmation of family values second only to

the Kids' Christmas Party. Thank you, Tina and Scott!

Our annual Unit 1 Pancake Breakfast & BBQ Lunch was held July 18 for the start of Edmonton's 10-day "K Days" Exhibition. The event was well-attended by members and several signatory employers who stopped in, raising \$732 for future projects. A salute goes to the retirees and spouses for an excellent social event. Thanks to all those who helped make it a success.

As of press time, the Unit 1 Golf Tournament was rescheduled for Sept. 5 this year, due to severe weather on the originally scheduled date in July.

Dave Anderson, P.S.

End of an Era— Training Director Retires

L.U. 480 (em,i&mt), JACKSON, MS—After 36 years as training director for Local 480's Apprenticeship Program, Robert C. "Buster" Sullivan Jr. retired June 30, 2014. Bro. Sullivan was initiated in February 1967 and has 47 years of active service. A second-generation IBEW member, he served as financial secretary as well as on the Executive Board and Examining Board. However, his true calling was as mentor to future journeyman wiremen.

The dedication of Buster and his fellow instructors allowed Local 480 to survive in a very anti-union environment here in Mississippi. These men built their lives around their local union and are hard to replace when they leave.

Buster's unique sense of humor and sharp wit earned him the respect and admiration of all whose lives he has touched. His willingness to go "the extra mile" to help out his students, whether in school or their personal lives, made him many friends and taught our young members the meaning of "Brotherhood."

Steve Magee, R.S.



Fifth District Int. Vice Pres. Joe S. Davis (left), 2014 Outstanding Apprentice Clayton O'Connor, and retiring Local 480 Apprenticeship Dir. Robert C. Sullivan Jr.

Summer Picnic & Golf Scramble

L.U. 530 (i,o&rtb), SARNIA, ONTARIO, CANADA—On Sunday, July 20, our Local 530 Annual Summer Picnic was held at Bluewater Fun Park. Members, their spouses and children spent the day having fun in pools, waterslides and bumper boats. Attendees enjoyed hamburgers, ice cream and other treats. It was another great event bringing our members and families together.

Our annual Local 530 Golf Scramble was Aug. 8 at Huron Oaks Golf Club. The golfers experienced perfect weather followed by a steak dinner and prizes for everyone. It was a repeat win for the same foursome as last year, with a score of -13. Congratulations, guys!

We thank the following locals for providing work for our members: Local 424 (Edmonton) and Local 1687 (Sudbury). Additionally, we thank our brothers and sisters from surrounding locals for helping us man in-town calls while some of our members continue out-of-town duties.

Local 530 is saddened by the recent and sudden passing of Bro. Jim Smyth.

Al Byers, P.S.

LOCAL LINES



Local 558 apprentice graduating class of 2014.

Newly Signatory Contractors: Major Projects a Success

L.U. 558 (catv,em,i,mt,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), SHEFFIELD, AL—We are excited to report that two new contractors now signatory with Local 558 have completed two projects with no interruption, proving that the IBEW is “The Right Choice.”

Silman Construction took on a major project in Decatur, AL, at a new Jack Daniels facility and gained a significant portion of our competition’s work as well. Also, Elk River Electric was successful in its first outage at the Toyota Motor Manufacturing Plant this summer in Huntsville, AL. Work will be steady throughout the remainder of 2014 with another major project at Toyota and the fall outage at the TVA Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant.

We are honored to recognize our 2014 JATC apprentice graduating class, which produced 24 new journeyman wiremen and four new journeyman linemen. Jason Azbell received the Wireman of the Year Award, and Chuck Joiner was selected as Lineman of the Year. Congratulations to all the graduates. We hold that the training they receive is the lifeblood of our industry and the best defense against our competition.

[Editor’s Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) is rebranding this year and transitioning into the Electrical Training Alliance. See “NJATC Transitions into the Electrical Training Alliance,” The Electrical Worker (Sept. 2014), and at www.ibew.org.]

We send our best to the Brotherhood, united as one.

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

75th Anniversary Banquet

L.U. 606 (em,es,i,rtb,spa&u), ORLANDO, FL—Retirees and active members gathered at the union-built and union-staffed Buena Vista Palace in Orlando to celebrate the local’s 75th anniversary as a chartered IBEW local.

Over 350 people attended the event, which featured dinner, speeches, dancing and brotherhood. Attendees included former business manager Doug Dagley, and former assistant business managers Terry Thompson and Butch Cox. Speakers included Fifth District Int. Vice Pres. Joe S. Davis, retired Disney



Attending 75th anniversary banquet of Local 606 are Bro. Doug Miller, a 49-year member, and wife Pam.

Maintenance assistant business manager Roy Poteet, and Florida AFL-CIO Pres. Mike Williams. JATC Dir. Jim Sullivan, 44-year member Bob Bartlett, and 49-year member Doug Miller gave an excellent history of the local and noted how Local 606 has become stronger over its 75 years. Everyone enjoyed the celebration, and the party lasted well into the night.

[Editor’s Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) is rebranding this year and transitioning into the Electrical Training Alliance. See “NJATC Transitions into the Electrical Training Alliance,” The Electrical Worker (Sept. 2014), and at www.ibew.org.]

With great sadness we announce the deaths of several members: Butch Rizer, Walter Pomictor, Wayne Stanley, Mickey Stephen and Donnie Wrenn. These brothers and others like them helped make Local 606 Orlando an outstanding local. They will be sorely missed. Our condolences go out to their families.

Fernando Rendon, R.S./P.S.



Local 640 officers are sworn in.

‘640 News’

L.U. 640 (em,govt,i,mo,mt,rts,spa&u), PHOENIX, AZ—We recently completed our local union election of officers. Congratulations to all those elected for stepping up to serve the local. *[Photo, above.]* Recently elected officers include: Bus. Mgr. Dean Wine, Pres. Delbert Hawk, Treas. Michael Bargone and Rec. Sec. Richard Stewart. Executive Board members are: Roy Hamilton, Frank Cissne, Jeff Sears, Dennis Allen and Dustin Fite. Examining Board members are: Bob Laparco, Fred Cook, Peter Iacona, Shawn Wickersheim and Jason Dempsey. We had a somewhat better turnout of voting this time around. Remember that if you don’t vote, your voice is not being heard.

I know we all live busy lives but it is imperative that we get involved with our local union in one way or another. A strong local requires the active participation of the membership. All it will take is a little from each member to make a real difference in our locals and our communities. We can’t rely solely on our business offices to be able to represent us; it is up to each of us to make a stand for what we believe in and make our union voices heard.

Thank you to retired member Earl Pierce and his Election Committee on running a flawless election. Brothers and sisters, remember to attend your local union meetings.

Jeff Sears, Mbr. Dev./P.S.

Wanted: Volunteers

L.U. 692 (i,mt&spa), BAY CITY, MI—Our work picture is somewhat slow at the time of this writing—however, with our organizing and business development we are working to hold our own.

Union members rallied to protest at a political fundraiser held at the Double Tree Hotel in Bay City on July 16. Trade unionists made their voices heard in opposition to anti-worker political candidates. The fundraiser was for Republican state Sen. Mike Green, who is no friend of working people. Tickets for the fundraiser started at \$2,500 and the keynote speaker was Republican Gov. Rick Snyder, who gave us so-called “right to work” along with about 200 other anti-worker bills.

There is a great need for volunteers as we approach midterm elections this fall. We need to gain five state House seats, which would give us control in the Michigan House.

We need everyone to get involved and volunteer some of their time on the upcoming elections. This is crucial for our livelihood.

We are sad to report the passing of three retired members: Bros. Robert B. Macaulay, Richard “Dick” Martin and Charles Bleicher III. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families.

Please get involved, brothers and sisters. Make your voices heard on what you believe in!

Tammy Gottleber, P.S.

Favorable NLRB Ruling

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 the ongoing dispute with Consolidated Communications (ICTO), the company had challenged 174 decisions of the National Labor Relations Board in which the local had previously won. The union was upheld on each and every one of them, but we are sure that Consolidated will continue to appeal.

The local hosted another successful Outside Business Managers’ Conference in June for the Fourth, Sixth and Eleventh Districts. The conference continues to grow each year.

At the 38th Annual IBEW Local 601 Softball Tournament (Illinois IBEW State Tournament), Local 702 captured first place for the second year in a row. That win followed the team’s second-place finish in the 2014 Midwest Softball Tournament, hosted by Local 8 in Ohio.

Our members continue to support our Solidarity Drawing, which has a top cash prize of \$25,000, with



IBEW Local 702 softball team champs.

the proceeds of the drawing helping our members and their families in need.

Our outside construction and line clearance work continues to be strong, and as of this writing, our referral books are as follows: Inside Construction - 85, Outside Construction - 6, Line Clearance - 3.

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

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

Officers Sworn In

L.U. 728 (em,i,rts&spa), FORT LAUDERDALE, FL—On July 7, Local 728 swore in the newly elected local union officers and Executive Board members for a three-year term ending in 2017.

Re-elected to office were: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. David Svetlick, Pres. Justin McIntosh and Treas. George Weaver. Also elected were Vice Pres. Sean Marron and Rec. Sec. Zac Cassidy. Elected to the Executive Board were: George “Adam” Campbell (re-elected), Jordan Golden, Shaun Haggerty, Brian Halsey and Steven Sperduto.

Delegates to the International Convention: Zac Cassidy, William “Jimmy” Kellerher, John Simmons and Bus. Mgr. Svetlick. Sean Marron is an alternate.

Thank you to all for the work that you do on behalf of Local 728.

Zac Cassidy, R.S.



Local 1116 Bus. Mgr. Frank Grijalva (right) presents Tony Callaway with a retirement watch at farewell breakfast.

Summer Review

L.U. 1116 (em,lctt&u), TUCSON, AZ—Congratulations and best wishes to our 2014 elected officers. They are as follows:

Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Frank Grijalva, Pres. Scott Northrup, Vice Pres. Greg Carter, Rec. Sec. Susan Trumbull and Treas. Juanita Mata. Executive Board members are: Danell Carter (administration), Adam Hogan (representing Power Production members), Andrew Koch (Electric Dept.) and Andrew Gzyngler (Transportation). Also elected were: Rick Ryan, SGS Unit chairman; William Wilkening, SGS Unit vice chairman; J.D. Perez, TRICO Unit chairman; and Bill Vohs, UNS Gas Unit chairman.

Statewide monsoon season is upon us again as of this writing, and many members have been working late and on weekends to restore power to our

customers. Two Tucson Electric Power (TEP) transmission crews traveled up to Lake Havasu to assist other line crews from sister company UES Electric after a July microburst downed more than 40 poles in some rough terrain.

Our local received a favorable arbitration ruling regarding our "meal adder" payment and language for call-out overtime at TEP. Employees will receive back pay covering approximately 18 months.

Best wishes to recent retirees: Nancy DiMaria (15 years of service), Tony Callaway (34 years' service), John Pedrazza (40 years), Daniel Pettis (21 years) and William Swartzter (21 years). Thank you to all for your dedicated union service.

R. Cavalletto, P.S.

'United Day of Action'

L.U. 1466 (u), COLUMBUS, OH—On Thursday, July 31, Local 1466 took part in a protest march in Pittsburgh to raise awareness about harmful effects of forthcoming rules on carbon emissions the EPA has proposed for coal-fired power plants. The EPA is holding hearings across the country on this issue, and our union brothers and sisters have made our voices heard and our opinions known, in both the hearings and on the streets. Thousands of men and women from all across the trade union movement took part in the July 31 historic action. We must use our voices to let the public know the devastating effects these rules will have on good-paying, middle class jobs, as well as the potential harm it could do the reliability of the grid.

In other news, Local 1466 will join our brothers and sisters from across the IBEW to take part in the United Day of Action on Oct. 18. This event is being organized by our RENEW Committee, and will be a great opportunity to give back to the neighborhoods where we live and work. Our local has a strong tradition of community service and this certainly will be no exception. Anybody who wishes to take part and help out should contact the union hall. We look forward to seeing everyone!

Jimi Jette, P.S.

'Next Step' Program Concludes

L.U. 2324 (t), SPRINGFIELD, MA—Since 1995, more than 8,500 union members employed by Verizon have received an opportunity to obtain a college degree through the Next Step Program.

The Next Step Program came about as a result of a 1994 negotiated agreement between Verizon (then NYNEX Corp.) and craft unions CWA and IBEW. The program's mission was to provide an innovative, skills-based educational program to enable employees to stay apace with advancing technology, understand changing marketplace realities, and enhance customer service skills through the acquisition of an associate degree in Applied Science with a focus on telecommunications technology. Under terms of the agreement, eligible employees could attend college classes one day per week on company time.

For 19 years, IBEW Local 2324 members could enroll in the Next Step Program and attend Springfield Technical Community College. Unfortunately, the program must come to an end, as a result of recent contract negotiations.

Congratulations to our current and final Next Step graduating class—Cayo Mason, Scott Tongue, James Sheehan, Brian King, Benjamin Andrews, Thomas Hodge and Matthew Teague—along with all members who over the years earned a degree through the Next Step Program.

Christine Casino, Exec. Brd.



2010 graduates of the Next Step Program: Joe Floyd (left), Corey O'Brien, Ed Szklasz, Paul Mark, Bernie Nestor, Paul Chivas and Josh Chechile.



Enter the IBEW's 2014 PHOTO CONTEST!

Perhaps nothing speaks as elegantly to the dignity and white-knuckled effort of the worker as a well-composed photograph.

Now, it's your turn to try your hand at capturing art in the electrical trade for the IBEW's annual photo contest. For more than 15 years, thousands of members just like you have submitted their best shots illustrating what makes our union one of the most skilled and highly-respected across the U.S. and Canada.

Among linemen working in punishing conditions, members performing storm repair, clever takes on the everyday and more, contestants have helped foster an added sense of pride in the work they do as part of the Brotherhood.

Enter Today! Deadline: Dec. 31

01 ▶ 1st Place: \$200

02 ▶ 2nd Place: \$150

03 ▶ 3rd Place: \$100

H ▶ Honorable Mention: \$50

Photo Contest Rules:

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

Contest Entry Form

Name _____

Address _____

City and state _____

Zip code _____

Phone number _____

E-mail address _____

Local union number _____ IBEW card number _____

Photo description _____

UNION SPORTSMEN'S ALLIANCE GUN A WEEK 2015 CALENDAR

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International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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

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FROM THE OFFICERS

Hanging Together—or Separately?



Edwin D. Hill
International President

During the American Revolution, Benjamin Franklin understood that the colonists were walking a razor's edge between victory and demise. Staring down the threat of treason—and execution, should they fail—he said, “We must all hang together or we will surely hang separately,” as he signed the Declaration of Independence.

Those of us fighting for the rights of working people should heed that warning because we too are engaged in a struggle for our very survival against powerful politicians and wealthy corporations who are hell-bent on making sure we don't hang together.

That's why we are doubling down on our efforts to grow the Brotherhood.

In September, officers and activists met in Las Vegas for our annual Membership Development conference. It was a time for us to talk, learn, regroup and strategize for the fights ahead.

We discussed how, in 2013, we registered a slight increase in membership. To be sure, the percentage was small, but it constituted a step in the right direction.

Now, we need to turn small steps into ground-gripping strides. In coming months, we will discuss construction organizing. Right now, I want to focus on getting back to the practice of internal organizing in the professional and industrial sector.

It's not a new idea. Internal organizing was a key ingredient of our program that got started in earnest in 2006. It yielded results then, and will again—if we get it right.

Internal organizing starts in the right-to-work states. Unfortunately, there are two more of them in recent years—Indiana and Michigan. Other states, like Wisconsin, have enacted what amounts to limited right-to-work for public sector employees.

Here's the task: a recommitment to the most fundamental goal of all—increasing our membership. This being said, we should not rest until we have turned every possible non-member in our units into members. Now, some of them are hard-core union haters. Others only want a free ride. But that leaves a significant number of persuadable folks who are already benefiting from the work of the IBEW. They understand at some level that they need us. Well, we need them too. These are the first—of many—people we need to bring onboard.

Or, to sum it all up in a couple of words, organizing and building our membership leads to growth, augmenting our collective voice and expanding and strengthening our influence in the industries we represent. This way, we stand a better chance of fighting back against those who want to take everything we have, who would love to see us hang separately. ■

At Risk in November

Elections belong to the people. It's their decision. If they decide to turn their back on the fire and burn their behinds, then they will just have to sit on their blisters.

—Abraham Lincoln

Fire isn't too strong a word to describe what unions and working families face in the upcoming midterm elections. Don't take it from me. Listen to what the candidates are saying.

Listen to Kentucky's Mitch McConnell, who promises to make it a top priority to repeal the Davis-Bacon Act if Republicans win the Senate next year.

Listen to Bruce Rauner, running for governor of Illinois. Rauner, a guy who made \$53 million last year and owns nine houses, says, “We may have to do what Ronald Reagan did with the air traffic controllers ... and shut things down for a little while.”

This issue of the *Electrical Worker* presents clear evidence how gains won by previous generations of workers could go up in flames if we elect the wrong candidates in November.

Again, don't take my word for it. Review our election coverage in this issue and make your own decision. Consider what has happened since the ban on corporate spending on elections was dropped in the 2010 Supreme Court decision *Citizens United*, flooding anti-union candidates with unlimited cash.

Follow the money. Right-wing state legislators have replaced reasonable moderates in many states. Thousands of union members, including some IBEW members, have lost the rights to collectively bargain with their employers. States like Michigan and Indiana have even passed right-to-work laws.

States like Kansas have choked budgets, leaving construction workers unemployed as infrastructure jobs are put on hold.

If you're still reading this, you are probably inspired enough to get out and vote for candidates who will work to stop all of this damage to working families.

So, I'm asking you to reach out to your co-workers. Show them the evidence. Do your best to convince them of the necessity to vote for our union-endorsed candidates. I know that's never easy. But if we turn our members out on Nov. 4, we'll keep more bad things from happening to good, hard-working people.

And we'll even make history electing an electrician, Folsom, N.J., Local 351 Assistant Business Manager Donald Norcross to the U.S. Congress. ■



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

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“LETTERS TO THE EDITOR”

On the Election

As we approach the midterm elections we are beginning to see many of our brothers and sisters looking for excuses to not vote for the Democrats. This is hard for an old Democrat to understand. If anyone who doubts who the Democrats care for would look at the past records of Republican administrations, they would see that the only time there are any substantial gains made for organized labor is under Democratic-controlled Congresses.

One of the main goals of House and Senate Republicans is to eliminate as many organized labor gains as possible. It is understandable that the big business people want to hold back all gains that would cut into their profits, but it is not understandable to me how people who work for big business would agree with those principles. Without labor, they won't make money.

We in the labor movement must understand that we must do everything to increase our standard of living and improve the general welfare of the average American citizen. We must also understand that there are situations that in some cases would hurt the general public but would provide jobs for construction workers; oil pipelines are a prime example of that situation. We must weigh all the possibilities, and try to come up with an answer where all parties benefit if possible.

In the case of the pipeline that will carry oil from Canada to refineries in the United States, that oil is destined to go to China, not the United States. The potential disasters in the path of the pipeline will be on American citizens for the profits of big oil. I also agree that the so-called free-trade agreements are not helping labor at all. It is incumbent upon us to inform our representatives and senators that we are against any so-called free-trade agreements that are not in the interest of American labor.

*Robert E Fritz, Local 35 retiree
Hartford, Conn.*

Excellent Apprentices

Apprentices from the city of Roseville, Calif. We are a small utility with only a few crews and four linemen. Our apprentices don't get much credit, but the three of them are doing a good job!

*Shawn Murphy, Local 1245 member
Vacaville, Calif.*



Apprentice of the Year

My son, Robert Robertson Jr., center, received the Apprentice of the Year award from the Upper Peninsula Construction Council. When this photo was taken, he was a fifth-year apprentice member of Marquette, Mich., Local 1070 (and shown here with two members of Boilermakers Local 169, Area 4). He has since topped out as a journeyman wireman. I am a proud mother.



*Donna Robertson, mother of Local 1070 member Robert Robertson Jr.
Marquette, Mich.*



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

Why Vote?

I am glad to see the IBEW involved in politics. Union members need to vote these anti-union politicians out of office and we need to educate the public about the good things about unions.

*James Jones, Local 716 member
Houston*

We need to decide what is most important to us, then vote accordingly. For me the most important thing is living wage jobs for my brothers, my sisters and I. The GOP has proven that they will not provide the right candidate to help our country with this issue. If my brothers and sisters cannot see this, living wage jobs will continue to disappear.

*Steven DiMatteo, Local 351 member
Folsom, N.J.*

WHO WE ARE

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



Retired Portland IBEW Leader: 'Still in the Dogfight'

Ed Barnes, center, IBEW Local 48 retiree and full-time community activist, is surrounded by sons Brian, left, Brad and Bruce, grandson-in-law Kevin Lux and grandson Broc, all members of Local 48.

A force of nature. The ultimate organizer. That's how Jeff Johnson, president of the Washington State AFL-CIO, describes retired Portland, Ore., Local 48 Business Manager Ed Barnes.

Unlike so many accolades to retirees, Johnson's description wasn't about "Glory Days" that passed Ed by, like the Bruce Springsteen song chronicles.

Barnes, who served in union office for 15 years, retiring in 1995, was basking in the glory of community goodwill in June. The Vancouver, Wash., resident, who spent 12 years as a state transportation commissioner, had just been appointed a commissioner of Clark County.

For months, Barnes had publicly battled his now-fellow incumbent Republican commissioners over cronyism, challenging the hiring of one of their political allies, a state senator who Barnes said lacked the expertise to serve as the county's environmental services director.

A fuse was lit when the new director sued Barnes for defamation. The community rallied behind Barnes, whose three sons, Brian, Bradley and Bruce, as well as grandson, Broc, and grandson-in-law, Kevin Lux, are all members of Local 48.

Nearly 300 Vancouver citizens massed outside a commission meeting sporting buttons and T-shirts that read, "Ed Barnes is Right," carrying signs saying, "I am Ed Barnes."

"Ed always told the commissioners they weren't listening to the people. Here's a man who has no computer or cell phone, but who is willing to put his face out front and speak for all of us. I love Ed Barnes," says Marcia Manning, a former paper industry manager who helped organize the rally.

"Politics is in my blood," says Barnes, 80, a Korean War veteran who grew up in Arthurdale, W.Va., a New Deal community established by First Lady Elea-

nor Roosevelt. Barnes remembers sitting on her lap as well as the battles that led his family to the national landmark.

His father, who began working in coal mines at age 8, endured gunshots from hired guards as a union organizer, later became a charter member of an IBEW local union in Fairmount.

Barnes says his father's activism was behind his family being designated by the Roosevelt administration as one of 164 homesteaders to be given three acres of land, a house and a barn in Arthurdale. His father helped wire the buildings.

In the late 1940s, the elder Barnes took his family to Hanford, Wash., where he went to work in a nuclear production complex. The family lived in a 12-person tent for a year.

"If you support the IBEW, you have to support candidates who [follow the tradition] of those who fought for the 40-hour work week and the eight-hour day," says Barnes, who first accompanied his father, then a member of Local 48, distributing campaign fliers for a local politician.

Barnes began selling COPE tickets as an apprentice and was selected Local 48's first registrar. And he started backing candidates, helping many win public office.

Barnes became perhaps the best-known advocate for local transportation system modernization. Against staunch Republican opposition, he supported the construction of the Columbia River Crossing, a proposed freeway megaproject to replace two aging bridges, built in 1917 and 1958.

"Ed was tireless, front and center, calling politicians who opposed the project into question," says AFL-CIO leader Johnson.

The Columbia River Crossing remains unbuilt. But Brian Barnes, Ed's oldest son, knows his father will never give up his advocacy.

"My dad followed in his father's footsteps. He's always been a champion

of the blue-collar worker," says Brian Barnes, a 35-year member of Local 48. And he's a champion with good humor.

Two years ago, Barnes led a partner in the foxtrot as the first member of organized labor to compete in a "Dancing with the Stars" benefit for a local charity. He won, collecting \$25,000. A beaming Barnes was chauffeured to the event in Local 48's electric Chevy Volt, driven by another former business manager, Cliff Davis, who is now an international representative for business development.

"Ed is a labor movement icon," says Davis, crediting Barnes with "tremendous growth" in Local 48's market share, marshalling a once-controversial market recovery program and drug-free workplace initiative. Portland's IBEW-NECA labor-management cooperation committee is named for Barnes and a now-deceased management counterpart, Buzz Allison.

"Ed was always an advocate for all working men and women in our state," says former Oregon Gov. Ted Kulongoski, a friend. "His most enduring quality was his loyalty and his word. If Ed told you he was going to do something, it happened."

As of this writing, Bruce Barnes, Ed's youngest son, is recovering from critical injuries resulting from a freak accident on a motocross track where he was volunteering. Brian Barnes says his brother's need for quality medical care reminds him of the opposition his father faced when he initiated Local 48's health and welfare fund: "Today, the families of those who opposed the plan are its biggest supporters." His father never took their opposition personally. "My dad values everyone's input and taught us that we need to listen to everyone's opinion to change the world."

Asked about his new role as a county commissioner, Ed Barnes says, "It's a dogfight every day. I just introduced a resolution supporting the Columbia River Crossing." ■

Making Green Jobs Good Jobs

First U.S. Clean Coal Plant a Big Win for Miss. IBEW

Since 2010, Mississippi Power has been building a revolutionary \$5.4 billion cleaner-burning coal-fired power plant less than eight miles from Stacy Henderson's front door. For two years after construction began, Henderson, business manager of Meridian, Miss., Local 917, said not a single union member got onto the work site at the Kemper County Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle plant.

And it bothered him.

"I could see the lights at night from my front porch and it drove me hard to get out there," Henderson said. "I could be on-site harassing the [patience] out of them in about 10 minutes, so I did. For two years I did."

The plant won close to \$700 million in federal grants and tax credits, and a nearly 20 percent utility rate increase to recover at least \$2.8 billion in construction costs. But Henderson said that local union contractors were boxed out.

The job was plagued by construction problems and nearly \$2 billion in cost overruns, ultimately resulting in the very public firing of KBR and W.G. Yates & Sons Construction, the nonunion contractors running a significant part of the job. The plant opening, originally set for spring 2014, has been pushed back several times, and full operation is now not expected until 2015.

That two-year campaign by Local 917 and the trades council was ultimately successful, and, a year ago at peak, more than 200 members of Local 917 were at work under a special agreement with Southern Co., parent company of Mississippi Power. There are still close to 100 members at Kemper—out of a local union with just over 200 members—and 300 union craft workers total.

After eight months on the job, Southern Co. came back to the council and expanded the agreement to cover maintenance work at five coal plants that had never used organized workers before.

"Even though we have the utility contract with Mississippi Power, traditionally, their Gulf Coast coal plants had on-site nonunion electricians exclusively," said Fifth District International Representative Phillip Young. "It took a while, but once we started working on Kemper, they saw the benefit and now all their Mississippi plants are our work."

When complete in 2015, Kemper IGCC will be the nation's first scratch-built "clean coal" power plant and the first new coal plant of any kind to break ground since 2008. It uses a revolutionary carbon capture system that cuts carbon emissions by 65 percent, about equal to a similarly sized natural gas plant. It will far exceed the Environmental Protection Agency's new regulations for mercury, sulfur and carbon dioxide, yet it will burn lignite, one of the dirtiest and lowest grades of coal.

"It's not even a rock really, it's more like black dirt and they have enough on the power plant site itself to run the plant



for more than 40 years," Henderson said.

The secret to reducing the emissions is that Kemper is about equal parts chemical and power plant. Unlike the carbon capture

systems that have retrofitted a handful of existing coal plants in the last half decade, at Kemper the coal is never burned. Instead, power from the plant is used to convert it to

Mississippi Power's revolutionary Kemper power station is being built with the help of Meridian, Miss., Local 917 members.

a gas a lot like natural gas.

When coal is gasified, carbon dioxide is much more concentrated and easier to remove than when it is burned, said officials from Southern Co., which co-owns the technology with the mega-contractor KBR. Once removed, the carbon dioxide gas will be piped more than 40 miles to Heidelberg, Miss., where it will be pumped into nearly tapped out oil deposits in a process known as "enhanced oil recovery." All that carbonation loosens the remaining oil and it, in effect, fizzes its way out of the well like dropping Mentos into a 2-liter bottle of Diet Coke.

When the well runs dry, the remaining carbon dioxide is sealed below thousands of feet of bedrock.

The gasifiers, pipes and turbines were all successfully tested in July and August but the official start of lignite-fueled operation has been pushed to early 2015.

Henderson said that working conditions have often been difficult at Kemper and the jobsite is often hostile to unions. So Henderson said he keeps the folder documenting two years of meetings, negotiations and protests sitting on his desk, as a token of what it took to get there.

"That file is three, maybe four inches thick, and it's there to remind me of the hard work we all did to turn the first bolt," he said. "I tell the members: this is our work. We keep doing jobs like this right, and there will be a lot more jobs that let us sleep in our own beds at the end of the day." ■

IBEW Trainer Raises Electrical Awareness for Emergency Personnel

Keeping firefighters safe from electrical dangers

Last May, a group of Colton, Calif., firefighters were called to the scene of a commercial fire. They put out the blaze without any injuries, but an even more deadly situation soon emerged.

A ladder from the fire truck made contact with a 12,000-volt power line, sending a potentially lethal current into two firefighters at the rear of the vehicle.

Lives were on the line, but the fire crew was ready. Using information they learned in a special IBEW-NECA safety training class, they prevented the situation from becoming catastrophic.

As Energy Independence reporter Dwight Cromie reported:

"Battalion Chief Kevin Valentin emphasized that what his team learned in the electrical safety class, taught by C.J. Hamilton, instructor for the San Bernardino chapter of the National Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (now the Electrical Training Alliance) may have saved the lives of those two critically injured men, the pipe-ladder operator and possibly the entire crew."

The other crew members approached the downed men, shuffling their feet to see if the area was energized, before pulling the injured to safety. A third firefighter, the ladder-operator, was trapped on the vehicle.

"The aerial ladder operator could feel the ladder truck buzzing, and knew

he had electricity flowing around him," Battalion Chief Don Benfield wrote in a letter of thanks to Hamilton.

The operator was told to jump out of the energized zone, holding both feet together to avoid getting electrocuted, reports Cromie.

Hamilton says the fire chief called him later that week. "He told me that 'because of your class, three firefighters went to hospital instead of the morgue.'"

Hamilton, a member of San Bernardino Local 477 and former organizer, began the fire safety workshops soon after his retirement in 2009.

He gave an electrical safety awareness class for firefighters in nearby Redland, and decided that it was something the NECA & IBEW Labor Management Cooperation Committee needed to replicate.

"I want attendees to understand what electricity can do so they can avoid the hazards," he said.

Working in what is already one of the most dangerous occupations in the country, firefighters also confront live wires, utility poles and other electrical dangers.

Hired by the LMCC as its electrical safety trainer for Southern California first responders, Hamilton has trained more than 8,000 firefighters and emergency personnel throughout the state—and interest keeps growing.

The LMCC has donated nearly \$1 mil-



San Bernardino Local 477 member C.J. Hamilton runs free workshops for emergency personnel on electrical safety awareness.

lion to the program, but offers the trainings at no charge. It's a big cost, Hamilton says, but the IBEW's and NECA's commitment to public safety makes it an important investment for both organizations.

In addition to Local 477, Riverside Local 440 is also a supporter of the trainings.

"We want people to know that we're here, and we're here to help," he said.

One of the biggest challenges in training first responders is to get them to slow down and be more cautious when dealing with live electricity, Hamilton said.

"Firefighters are taught to jump right in to dangerous situations," he said. "Hesitate and you're dead," they're told. But working around electricity, hesitation

can be a lifesaver."

With the growing number of photovoltaic panels installed on commercial and residential buildings in California, Hamilton recently added a solar awareness class to the curriculum.

"A solar panel is energized, so we go through how to properly shut it down during an emergency," he said.

Hamilton says he hopes that the program will eventually go national, including doing "train-the-trainer" programs for NJATC instructors across the country.

"It's about safety, but it's also about building solidarity between the IBEW and emergency personnel," he said.

Go to www.electricalawareness.com for more information. ■