

# THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

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## IBEW News

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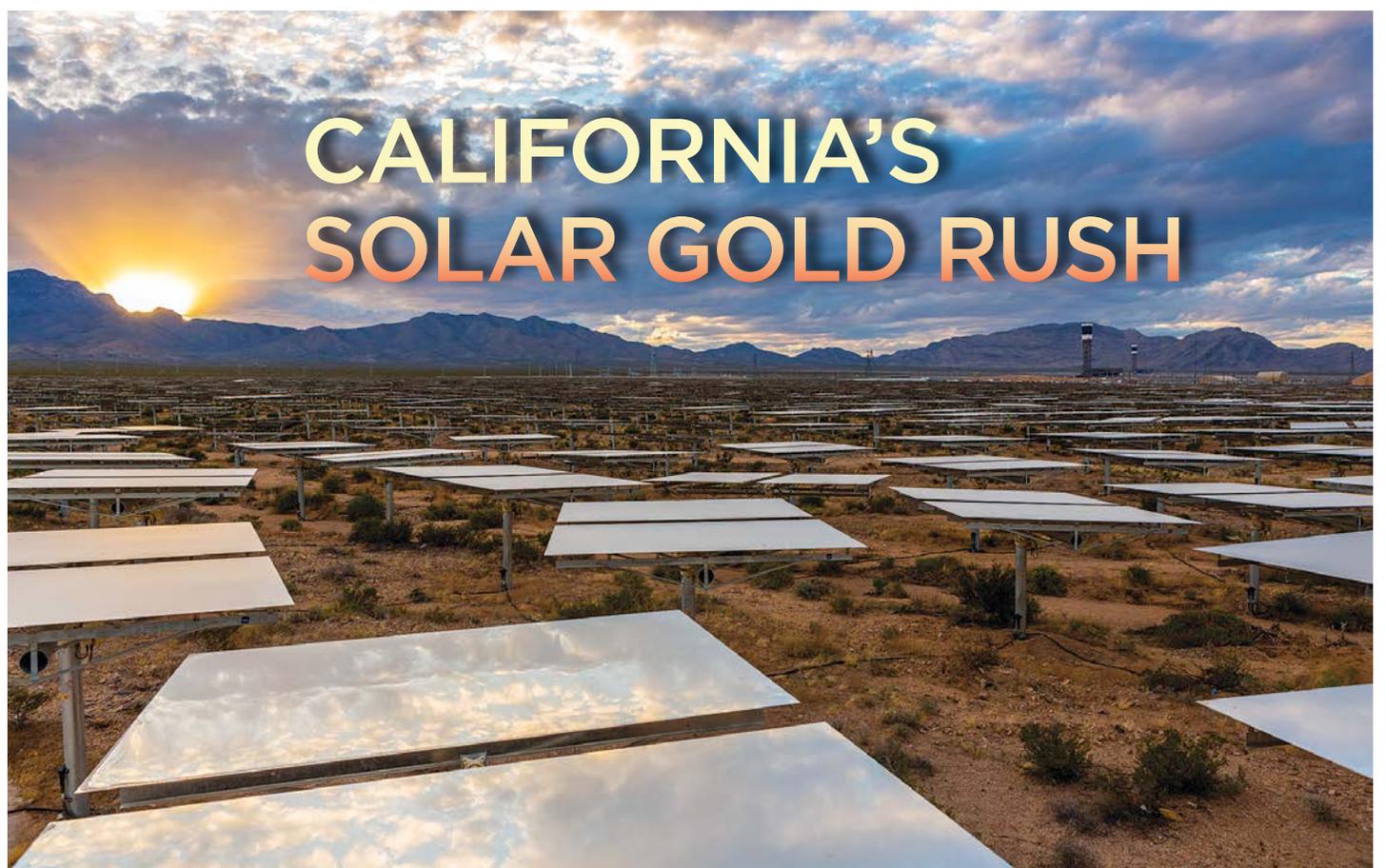
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The Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System in the Mojave Desert, built by members of San Bernardino Local 477. Photo courtesy BrightSource Energy

**F**ive years ago, Fresno, Calif., Local 100 was in deep trouble.

"We were looking at Depression-era unemployment, 35-40 percent of our 800 members were on the bench and most of the ones working weren't seeing a full 40 hours in a week. We lost more than 100 members," said Local 100 Business Manager Kevin Cole. "The economy around here was devastated. Solar saved this local."

In the last two years, Cole said, total hours worked are nearly back to pre-recession levels and solar projects have accounted for nearly 80 percent.

Across Southern California, grid-scale solar projects—those larger than 50 megawatts, often much larger—have been going up at an unprecedented rate,

buoying the fortunes of nearly a dozen construction locals. The state now has enough solar capacity installed to power more than 2.25 million homes, nearly all of it built in the 10 counties south of San Luis Obispo in the last three years.

The abundant sunshine and thousands of square miles of desert range have held out promise since photovoltaics were first commercialized 40 years ago, but three forces have come together to bring that promise to fruition. First, the price of solar panels has been falling rapidly: more than 75 percent since 2006. Second, the 30 percent federal investment tax credit that debuted in 2006 and was extended in 2008, provided an automatic, reliable incentive that made multibillion dollar solar projects more attractive to lenders and investors.

Finally, in 2011, Gov. Jerry Brown assigned an expansion of California's renewable portfolio standard, increasing the amount of energy the state's utilities had to source from solar, wind, geothermal or hydroelectric from 20 to 33 percent by the year 2020. The state's utilities went on a buying spree, locking in decades-long power purchasing agreements with solar developers at fixed prices, removing a great deal of risk for developers and investors.

"The IBEW up and down the state had a large presence in Sacramento advocating for the RPS expansion," said San Diego Local 569 Business Manager Johnny Simpson. "I won't say it wouldn't have passed without us, but we worked very hard to get it done and I think it has paid off for the state and for our members."

Membership in Local 569 jumped from 2,100 in 2011 to 3,300 in 2013. The eastern half of 569's jurisdiction is the sparsely populated Imperial County. In 2012, there were only 60 members in a county about the same size as Connecticut. One year later there were more than 800.

"Solar has been a wonderful industry for us," Simpson said.

Some of the largest solar projects in the world have been built by IBEW members, including the 392 mw Ivanpah plants—built by members of San Bernardino Local 477—which produce enough power for nearly 400,000 homes, and the 500 mw Topaz projects, still under construction by members of San Luis Obispo Local 639.

Riverside Local 440 has seen similar success.

CALIFORNIA SOLAR *continued on page 2*

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# Bright Days for California Solar

Continued from page 1

Business Manager Bob Frost said membership has grown nearly 50 percent since 2011 to almost 1,000 members, and nearly 60 percent of their work in recent years has been solar.

Perhaps no local has been as dramatically affected by the solar boom as Bakersfield Local 428. In six years the local has grown 40 percent, and gone from 25 percent of the members laid off to supporting dozens of travelers. Since 2013, more than half of the membership has been working on a single job, the 580 mw Solar Star projects.

“We have proven to the owners that there is a huge advantage in hiring the IBEW,” said Business Manager Jim Elrod. “At first many of them were afraid of organized labor, but they had very little success hiring people off the street. Our national pool of highly qualified workers was very valuable. Then we showed how the strength of our roots in this community would help get their projects approved.”

There are signs that the pace of solar construction might slow down. The federal tax credit is

scheduled to expire at the end of 2016, and as utilities get closer to the 33 percent goal offering less desirable terms in power purchasing agreements, most Southern California locals said they expect at least a few more years of significant work in the California solar fields.

“Because we’ve had so much work in the solar fields we can take our time and more successfully target nonunion contractors doing other kinds of work. Romance them a bit,” Elrod said. “If solar is a fad, we’ll be more diverse and bigger than before.”

Nevertheless, the Solar Energy Industry Association reported that California will build as much solar capacity in the next year as was built in the last 30 years combined and nearly 19,000 mw is under development in the state. San Bernardino Local 477, for example, has a PLA in hand to build a 1,200 mw project—four times larger than the largest solar plant in the world, Ivanpah, which was also built by Local 477.

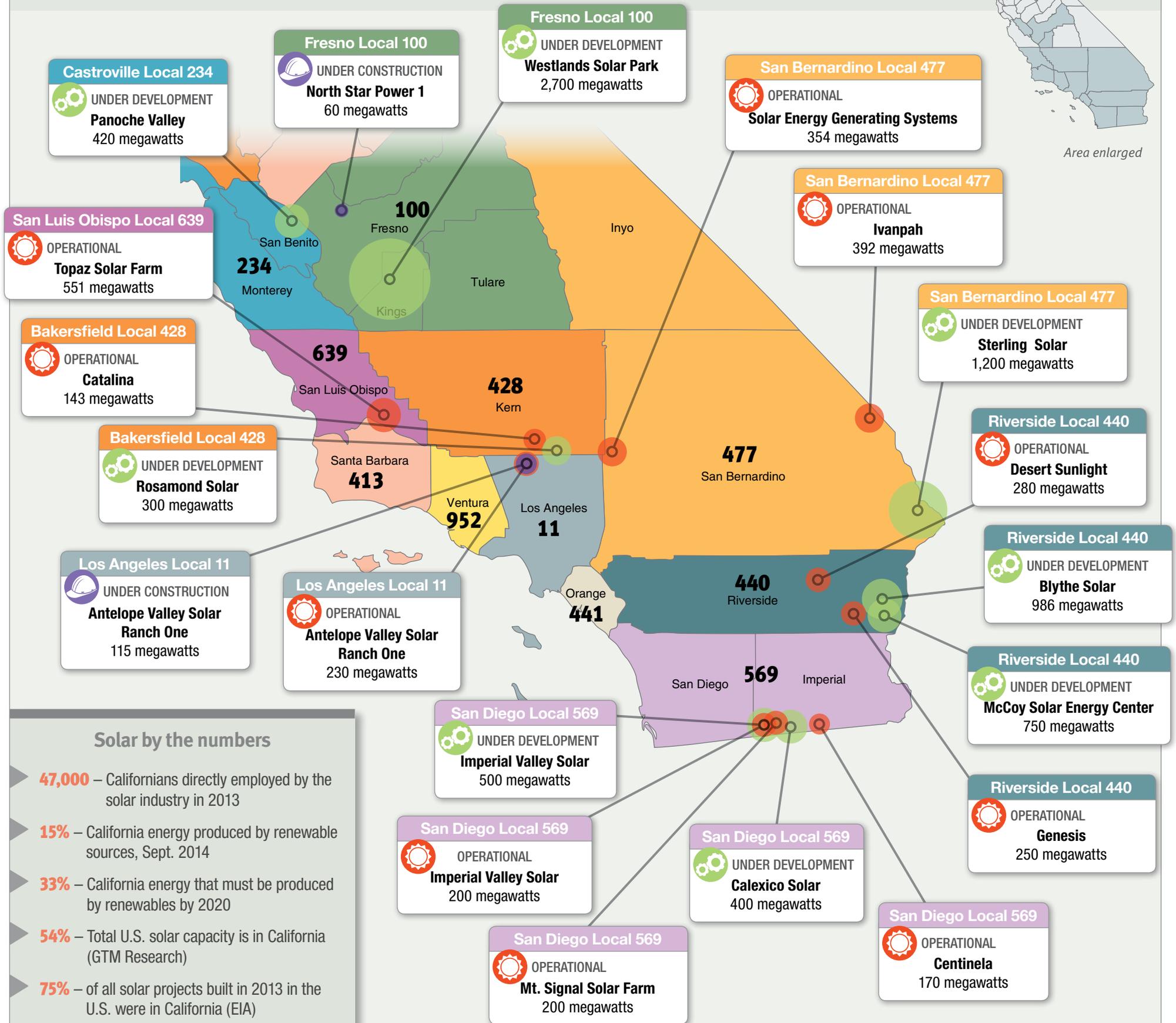
“All this green energy has been very, very good to the IBEW,” said San Diego Local 569 Business Manager Simpson. ■

## SOLAR: POWERING THE GROWTH OF THE IBEW

Southern California’s IBEW locals have been hard at work installing large scale solar power plants over the last decade, and the future looks nearly as bright. Dozens of projects are either up and running, under construction or in development and the ones on this map are just a few of the most noteworthy. The bigger the circle, the larger the capacity.



Area enlarged



### Solar by the numbers

- 47,000 – Californians directly employed by the solar industry in 2013
- 15% – California energy produced by renewable sources, Sept. 2014
- 33% – California energy that must be produced by renewables by 2020
- 54% – Total U.S. solar capacity is in California (GTM Research)
- 75% – of all solar projects built in 2013 in the U.S. were in California (EIA)

Natural Gas Brings Jobs to East, West Coasts

# The Changing Face of Canada's Energy Industry

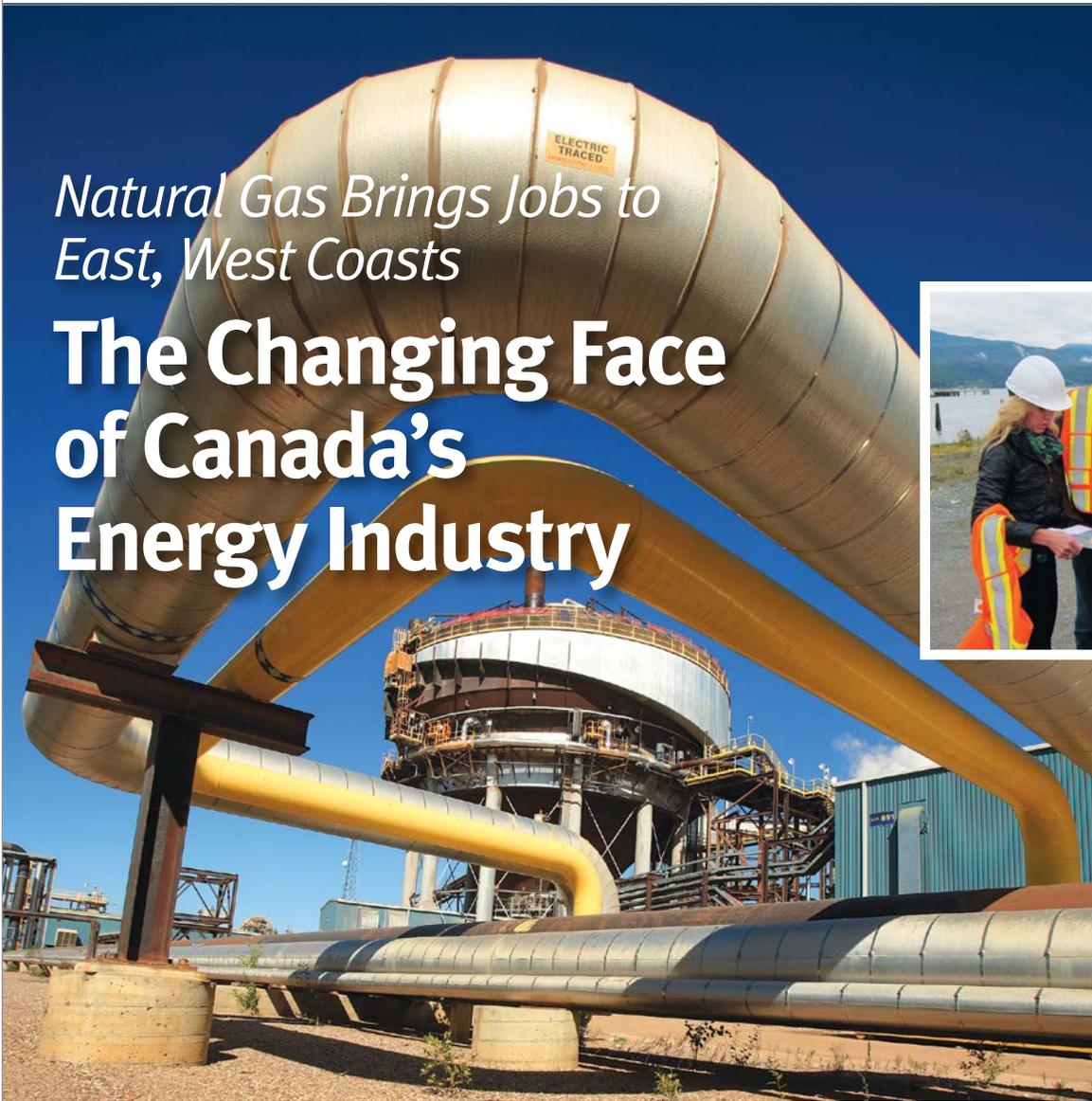


Photo Credit: Syncrude

*Editor's Note: This is the second of a two-part series on how the changing energy landscape is affecting IBEW members across North America.*

The oil and energy boom in the United States in many ways parallels what happened north of the border a decade ago.

In the early 2000s, drilling in the oil sands region of Northern Alberta took off, fueling an energy boom that kept Canada's building trades busy, even during the worst of the 2008-2009 global recession.

Alberta added nearly a half million jobs between 2003 and 2013, the highest growth rate in the nation. And construction jobs lead employment growth, accounting for 31 percent of Alberta's job gains, according to provincial statistics.

But just as America's energy boom is heating up, a global drop in oil prices may slow Alberta's down.

Petroleum prices dropped more than 20 percent in October from just a few months ago, reported Politico.

"If world prices remain low, we may see a slowdown in new oil sands development," says Edmonton Local 424 Business Agent Ken MacKenzie.

That month, the Calgary Herald reported on a survey of energy infrastructure companies that revealed an increasingly negative mood about future investment in the region.

Alberta is particularly susceptible to a drop in prices, as tar sands oil sells at \$20 to \$30 (U.S. dollars) less than conventional crude, reported Public Radio International.

The delay in the approval of new oil pipelines, particularly the Keystone XL pipeline, which would transport Canadian oil to the United States, is eating into returns, with the cost of rail transport

tacking on an extra \$15 to \$20 per barrel.

At least three multibillion dollar contracts have either been canceled or postponed in the past three years, including a \$12 billion upgrader, which would have processed tar sands oil, and a \$11 billion mine to be built by French energy giant Total S.A.

All three projects cited volatile energy markets and increased capital costs for the delays, MacKenzie said.

Tar sands crude requires extra processing to separate clay and sand from the bitumen. The majority of processing is done outside the province, which raises costs and slashes profits.

Local 424, which represents more than 8,000 electrical workers in Alberta, offers an alternative approach—building more refineries at home.

"Upgrading and refining oil sands bitumen here in Alberta would mean thousands of jobs in construction, maintenance and supporting industries and businesses," MacKenzie said. "Getting full value for the resource makes sense, but it will take a concerted lobbying effort from the public and organized labor to make it a reality."

The IBEW points to the North West Redwater Partnership, a joint project of North West Upgrading Inc. and Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. The \$10 billion complex, north of Edmonton, would refine 50,000 barrels of bitumen per day.

Local 424 already has 50 members on site. At the peak of construction, the project will require more than 1,200 IBEW electricians.

"We could certainly benefit from more projects like this," MacKenzie said.

## East Coast, West Coast Energy Fuels Jobs

While the prairies are facing a slowdown in energy production and development, both Atlantic Canada and British Columbia may witness an energy boom in the next decade.

The Deep Panuke offshore gas field, which went online in 2013, is driving energy exports from Nova Scotia. And that's only the beginning, says Halifax Local 625 Business Manager Tim Swinamer.

BP and Shell are exploring the possibility of building more oil and gas drilling stations in the Atlantic.

"We've always done offshore work," Swinamer said. "So it will be great for us if they happen."

IBEW members on the East Coast are also getting ready for the construction of the first phase of the Maritime Link: 170 kilometers of transmission cables that will transport power produced by the Muskrat Falls hydro dam in Labrador to customers throughout Atlantic Canada and the Northeast region of the U.S.

The first part of the massive project—building transmission lines to transport power to homes in Newfoundland and Labrador—is underway.

Still, jobless rates in the east remain higher than average, with unemployment in Nova Scotia hitting a 16-month high last July, reported the Daily Commercial News in September.

But continued oil and gas explorations, plus major federal projects like the \$300-million modernization of the Halifax Shipyard is expected to boost growth—and construction work—in 2015.

Meanwhile British Columbia is

*The oil sands in Alberta, left, are experiencing a slowdown due to low oil prices, but the natural gas industry is expected to see major growth in British Columbia, where provincial officials, below, are scoping new sites for liquefied natural gas facilities.*



Photo Credit: Government of British Columbia

gearing up for billions of dollars in natural gas work.

Shale drilling, which sparked the U.S.'s natural gas boom, is underway in the province's Northeast region, home to the Horn River and Montney Basins.

The saturation of the U.S. market with natural gas means the future of B.C.'s gas industry lies east with the emerging economies of China, India and Southeast Asia.

To meet this need, energy companies have proposed more than a dozen liquefied natural gas export facilities throughout the province.

Liquefied natural gas, or LNG, is natural gas converted to liquid form for ease of transport.

These projects are still on the drawing board, and numerous regulatory hurdles must be passed before work can start.

But even if only half of these plants break ground, provincial authorities expect a potential labor shortage. BuildForce Canada, a construction industry think tank, says that British Columbia will see a 26,000-worker gap over the next decade.

The challenge, says Vancouver Local 213 Business Manager Adam Van Steinburg, is educating elected officials and industry leaders about the importance of partnering with the building trades to guarantee that these jobs will be manned

by the best trained workers in their fields.

"You can't just wait until the last minute and flood the market with apprentices or low-skilled foreign workers," he said.

Despite past tension between the ruling Liberal Party and organized labor, both the B.C. and Yukon Territory Building Construction Trades Council and the B.C. Federation of Labour sat on Premier Christy Clark's LNG working group, which issued a report last spring on how to meet the training and workforce challenges posed by natural gas.

Its recommendation: start preparing now for the inevitable skills shortage.

This includes boosting training opportunities by leveraging existing government and union programs and identifying potential recruits to the trades now, particularly those from underrepresented demographics like women and First Nations members, and pairing them up with working journeymen to provide mentoring and on-the-job training.

Van Steinburg says many companies have come to realize through experience that relying on low-paid, under-trained workers to fill the gap leads to busted budgets, delays in completion and on-the-job accidents.

"Even the nonunion employers get it," he said. "They don't want to lose money."

Canada should also look to the United States for skilled workers, says Christopher Smillie with the Canadian building trades.

"Canada is faced with finding 300,000 or so skilled workers to meet economic demand and retirements over the next 10 years," he wrote at the Huffington Post. "I can think of no better source country for skilled workers than the United States while we are busy training our young people and refocusing our education system."

First District Vice President Bill Daniels says that the IBEW's top-notch training and commitment to on-the-job excellence makes it a natural partner for both businesses and government officials in finding solutions to Canada's skills trades crunch.

"These projects represent a huge opportunity for the country and the economy, but they can't be done without the experience and know-how that comes from quality union labor," he said. ■

## IBEW MERCHANDISE



### Denim Shirt \$30.00

100% cotton with button down collar and two-button cuff. IBEW initials above pocket on left chest.

### IBEW Purse Hanger \$35.00

Measures 1.75" diameter and 3" long when opened. Made of highly polished chrome that can support a bag up to 15lbs. Carrying pouch is included.

### IBEW Money Clip \$6.00

Strong magnetic action with IBEW block initials on one side.

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

[www.ibewmerchandise.com](http://www.ibewmerchandise.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

Watch our new national ad, "IBEW: Lighting the Path." Featuring clips of smiling members and a montage of construction jobs across the U.S., the 30-second spot shows what IBEW members can do for customers.

[YouTube.com/TheElectricalWorker](http://YouTube.com/TheElectricalWorker)

### Vimeo

The IBEW is on Vimeo. Watch, download

and share your favorite IBEW videos in crystal-clear high definition.

[Vimeo.com/ibew](http://Vimeo.com/ibew)

### HourPower

Check out what's new in the construction trade with our popular videos at

[IBEWHourPower.com!](http://IBEWHourPower.com!)

### ElectricTV

On Electric TV, we've got the latest videos and news spotlighting the excellent work of the IBEW-NECA team.

[ElectricTV.net!](http://ElectricTV.net!)



Want to Be a Contractor?

## IBEW Offers Top-Notch Training

Pittsburgh Local 5 member Jody Bradley says IBEW's class has given him a solid foundation to start his own shop.

Jody Bradley had already started his own business when he arrived outside of Washington, D.C. in May, alongside 23 other members to attend the union's first market-driven contracting class.

Bradley is among the inaugural class designed for IBEW wiremen and linemen to go from the dispatch hall to the employer side of the business with hands-on instruction from the best in the electrical contracting business, over two staggered weeks of classes.

Another class will be starting in February.

With his slogan, "Plugging You Into the Future," Bradley looked for JOBE Electric, his new company, to pick up lighting retrofits, solar systems, new construction projects and residential services.

But the 17-year Pittsburgh Local 5 journeyman inside wireman knew he and his wife, Cheryl, needed all the support they could garner to survive the catastrophic attrition rates that challenge small businesses over their first five years.

Could his instructors, with years of experience in electrical construction management, help the entrepreneur master the requirements of incorporation, learn how to better locate and estimate jobs and get off the ground without creating an unmanageable overhead?

"The caliber of the instructors and the course material brought me to a level far above my expectations," Bradley said.

He plans to return frequently to the

thick binders of information he brought back home, along with contact information for instructors who offer to mentor students beyond the end of class, and fellow students for brainstorming.

"With any new program, much of its success depends on the class dynamics, and not only did the participants want to be contractors, they want to be strong union contractors," says IBEW Education Department Director Amanda Pacheco. "President Hill's vision for this program," she says, "is to add one more tool to our toolbox for strengthening the IBEW. And I think



Fred Sargent

these union contractors will do that."

Fred Sargent is encouraged by Bradley's optimism and openness to a changing market. President of Sargent Electric, a longtime signatory contractor based in Pittsburgh, he helped design the course with the IBEW Education Department.

"We want to help people who are going to start electrical contracting businesses to attack sectors of the marketplace that most traditional contractors have bypassed or stepped away from," he says. That includes residential services and small commercial work.

To summon the drive to compete with the nonunion sector of the market, says Sargent, new signatory contractors need to know and deploy the most cost-effective methods of construction, like prefabrication. And they need to be open to utilizing workers in newer job classifications while simultaneously maintaining safety and quality.

Faculty includes construction professionals with decades of experience in project management, organizational dynamics, strategic planning, as well as modern techniques and "lean" methods that reduce costs.

Classes start in February and applications are due by Friday, January 16. ■

## Electrician: Contracting Class 'Helps Me Succeed'

Al Budd worked in a nonunion shop for four years before joining Ithaca, N.Y., Local 241 in 2005. During his 10 years of membership, he became vice president of the local and chairman of the safety committee.

He started KB Electric in 2012, but was still taking short calls out of the hall until he got enough customers to keep him fully engaged.

"I focus on \$30,000 to \$70,000 projects," says Budd, who takes pride in completing a Rite Aid store in town, keeping the project from going non-union by using alternative classifications to compete.

Budd completed his second week of the Market-Driven Contracting course in August.

"I paid for a lot of start-up costs out of my own pocket," Budd said. But "I have taken away a lot of knowledge and resources from instructors who possess most if not all of the skills to help new contractors succeed. They are the best."



The curriculum includes project management, strategic planning and 'lean' methods to reduce costs.

## Applications Being Accepted for New Contractor Training

### Weeks in Residence

The first session, limited to 32 class members will be offered at the Painter's union Finishing Trades Institute and Residence Suites in Hanover, Md.

### Week 1 Curriculum

During Week 1 of on-campus instruction, students gain in-depth exposure to accounting, financial and legal subjects encompassing business administration concepts that every contractor should know.

### Return Home to Start the Business

Then, students will return home for six weeks to complete a rigorous set of take-home assignments to start their new businesses, including filing for incorporation, selecting accounting, legal and insurance firms, beginning a banking relationship and developing a business plan.

### Week 2 Curriculum

Students come back to class, where instructors concentrate on best practices in pre-construction and construction activities, with an overarching theme of balancing material management with the effective use of multiple classifications of electricians.

### Cost

The pilot program will start on Sunday evening and conclude on Saturday at noon. The cost per attendee is \$1,000 per week for a total of \$2,000. Included in the cost is food and lodging at the IUPAT Conference Center. Travel costs will be the responsibility of each attendee.

### Application

Applications and a list of frequently-asked questions can be found on the IBEW Education Department Web page: [www.ibew.org/IBEW/departments/education.htm](http://www.ibew.org/IBEW/departments/education.htm). Classes start in February. Applications are due on Jan. 16.

If you have questions, please contact IBEW Education Department Director Amanda Pacheco at (202) 728-6104 or at [Amanda\\_Pacheco@ibew.org](mailto:Amanda_Pacheco@ibew.org).



Jimmy Kice, 95, was honored at the World War II memorial by International President Edwin D. Hill, who presented him with his 75-year pin.

## President Hill Honors WWII Vet, 77-Year Member



Local 124 retiree Jimmy Kice

Jimmy Kice has seen the best and the worst. The 95-year-old World War II Army veteran endured vicious combat in the South Pacific from 1941 until the end of the war. He didn't talk about the war for many years. But his son, Jim, says his father recently recalled seeing 200 Wisconsin National Guard troops arrive at the war front. Only 10 or 15 returned home.

Just as vividly, Kice, a journeyman inside wireman who has been paying dues for 77 years, recalls the rewards that came from his membership in Kansas City, Mo., Local 124. "I worked as a general foreman on missile silos and helped build half the buildings in downtown," he says. "I loved being an electrician and the challenge of figuring out what

needed to be done on the job."

On Oct. 7, Kice, accompanied by his son Jim, arrived at the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. They had boarded an "honor flight" in Kansas City, the latest visitors to the memorial sponsored by the Honor Flight Network, a nonprofit organization that has brought more than 100,000 veterans to D.C., including many IBEW members.

As Kice's bus pulled up to the memorial's entrance, dozens of supporters were there to greet him and other veterans. Some cheered. Some shook his hand and thanked him for his service. "It was wonderful," said Kice. His son said the crowds cheering veterans in the airport were remarkable. There was even a band playing.

Among those thanking Kice for his service after he arrived in the nation's capital was International President Edwin D. Hill, who brought along a 75-year pin to present to the veteran. Hill was accompanied by Senior Executive Assistants Sherilyn Wright and Brian Baker.

The IBEW has had thousands of members who fought in World War II," says Hill. "But I am at a loss for words after meeting a man who was in some of the toughest battles of the war and still takes so much pride in being an IBEW member."

Two years ago, Hill was scheduled to present Kice with his 75-year pin. But Kice had broken his hip shoveling ice.

"That's my dad," says Jim Jr., always working, still paying his dues and still showing up at every meeting of the local's retiree association. "The union has been very strong for him," he says.

"All during childhood, I went to union meetings and fundraisers. My mother died when I was young and I remember the union providing support," he says. Decent union pay and benefits, says the younger Kice, helped put him through college to become a network engineer.

Asked why he still chooses to pay union dues 77 years after joining the IBEW, Kice says, "That's a ridiculous question." ■

## 2013 Summary Annual Report for the National Electrical Annuity Plan

This is a summary of the annual report for the National Electrical Annuity Plan, #52-6132372, for the year ended December 31, 2013. The annual report has been filed with the Employee Benefits Security Administration, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

### Basic Financial Statement

Benefits under the plan are provided by a trust. Plan expenses were \$167,972,947. These expenses included \$12,235,787 in administrative expenses and \$155,737,160 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries. A total of 94,379 persons were participants in or beneficiaries of the plan at the end of the plan year, although not all of these persons had yet earned the right to receive benefits.

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was \$4,871,294,842 as of December 31, 2013, compared to \$4,033,788,340 as of January 1, 2013. During the plan year the plan experienced an increase in its net assets of \$837,506,502. This increase includes unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan's assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year or the cost of assets acquired during the year. The plan had total income of \$1,005,479,449, including employer contributions of \$376,073,781, gains of \$5,281,664 from the sale of assets, earnings from investments of \$623,747,646, and other income of \$376,358.

### Minimum Funding Standards

Enough money was contributed to the plan to keep it funded in accordance with the minimum funding standards of ERISA.

### Your Rights to Additional Information

You have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, on request. The items listed below are included in that report:

- an accountant's report;

- financial information and information on payments to service providers;
- assets held for investment;
- transactions in excess of 5 percent of plan assets; and
- information regarding any common or collective trusts, pooled separate accounts, master trusts, or 103-12 investment entities in which the plan participates.

To obtain a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, write or call the office of the Trustees of the National Electrical Annuity Plan, who are the plan administrators, 2400 Research Boulevard, Suite 500, Rockville, Maryland 20850-3266, (301) 556-4300. The charge to cover copying costs will be \$24.50 for the full annual report, or \$.25 per page for any part thereof.

You also have the right to receive from the plan administrator, on request and at no charge, a statement of the assets and liabilities of the plan and accompanying notes, or a statement of income and expenses of the plan and accompanying notes, or both. If you request a copy of the full annual report from the plan administrator, these two statements and accompanying notes will be included as part of that report. The charge to cover copying costs given above does not include a charge for the copying of these portions of the report because these portions are furnished without charge.

You also have the legally-protected right to examine the annual report at the main office of the plan at 2400 Research Boulevard, Suite 500, Rockville, Maryland 20850-3266, and at the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C., or to obtain a copy from the U.S. Department of Labor upon payment of copying costs. Requests to the Department should be addressed to: U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration, EBSA Public Disclosure Room, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room N-1513, Washington, D.C. 20210.

Edwin D. Hill Salvatore J. Chilia John M. Grau D. R. Borden, Jr.  
NEAP Trustee NEAP Trustee NEAP Trustee NEAP Trustee

## Notice to Participants in the National Electrical Annuity Plan Explanation of Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit

If you are married and die before retirement, NEAP will provide your spouse with a Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit. Your spouse will receive this benefit if: (1) you have satisfied the minimum eligibility requirement of 160 hours of service; (2) you have a balance in your Individual Account; (3) you die prior to receiving a pension benefit; (4) you are married; and (5) you have not previously declined the Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit.

If you are entitled to a Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit, NEAP will purchase an annuity contract from an insurance company for your spouse. The annuity contract will pay your surviving spouse a monthly benefit for life. Monthly payments will start within a reasonable period of time after your death. The amount of the monthly benefit depends upon (1) the amount in your Individual Account; (2) your spouse's age (and, therefore, his/her life expectancy and prospective benefit payment period); and (3) the insurance company's price for annuity contracts.

### Elections/Consents

If you are under age 35, your spouse will automatically receive the Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit upon your death (unless your spouse selects a lump sum payment instead of the annuity). You may not decline the Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit unless you have permanently stopped working in Covered Employment.

However, beginning the year you reach age 35 and at any time thereafter, you may decline the Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit. Your spouse must consent in writing and the consent must be witnessed by a representative of NEAP or by a notary public. Consent given by a spouse is not effective as to a subsequent spouse.

You may revoke your election to decline the Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit at any time. You may again decline the Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit at any time by executing the appropriate form and obtaining your spouse's consent. Your spouse may also revoke his/her consent at any time. Contact the Plan Administrator's Office for the appropriate forms.

### Lump Sum

If you decline the Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit, your Individual Account balance will be paid to your designated surviving beneficiary in a lump sum. If your designated surviving beneficiary is not your spouse, your spouse must also consent to that as well, in order for it to be valid. If you have not designated a beneficiary (or your designated beneficiary is not living at the time of your death), the balance will be paid to the following persons, if living, in the following order of priority: (1) your spouse, (2) your children, (3) your parents, or (4) your estate. The total amount of money received as a lump sum may ultimately be different (either greater or lesser) than the total amount of money your spouse would have received under the Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit. This is because the Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit is an annuity and depends on the time value of money and how long your spouse lives. Additional information is available from the Plan Administrator's Office.



## CIRCUITS

### FairPoint Strikers Win Community Support

In the midst of tight November polling between candidates running for public office in New England, another survey of citizens showed overwhelming support for nearly 2,000 members of the IBEW and CWA on strike at FairPoint Communications.

As the strike entered its third week and FairPoint readied to cut off health care benefits for striking workers, thousands of citizens expressed exasperation at the company's approach to bargaining.

FairPoint rejected a proposal containing more than \$200 million in savings from the union, then declared an impasse on August 27.

"We're not looking to get rich, we're just looking to sustain our families," said Mike Gauthier, a FairPoint service technician and member of Montpelier, Vt., Local 2326. "We offered the company a compromise that would save them millions in health care costs, but they refused. We've got to stand up for our families and for good jobs."

Anyone looking to support the striking workers is encouraged to donate to the strike fund set up by IBEW System Council T-9 and CWA Portsmouth, N.H., Local 1400. All the money raised through the website at <http://bit.ly/FairpointFund> will be distributed to striking workers. ■

### Calif. Members Sharpen Skills with Safety Training

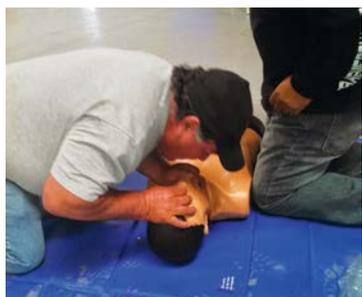
"Be prepared." It's not just the Boy Scouts' motto—it's a good life philosophy. Especially for workers in the electrical trade.

At signatory contractor Par Electric in Santa Ana, Calif., Diamond Bar Local 47 member Mario Tapia says his company goes above and beyond to ensure that employees have critical life-saving skills such as CPR and first aid training.

"You never know what can happen in your work or in your day-to-day life," said Tapia, a general foreman and 13-year member.

Par electricians get retrained every year in CPR and first aid. While Tapia has never had to use his life-saving skills on the job, "I'll be ready to go" if the need arises, he said.

Over 380,000 sudden heart attacks occur each year, the American Heart Association reports. "Effective bystander CPR provided immediately after sudden



Diamond Bar, Calif., Local 47 member Juan Velasquez practices CPR techniques.



After rejecting every proposal from IBEW and CWA negotiators, FairPoint Communications declared an impasse on Aug. 27.

cardiac arrest can double or triple a victim's chance of survival," the group stated on its website. ■

### EWMC Young Workers Aim High for Jan. Training, Service

Young workers who are a part of the IBEW's Electrical Workers Minority Caucus are setting an ambitious goal for the upcoming EWMC conference in Atlanta Jan. 13-18, before Martin Luther King Day.

As part of the conference, young workers will participate in a daylong summit sponsored by the EWMC's Reach out and Engage Next-gen Electrical Workers—or RENEW—initiative to sharpen their communication, technology and leadership skills.

"Last year, we had about 70 young

members involved," said New York Local 3 member Wendell Yee, who is president of the EWMC young workers group and sits on the RENEW advisory committee. "This year, we're hoping to get at least 150."

Each annual EWMC conference includes workshops and trainings, along with a day of community service. "At last January's meeting in Kansas City, our young workers group helped with five projects across the area," said Yee, such as retrofitting an area school with fluorescent lighting, wiring a greenhouse at an after-school recreational center and more. The EWMC overall performed 19 projects.

With greater attendance comes greater participation in helping the wider community, Yee said, encouraging interested members to talk to their business managers about attending. "Let EWMC RENEW help invigorate your young worker members to take an active role in your local union and community."

For more information, visit [www.ibew-ewmc.com](http://www.ibew-ewmc.com), and "like" the EWMC's young workers Facebook page at [bit.ly/EWMC-RENEW](http://bit.ly/EWMC-RENEW). The link is case-sensitive. ■

### New IBEW Ad Premieres

Three years ago, the IBEW launched a national television advertising campaign with a simple goal: tell America who we are and what we do. Since then, hundreds of millions of people have seen the seven 30-second spots created by the IBEW Media Department during NFL games on CBS and Fox, 60 Minutes on CBS and throughout the day on CNN, Headline News and MSNBC.

This month, the eighth spot will begin running—first on CBS and, a month later, on Fox—and International President Edwin D. Hill said it marks a shift in the story the IBEW wants to tell America.

"In the beginning, the purpose was to introduce ourselves to the American people," he said. "Now, instead of just telling people what we do, we're telling people what we can do for them."

The new ad shares the look of some of the earlier ones, focusing on the smiling faces of IBEW members from across the country. As their images pass by, the narrator talks about those smiles "lighting up a room." Very quickly, however, the ad makes this promise about the IBEW, "Working with a Code of Excellence that guarantees the job will be done right, on-time and safely."

"We know it makes good business sense for a contractor to hire IBEW members. This is about making sure everyone else knows it too," Hill said.

The ad can be seen at <https://vimeo.com/108915014>, and began airing during NFL broadcasts on CBS Nov. 2 and is set to air on Fox in December. ■



A still shot from the IBEW's eighth nationally broadcast commercial, which began airing Nov. 2.

## ORGANIZING WIRE

### Calif. Manufacturing Workers Score First Contract

At Sacramento-based company Sunoptics, employees craft products that are ahead of their time—high-tech skylights that can help replace most electric lighting with natural sunlight for offices and homes.

Companies from Coca-Cola and Siemens to local school districts and police departments are using the systems to cut energy bills, slash carbon emissions and reduce pollution.

But while Sunoptics is making huge strides toward a greener future, many of its policies regarding its workforce have been stuck in the past.

"I was excited to work there, until I realized that the managers could talk to you however they pleased," said Carrie Grace, a three-year employee who operates a thermal machine that molds the skylight lenses. "Rather, they would talk down to you in front of everybody or pull you to the side and really attack your feelings. It just felt like you were always walking on eggshells. You could get fired at any given moment for whatever."

Instead of relenting, Grace and her co-workers got active and voted overwhelming in January for union representation by Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245.

Now, after months at the negotiating table, employees voted and approved their first contract Sept. 9.

Major gains include increased pay, two additional holidays, a seniority system and a grievance procedure. According to Local 1245's website: "Most Sunoptics employees had not seen a raise in five years, so for them, wages were the top priority.



Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245 members at Sunoptics ratified their first collective bargaining agreement in September.

Under the new contract, all Sunoptics workers will see a wage increase, lump sum payment or both over the next two years."

Unhappy with the company's wage proposal in the first contract offer in July, employees voted "no" by a slim margin. Local 1245's negotiating committee members doubled down on their efforts to help secure the second vote, which was 62-7.

"The feedback we got from the employees was very positive," said Local 1245 business representative Cruz Serna, who teamed with assistant business manager Ray Thomas and Sunoptics workers Todd Davis, Chris Hanh, Mauricio Centeno and Pamela Pendleton for negotiations. "They acknowledge the major changes and improvements to their working conditions, and even though they

did not get all of the wages they had hoped for, what is more important right now is to have a contract in place and to look forward to the future."

Grace said she was happy with the wage increase and better job security. "Plus, we get to have a voice in the company," she said.

Grace recently traveled to San Antonio to attend the 2014 Women's Conference. During a caucus meeting for the Ninth District—which includes Alaska, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon, Washington and the Pacific Islands—retiring Ninth District International Vice President Michael Mowrey officially swore Grace into the Brotherhood, to applause and cheers from the delegates.

"I'm excited because I know there are many opportunities to come," Grace said. "I know this is just the beginning."

Read more reporting and learn about specific contract gains at [www.ibew1245.com](http://www.ibew1245.com). ■

# In Memoriam

## Members for Whom PBF Death Claims were Approved in October 2014

Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death
1	Cotner, J. R.	4/7/13	24	Nash, M. A.	8/26/14	106	Samuelson, J. R.	10/13/13	275	Devries, M. W.	9/17/14	508	Salter, R. P.	8/31/14	965	Snider, J. A.	9/24/14
1	Myers, E.	10/4/14	24	Vertolli, J.	8/22/14	106	Stayer, J. D.	8/22/14	275	Dewitte, R. H.	9/2/14	518	Legg, G.	10/1/14	968	Wood, I. P.	6/10/14
1	Petzoldt, F. W.	8/23/14	25	Corallo, G. C.	9/16/14	111	Pickett, D. H.	9/6/14	278	Gouzien, A. J.	7/30/14	520	Heinzke, L. W.	6/7/14	969	Jones, B. J.	11/24/13
2	Bryant, D. R.	9/4/14	25	Guermonprez, F.	5/1/14	111	Sass, E. R.	9/16/14	278	Waller, F. S.	7/22/14	527	Spiers, G. E.	9/2/14	993	Smith, G. E.	6/30/14
3	Arroyo, T.	8/10/14	26	Barry, R. L.	9/17/14	112	Powell, M. E.	2/18/14	292	Engles, G. A.	9/1/14	530	Lamoureux, R.	8/28/14	995	Roshto, J. S.	9/20/14
3	Baker, H. P.	8/20/14	26	Miller, C. J.	8/27/13	115	Emond, P.	8/12/14	292	Flam, G. J.	9/7/14	538	Burch, W. J.	8/29/14	1002	Powell, J. W.	1/31/14
3	Bhulai, H.	9/14/14	26	Overfelt, D. L.	9/3/14	121	Montgomery, H. W.	3/10/13	292	Kramer, J. E.	10/24/13	540	Film, E. V.	9/7/14	1024	Gallagher, J. F.	9/19/14
3	Bluashvili, T.	8/20/14	26	Shelton, P. R.	5/21/14	124	Branstietter, A. A.	8/19/14	292	Magnuson, D. E.	9/9/14	551	Blair, S. S.	8/4/14	1049	Budd, R. A.	7/1/13
3	Carlson, J. J.	9/21/14	26	Westmoreland, W. H.	11/27/13	124	Crites, R. A.	9/14/14	295	Leftwich, B. R.	9/6/14	551	Kostka, J. H.	7/16/14	1066	Thomson, P.	8/7/14
3	Cavataio, N. J.	8/5/14	34	Nakken, R.	9/10/14	124	Flowers, J. T.	8/5/14	302	Fink, G. B.	9/13/14	558	Strickland, A. N.	9/5/14	1141	Crites, J. R.	7/4/14
3	Chietero, P.	8/11/14	34	Woods, J. A.	9/18/14	124	Inman, K. D.	9/17/14	302	Sever, D. C.	9/1/14	559	Hulagrocki, S.	8/4/14	1141	Nickerson, B. T.	9/11/14
3	Crimmins, J. J.	7/6/14	38	Becka, G. T.	9/23/14	124	Matzdorff, R. G.	9/3/14	304	Liggett, O. W.	8/31/14	569	Sparks, N. B.	9/24/14	1151	Lorenz, P. M.	8/26/14
3	Davis, G.	12/15/13	38	Laska, G. R.	9/13/14	124	Owens, B. M.	9/3/14	313	Davis, T. A.	9/16/14	570	Crane, H. A.	8/30/14	1186	Hakikawa, H. T.	8/27/14
3	Dittmar, D. P.	9/18/14	38	Marousek, J. C.	10/4/14	124	Rogers, R. R.	9/5/14	313	Morton, H. N.	9/15/14	570	King, D. C.	5/4/14	1186	Kida, H.	8/31/14
3	Doherty, N. L.	9/8/14	38	Rose, R. G.	8/11/14	124	Wilson, R. O.	8/26/14	313	Smith, D. J.	9/20/14	575	Bray, L. C.	9/2/14	1186	Mahelona, P. H.	8/15/14
3	Duffy, J. J.	3/22/14	38	Sopko, J. J.	12/24/13	125	Kendall, D. D.	8/25/14	317	Frye, D. G.	8/31/14	584	Hicks, B. J.	9/3/14	1186	Moriyama, A. S.	8/8/14
3	Feinman, L.	8/31/14	41	DiChristopher, P. L.	9/15/14	125	Marshall, J. R.	8/8/14	317	McComas, M. R.	10/1/14	584	Lankford, H. G.	9/11/14	1253	Hudanish, N. R.	6/2/14
3	Fredericks, C. W.	4/15/14	41	Novak, G. F.	3/17/13	126	Gamble, D. B.	8/29/14	317	Meeks, L. J.	4/1/14	595	Blair, D. G.	4/20/14	1319	Samec, E. E.	9/16/14
3	Fund, M.	3/13/13	43	Bronzetti, J. A.	8/20/14	129	Coker, R. P.	8/29/14	317	Perry, A. T.	8/27/14	595	Medrano, R.	6/19/14	1392	Upton, H. V.	6/15/14
3	Gill, J. E.	10/17/12	46	Bill, M. J.	8/30/14	130	Miller, T. C.	8/10/14	322	Norris, J. R.	9/19/14	595	Nunes, A. A.	8/30/14	1393	Kissane, P. E.	8/23/14
3	Griffiths, R. D.	9/1/14	46	Birkland, A. M.	8/18/14	134	Case, L. C.	8/30/14	332	Pederson, L. T.	7/7/14	595	Taves, D. N.	12/20/12	1426	Davidson, L. M.	9/6/14
3	Holocher, H. A.	6/17/12	46	Hoffman, J. A.	9/7/14	134	Cates, N.	9/26/14	332	Terada, E. H.	9/4/14	606	Phillips, T. C.	10/2/14	1525	Layher, E. L.	7/1/14
3	Kay, F.	6/16/14	46	Hofstetter, R. E.	9/3/14	134	Felder, R. C.	9/7/14	340	Bates, T. L.	9/22/14	606	Stanley, W.	7/25/14	1531	Lewis, V. L.	9/2/14
3	Kearney, S. E.	8/31/14	46	Moss, R. J.	9/10/14	134	Freres, A. J.	7/8/14	340	Buno, J. G.	8/25/14	611	Hill, J. L.	9/27/14	1547	Curry, B. R.	7/23/14
3	Koch, F.	9/28/14	46	O'Connor, R. J.	7/14/14	134	Hofmann, E.	8/23/14	342	White, B. L.	9/9/14	613	Daniel, W. M.	9/20/14	1547	Gonzalez, H. R.	9/20/14
3	Magro, G.	9/10/14	46	Preston, D. C.	8/10/14	134	Keane, T.	8/27/14	343	Doss, D. D.	9/1/14	613	Davidson, B. D.	9/12/14	1547	Hodsdon, L. M.	5/28/14
3	Naya, R. E.	10/30/13	46	Rozmyn, E. E.	5/3/14	134	Krajcovic, R. J.	9/1/14	343	Ennis, S. G.	7/18/14	613	Dodson, B.	8/25/14	1547	Lorenz, R. A.	8/14/14
3	Partyka, J. J.	9/9/14	47	Cartier, C. D.	11/14/13	134	Loveless, R. E.	9/21/14	347	Hayes, C.	9/9/14	613	Hardy, R. P.	8/25/14	1555	Surette, A.	9/19/14
3	Picerni, F. J.	9/13/14	47	Sharp, L. S.	8/22/14	134	Mascenic, G. M.	8/15/14	347	Prince, A. L.	8/30/14	613	Sharp, C. W.	6/2/14	1574	Kullander, J. W.	6/24/14
3	Ramirez, W.	8/18/14	48	Edington, G. R.	8/14/14	134	Massari, M.	9/4/13	349	Brezney, G. W.	8/14/14	617	Cooper, F. K.	7/23/14	1579	Dilegge, R. L.	9/24/14
3	Rizzo, M.	9/25/14	48	Edwards, J. L.	9/13/14	134	Nield, R. E.	9/4/14	349	Curry, C. E.	9/3/14	636	Mitchell, P. G.	9/1/14	1583	Gibbins, L. E.	12/1/13
3	Rosenbaum, J.	11/28/12	48	Henderson, T. A.	9/5/14	134	Palke, R. S.	8/17/14	349	Pettis, J. H.	8/19/14	640	Hill, J. J.	8/28/14	1687	Aceti, A. J.	3/14/14
3	Rowell, H.	8/3/14	48	Kufus, R. L.	9/2/14	134	Peterson, F. P.	9/7/14	351	Haig, E. W.	2/12/14	640	O'Connor, W. N.	7/3/14	1687	Adams, L.	8/24/13
3	Sciara, C.	9/10/14	48	Schlottmann, A. B.	9/18/14	134	Quiroz, A.	9/5/14	351	Manduka, W. E.	1/1/14	640	Ryall, C. I.	8/17/14	1687	Vincent, O.	9/15/14
3	Thompson, R. P.	9/12/14	55	Turner, D. A.	8/30/14	134	Raia, S. P.	8/5/14	353	Adams, R.	9/18/14	654	MacEachron, D. A.	8/16/14	1687	Wilson, P. H.	9/13/14
3	Vasquez, V. H.	5/6/14	58	Bott, D. A.	9/19/14	134	Bogusz, W. A.	8/31/14	353	Bishop, D. L.	9/16/14	659	Buckle, E. A.	7/3/14	1925	Coleman, J. C.	9/14/14
3	Weber, S.	10/1/14	58	Fife, D. B.	8/24/14	134	Tennis, R. A.	11/10/13	353	Cheevers, L. W.	9/6/14	659	Cunningham, O. C.	8/9/14	2038	Hodgins, D.	5/2/14
5	Conley, B. M.	8/18/14	58	Griffith, D. M.	8/27/14	134	Weber, V. C.	9/23/14	353	Cornacchia, A.	5/12/14	659	Green, C. R.	9/18/14	2150	Goldy, J. A.	8/23/14
5	Hippo, J. L.	9/19/14	58	Justin, D. L.	1/17/14	134	Wright, J. H.	8/17/14	353	Cripps, E. J.	4/24/14	659	Linker, L. L.	9/14/14	2150	Twinem, K. E.	11/25/13
5	Molanick, D. M.	9/6/14	58	Lastar, K. S.	6/19/14	141	Thomas, L. C.	1/27/14	353	Fisher, F. R.	9/8/14	659	Shaw, A. H.	8/25/14	2159	Brown, M. C.	9/25/14
5	Powell, R. H.	6/15/14	58	Lewis, C.	6/12/14	143	Ginder, J. A.	5/21/13	353	Genoway, M. J.	10/5/14	676	Cook, R. J.	2/28/14	I.O. (134)	Ehler, R. D.	9/9/14
5	Schurr, L. E.	9/23/14	58	Mann, C. A.	9/23/14	143	Kauffman, R. R.	11/15/13	353	MacLeod, A.	5/17/14	676	Wiseman, C. F.	1/8/14	I.O. (134)	Gall, M.	8/28/14
6	Anderson, H. C.	6/22/14	58	Parnell, J. A.	9/18/14	145	Offerman, L. E.	8/25/14	353	McQuade, J. W.	6/19/14	683	Johnson, R. A.	7/12/14	I.O. (134)	McInerney, R. R.	8/10/14
6	Hauth, T. J.	1/23/14	58	Stelmach, M.	9/12/14	145	Wright, G. L.	9/11/14	354	McAlister, W. V.	8/29/14	688	Smith, J. R.	9/4/14	I.O. (134)	Pendoza, A.	8/30/14
6	Hiltman, E. C.	12/15/13	58	Wilkinson, J. B.	9/14/14	146	Bogusz, W. A.	8/31/14	357	Baker, F. S.	8/1/14	692	Bleicher, C. J.	7/15/14	I.O. (186)	Pesquarella, D. J.	4/4/14
6	Matthews, J. W.	9/6/13	66	Freels, R. E.	8/9/14	146	Chamness, D. L.	9/14/14	357	Salazar, D. J.	5/6/14	697	Fahey, L. H.	10/27/12	I.O. (204)	De Ronde, C. R.	3/11/14
6	Santiago-More, D. M.	9/1/14	66	Hunt, A.	8/11/14	146	Kaufman, A. B.	9/25/14	357	Shaw, K. L.	9/2/14	697	Gracin, G. R.	9/16/14	I.O. (245)	Borza, D.	5/27/14
8	Hill, L. D.	8/23/14	68	Briggs, R. D.	8/9/14	146	Toth, J. S.	8/20/14	364	Cramer, G. L.	8/29/11	697	Sherer, S. B.	4/30/13	Pens. (353)	Muthu, J. H.	9/17/14
8	Lorigan, T. P.	9/12/14	68	Purdy, W. J.	9/4/14	150	Boettler, R.	9/9/14	364	Hopwood, R. L.	9/23/14	697	Spurlock, L. G.	9/2/14	Pens. (467)	Barger, W. K.	9/8/14
9	Durkin, J. S.	9/23/14	68	Schuessler, K.	8/18/14	164	Ferrentino, A.	9/16/14	364	Jonaway, W. F.	6/16/14	700	Elmore, D. G.	9/6/14	Pens. (1095)	Ribout, J. E.	1/30/14
9	Urban, F. R.	4/3/14	71	Miller, E. E.	8/17/14	175	Cook, C. F.	9/20/14	364	Mattocks, T. R.	8/5/14	701	Hoffman, D.	9/9/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Allen, A. D.	9/2/14
11	Ashcraft, D. L.	8/28/14	72	Jordan, M. F.	9/1/14	175	Sampley, J. B.	3/26/13	369	Jackson, H.	9/1/14	702	Coleman, C. E.	9/2/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Allen, W. J.	7/23/14
11	Dowell, R. P.	10/27/13	76	Shumake, G.	12/29/13	176	Gasparich, J. A.	9/14/14	369	Wright, J. F.	9/8/14	716	Delahoussaye, R. L.	5/2/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Alper, S.	8/28/14
11	Garcia, G.	9/17/14	77	Bonkoski, J. E.	8/15/14	177	Smith, M. B.	8/22/14	375	Heil, B. L.	9/3/14	716	Welch, D.	8/31/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Anderson, J. W.	10/19/13
11	Holder, E. L.	7/27/14	77	Emerick, R. D.	9/2/14	177	Walker, B. A.	4/28/14	379	Brouillette, D. A.	2/12/14	728	Flach, R. J.	9/5/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Baker, J. P.	4/11/13
11	Martin, W. E.	8/31/14	77	Harris, L.	8/18/14	180	Cordson, R. A.	5/4/14	387	Robertson, C. T.	8/19/14	728	Hill, R. G.	9/19/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Bland, K. L.	9/15/14
11	Mickle, R. G.	8/18/14	77	Johnston, R. A.	9/28/14	194	Hogan, W. J.	7/21/14	396	Brashear, V. K.	5/23/14	743	Zuber, D. D.	9/23/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Brown, D. K.	9/7/14
11	Mulliner, W. P.	9/5/14	77	Marchand, L. L.	4/26/14	197	Carlton, F. E.	8/28/14	400	Davison, A. H.	5/19/14	747	Vysata, J. E.	3/2/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Brown, R. C.	8/26/14
11	Schoenfelder, B. R.	9/20/14	77	Williams, J. A.	7/25/14	210	Crowne, E. R.	7/19/14	400	Rubino, J. A.	9/4/14	750	Crutchfield, B. J.	9/18/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Cahill, W. E.	2/24/14
11	Sutton, A. R.	9/7/14	77	Woolley, R. M.	4/19/14	212	Kettner, R. M.	9/21/14	400	Scott, G. A.	6/13/14	756	Norris, R. F.	9/30/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Grynsinski, R. S.	7/15/14
11	Tanner, H. L.	9/11/14	80	Parker, C. G.	5/20/14	212	Laker, G. A.	8/23/14	405	Durr, R. S.	8/7/14	760	Bowlin, E. M.	8/15/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Gutman, E.	7/9/14
11	Taylor, P. G.	9/1/14	86	DiPasquale, A. A.	7/25/14	212	McEntyre, C. W.	8/29/14	412	Griffey, E. L.	5/4/14	760	Foster, H. L.	6/27/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Hall, J. S.	9/3/14
11	Titus, J. L.	8/3/14	86	Ohle, W. P.	8/19/14	212	Muthert, C. R.	8/15/14	424	Mills, T. B.	2/9/14	760	McKins, C.	8/30/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Holden, L. J.	7/29/14
11	Viney, R. L.	11/15/13	97	Durivage, A.	6/30/14	213	Arcos, R.	8/30/14	429	Long, W. E.	9/17/14	760	McClellan, E. V.	9/15/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Jennings, A. F.	9/18/14
11	Wells, J. J.	9/10/14	97	Fortin, J. I.	7/18/14	213	Caldwell, W. R.	6/18/14	436	Cossey, R. D.	9/23/14	760	Reed, F. E.	9/25/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Johnson, M. E.	

# LOCAL LINES

## Longtime Instructor Retires

L.U. 6 (c,i,st&u), SAN FRANCISCO, CA—Bro. Bob Bourdet started his apprenticeship in 1961. He began teaching apprenticeship classes in 1968 and was elected to retire 46 years later. In his years as an instructor, Bob has taught 1,229 apprentices. Beginning in 1980, Bob also taught estimating for SFECA (San Francisco Electrical Contractors Assoc.), for 110 contractors and 762 students. Bottom line: Bob has taught our industry.

We can look around every day and see examples of members giving back to the union. Whether it is working on a committee, volunteering to help promote issues important to the union, or passing on the knowledge necessary for our younger members to remain competitive in a tough industry, all of these efforts are greatly appreciated. We as a union need to get better at saying “thank you” and recognizing the work of all of our members.

That said, Bro. Bourdet’s impact cannot be overstated. His longtime commitment to the San Francisco JATC and the local industry has set a standard that few will match—but one that we all should emulate. His service will be sorely missed, and will not be forgotten. We wish Bro. Bob Bourdet a long, healthy and happy retirement. He has earned it.

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

John J. Doherty, B.M./F.S.



Local 6 instructor Bob Bourdet (right) receives Service Award presented by SFJATC Dir. Steve Powers. [See Editor’s Note in article.]

## Work Picture Improves

L.U. 8 (as,em,i,mar,mt,rts,s&spa), TOLEDO, OH—Greetings, sisters and brothers. The work situation continues to improve and the number on the book is

slowly waning. The Toledo Refinery turnaround project is underway and continues to hire; Davis-Besse, Dundee Engine and Oregon Clean Energy, among others, are manning up. And there is work in neighboring locals for those who seek it.

At the annual Labor Day parade, Local 8 was well-represented with a turnout of marchers unmatched by any of the building trades. Bro. Rick Jackson and crew did a bang-up job at the picnic after the parade. In Monroe, Bro. Jason Matthews had the tall task of organizing and carrying out that city’s first parade in 50 years. Plans are already underway to make next year’s Labor Day even better. A big thank-you goes to all who volunteered for these events.

Several Christmas parties are planned for Local 8 members in December. Unit meetings are scheduled as well as the Member’s Christmas Party and the Children’s Party. Check our website [www.ibew8.org](http://www.ibew8.org) for details.

Happy holidays to all!

Mike Brubaker, P.S.

## Career of Union Service

L.U. 10 (u), JOHNSON CITY, NY—Bro. Dan Baschmann recently retired. He previously served as an officer to the members of IBEW Local 10, former Locals 1126 and 83, and former System Council U-7. Thank you for all your work, Dan, and enjoy your retirement.

With regret we report the passing of Sister Susan Ann Bruemmer following a courageous battle with illness. She will be especially missed by her friends and co-workers in the Brewster Division.

Local union officers recently attended safety conferences and organizing conferences. Safety and organizing are two of the most important things we can strive to be better at.

Please always pay attention to political races where you live. The very important 2014 midterm election season was underway at this writing. We hope everyone registered to vote and then went out to vote their wallet and help elect friends of working people.

Know when your local union meetings are in your area and attend whenever possible.

Don S. Tuttle, P.S.

## Spirit of Brotherhood

L.U. 12 (i,o&se), PUEBLO, CO—Last summer, Local 12 Bro. Tony Patti suffered a debilitating illness, which left him unable to work. Fellow Bros. Tom Kelley and Jason Olds organized a benefit dinner and raffle to help with expenses.

Local 12 thanks all those who made donations to help make the benefit dinner possible. Raffle items

were also donated, making the benefit a great success. This is what a local union is all about. A big thank-you goes out to all who participated and to everyone who came out to support a brother in need.

Susan J. Johnson, P.S.

## 128<sup>th</sup> Annual Labor Day Fest

L.U. 16 (i), EVANSVILLE, IN—Electricians were well-represented at the 128th Annual Labor Day Celebration, one of the oldest events of its kind in the country. It is sponsored by the Labor Day Association, which has consistently honored working men and women since before Labor Day became a national holiday. U.S. Sen. Joe Donnelly of Indiana attended the celebration and extended greetings to union members. Other highlights included the parade and family activities. Local 16 also hosted this year’s catered meal for all the IBEW locals in the area.

The union’s family picnic was Sept. 21. Despite a rough start weather-wise, over 450 guests enjoyed good food, games, door prizes, and a great opportunity to catch up on old friendships. Once again, many volunteers stepped up to make the day a blessing to all who attended.

IBEW Local 16 congratulates Southern Indiana Chapter NECA Exec. Dir. Tom Millay on his upcoming retirement. Tom has consistently represented the union electrical industry with fairness and integrity. Furthermore, he has always been one of the most dependable volunteers for Fantasy of Lights and other civic projects that promote the NECA-IBEW image. Best wishes to Tom in all his future endeavors.

Donald P. Beavin, P.S.



Local 16 retired Bro. William Diehl (right) greets U.S. Sen. Joe Donnelly at 2014 Labor Day parade.

## Family Picnic Well-Attended

L.U. 24 (es,i&spa), BALTIMORE, MD—On Aug. 10, we held our 15th Annual Family Picnic. With approximately 1,500 people in attendance, it took everyone working together to pull this off. Thank you again to all the



Local 24 Bus. Mgr. Gary Griffin (left) talks with retired member Jack Boglitsch at union picnic.

volunteers—without you, it would not have been the success it was. Everyone I spoke with, young and old, raved about the wonderful time they had. The children enjoyed games and activities while adults visited with many families and friends. The food was plentiful and the beverages cold. All had a good time.

Work is slowly improving in our area. I thank the fellow local unions that have employed our members during these slow times.

I also thank our traveling members. It’s not easy being away from your family. Your traveling not only helps your family but also helps maintain the funds here at home. Remember, you are representing Local 24 as well as yourself while out there. Please try and make us proud.

Hopefully by the time this reaches your door Baltimore will have a World Series team. Go O’s!

Gary R. Griffin, B.M.

## Holiday Parties/Meetings

L.U. 26 (ees,em,es,govt,i&mt), WASHINGTON, DC—We hope you plan to attend one of our Local 26 Christmas parties/meetings: the D.C. area event is Friday, Dec. 5 at 8 p.m.; Front Royal, Friday, Dec. 12, 7 p.m.; and Roanoke, Saturday, Dec. 13, 5 p.m. We will also host a Christmas Party for unemployed members and their families at the hall in Lanham, MD, on Saturday, Dec. 20.

The Retired Members’ Club is very active. They held their annual crab feast in October at Mike’s Crab House & Restaurant in Riva, MD. Their annual raffle ticket sale/drawing was in November. In May 2015, they will set sail on a Hawaiian Islands cruise! If you wish to join them, please contact Bro. Rick Warner ASAP!

We mourn the recent passing of Bros. James M. Ashley, Neal G. Bowles, Arthur M. McKnew Jr., Donald L. Overfelt, James F. Reiber and Michael D. Baldwin.

Best wishes to recently retired members: Jimmy L. Beard, Michael T. King, Barry E. Parker, Luis A. Pereira, Terry M. Shugars, Percelle V. Robbins Jr., Ran-

## 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](mailto: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](http://www.ibew.org/articles/journaldeadlines.htm). Please e-mail or call the Media Department at (202) 728-6291 with any questions.

## Trade Classifications

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

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.

dall L. Kemp, Willie L. Britt Jr., Richard T. North, Clarence A. March, Bruce E. Bell, Robert G. Krueger, Stefan D. Alexander, Dennis E. Burke, Gilbert Dunbar Jr., James E. Frank, Sean T. Herrity, Paul T. Hoffman, Tyrone E. McKoy, David M. Peed, Myron Sandoval, George E. Siegrist, Leslie L. Spicer, Clyde V. Burkhart Jr., Darrell R. Harris and Gary S. Rutledge.

Officers and staff wish everyone happy holidays.

Charles E. Graham, B.M.

## Annual Awards Banquet

L.U. 34 (em,i,mt,rts&spa), PEORIA, IL—This year's annual awards banquet was held Nov. 15 at the Ito Building in Peoria. Approximately 500 people attended. The food, drink and fellowship were abundant.

Congratulations to 65-year service pin recipients Walter Eisele and Bernard Lange. The awards start with 10 year pins; subsequent awards recognize each additional five years served. Over 300 members received service awards. Thank you to the entire staff for the event planning and set-up.

The banquet serves not only as an awards ceremony, but also as a holiday party. The event grows each year and might have to be moved next year because the room was packed for this year's banquet. Thanks to all the brothers and sisters who came out and made the event one to remember.

At this writing, the November midterm election was up in the air. The Local 34 conference room has been a beehive of activity. Phone banking and member-to-member walks have been underway nonstop for three months. We have worked hard to get out the union vote. Thank you to all the volunteers who donated their time. You are the backbone, the heart and soul, of this union. I hope and pray that when I read these words in *The Electrical Worker*, Illinois will have re-elected Gov. Pat Quinn. [Editor's Note: On Nov. 4, Gov. Quinn lost his bid for re-election.]

Paul Flynn, B.M.

## Work Picture Gains

L.U. 38 (i), CLEVELAND, OH—Picketing will continue at the Strongsville Middle School, since Hammond Construction decided to award the electrical contract to an out-of-area, non-IBEW contractor. We will continue to inform the taxpayers and voters that workers are being shuttled in from the south to take jobs away from local area residents. We have attended school board meetings to let elected officials know how we will vote next time they are up for re-election and how we will vote for the next school levy.

Work will pick up for local members, as the 2016 Republican National Convention will be held in Cleveland. Several hotel projects have started construction, including the 600-room Hilton being wired by Lake Erie Electric, and the Kimpton Hotel being wired by Gateway Electric. Others such as the Le Meridia and Drury hotels are working to complete their financing.

Work has started at the Crocker Park Complex, which includes the American Greetings company. Several electrical contractors are on-site including Lake Erie, Zenith, Ullman and Contemporary Electric. Herbst Electric and Lake Erie recently were awarded sizable sewer district projects.

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

## Calif. Film & TV Job Retention & Promotion Act of 2014

L.U. 40 (em,i&mps), HOLLYWOOD, CA—Thanks to the hard work of so many within the motion picture and television industry, as well as support from the public and business owners throughout the state, the Cali-



California Assemblyman Mike Gatto (at podium) addresses rally at State Capitol.

fornia Film and Television Job Retention & Promotion Act of 2014 was enacted and will help bring back production to the Los Angeles area and many other parts of the state. The bill was introduced by state Assembly Members Mike Gatto and Raul J. Bocanegra.

One week after an Aug. 20 rally at the State Capitol, where hundreds of workers from within the industry—including actors, producers, crew, business owners, vendors and public supporters—converged to support Assembly Bill 1839, an announcement was made. [See photo, above.]

On Aug. 27, Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr. and state legislators announced a deal to expand, extend and improve California's Film & Television Tax Program, providing substantial tax credits for five years and a major boost for the industry and California jobs.

With amazing support from our IBEW Local 40 members in signing petitions and spreading the word about how important AB 1839 is to our communities and this industry, we acted in solidarity with the basic crafts unions of Hollywood and all the guilds and crafts to make our voices heard as one.

Unity and communication are strength! Thank you to all involved! Now is the time to prove once again that we are the best at what we do! Production should come home where it belongs so we can evolve into the industry of tomorrow, together as one!

Don Easy, B.R./Organizer

## Activities & Events

L.U. 42 (catv,em,govt,lctt&o), HARTFORD, CT—On Saturday, Aug. 23, Local 42 held its Annual Family Picnic at the High Meadow Resort. Members and their families enjoyed a fun-filled day with a wide variety of activities for all ages, music, and all the delicious food you could eat. We thank the Retirees Club for doing the 50/50 raffle. Thanks also to all those who donated raffle prizes. The picnic could not have been so successful without such great participation.

On Saturday, Sept. 27, we held our annual deep-sea chartered fishing trip on the Francis Fleet. The boat departed at 7 a.m. from Point Judith, RI, and returned at 4 p.m. Members had a fun-filled day of fishing. Congratulations to Mark Larson for catching the biggest fish.

At press time, plans were underway for a second trap shoot on Saturday, Oct. 18, 2014, (weather permitting) at the Fin Fur Feather Club. Members were looking forward to a day of shooting clay pigeons and a BBQ buffet at the end of the day.

On Thursday, Dec. 11, we will hold our annual Christmas Smoker at our monthly union meeting. After the meeting members will enjoy the buffet and the fellowship. Have a safe and happy holiday.

Jacquelyn Moffitt, P.S.

## 'A Great Turnout'

L.U. 68 (i), DENVER, CO—Things are still extremely busy here at the local. We're still putting people to work off Book II, and organizing efforts continue.

At press time, we were still pushing to make our voices heard on the political scene for the November 2014 midterm elections. By the time you read this, we

will know if our efforts were in truth adequate.

Aug. 16 saw a great turnout at our Local 68 Summer Picnic. Approximately 570 adults and 125 kids were at the Westminster Elks for food, drinks and games for all. This year's horseshoe tournament was won by Nick Shelton. Think Wayne Shelton is trying to keep it in the family (he won last year). Ha!

The 2014 Labor Day parade in Louisville was Sept. 1. Local 68 had a good turnout in one of the Denver area's remaining few true Labor Day celebrations.

Sept. 16 was the most recent date for the local's Code of Excellence class, with 55 recent grads. Thank you to Eighth District Int. Rep. Benjamin "Benny" Antunas for helping with the training.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the families of recently deceased members: Edward J. Gates IV, Karl Schuessler, Gene A. Franck, Kevin D. Stagg and Jack W. Busey.

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

Jack Cox, Pres.

## New Leadership

L.U. 70 (lctt&o), WASHINGTON, DC—Local 70 has a new staff in the office. Leading the way is our new Bus. Mgr. William "Tip" Tipton Jr.; and our new president is Paul Carter.

The local also held a picnic get-together on Aug. 30 at Mayo Beach Park for members, their families and friends. We thank everyone who attended that special occasion.

Additionally, we thank all the members for their hard work throughout the year.

Jimmy Horton, B.R.



Attendees enjoy Local 70 picnic get-together.

## Solar Projects; Strong Work Picture

L.U. 100 (c,em,i,rts&st), FRESNO, CA—Bus. Mgr. Kevin Cole reported earlier this year that approximately 900 men were working on four solar projects. Members were working with D&R at the Adams site; with Klondyke at the Kansas and Kent south sites; and with CSI at the Corcoran site. At press time, these four solar projects were expected to be completed by late October 2014.

Three more solar projects were expected to begin in late 2014—two 20 megawatt projects in Corcoran, and one 60 megawatt project in Mendota. One 200 megawatt project in Tranquility is scheduled for May 2015.

Collins Electric announced three projects: Kings County Court House; Kings County Jail; and the University of California-Davis Animal Science Lab in Tulare, reportedly one of the largest in the world.

Local 100 anticipates full employment through 2016.

At press time, November midterm elections

were approaching. Issues on the ballot locally included: Prop 1, regarding a \$7 billion water bond to fund more water storage (at Temperance Flats), a possible 10-year build out; and Prop 48, for a local casino in Madera. Our local supported the campaign of Amanda Renteria, candidate for U.S. Congress from California's 21st Congressional District.

Bro. Rory McCarthy reported a large first-year apprentice class of 39 students. Also, as of July 1, 2014, a new state lighting code is in effect. New projects will be state certified. Advanced lighting control classes are offered at the JATC; check the schedule for upgrade classes offered. [Editor's Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) has rebranded this year and transitioned into the Electrical Training Alliance. See "NJATC Transitions into the Electrical Training Alliance," *The Electrical Worker* (Sept. 2014), and at [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org).]

Attend local union meetings the second Tuesday of each month.

M.A. Caglia, P.S.

## Pan Mass Challenge Benefit—L.U. Officers Raise \$26,000

L.U. 104 (lctt,o&u), BOSTON, MA—In January 2014, local union Pres. Ryan Demeritt approached Asst. Bus. Mgr./Treas. Hugh Boyd with a motivational challenge. Not just any challenge, the Pan Mass Challenge (PMC). This is a 162-mile bike ride to raise money for the Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston. The event would take place Aug. 2-3.

Former business manager Charles "Mickey" Rooney, now retired, has been doing the PMC for 30 years and, at 76 years young, he was looking to do one last ride and pass the baton to someone a little younger to continue the legacy of IBEW Local 104's participation in this event. Our three "bicycle brothers" trained for months. Bros. Rooney, Demeritt and Boyd raised a combined total of over \$26,000. Bro. Rooney has raised over \$100,000 during his years participating in PMC. For the last eight years, Bro. Rooney was riding especially in memory of his beloved wife, Dorsey, who lost her battle eight years ago.

We hope to have an even larger Local 104 team ride next year. If you are interested in participating in next year's PMC, please contact Pres. Ryan Demeritt for details.

Hugh Boyd, A.B.M.



Local 104 Pan Mass Challenge participants: Ryan Demeritt (left), Mickey Rooney and Hugh Boyd.

## Responsible Contracting Law

L.U. 110 (em,i,rts,spa&u), ST. PAUL, MN—The Minnesota state legislature recently passed an important statewide "Responsible Contractor" bill, which was signed into law May 23.

The new law requires all contractors bidding on public jobs to comply with workplace laws and regulations, including workers' compensation, wage and hour and overtime pay. If contractors fail to pay prevailing wage on a state project, they cannot work on any publicly funded project for three years! We could not have gotten this bill passed if we had not elected labor-friendly candidates. [For more information, see article "Minn. Passes Responsible Contracting Law,"

## LOCAL LINES



Over 50 apprentices, joined by their families, attended the Local 110 Young Union Members Day and enjoyed a St. Paul Saints game.

posted on the IBEW website at [www.ibew.org/articles/14daily/1406/140609Law.htm](http://www.ibew.org/articles/14daily/1406/140609Law.htm).] Don't forget: "We only support those who support us!"

Our annual volunteer appreciation dinner was a great success. A baseball game, dinner and prizes were enjoyed by members who volunteered within the past year. Remember: Our local is only as strong as the members make it. Volunteer your time to build our union.

On Sept. 24, Local 110 had its third blood drive for 2014. We collected 50 units, for a total of 147 units this year. Thanks to all our donors who made the drive a success. Bro. Jack Buchal, the organizer and recruiter, appreciates the electricians, spouses, daughters, retirees and apprentices who donate. Our next drive will be Jan. 21, 2015.

The local's work picture remains strong. Our refineries are the largest work sites. A new 3M research building project will employ up to 30 electricians and continue until next September. A new St. Paul Saints stadium will wrap up next spring. Thank you to all the Book 2 brothers and sisters who filled our calls last summer.

Brian Winkelaar, P.S.

## Full Employment & Activism

L.U. 124 (ees,em,i,mar,rts,se,spa&t), KANSAS CITY, MO—Our members have enjoyed full employment for the last 18 months. Work at the LaCygne plant, along with the Ford and GM assembly plant projects, also provided a few traveling brothers and sisters with job opportunities. Thanks to all for the help.

Work should continue through next year with the expansion of Truman Medical Center, Jackson County Courthouse, Cerner, Burns & McDonald, and Nearman Creek Power Plant projects.

On the political front, we hope all members voted in November. Most of the projects mentioned are related to the political involvement of our local union. We cannot be assured of these opportunities if we allow the right-wing extremists to serve in our legislative chambers. Look at what Republican Gov. Sam Brownback of Kansas did to PLAs (project labor agreements)—he banned them. Our best chance for survival is for our members to consider public service, and get elected. The success of IBEW's next generation depends on it!

We remember recently deceased members: Adis Branstietter, Ricky A. Crites, James Flowers, Kenton D. Inman, Ralph G. Matzdorff, Boyd Owens, Robert "Rex" Rogers, George "Mike" Rushton and Robert O. Wilson Jr.

Congratulations to recently retired members: Larry J. Banks, David L. Baldridge, Mark W. Norris and F. Michael Swanson.

Steve Morales, P.S.

## District Progress Meeting

L.U. 134 (catv,em,govt,i,mt,rtb,rts,spa&t), CHICAGO, IL—The recent Sixth District Progress Meeting was held in the labor friendly suburb of Rosemont, IL. An active duty military color guard, the Shannon Rover Bagpipe Band, and the national anthem sung by the Chicago

Blackhawk's own Jim Cornelison started off the meeting. Chicago Building Trades chaplain the Rev. Gavin Quinn gave the invocation.

Speakers included: IBEW Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill, Int. Sec.-Treas. Salvatore J. Chilia, and Sixth District Int. Vice Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson, as well as Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn, Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Illinois House Speaker Mike Madigan and Illinois Senate Pres. John Cullerton. The message was to get out the vote and "We're All in For Quinn." As November elections approached, the governor faced a tough race. [Editor's Note: On Nov. 4, Gov. Quinn lost re-election.]

Mayor Emanuel spoke of his great relationship with the IBEW and Local 134. Later a reception was held at Toby Keith's restaurant; the restaurant is located near the newly opened Rosemont Outlet Mall, which houses over 160 stores and, with the help of Rosemont Mayor Brad Stephens, was built completely union. Over 400 of our members and 43 signatory contractors performed the work on that mall project.

On behalf of all the officers and staff, Bus. Mgr. Terry Allen wishes the entire IBEW family a happy, prosperous and safe holiday season and new year.

Frank Cunningham, B.R.

## Tribute to Members

L.U. 146 (ei,i&rts), DECATUR, IL—Happy holidays from IBEW 146. May the upcoming year be prosperous and productive.

With the close of the year, we once again congratulate the following members who signed applications for pension benefits in 2014. They are: Dennis Katz, Michael Carrigan, Dirk Hyland, Chris Wrigley, Robert Bock, Rich Underwood, Dave Robison, Kelly Robison, Dan Weatherford, Mark Davis, Marvin Knox, Robert Simmons, Kelly Martin, Ken Waite, Noel Pierson, Dan Cook, Leonard Rippetoe, Dean Sullivan, Donald Wisner, Bill King, Joe Marley, Jeff Barr and Ryan Beck.

We also remember the members we lost in 2014: Claud Thompson, James S. Delany, Robert K. Finley, Jack W. Patrafka Sr., Carl V. Cripe, John S. Toth, Walter A. Bogusz, Elzie L. Garrett, David L. Chamness and Alfred B. Kaufman. May they never be forgotten for all their efforts for the IBEW.

Rich Underwood, R.S.

## 2014 a Great Year— An Even Better Year Ahead

L.U. 164 (c,em,i,o&t), JERSEY CITY, NJ—2014 has been an exciting year in Local 164, full of many positive changes including a major improvement in our work picture. As we end this year, grateful for all the hard work, professionalism and dedication of our membership, we look to 2015 with the hope and promise of an even better new year.

Bus Mgr. Dan Gumble, Pres. Tom Sullivan, the officers and staff of Local 164 thank everyone for all their hard work this year and wish everyone happy holidays and a happy and prosperous new year.

May this coming year find us all happy and healthy and may it bring with it a continued improve-

ment in our work picture; may we have the courage and resolve to continue to face down our challenges; may we take the time to appreciate all of the good in our lives; and may we continue working to prove to all that the IBEW has the most talented, most productive workforce in the electrical industry.

Warren Becker, V.P.

## Next-Gen Members Step Up

L.U. 196 (govt,mt,o,t&u), ROCKFORD, IL—Work remains very good in our area for outside construction and is expected to stay that way for quite a while.

I recently attended the IBEW Sixth District Progress Meeting, which also had a separate half-day meeting for the RENEW (Reach out and Engage Next-gen Electrical Workers) program, which made me think about the age demographics of Local 196. We are currently over 1,000 members strong and growing. Our four apprenticeship programs through ALBAT have grown to just over 80 participants, many of whom are younger workers just entering the trade.

As I scan the crowd at our monthly meetings I notice that many attendees are our "newer" members. After reviewing the sign-in book for our previous six meetings and checking each attendee's birthdate, it turns out that the average age at our monthly meeting is 35. Not bad and lower than I thought it would be. These "younger members" are the future of our union.

With many "baby boomers" approaching retirement, it is encouraging to see our younger members actively participating. One sometimes hears generalizations such as, "These younger kids [are only interested in] video games, Facebook, etc." I believe we should be hearing things like: "This kid works hard, can be counted on and has a real desire to become a great journeyman ... and steps up when asked." I see younger members at the meetings. They are out there and they are our future.

Eric Patrick, B.M.



IBEW members and guests gather to ride in 2014 Labor Day Bike Run in Florida.

## Annual Labor Day Bike Run

L.U. 222 (o), ORLANDO, FL—The 2014 Labor Day Bike Run was a great success. Over \$7,000 was raised for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

IBEW brothers and sisters from all across Florida came to celebrate Labor Day and support a worthy cause. [Photo, above.] I will forever cherish the friendships made and the camaraderie shared during this day filled with brotherhood, bikes and BBQ. The wheels of labor roared through miles of open road spanning Florida's beautiful terrain.

Special thanks go out to Locals 915 and 756. Local 915 kick-started the day by providing breakfast to all the riders. Local 756 greeted the riders at the end of the day with an exceptional BBQ. This event would not have been possible without the support of our generous contractor/

sponsors, IBEW local unions and participating brothers and sisters. Thank you to all involved.

We look forward to next year and hope this event will continue to grow. Until then, God Bless the IBEW.

Special thanks to the following IBEW business managers for always raising the bar to the next level: Russell Harper, Local 177; Randall King, Local 915; Bill Riley, Local 349; Dan Hunt, Local 756; and Mike Bell, Local 222.

Willy Dezayas, Organizer

## Nat'l. Training Institute 2014

L.U. 234 (i&mt), CASTROVILLE, CA—We are honored to congratulate and continue our support of the National Training Institute (NTI) on its 25th anniversary. NTI provides unparalleled worker training for the industry. The training improves at an ever-increasing pace. This new training has also meant developers have had to change their approaches to program delivery. Blended learning, which many apprentices are already familiar with, is an excellent example of alternative program delivery methods that include the latest in technical innovations.

Our JATC is pleased to have sent two instructors to NTI this year. Derek Webster, first-year instructor, and Stephen Slovacek, third-year instructor, learned how best to provide the most advanced industry training instruction. A beneficial part of their week in Michigan was the opening trade show—where industry's leading vendors sponsored booths and trainings, showcasing state-of-the-art technologies as well as glimpses of the future.

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

Again, our gratitude goes out to NTI and we eagerly look forward to its next 25 years. Thank you, NTI.

Stephen Slovacek, P.S.

## Marketing & Job Opportunities

L.U. 280 (c,ees,em,es,i,mo,mt,rts&st), SALEM, OR—As winter arrives in the Willamette Valley and Central Oregon, work has been relatively steady. Our signatory contractors

have been able to pick up significant projects in both the Valley and in Central Oregon that have kept our members working and our man-hours up. We see this trend continuing into 2015 and hope for a prosperous year ahead.

Marketing and branding of the IBEW and Local 280 have been a priority here within our jurisdiction. Jobsite signage, radio and prints ads, event sponsorships, as well as handed delivered fliers to local busi-



Local 280 Executive Board members participate in ALS Ice Bucket Challenge: Tom Baumann (left), Matt Forsberg, Tim Frew, Larry Fisher, Lynn McDonald, Rich Lofton and Nate Albertson.

nesses, are all being used to promote our local and provide more work opportunities for our members. It takes time and resources, but pays dividends and is well worth the effort.

At this year's picnic in September, Local 280 participated in the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge and donated \$5,000 to help with treatment and research for a cure for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. Apprentices poured ice water over executive members and representatives attending the picnic. Bus. Mgr. Tim Frew challenged the locals in the states of Oregon and Washington to do the same. The full video can be viewed at our website [www.IBEW280.org](http://www.IBEW280.org).

Local 280 wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday season!

Nate Albertson, P.S.



A view of Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant in 1969 shows construction of the drywell.

Entergy Nuclear, will start its decommissioning phase of the plant in January 2015, following 40+ years of operation. The battle to continue operation for another 20 years was lost. I wish the members at Vermont Yankee well in their future endeavors. Keep the faith.

Best wishes to all IBEW members for a happy holiday season and a great new year. We have a long way to go in our pursuit for equality for working-class people in our country. I continue to see hope at every corner; however, we must re-examine our own beliefs and attitudes and encourage more people to march to the IBEW drum. Reach deep to educate and better yourselves. Only through knowledge, caring and continuous drive can we accomplish our goals. Be safe and be well—cheers.

Jeffrey C. Wimette, B.M./F.S.



IBEW Local 292 volunteers stand with veteran Sgt. Colin Faust in front of his new home in Minnetrista, MN.

## Home for a Wounded Warrior

L.U. 292 (em,govt,i,rtb,rts&spa), MINNEAPOLIS, MN—For two days in early September, IBEW Local 292 had nearly 40 volunteers working at the Jared Allen's Homes for Wounded Warriors volunteer build project in Minnetrista, MN, for veteran Sgt. Colin Faust. In 2010 while on foot patrol in the northern Helmand Province of Afghanistan, Sgt. Faust stepped on an improvised explosive device; he lost his left leg and severely injured his right leg and left arm. In cooperation with the Labor Management Committee, NECA Minneapolis Chapter, J. Becher Electric and the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus, IBEW members helped donate 100 percent of the electrical systems in the new, accessible residence for Sgt. Faust.

As of this writing, Local 292 has fewer than 400 members on the out-of-work book for the first time in over a decade. This is clear proof that there is a bright future for construction in the Twin Cities.

To continue its organizing drive, Local 292 will be stripping key members of nonunion electrical shops. Nonunion electricians are calling us and learning about the benefits of working union. We have an active organizing campaign throughout the Local 292 jurisdiction. Earlier this year, E2 Electrical Services with its 12 employees signed a letter of assent, and the contractor has placed calls to our hiring hall for additional help.

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

## Recognition of Achievements

L.U. 300 (govt,i,mt&u), MONTPELIER, VT—Local 300 celebrated the life and accomplishments of Bro. John Krupp, who passed away unexpectedly in October. John was a 27-year IBEW member and an employee of Green Mountain Power. He was a longtime advocate for the IBEW and a fellow steward. His personality, work ethic and love for his family will be missed forever.

Local 300 also celebrates the accomplishments of the members at Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant. Vermont Yankee, owned and operated by

## 'Our Legacy of Success'

L.U. 302 (i,rts&spa), MARTINEZ, CA—Our Annual "Old Timer's" Dinner was, once again, a huge success. It is always good to see those who came before us—some known personally, and some only as legendary names, immortalized in jobsite stories. It's good to see their proud families look on as retired members are honored for their years of service.

I love the often-told tales and work stories. They tell us where we came from. The part I love the most is the simple act of shaking hands—grasping the hands that crafted and shaped our community. Strong, work-hardened hands, with a grip that can control heavy loads yet be supple enough for surgical-like precision. Good handshakes make good friends. But they also command respect, just in case you misjudge their resolve.

Some folks dream about buildings. Some folks put those dreams on paper. And some folks—who look just like you and me—actually get out there in the rain and the heat, the mud and the cold, and build those dreams. They live and work on the sharp, cutting edge of the future. It's good to check in with them from time to time.

Bob Lilley, A.B.M.

## Pin Presentation Luncheon

L.U. 340 (i,rts&spa), SACRAMENTO, CA—In August we held a Pin Presentation luncheon for the local's 50-, 55-, 60- and 65-year members. Many of these brothers went through some real "lean times," just as our members have in the past few years—but they stuck with IBEW Local 340 and got through those times and now enjoy the good life of retirement they so richly deserve. Presenting the retirees with their certificates and pins is a great honor and pleasure for me as business manager. Special thanks to Int. Rep.

Michael Meals, who gave up part of his weekend to talk to our retirees and help with the presentations.

These informal pin presentation/luncheons are also well-attended by rank-and-file members, who attend to honor the award recipients. It is always great talking and listening to these retirees while they reconnect with journeymen and former apprentices they mentored. The stories they share are so rich in history, as well as humor.

I am saddened to report Local 340's recent loss of several brothers: Tony Bates, John Buno, Jim Harris, Delmar Lindsay and Alan Vandebogart. Rest in peace, brothers.

Tom Okumura, B.M.



At Local 340 service award luncheon: Bus. Mgr. Tom Okumura (far left) and Vice Pres. Mark Steelman (far right, standing) congratulate service award honorees.

## 2014 Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 380 (ei,es,i&it), NORRISTOWN, PA—Local 380 celebrated the accomplishments of this year's apprenticeship graduates at a JATC banquet for the class of 2014. The graduates' achievements would not have been possible without the support of their families, friends, journeymen, foremen and dedicated instructors. The Steve Malinowski Leadership Award recipient was Kellen T. Hartz. Perfect attendance awards for the fifth-year class went to Rusty Brink, Keith Hogan and Dale McKelvey. The award for perfect attendance for all five years went to Daniel Hockenbrock. The third-place overall achievement award went to James Pickens, and second place to Daniel Hockenbrock. The first-place James W. Mayall Award recipient was Rusty Brink.

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

Local 380 also recently held our 33rd annual Journeymen vs. Apprentice Softball Game & Cookout. This event for members and their families is a great way to get together and see old friends and have some fun outside of work.

This year along with the softball game, an electrical trade show was added for members to see new products and tools and meet directly with product representatives. With the help of our local supply house, we had over 20 vendors attend. The trade show was a great success and we hope to expand it next year.

Scott R. Sheldon, P.S.



Local 388 welcomed then-candidate for governor Mary Burke at annual picnic.

## Candidate Thanks Members

L.U. 388 (em,i,rts&spa), STEVENS POINT, WI—Local 388 members recently held their annual picnic at Jordan Park. We had a great turnout, and a big thank-you goes to members Mike Jensen and Andrew Jensen for a great job on the roasted pig. Thanks also to all those members and their families who helped with setting up the picnic and the clean-up afterward. It is greatly appreciated.

Members at the picnic also welcomed a surprise visit from then-Democratic candidate for governor Mary Burke, who stopped by to personally thank IBEW members for their support in her run against incumbent Gov. Scott Walker.

Walker has shown that he is no friend of labor. At this writing, as we approached the November midterm election, members were encouraged to help defeat Walker and the Republican plan to push through anti-worker, "right-to-work" legislation. Thank you to volunteers for phone calling, going door to door, putting up yard signs, etc. [Editor's Note: On Nov. 4, Walker won the mid-term election.]

Guy LePage, P.S.



Local 412 mechanic apprenticeship graduates, with Mechanic Coordinator Terry McNabb (back row, center). From left: Nicholas Wooster, Daniel Lindsey, Todd Smith, (McNabb), Jeff "C.J." Myers, Tyler Allen and Jeremy Blanchard.

## Mechanic Apprentices Graduates

L.U. 412 (u), KANSAS CITY, MO—On Sept. 5 this year, Local 412 honored six mechanic apprentices on their graduation.

The new journeyman mechanics are as follows: at Sibley Power Plant—Nicholas Wooster, Daniel Lindsey, Todd Smith and Jeff "C.J." Myers; at Hawthorn Power Plant—Tyler Allen; and at Lake Road Power Plant—Jeremy Blanchard.

Congratulations to you all!

Debi Kidwiler, P.S.

Local 380 class of 2014 apprenticeship graduates: front row, Robert P. Becker (left), Joseph Aversa, Daniel J. McGettigan, Douglas B. Stanley, Stephanie R. Brady, Ryan L. Weintraub, James C. Console, Robert F. Taylor, Charles R. Perry Jr.; back row, James M. Pickens, Evi "Rusty" Brink, Dale E. McKelvey, Michael P. Toth, Beau C. Lanyon, Jordan S. Kane, Keith Hogan, Jesse J. Maloney, Jeremy Taylor, Daniel Hockenbrock and Kellen T. Hartz.

## LOCAL LINES



Local 494 members lead 2014 Labor Day parade in Milwaukee. (Photo courtesy of Jan Jante.)

## Milwaukee Labor Fest Parade

L.U. 494 (em,i,mt,rts,spa&t), MILWAUKEE, WI—On Labor Day the Milwaukee Area Labor Council and affiliated unions held the annual parade and festivities. Local 494 was honored to be the first unit to march, showcasing 300 members and their families.

A highlight of this year's Labor Fest celebration was a visit by Pres. Obama, who came to Milwaukee to celebrate our rich history of union labor successes and challenges over the years. It was Pres. Obama's third visit to the area since 2008. He brought enthusiasm and optimism for the future of labor, both in Milwaukee and across the nation. "I want an economy where your hard work pays off — with higher wages, and higher incomes, and fair pay for women, and workplace flexibility for parents, and affordable health insurance and decent retirement benefits," President Obama told the 6,000 attendees.

"It was nice to be leading the parade again and to be recognized with a visit from the president," Local 494 Bus. Mgr. John Bzdawka said.

It is important to remember the value of the work that we all do every day. This past Labor Day gave us a very memorable opportunity to do that.

Kurt Jante, B.R.

## Positive Work Picture

L.U. 530 (i,o&rtb), SARNIA, ONTARIO, CANADA—Local 530 is currently experiencing a temporary work high. A few small shutdowns and new construction jobs are keeping our members as well as some travellers employed. A thank-you goes out to our brother and sister locals for supplying us with workers during our need!

Local 530 also thanks Edmonton Local 424 for employing our members during our times of need, now and in the future.

Local 530 is saddened to report the recent loss of Bros. Paul Whitey Phillips, Reg Lamoureux and Roger Cataford. Our departed brothers are gone but not forgotten.

Al Byers, P.S.

## New Signatory Contractor

L.U. 558 (catv,em,i,mt,o,rtb,spa&u), SHEFFIELD, AL—Work this year is at a rapid pace and has been very productive for our local, as well as many other locals, with some calls going to Book 2. We have several members at the Toyota Engine Plant project in Huntsville, AL, and several calls for projects at the Tennessee Valley Authority. We are excited to announce that American Electric has become a signatory contractor and we look forward to a productive partnership.

A recent benefit held in honor of our Bro. Chris Williamson raised over \$25,000 to help less fortunate children in north Alabama. It is humbling to see the legacy of

our dear brother resonating throughout our area. This is an example of how we should invest in our own community.

We are proud to congratulate Bus. Manager Ralph Mayes, who received the Labor Person of the Year award at the Shoals Central Labor Day festivities.

Congratulations to the class of 2014 apprenticeship lineman graduates. These new linemen graduated in May. [See photo below.] Chuck Joiner was selected as Apprentice of the Year. Best wishes to all for a merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.

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



Local 558 congratulates lineman graduates. From left: Instructor John Wayne Thompson; graduates Thomas Barnes, Chuck Joiner, Cory McVay and Wesley Todd; and Instructor Sam Moore.

## 'Closing Out the Year'

L.U. 570 (i,mo,spa&u), TUCSON, AZ—Local 570 may have experienced a slow work picture this year, but we are staying busy with activities for members and the community.

We had over 55 members complete the Seventh District Foreman Development Series Training, and at press time we have several more in the process of completing the series. Seventeen members from our units completed Industrial Steward Training last quarter, and the Tucson JATP has more classes scheduled for all classifications.

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Local 570's golf tournament raised over \$6,700 for Reading Seed/Literacy Connects. The donation



Local 570's July 2014 graduates of the Seventh District Foreman Development Training.



Local 606 congratulates graduating inside construction class (group at top) and graduating Disney maintenance class.

was presented to RS/LC Dir. Kelly Wiehe at the September membership meeting.

Asst. Bus. Mgr. Pete Sabin chaired the Pima Area Labor Federation's Labor Day event this year. Over 2,000 people from the community attended.

A special thank-you goes to Bro. Mark Watson III, a third-generation, 40-year participating member. Mark was a Code of Excellence instructor and an elected officer in Local 570 for 25 years. Congratulations on your retirement, Bro Watson.

Scott W. Toot, Pres.

## Kudos to Class of 2014

L.U. 606 (em,es,i,rtb,spa&u), ORLANDO, FL—In August, Local 606 held a graduation banquet for the apprenticeship graduating class of 2014. [Photo at top, right.] There were 22 graduates from the Inside Construction program, and 14 graduates from the Disney Maintenance program. Outstanding Apprentice Award recipients of the year were: Brighton Hoyt and Sean Donnelly, for Inside Construction; and Randall Hammond Jr. and Suzanne Lochhead, for Disney Maintenance. Many thanks go to Local 606 signatory contractors and all other sponsors who made the banquet a huge success. We congratulate all the graduates and encourage them to become productive employees and active union members with the local.

With great sadness we announce the deaths of two members, Thomas C. Phillips Sr. and Robert A. White. They will both be sorely missed.

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

## Graduation Class of 2014

L.U. 640 (em,govt,i,mo,mt,rts,spa&u), PHOENIX, AZ—This year's apprenticeship graduation ceremony was held at the

Local 640 meeting hall on Sept 19.

We had 38 graduates: Kavon Alapour, Damon Biddix, Hubert Brown, Fabian Cahue, Sergio Castro, Luis Daubetterre, Jeremy Dirker, Adrian Embury, Ruben Galindo Jr., April Harris, James Hunt Jr., David Koepke, Shuangying Lu, George Mota, Joshua Mylo, Dan Rodarte, Philander Sells, Eloy Solano, Emanuel Vancea, Kyreece Wappner, Michael Begody, Jerome Black, Pablo Bustamante, David Cano, Jorge Chavez, Rick Engelhardt, Kirk Hamilton, Jonathon Hofelich, Kevin Jordan Jr., Michael Lemmon, Alejandro Molina, James Myers, Elaine Nez, David Santiago, Austin Shaw, Francisco Valadez, Jose Varela and Travis Yazzie. Congratulations to all the graduates. This year's outstanding apprentice award went to Kirk Hamilton. Perfect attendance awards went to Hamilton and Shuangying Lu.

Local 640 extends condolences to the families and friends of our members who recently passed away: Ovid G. Bennett, Clyde I. Ryall, John J. Hill, Sam K. Richardson, Louis Kalaf, Howard Simpson and Milten L. Scoblic. They will be missed.

We welcome our newest signatory contractor, D-2 Electric. We look forward to working with the contractor.

Remember to attend your local meeting, work union, buy union and stay safe.

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

## Voter Turnout is Key

L.U. 654 (i), CHESTER, PA—As of this printing, 2014 midterm elections will have taken place. Two of the very important races in our area will already have been decided—the race for governor and the race for the Pennsylvania Senate 26th District seat, considered one of the most important in the state, because it likely will be among those that determine whether Democrats regain control of the state Senate.

Incumbent Gov. Tom Corbett has been a thorn in the side of union members in Pennsylvania, attacking us on every front—from attempts at so-called "right-to-work" legislation, privatization of liquor stores, and HB-1507 (known as the "paycheck deception act") to cutting school funding by a billion dollars, leading to massive teacher layoffs, and more. Although at this writing, Gov. Corbett was trailing by more than 20 points in the polls, we cannot ever assume an easy victory. We remember what the turnout was like for

primary elections in May, when only one in five registered Democrats in Pennsylvania made it to the polls. Our future depends on our members getting out to vote! [Editor's Note: Democrat Tom Wolf defeated incumbent Republican governor Tom Corbett. For the 26th District State Senate seat, the incumbent beat the Democratic challenger in a close race.]

Members enjoyed a deep-sea fishing trip in September aboard the Cape May Lady. The fish were biting, the beverages were cold, and everyone went home happy and full. Upcoming events include our annual Crab Feast and the Christmas Party.

Remember to be involved, vote and buy American.

James E. Thompson Jr., P.S.

## Service Awards & Graduates

L.U. 666 (i,mt&o), RICHMOND, VA—This year our local awarded over 100 service pins, ranging from 25-year pins to a 75-year pin. Bro. John N. "Nick" Ware received his 75-year pin, as reported in the August issue. Many of these members showed up for the annual awards dinner in September and had a great time seeing old friends and 20 new journeymen.

Special congratulations to David M. Rasnic and Brian K. Wright, the outstanding apprentices for their respective classes. We expect great things from all of our newest journeyman wiremen! They are: Derek Bradby, Michael Clark Jr., Serena Hamilton, Mitchell Lipscomb, Stephen Mills, Benjamin Southward, Thomas Webb III, Casey Bray, Mathew Dallmeyer, Daniel Houchens, William Lovelace, Johnathan Stovall, Brian Wright, David M. Rasnic, Thomas Carahan, Robert Damiani, Gerald Jarrett II, Benjamin Mason, Gabriel Rod and Daniel Webb. Congratulations to all!

As of this writing, work in our jurisdiction is slow, but appears to be improving slightly. As of Oct. 1, Robert Humphries, our newest organizer, is in the field working to improve our market share!

Thanks to all of the locals that have worked our members this year. Locals 776 and 80 deserve special recognition for the numbers they put to work.

Charles Skelly, P.S.

## Operation Green Flag & New Membership Growth

L.U. 684 (c,i,rts&st), MODESTO, CA—Local 684 experienced a very productive year for membership growth. Operation Green Flag kicked off earlier in the year and our local is proud to say we have experienced a 12 percent increase in new membership.

We have welcomed several new signatory contractors into the local and continue to reach out to both nonunion contractors and electricians alike.

We especially wish to thank the following individuals for their incredible dedication and long hours spent to advance the Green Flag drive and our organizing efforts: Bro. Hank Lewis, state organizing coordinator; Int. Rep./Organizer Greg Boyd; and Local 684 Organizers Bobby Stutzman and Marcos Salas. Thank you also to the many other participants from area locals who contributed to helping us launch this new campaign.

We are also very excited about two large solar projects, a 135 megawatt project in Santa Nella and a 20 megawatt project in Los Banos. At press time, both are just about to get underway.

Dave Jones, P.S.

## 'Holiday Greetings to All'

L.U. 692 (i,mt&spa), BAY CITY, MI—As of this writing, the 2014 midterm election season was peaking. Local 692 members have been walking door to door to sup-

port the campaigns of labor-friendly candidates at least three times a week. We are hopeful that the effort we've put in will have paid off with election wins for working people. We thank all the members and their families who volunteered their time. When it comes to elections, we all must stand and work together, or divided we will fall.

Our photo (below) shows several Local 692 volunteers gathered at the dock site of the historic USS Edson naval ship. The Saginaw Valley Naval Ship Museum was formed as a nonprofit organization with the intent to bring a historic naval vessel to Bay City's riverfront. The Edson served in the U.S. Pacific Fleet, earning a reputation as a Top Gun ship and the nickname "The Destroyer." Her ship's crest included a skull copied from the shoulder patch worn by then-Col. Edson's First Marine Raider Battalion. Local 692 members are donating labor for the ship museum.

With no real big projects underway at press time, we have maintained employment with smaller projects. This is thanks to the hard work of Business & Membership Development.

We are sad to report the passing of Local 692 member Bro. Colin B. Schultz. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

We wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Tammy Gottleber, P.S.



Local 692 members volunteer for the Saginaw Valley Naval Ship Museum project. From left: Jordan Mapes, Tanner Tacey, Charlie Glynn and Mike Anger.

## IBEW Community Service

L.U. 702 (as,c,catv,cs,em,es,et,govt,i,it,lctt,mo,mt,o,p,pet,ptc,rtb,rs,se,spa,st,t&u), WEST FRANKFORT, IL—Our Newton Unit members recently engaged in a local fundraising effort to support a young girl in the community who is battling cancer and has entered her fifth round of chemotherapy. Members at the Power Station took advantage of a one-year anniversary of no lost-time accidents to raise \$2,450 for Emma and her family. Our hearts and prayers go out to her and others like her who face health issues.

On Sunday, Aug. 24, our Local 702 Tug-of-War team prevailed over other union teams for the second year in a row, becoming back-to-back champions at the annual SEMO Labor Picnic. [Photo at top, right.]

We have new agreements at Pemiscot Dunklin Electric Cooperative as well as the Lineworker's Group at SEMO Electric Cooperative.

A delicious pre-game tailgate was enjoyed by over 200 of our members on Oct. 4 at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, IL.

Our Outside Construction and Line Clearance work continues to be strong, and as of this writing, our referral books are as follows: Inside Construction—54, Outside Construction—3, Line Clearance—6.

To stay up on the latest Local 702 news and information, please visit us at [www.ibewlocal702.org](http://www.ibewlocal702.org).

Mark Baker, B.R.



Local 702 Tug of War champs. At top, 2013 team: front row, David McKay (left), Jerad Spain; back row, Chad Brotherton, John Roberts, Andrew Eason and Justin Lowes, with Bus. Mgr. Steve Hughart. 2014 team: Chad Brotherton, Pres. James Sanchez, David McKay, Jerad Spain, Ryan Baker and Ryan Groves.

## Daytona Speedway Project

L.U. 756 (es&i), DAYTONA BEACH, FL—What do former Pres. Jimmy Carter, Starsky & Hutch and disco music have in common? They were all current events happening in the 1970s—the last time Local 756 worked on Daytona International Speedway property.

In early October 2014, signatory contractor Giles Electric rolled gang boxes and a crew of workers inside the home of the epic NASCAR track and began working on the massive renovation underway there. This is a very big project that will not be fully completed for a couple of years. Giles Electric was awarded a small scope of work, which we anticipate will grow over the course of the project.

The local's commercial work is holding steady and looks to continue through the new year. Industrial work at the NASA Space Center is not at the levels we previously enjoyed; however, space flight is not dead and signatory contractors continue to bid on projects there.

We seated a new class of first-year apprentices in August, and interviews for next year will begin in January.

The Local 756 Executive Board has held very well-attended cookout/fundraiser/yard workdays throughout the year. These events are days of brotherhood spent cleaning up our property, eating

great food and raising funds for worthy causes. Thanks go to all who prepared food, worked and attended.

Also, a big thank-you goes to all the locals, many in the Fifth District, that have put our traveling members to work in 2014 as well. Merry Christmas and a happy, prosperous new year for all in the IBEW.

Daniel P. Hunt, B.M.

## Craftsmanship & Volunteerism

L.U. 934 (catv,i,o&u), KINGSPORT, TN—On July 11, members of our local and their families represented Local 934 at the Annual Fun Fest Parade. The Local 934 contingent walked in the parade and proudly displayed our banner with the theme, "Made in America with Pride and Tradition."

The new Bristol, TN, Bass Pro Shop held its grand opening Aug. 26. This BPS houses a bar and grill as well as a themed bowling alley. Come see the wonderful craftsmanship put in by our IBEW Local 934 brothers and sisters.

Our second-year apprentices continued the tradition of giving back to their community by volunteering to spend a day helping the Holston Habitat for Humanity with its mission to provide affordable housing for needy families.

Join me in thanking Bro. Bob Weber for his many years of dedicated service with the IBEW and Local 934. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, brother, during this time of struggle.

We will be sponsoring the Salvation Army in its Angel Tree project. Anyone interested in participating may contact the PR committee; we have open meetings at 7 p.m. on regular meeting nights.

Jon Van Bremen, Treas.

## 2014 Annual Picnic

L.U. 968 (catv,i,mt,o,rts,sap&t), PARKERSBURG, WV—IBEW Local 968's annual picnic was Sept. 6. Once again we had very good attendance. Boy Scout Troop 129 and troop leader Alan Lloyd (a Local 968 member) with his wife, Denise, did an excellent job conducting the kids games and cake walk. A special thank-you goes to this exceptional Boy Scout troop.

Shown in the photo (below) are some of the Local 968 retired brothers in attendance for the picnic. It was a great turnout and it was good to see everyone there.

With regret we report the passing of Bros. Harold "Skip" Ballengee and Ira P. Wood Jr. We have great memories and stories of times shared with these brothers. They will be remembered.

Lynford C. Lovell, B.M.



Local 968 retired members at 2014 picnic. Back row, John Sarver (left), Hiram "Max" Reholz, Greg Gore, Ted Weaver, Jess Blair, Charlie Arnold, Jerry Barnes, Jack Martin, Clayton "Tater" Griffin; front row, Jack Blue, Clervan Parsons, Bob Patton and Bruce Goodno. Attendee not pictured: Bob Lockhart.

## LOCAL LINES

## IBEW Golf Tournament

L.U. 1106 (catv, rtb&t), MASON, MI—Our local's 13th Annual Unity Golf Tournament was Saturday, Sept. 6, at North Star Golf Course in Ithaca, MI. More than 50 active members and retirees enjoyed this four-person scrambles event. Congratulations to the winners: Glen Marks, Bill Marks, Jeremy Moogenberg and Rocky Studley. The day included golf, lunch, a 50/50 raffle and many door prizes. Thanks to Ed Brush for organizing another great golf outing.

*Dave McCarthy, V.P.*

## End of Year Review

L.U. 1116 (em, lctt&u), TUCSON, AZ—What a year it's been for our local. We purchased and moved into our own building, negotiated new contracts for Trico Electric Co-op Inc. and Southwest Energy Solutions, and held our election of officers.

Thank you to all of our union stewards for the time and energy they give to address any challenges our workforces may come across.

We also thank those members who stepped up during the Labor Day picnic this year: Bros. Jon Aguirre, Richard Maldonado, Greg Carter and Sameer Mendez.

Journeyman linemen Lucas Cummings, Mike Halbur and Leander Johnson competed at the International Lineman's Rodeo in Bonner Springs, KS, in October. Way to show your craftsman skills, brothers!

Welcome to new members: Robert Ballejos, Carl Bedord, Bartt Carter, Charles Hawthorne, Saul Gomez, Ricardo Ibarra, Norberto Martinez and Kenneth Williams.

Best wishes to recent retirees: John Pedrazza, Mike Kaiser, Tony Callaway and William Swartzter.

Working safely is not only a company goal, but also an IBEW Local 1116 goal. Have a happy and safe holiday season.

*Richard "R.C." Cavaletto, P.S.*



*After hurricane hit Hawaii, an area family raised a banner to thank IBEW members from HELCO for disaster relief assistance.*

## IBEW Members Answer the Call

L.U. 1260 (catv, ees, mo, rtb, rts, spa&u), HONOLULU, HI—Hawaii's summer hurricane season was especially busy this year, as evidenced by a run back in August that saw two hurricanes threaten the state in the span of five days. Fortunately, the second of the two (Hurricane Julio) veered just north of the islands, but the other (Hurricane Iselle) made a direct hit on the Big Island of Hawaii causing extensive damage to the southwestern side of the island.

Thousands were left without power in the storm's aftermath and the members of IBEW Local 1260 answered the call to aid in disaster relief efforts. Members from across the state joined forces to clear debris, rebuild infrastructure and get the power back up and running—even with the threat of a second hurricane hurtling toward them.

Many union members left their own families to assist those more in need of assistance and the result was a deep sense of gratitude for the responding Local 1260 members. It prompted at least one affect-

ed family to put up a makeshift banner thanking members from the Hawaii Electric Light Company (HELCO). [See photo below, left.]

Local 1260 Bus. Mgr. Brian Ahakuelo was on hand to deliver food to crews on the scene and noted that he was extremely proud of the efforts of the responding Local 1260 members.

*Russell Yamanoha, A.B.M.*

## AEP Contract Negotiations

L.U. 1466 (u), COLUMBUS, OH—On Saturday, Sept. 27, Local 1466 held our Annual Fall Gathering at the union hall in Columbus. This event grows in popularity each year. Many members and families attended and everyone enjoyed the opportunity to spend the time together. We hope to see even more people next year!

As many of you know, we are currently in the midst of contract negotiations with American Electric Power. We are negotiating both our three-year master agreement and our local agreement. If everything goes right, we should be able to finish up and have a contract to vote on by early 2015. We will, of course, keep everyone updated as things progress.

We wish our members and their families a happy holiday season. Thank you for all your hard work over the past year!

*Jimi Jette, P.S.*

## Fall Fundraiser

L.U. 2324 (t), SPRINGFIELD, MA—IBEW Local 2324's second annual Fall Fellowship & Fundraising Golf Tournament was Oct. 5. This event was to both raise money for the benevolent fund and to get members together to have a good time.

Five teams plus one participated in the event, held at The Donnybrook Country Club in beautiful Berkshire County in Massachusetts. The Local 2324 Benevolent Fund aids local charities and those in need. Some of our upcoming projects include collecting food for needy families during the holiday season, hanging wreaths on the graves of veterans, and conducting a winter clothing drive.

*Christine Casino, Exec. Brd.*



*At Local 2324's Fundraiser Golf Tournament: Denise Vittone (left), Christine Casino, Joe O'Brien and Gina Thayer-Durant.*

## RETIREES

## Greetings from St. Louis

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 1, ST. LOUIS, MO—Holiday greetings from Local 1 retirees in St. Louis.

The annual Labor Day parade was a great success and the weather was beautiful. The IBEW barbecue after the parade gave us retirees a chance to reminisce with active and retired members. The atmosphere at the Labor Day parade festivities is always uplifting.

I hope all who wanted to attend made it to the Health Fair in October, which offered free medical tests and flu shots.

During this season of giving please remember our brothers and sisters who are unemployed, and donate to Local 1's Relief Committee.

Many thanks go to Bro. Donald Appelbaum for his informative retiree reports. The next Retirees Club meeting will be March 18, 2015.

I hope and pray everyone has a happy new year.

*Neal McCormack, R.S.*

## An Eventful 2014 Summer

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, NASSAU CHAPTER—As is now a tradition, our club's September meeting began with a reading of the names of the 17 IBEW Local 3 members who lost their lives on Sept. 11. "We will never forget."

We had many happy things happen over the summer, and some not so happy.

Our chapter enjoyed four great days at the Educational Center in July. The weather was perfect.

Our annual picnic was well-attended, and again the weather was great. The trip to "Sight and Sound" in Pennsylvania to see the production of "Moses" was enjoyable. That trip also included a dinner together.

Capping off a good summer, Local 3 Bus. Mgr. Christopher Erikson was grand marshal of the New York City Labor Day parade, a great honor indeed.

Again our chapter will be involved in the collection of toys and funds for the Michael Nigro Foundation to support cancer care for children at Winthrop Hospital. Our participation is in memory of our past vice chairman Joy Terino.

The sadness we have is the loss of members who have passed away. Especially notable is the passing of Thomas "Tommy" Doyle, who was chairman of the Queens Chapter retirees. All those who have passed will be remembered.

*Bob Cooper, P.S.*

## Education Center Trip

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, NORTH NEW JERSEY CHAPTER—Our annual trip to the Educational Center in Cutchogue, NY, on July 28 was blessed with four beautiful days. [Photo at bottom, right.] Tom Gallagher gave the welcome address and provided information on what's happening at the union.

Tuesday's topic was "healthy meals," presented by Judy Blades. We discussed our progress since last year's meeting. Our cocktail hour that evening was delicious with all the good food people brought. Thank you to George Brendel, who manned the hot ovens. It was nice that we all enjoyed the evening festivities together. Thanks to the setup and pickup volunteers.

On Wednesday, Erica Vinas' talk was on "heart attack and stroke prevention." The demonstration focused on preparation of healthy snacks. We had our BBQ later, thanks to the guys who cooked hot dogs, hamburgers and desserts. Well done.

All who were unable to attend were missed. Be well, be happy and let's do it again.

*Anthony LaBate, P.S.*



*A column in tribute to IBEW Local 3 members who lost their lives on 9/11 is part of permanent exhibit at Sept. 11 memorial museum.*

## 2014 Labor Day Parade &amp; Trip to Memorial Museum

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, SUFFOLK CHAPTER—We sat in the reviewing stand at the New York City Labor Day parade. Watching the parade, we took great pride as our Local 3 Bus. Mgr. Christopher Erikson let the procession down Fifth Avenue. He was the grand marshal, a well-deserved honor. Thanks to Allan Eimer for getting us the great seats and hats.

Our bus trip to the National September 11 Memorial & Museum was a moving experience. I think everybody took something away from the experience of walking through the museum. I know I did. The museum preserves the history of the events and shows how 9/11 continues to shape our world. [See photo above, right.]



*Local 3, North New Jersey Chapter, Retirees Club gathers at Educational Center in July 2014.*

After the museum visit, we went to Little Italy for lunch, which was wonderful. Thanks to Olivia and Hank Schmidt for all their hard work to make this trip a success that it was. Olivia, what is the next trip?

The end-of-summer barbecue was a big hit. Attendees enjoyed plenty of food, drinks and games, as well as fellowship with good friends. Thanks to Jim Jost and his committee for making this a success.

Harvey Goldman, P.S.

## NYC Labor Day Parade

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, WESTCHESTER/PUTNAM CHAPTER—On Saturday, Sept. 6, we all applauded with great pride as the grand marshal of the New York City Labor Day parade, IBEW Local 3 Bus. Mgr. Christopher Erikson, led the procession accompanied by Local 3's Sword of Light Pipe Band.

Following Bus. Mgr. Erikson in the parade was one of the largest contingents of Local 3 members, waving their flags and banners, to ever parade up Fifth Avenue. The marchers represented every division of Local 3.

To our amazement, after arriving at 64th Street, Bus. Mgr. Erikson walked back downtown to lead the rank-and-file Local 3 members in their march. The turnout was incredible! Local 3 officers and members sent a clear message that the union labor movement is alive and well in New York City. It was a proud day for all of us. [Photo at bottom, left.]

Marching with Bus. Mgr. Erikson were: IBEW Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill; Thomas Van Arsdale, former Local 3 business manager; Local 3 Pres. John Marchell; Mario Cilento, president, New York State AFL-CIO; Vincent Alvarez, president, New York City Central Labor Council; and Local 3 officers and staff members too numerous to mention individually.

Dick Mills, Sec.  
John Rich, P.S.  
Bob Cuneo, P.S.

## 2015 Cruise to Hawaii

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 26, WASHINGTON, DC—Our 2015 cruise will be to Hawaii! We leave on May 5, so if you have any interest in joining the 40+ already signed up, best to contact our travel coordinator, Rick Warner, at (240) 472-0438.

On Oct. 11, 2014, instead of our regular meeting, we met in Annapolis for our Annual Crab Feast. We broke the 100 person mark by 22! One attendee, June Gebicke, widow of a former member, brought 12 of her family to share the day. What greater way to gather the family than to have them join your union family crab feast! So mark your calendars for the next crab feast on Oct. 10, 2015, and join us!

Also in October, the club traveled by bus to Pennsylvania to visit the Capitol and an automobile museum; we also took a train ride on a steam engine! If you have ever heard of the Tucker Automobile, they are now housed at the Antique Automobile Museum in Her-

shey, PA, in part thanks to a person named David Cammick, whom our club met while visiting his personal collection/museum in Alexandria, VA, before he met his maker. His three cars and much more are now available for viewing by generations of car enthusiasts.

Our Thanksgiving meeting was full of thanks, with special thanks to our military veterans, who were honored on Nov. 11 (Veterans Day) by all!

Susan Flashman, P.S.

## Retirees Recognition Ceremony

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 35, HARTFORD, CT—On Sept. 20, Local 35 hosted a dinner in honor of those who retired from 2012 through 2014. The dinner was held at Chowder Pot IV in Hartford. IBEW watches, jackets and service pins were presented.

Honored were: Terry Anderson, John Benoit, Luis Calderon, Earl Calloway, Joseph Cantone, Lennie Chin, Patrick Coughlin, Carl DiFazio, Robert Ferrara, Brian Florin, Clive Freckleton, Robert Gorgone, Norman Higgins, Lloyd Hyman, Gregory Kinghorn, Richard Leonard Machol, David Martineau, Hector McIntosh, Raymond Mills, Roger Meunier, Todd Mountford, Robert Panciera, Roger Peckham, James Rietta, Lance Schors, Robert Senkbeil, James Szalkiewicz, Thomas Walter, Alcious Watson, Kenneth White, Craig Woodhouse and Richard Wowak.

It was nice to get together with old friends and reminisce about great times we had working together. It is a great honor to be part of the IBEW, experiencing brotherhood and pride in quality craftsmanship, and making lifelong friends. The IBEW gave us the chance to earn a good living, have excellent health and pension benefits, and provide for our families.

Attendees had a wonderful time at the dinner. We wish the best to the future membership and hope they will share our experience.

Kenneth R. White, P.S.



Local 35 hosts Retirees Recognition Ceremony.

## Welcome Extended

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

Club meetings are bimonthly, on Tuesdays, at Local 42's hall. Annual dues are \$12. The meeting starts at 9 a.m. sharp. Meetings begin with discus-

sion of upcoming business and upcoming events. Afterward the attendees enjoy talking about old times and sharing funny stories while they sit back, relax and have coffee and doughnuts. The Retiree's Club would love to have you join them. If interested, please call us at (860) 646-7297.

The Retiree's Club thanks all of the ladies in Local 42's office for their hard work and for making everyone feel welcomed. They work very hard putting all the events together to make them enjoyable and successful occasions. The ladies of Local 42 always greet everyone with a warm smile and are glad to help you with whatever you need.

We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday!

Jacquelyn Moffitt, P.S.

## Labor Honors; Wounded Warrior Project

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 60, SAN ANTONIO, TX—At the September meeting, we had a special guest, Ruben Silva, president of the Texas AFL-CIO Hank Brown Retirees Chapter. Silva thanked IBEW Local 60 Retirees Club Pres. Gene Chamberlain for his help in restructuring the AFL-CIO Hank Brown Retirees Chapter bylaws and presented him with a shirt in appreciation.

Pres. Chamberlain also received a plaque at the state AFL-CIO Labor Day Breakfast on Aug. 23, as the nominee from the AFL-CIO Hank Brown Retirees Chapter for the theme "Labor Honors Their Own."

The Local 60 Retirees Club meets the second Thursday of each month at the Plumbers and Pipefitters Training Bldg., 3630 Belgium Lane, at 12 noon. After a short business meeting, attendees enjoy lunch and bingo.

Upcoming events and activities promise to be exciting. The Wounded Warriors Holiday Project is our focus again this season. Collected items will be taken to the WW Headquarters after the December meeting.

At the February 2015 meeting, the club will hold a silent auction fundraiser. Items you no longer use and wish to donate will be put to good use.

April 2015 will be the annual golf tournament fundraiser (date to be determined).

The Retirees Club welcomed newly retired Bro. Tim James at the September meeting. The club is open to Local 60 retired persons. Please join us.

Sandy Rogers, P.S.

## Recent Retirees Honored

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 90, NEW HAVEN, CT—On Oct. 9, our local honored 10 gentlemen who officially retired from IBEW Local 90. The dinner was held at the Groton Motor Inn where the following retirees were honored: Daniel LaCroix, Robert Mordecai, Edward Czapiga, James DeBridgita, Philip Gonzalez, John Johnson, Andrew Papacoda, Richard Pecoraro, Richard Siglinger and Michael Simon. We thank them for their service and wish them good fortune in the years ahead—and we invite them to join our Retirees Club.

On Dec. 2, we held our annual holiday luncheon at Fantasia, in North Haven, CT, and as usual all enjoyed the occasion. Many thanks go to Pres. Bob Mantovani, the officers and committee for a great time.

We wish all our brothers and sisters everywhere

a joyous holiday season and a happy, healthy new year.

Richard Launder, P.S.

## Informative Luncheon

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 103, BOSTON, MA—The July 2014 Retirees Luncheon was well-attended due to informative presentations by then-business manager Michael Monahan on the issues of health benefits and the Affordable Care Act and how it affects our retirees and members. Also discussed was the cost the plan is facing regarding prescription drugs. The presentation, including visual aids, really helped explain the current situation. As usual, these types of settings greatly inform us and show the work involved to keep our programs up-to-date. I know all those present appreciated the presentation and the information provided to the Retirees Club.

Rich Leary, P.S.



At Local 104 Retiree Get-Together: back row, Jack Riccio (left), Mickey Rooney, Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Brian Murphy, Hank Barry Sr., Ray Brady, Rich Hayes, Armand Cabral, Asst. Bus. Mgr./Treas. Hugh Boyd, Donald Coutinho; front row, Bob Salvati and Steve O'Donnell.

## Retiree Get-Together

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 104, BOSTON, MA—The Local 104 Retiree Get-Together was held Oct. 1 at Doyle's in Jamaica Plain, MA. There were a lot of laughs and great moments shared at this gathering. We try to get our retirees together a couple times a year. The next get-together (after Christmas) will be scheduled in April at Angelica's in Middleton.

We congratulate this year's retirees: Robert Foss, George Froias, Byron Lohnes Jr., Donald McRae, Francis Miller, Richard O'Brien, John Pagliaro, Gordon Robinson, Robert Rudolph, Gerald Tower and Gerald Williams.

Congratulations also to the following retirees celebrating their longtime memberships: 50-year service award recipients—Robert Flanagan, Lewis Leslie, William Matthews, Edward Murray and Walter Randall; 55-year service award recipient Paul Boufford; and 60-year service award recipients—Charles Long and Franklin Place.

Hugh Boyd, P.S.

## Guest Luncheon Speaker

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 124, KANSAS CITY, MO—The September Retirees Luncheon had over 50 retirees in attendance. It is always great to see longtime friends, swap stories of the past and hear what new and exciting things our brothers and sisters are doing.

Judith Parker, consultant for field mobilization for the Missouri Alliance for Retired Americans, was our guest speaker. She gave a brief history of the Alli-

Guest speaker  
Judith Parker,  
Missouri  
Alliance for  
Retired  
Americans,  
addresses  
Local 124  
Retirees Club.



Local 3, Westchester/Putnam Chapter, Retirees Club.

## RETIREES

ance and its work to promote economic justice for all retired Americans. Judith stressed the importance of standing up for ourselves as retired Americans by voting for elected officials who are responsive to the needs of retired persons.

We wish to thank newly elected Local 124 officers—Bus. Mgr. Enrique “Rick” Rodriguez, Pres. Rudy Chavez and Fin. Sec. Bryant “B.Z.” Parscale—for their presentations at the luncheon and their continued support of the Retirees Club.

Ken Starr, P.S.

## Quarterly Meeting Event

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 130, NEW ORLEANS, LA—On Sept. 25, we held our quarterly meeting, and it was also our club’s 67th anniversary. As always we had the event catered (fried chicken) and plenty of refreshments. We had a crowd of 58 people to enjoy the good food and company. Let’s give a big thanks to Duke Legendre along with Mike and Janet Dupuis for a job well-done! Duke made sure we had door prizes and 50/50.

A friendly reminder to all: Please remember the monthly casino trips. They are lots of fun.

At press time, our annual Christmas party was scheduled for Dec. 4. We hope everyone marked their calendars for that event.

With deep regret we report the loss of several brothers: Marlon D. Bennett, Stephen R. Gautier, Thomas C. Miller, Dave A. Nicholson, Thomas A. Ottaway, Andrew V. Petit and Numa L. Pedeaux Jr. May their souls rest in peace.

Until our next meeting, God bless America.

George Clesi, Pres.

## 2015 Events Planned

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 134, CHICAGO, IL—2015 events for the Local 134 Retirees Club will include: Three \$1 catered luncheons (March 11, June 10 and Sept. 9). Also at the June meeting the local will honor 50-, 55-, 60- and 70-year members and feature live entertainment. Our annual Christmas party will be at the Irish American Heritage Hall on Dec. 9, 2015. An 18-hole golf outing will be offered in August or September. Also planned are Lake Michigan Shoreline Tours, Drury Lane Theatre outings, and tours of Chicago. Details will be listed in upcoming Retirees Newsletters and at website [www.local134.org](http://www.local134.org).

Our Club has many terrific members, and I’d like to recognize some who are very active. To name just a few: Bob Mersch, who has passed theater events planning to Walter Felde; and Hugh O’Connor, who has passed the annual golf outing to Kevin Gibbons. We thank all of these guys for their work on behalf of the club. Also a big thank-you goes to Gerry White, longtime event planner and coordinator, and her spouse and helpmate, Al. Although space does not allow mention of all those who help make our club so great, please know that we appreciate each of you for keeping our club vital, successful and strong.

Next year, our club will try alternate sites for some club meetings. Watch upcoming newsletters for info.

Best wishes to all for a better 2015!

Louis Rodriguez, P.S.



At a Local 134 Retirees Club meeting are: Kevin Gibbons (left), Gerry White and Walter Felde.



Celebrating Local 197’s birthday are: Jayne Adams (left), Dick Thompson, Lance Reece, Dave Kraft, Mike Thoms, Rex Ammerman, Newt Mikesell, Bus. Mgr. Rich Veitengruber, Norm Philips, Don Armstrong, Dan Uhlir, Jack Roberts, Howard Cotton and Robin Roberts.

## Anniversary Celebration

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 197, BLOOMINGTON, IL—Local 197 retirees came out on Oct. 21 for coffee and cake to celebrate the local’s 102nd birthday. It was a nice get-together for everyone and stories of yesteryear were exchanged. Thanks to the retirees for having the foresight to start our pension plans and insurance plans, and for shaping our local to become what it is today. We feel fortunate that they have helped lead the way through some tough times.

As the November midterm election approached, retirees were busy getting out the vote, providing information about early voting and absentee ballots.

At press time, retirees were taking part in several events. Every year retirees volunteer their time in November to light up the Festival of Trees, which benefits a local charity, The Baby Fold. Retirees set up the lighting displays for the event and then take it all down later. Another local charity looking for help is the Homes for Hope, which some of the retirees will be involved with. We wish everyone a safe and healthy holiday season!

Mike Raikes, Pres.

## In Tribute & Remembrance

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 212, CINCINNATI, OH—As we age, it sometimes seems that we spend more time at doctors’ offices, hospitals and paying our respects to the families of those we have lost. According to the latest Local 212 information, I count 12 members who have passed away during the most recent quarter—from 71-year member James Peters to eight-year member LeShan Mims.

Perhaps working on the Memorial Plaque for the last 1½ years has made me more aware of the pride that Local 212 members take in this Brotherhood. Personally, I’ve tried to attend the funerals of deceased members and speak to the spouse and family members. I continually hear about how proud the departed loved one was to be an IBEW Local 212 member. When we as fellow IBEW members make a special effort to join together for a final time to honor one of our own, the bereaved families greatly appreciate our effort.

We wish all IBEW members a merry Christmas and a healthy, happy New Year!

Bob Schaefer, P.S.

## Service Award Recipients

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 257, JEFFERSON CITY, MO—The Retirees Club met Sept. 30 in Westphalia, MO, for our monthly luncheon/meeting. Local 257 had their annual picnic on Sept. 20 in Jefferson City, MO. It was a beautiful fall day. The food was great and everyone had a good time. A few of our retirees were recognized with service pins. They were: for 55 years of service—Gary James, Carl Nichols and George Rehaugen; for 50 years—Joseph Gallatin Jr. and Kenneth Polly; 45 years—Charles Farris, Sam Hamacher and Thomas Oligschlaeger; 35 years—James Breid, Harry Haverich and Dan Schroeder; and for 20 years—Steve Klepel. Congratulations to everyone!

For our October meeting, we went to one of our favorite places, Claysville Store Restaurant in Claysville, MO. This restaurant is owned by Local 257 member Mark Hooibrink and his wife, Laura.

Numerous IBEW retirees volunteer each year to help judge and grade the competition at the Skills USA Competition at Linn State Technical College. At a recent luncheon/meeting, the volunteers in attendance received certificates from Linn Tech.

Enjoy the holiday season!

Delores Melloway, P.S.



Local 570 retirees receive service pins: Walter Wyllie (left), Arthur Comolli, William Turner, Roy Iley, Horace Bounds and John Baumer.

## Service Awards Presented

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 570, TUCSON, AZ—Retirees Club meetings started back up in October, with Local 570 providing a lunch and Bus. Mgr. Mike Verbout presenting service pins.

Service pin recipients included: Horace Bounds, for 65 years of service; Arthur Comolli and John Baumer, 60 years of service; Roy Iley and Walter Wyllie, 55 years; and William Turner, 50 years. Thank you to all for your longtime service and dedication to the IBEW.

Scott W. Toot, P.S.



Local 257 retiree volunteers receive certificates from Linn State Technical College: Emil Fischer (left), Bob Kauffman, Herb Bruemmer, Jerry Rehagen, Bill Jurgensmeyer, Herman Grothoff, Ron Holzhauser, Ken Schulte, Larry Jones and Jim Bride.

## Sarnia Happenings

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 530, SARNIA, ONTARIO, CANADA—I wish to write this month about a longtime member of our Retirees Club, Wally Cavan. Wally joined the Canadian Navy in 1949 and was posted to Cornwallis for new entry training. He was then sent to H.M.C.S. Stadacona for an Electrical Mates Course in 1950 and subsequently posted to H.M.C.S. Huron for patrol duty in Korea. In 1951, he was again posted to H.M.C.S. Stadacona to take Electrical Gunnery 3 train-



Local 530 retiree J. Wallace Cavan (center) receives certificate presented by Canada’s Minister of Veterans Affairs Julian Fanting (left) and Member of Parliament Pat Davidson.

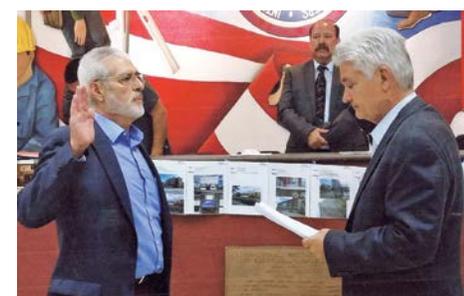
ing. In 1952, he was posted to H.M.C.S. Magnificent for Queen Elizabeth II coronation and fleet review. Additionally, Wally played football for Stadacona Navy for five seasons, in the Maritime College Football League. He concluded military service in 1955.

Wally joined the IBEW in Sudbury in 1957 and became a member of Local 530 in 1976. He has been retired 21 years.

In August 2013, J. Wallace “Wally” Cavan was presented with a Certificate of Recognition, which in part reads: “On behalf of a grateful nation ... in recognition of your selfless acts of service and sacrifice,” signed by the ministers of Veterans Affairs and National Defense.

On behalf of all our members we too thank you, Wally, for your service to our country.

Nancy Stinson Philbin, P.S.



Local 611 Bus. Mgr. Carl Condit (left) is sworn into office by his brother, Brian Condit, director of special projects for the local.

## Recording Union History

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 611, ALBUQUERQUE, NM—Local 611’s 100th anniversary celebration and 2014 are winding down, but collection of local union historical data must continue.

I am requesting that several members, especially younger retirees, volunteer to assist with continuing to record the history of our local and the IBEW. It’s an easy task for two or three people to keep up with current events, attend union meetings and record data on a flash drive occasionally. Contact the local if you are interested in this worthwhile project,

important for future generations. I'll continue to help as long as my health holds up. Note: Please contact the local for a free 100th anniversary book.

We cancelled the Christmas buffet this year because of a shortage of volunteers and funds. We hope to have a buffet and get-together for all the retirees next spring. If interested in volunteering, please call the hall.

I regret to announce that retired Bro. Joe Hill, who built and installed our new 100th anniversary showcase, passed away Sept. 27. Our condolences go out to his family and to the families of several other recently deceased retirees: Villani Torn Jr., Jake M. Perea, Chris Padilla, David M. Otero, Maxwell D. Simons, Lawrence H. LaRue and John W. Stanhope. Our brothers will be missed.

We wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year!

Tracy Hall, Pres.

### Excellent Turnout

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 640, PHOENIX, AZ—On Oct. 17, the Golden Age Road Runners began our eight-month series of monthly meetings. The turnout was excellent, and we enjoyed another fine breakfast prepared and served by Maggie and her crew.

At the October meeting, our newly installed vice president, Dan Pollard, offered some recommendations as to political candidates running for office. Dan has been involved in the political arena since he became a journeyman wireman in 1974, as a way to give back in appreciation for the education he received as an apprentice. He has held many offices in the local, from board member to president, and since retiring has continued as a member of the Central Arizona Labor Council.

At the conclusion of the meeting, many attendees lingered to discuss their summer activities with their buddies. We hold our 9:30 a.m. meetings on the third Friday of the month at the union hall, and we always welcome new members. *[Photo at bottom, left.]*

Lastly, the Golden Age Road Runners wish all IBEW members a safe and happy holiday season, and the best start possible in the New Year!

Daryl Knupp, P.S.

### Recent Club Meetings

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 702, WEST FRANKFORT, IL—The Local 702 Retirees Club met Aug. 7 at the Golden Corral in Carbondale, with 33 members (four new) and two guests present. Pres. Gary King called the meeting to order. The membership approved affiliating with the Illinois Alliance for Retired Americans. A question was raised about interest in attending a meeting in Fairview Heights; Charlie May responded. Help was requested for the DuQuoin Fair pavilion. It was noted that a complimentary meal at Golden Corral would be included in the raffle at the October meeting.

The next meeting was Oct. 2 at the Golden Corral in Carbondale, with 14 members (three new) and six guests present. Pres. Gary King thanked everyone for attending. The Aug. 7 meeting minutes were read and approved, along with the financial report. Thanks were extended to members who staffed the booth at the DuQuoin Fair. It was decided that the Christmas

Dinner would be at Bennie's Italian Restaurant in Marion, IL. Jr. Marlow won the 50/50 and Mrs. Mandrell won the complimentary Golden Corral meal. Business was completed and the meeting was adjourned.

Mark Baker, P.S.

### Pin Ceremony

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 756, DAYTONA BEACH, FL—We had a great many service pins to present this year, and at a recent gathering three recipients were present to accept their awards in person. Congratulations to all on their longtime IBEW service.

We started off our year with a great crowd for our September Fish Fry and the October Barbecue. Everything was delicious as usual. We thank Greg and the guys for all their hard work and dedication outside, and thanks also to everyone who helps inside as well. At this writing our Thanksgiving meeting was fast approaching. We look forward to seeing everyone at our Christmas meeting as well.

With sadness, we report the recent passing of two members: Dominick "Rusty" Stellitano and Roy Norris. Bro. Stellitano was head of the apprenticeship program for many years, and Bro. Norris was a loyal member of Local 756. Both were active members of our Retirees Club and will be missed. We send our condolences to their families.

We invite any retired members and their spouses, as well as unemployed members, who are in the area to come and join us. Our meetings are the second Thursday of each month, 11:30 a.m., at the Local 756 union hall, Port Orange, FL.

Diane Gibbs, P.S.



Local 756 retirees receive service pins. From left: 60-year members Pete Davies and Don Carter; and 55-year member Joe Gardner.

### Dec. 13 Holiday Party

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 995, BATON ROUGE, LA—The Local 995 Retirees Club at its meeting in August decided to participate with regular members in their Annual Christmas Party. This will take place on Dec. 13, 2014. The meal will be from 6-8 p.m. with a dance to follow from 8-11 p.m. Everyone is to bring at least one of these items: a vegetable, a salad or a dessert. The meat will be furnished and the music will be furnished by our own in-house band, composed of local members. I hope to see you all there to wish each and every one a merry Christmas and happy New Year on behalf of the Retirees Club.

It is with regret that I report the recent loss of several of our dear retirees: Leslie Mitchell, Joseph Rispono, John Roshto and Clarence Zimmerle.

W. Roland Goetzman Sr., P.S.



At the Local 640 Retirees Club's October meeting.



## CONTEST ENDING SOON

# 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](http://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](http://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](http://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 \_\_\_\_\_



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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**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

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**FROM THE OFFICERS**

## Few Silver Linings



**Edwin D. Hill**  
International President

I'm not going to pull any punches. The 2014 midterm elections were about as close to a disaster for working families as you can get.

Republicans won control of the Senate, knocking off pro-worker allies like Kay Hagan in North Carolina and Mark Begich in Alaska. And governors like Scott Walker in Wisconsin and Rick Snyder in Michigan, who spent much of their first term attacking collective bargaining rights, managed to win re-election in highly contested races.

We did everything we could this election season. All over the country, IBEW members were knocking on doors, making phone calls and talking with their neighbors in support of union-endorsed candidates—and that made the difference in the few victories we celebrated Nov. 4 in places like Minnesota, Connecticut and Pennsylvania. And IBEW members scored a big victory in southern New Jersey, where voters overwhelmingly elected Local 351 assistant business manager Donald Norcross to Congress.

But despite these silver linings, Nov. 4 was a bad night for working people as elected officials hostile to organized labor seized control of the Senate and many state houses.

The midterms weren't a mandate for the tea party's extreme agenda. Exit polls reveal that Americans—who rated the economy as their top issue—are frustrated with their own continuing financial insecurity. Unemployment may be down and the stock market up, but 70 percent of voters say the economy is still in bad shape. And more than 60 percent think the government is to blame, saying it only serves the interests of the wealthiest Americans. But they voted for candidates whose agenda benefits primarily those at the very top of the economic heap.

Take a look at Arkansas. At the same time voters sent extreme right winger Tom Cotton to the Senate, they overwhelmingly approved an increase in the state's minimum wage. Same thing happened in South Dakota and Alaska—despite the national GOP's opposition to raising the federal wage.

Years of stagnant paychecks and too many dead-end Walmart jobs has Americans scared about their future—and angry at elected officials. This year they took it out on President Obama and Democrats.

Looking on to 2016, we need to make sure our endorsed candidates fight unapologetically for working families' bread and butter concerns and keep the focus on what's most important—good jobs, shared prosperity and a rebuilt path to the American dream.

Until then we're going to keep the heat on politicians who think they have a green light to further attack our rights on the job, slash investment in jobs and education, and threaten vital programs like Social Security and Medicare. The 2014 election is over, but for working families the fight has just begun. ■

## Lessons from the Golden State

The United States has a long way to go before renewable energy sources like solar and wind can realistically replace coal and other carbon-emitting energy sources.

But as we report in this issue, California is giving America a glimpse of how we can get there.

Nationwide, renewables make up less than 5 percent of the energy mix. In the Golden State, it's 15 percent, with half of all the state's solar capacity installed in the last year alone.

This has translated into new jobs for IBEW members—lots of them. San Diego Local 569 has added more than 1,000 new members to its rolls, thanks in large part to the explosion of renewable power projects, while Riverside Local 477 has nearly doubled its membership, with 60 percent of their work coming from solar.

This is a tribute to the skills and expertise of the IBEW, but more than anything, California's booming green power industry shows how well thought out, bipartisan public policy can result in job growth, affordable energy and a balanced energy portfolio that reduces carbon emissions.

In 2002, the state passed an ambitious renewable energy portfolio standard requiring that 20 percent of the state's power come from solar, wind, geothermal or hydropower by 2017.

The law was signed into effect by Democratic Gov. Gray Davis. His successor, Republican Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, not only upheld the law but helped expand on it, increasing the requirement to 33 percent. He said that renewable standards aren't just good for the environment, they are good for business and jobs as well.

Look at the results. Thousands of new jobs and companies have sprung up, while solar prices continue to fall, benefiting consumers.

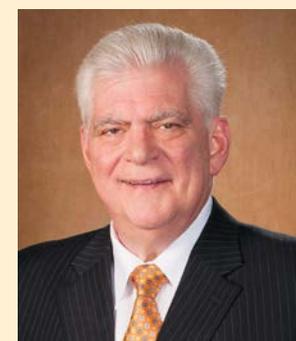
There is big gap between both parties on Capitol Hill on a whole host of issues, but energy is one area lawmakers from both sides must find common ground.

We are critical of EPA regulations issued over the summer that would shutter more than 40 gigawatts of coal-generated power by 2020. Climate change is a real issue, but these rules would cost thousands of jobs and threaten grid reliability.

This could have been avoided if Congress had passed a balanced energy plan that invested in renewables and nuclear while setting up a more realistic timeline for the retirement of aged coal plants.

America's energy future can't be decided by regulatory boards or federal judges—we need public policy that balances the needs of the environment and the economy, which can only come from Capitol Hill.

Good jobs and affordable, clean power shouldn't be a Democratic or Republican issue. California shows how it can be done—let's hope the incoming Congress and President Obama will learn from its example. ■



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



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## PPE, IMHO



I'm an electrician in Detroit and I work with women electricians all the time and have no problem with that. My problem is that whoever took the photo (See "Union Program Opens Up Opportunities for Women in the Trades," October 2014) didn't tell the woman that her harness was on backwards and that whoever checked the story didn't catch it.

We have enough fights to keep our jobs. Don't give them more ammo.

*Michael Olszewski, Local 58 member  
Detroit*

**[Editor's Note: We spoke with Safety Director David Mullen regarding Brother Olszewski's concerns. "Some harnesses are manufactured specifically with a front 'D' ring," he said. "The sister in question is wearing her harness correctly."]**



## Grief and Gratitude

The following is a letter from the parents of Syracuse, N.Y., member Aaron Huggins, 31, who was killed following an assault after work hours. Huggins, a six-year member, left behind a wife and two-year-old son.

We cannot express enough how grateful we are for all the support and generosity bestowed by all of Aaron's union brothers and sisters. As parents, you never really know how your child is going to touch other people's lives but we can attest to that now just from the cards we have received and the number of people who attended his celebration and shared their stories about Aaron.

Not long before he passed, Aaron shared with us how he learned the importance of working in a union because he came from parents who worked in a union, remembering even as a small child his father's union (Teamsters Local 294) went on strike standing up for their rights—all about unity.

Aaron also was all about family, and the generosity of your donations will go to help his son, Aidan, and his brother, Shane, who has fallen on hard times. Aaron's sister-in-law's mother lost her fight with cancer a few days after Aaron passed and she was fired from her job for putting family first. You have truly shown how important and strong unity between family and brothers and sisters is.

Please feel free to stop by anytime you are in the neighborhood, we would love to meet you.

*Reg and Andrea Huggins, parents of Local 1249 member Aaron Huggins  
Saratoga Springs, N.Y.*



*Local 1249 member Aaron Huggins*

## WHO WE ARE

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

# N.Y. Retiree Helps Students Engineer their Futures

Long Island, N.Y., Local 25 retiree Richard Williams is a man who literally wears many hats.

When the 71-year-old first steps in front of one of the many crowds of students he frequently addresses, he proudly dons his bright red ball cap with the words "U.S. Marine Veteran" emblazoned across the front.

"I always wear that hat," said Williams, who served for six years in the early 1960s. "It's to symbolize my support for our young people who are around the world putting themselves in harm's way for us."

Next, he puts on what he wore for the next 32 years—an electrician's hard hat. "It protected me on the job—me and my hard head," he laughs, eager to show students one of the tools of his lifelong trade.

Since he and his wife moved to Las Vegas in 2004, Williams—or "Corporal Willy"—has been a local champion of technology education for students young and old. Not only does he serve as an adjunct instructor for engineering courses at the College of Southern Nevada, but Williams has volunteered countless hours to help school children learn the basics of science, technology, engineering and math, or "STEM" as it's known in the education world.

"This is a beautiful way to teach kids to be creative," he said. "What I can teach in class is what the industry needs now. We can't even fill up our engineering schools in this country. So that's the whole name of the game—trying to get youngsters interested in technology."

Judging by the cavernous tool shop Williams built on the side of his Las Vegas home—replete with a high-tech mill router, a computer-controlled laser cutter and other machines—students would be hard-pressed to find an area instructor with more knowledge on how to build something. Adding to the technical skills he learned as an electrician, Williams started tinkering with computer-aided drafting programs more than a decade ago. A few years ago, he became certified to teach a program called SolidWorks—a 3D design, modeling and manufacturing software program.

"That's what I teach the students at the college," Williams said. "You can get a good job if you can learn SolidWorks well enough," which he said is used by engineers at NASA and many other multi-national companies around the world.

For those too young to work with drills and saws, Williams has age-appropriate learning activities for them, too. In his classroom demonstrations in the Clark County School district in Las Vegas, students explore and experiment with pulleys, levers, weights and the basics of



*Long Island, N.Y., Local 25 member Richard Williams has dedicated much of his retirement to helping students develop their science and technology skills.*

large bridge construction. The activities give students a jump start on understanding the whys and hows of big mathematical, mechanical and scientific facts.

## Local 25 member Richard Williams' abiding philosophy is 'scientia potentia est,' Latin for 'knowledge is power.'

Williams also volunteers time to help girls and young women further their interests in technology. He has worked with area Girl Scouts councils to bring more science into their activities. Williams also spent a few years teaching at an engineering summer camp for girls, sponsored by the local Society of Women Engineers group. The gap between men and women in technology-related careers remains significant, with women comprising less than 30 percent of the country's science and engineering workforce, according to the National Science Foundation.

It's clear to see where Williams got his drive for hard work. His ancestors migrated from Italy to New York in the early 1900s and took the kinds of nose-to-the-grindstone jobs that helped build the city. "Our fingerprints are on a lot of things in the New York City skyline—Manhattan Bank, the Empire State Building, a lot more." One of his older twin brothers helped construct the World Trade Center towers. "All of it union," he said. His father and two brothers were both members of Long Island's Steamfitters Union Local 638. "Labor is a family tradition."

The Brooklyn native recalls his years continuing in his family's construction legacy. "I knew the work, I enjoyed it, and I was always given apprentices to work with who I could help teach the trade to."

But in 1998, an on-the-job accident ended Williams's electrical career. No longer able to do the kind of heavy-duty manual labor required of a journeyman, Williams was forced to leave the trade on disability.

Living in North Palm Beach, Fla., partly to rehabilitate after his injury, he made the most of his imposed downtime, which allowed him the freedom to pursue burgeoning interests in science and technology. "I also missed working with all those fellow hardhats and apprentices," he said.

That was when the light bulb went off: help teach the next generation the kinds of technology skills they'd need to succeed in school and find good-paying, middle-class jobs. Williams began getting involved with the local school district in 2001 and quickly found he was able to help teach lessons in classrooms, which he took to the next level after moving to Las Vegas 10 years ago.

"Richard has been extremely beneficial for our students," said David Philippi,

who is the community partnership coordinator at Northwest Career and Technical Academy in Las Vegas. Williams was one of the founding members of the advisory committee for the academy's engineering program. Since 2008, Williams has helped judge school competitions, assisted budding job applicants through mock interviews, helped with career days, taken pictures to document campus events and more. "He's got the energy of someone one-third of his age, and he's a great role model for kids," Philippi said.

Between working in the classroom and helping promote the sciences, Williams said he's been allowed to spread something of a personal philosophy to legions of students: "Scientia potentia est," Latin for "knowledge is power." He said he also always leaves school speaking engagements with an aphorism for the students to practice: "Never put a wishbone where your backbone ought to be."

"Most of the good things that I have acquired in my lifetime have been because of knowledge I gained," he said. "Abilities come with knowledge. For those who never challenge themselves to use their brains or their backs, nothing will be gained. But if you sacrifice time to learn something to get paid for, you're going to be good in the long run. I learned it, my brothers learned it, and my kids learned it. And guess what? We're all doing well."

To hear more from Williams and to watch him at work in his shop, visit [bit.ly/CorporalWilly](http://bit.ly/CorporalWilly). The link is case-sensitive. ■



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

## On the IBEW Television Spot

Money well spent. It's time for us to put our name out there and let the public know when they see that bug ... that the job will be done. Damn proud to be a part of this organization.

*Israel Moya, Local 229 member  
York, Pa.*

It's great to see the IBEW commercials. So many people take electricity for granted and don't realize what it takes.

*David Millard, Local 150 member  
Waukegan, Ill.*

Remember This Classic?

# A Conversation with 'Wichita Lineman' Songwriter

The songs of legendary songwriter, singer and composer Jimmy Webb, whose first commercial recording was performed by the Supremes in 1965, evoke everyday people and universal themes.

In "Galveston," a soldier in Vietnam cleans his gun wondering if he will live to come home. In "The Highwayman," a construction worker drowns in cement.

But none of Webb's songs resonate more powerfully with workers, especially IBEW members, than "Wichita Lineman," recorded in October 1968.

Rolling Stone lists the song, originally sung by Glen Campbell and covered by artists as diverse as Johnny Cash and REM at No. 192 on the magazine's list of the "500 Greatest Songs of All Time."

In a 1997 article in the Dallas Observer, Webb says Glen Campbell had called him in 1968 and asked for another hit to follow Webb's blockbuster "By the Time I Get to Phoenix."

Webb had just returned to California from a trip to visit his family in Oklahoma. On a drive through the state's panhandle near the Kansas border, he passed a seemingly endless line of telephone poles in the "shimmering mirage."

"I was drivin' along there, just blinkin' and tryin' to stay awake, and all of a sudden there was somebody on top of one of those telephone poles—out of thousands of telephone poles, there's one that has a guy on it, and he had one of those little telephones hooked into the wires," Webb said.

Webb says he didn't know whether the lineman was "talkin' or listenin' or doin' something else with this telephone." But the seeming loneliness of the man on the pole fused with Webb's own angst, leading to the now indelible line, "And I need you more than want you. And I want you for all time."



Tulsa, Okla., Lineman David Cray says 'Wichita Lineman' reminds him to work safely.

Wichita Lineman hit No. 3 on the U.S. pop music charts and spent 15 weeks in the top 100.

"Jimmy Webb's song hit the nail on the head about being away from my family working as a lineman," says Tulsa, Okla., Local 1002 member David Cray, a lineman and musician who was quoted at length and sang the song on the BBC's "Soul Music" radio show three years ago.

Webb, the son of an Oklahoma Baptist preacher, and Campbell were also interviewed on that show, which features versions of the song by Johnny Cash and British reggae artist Dennis Brown.

Cray, a former Local 1002 assistant business manager, recalls the first time he heard "Wichita Lineman" in '72 or '73. The youngest of three brothers, Cray was

sitting on a sleeping bag in the back of a station wagon during a family vacation when the song came on the radio.

"I thought being a lineman has to be a cool job if you hear a guy singing about it on the radio," says the father of six, who worked as a nonunion tree trimmer and underground utility worker before traveling to California to take a job as an IBEW-represented groundsman in 1996.

Cray has recorded his own song about linemen, which won applause when it was played for members attending a recent Seventh District progress meeting.

"The song reminds me that the No. 1 reason I am working is for the folks at home and they deserve for me to work safely and professionally," says Cray.

Today, Glen Campbell, 78, is suf-

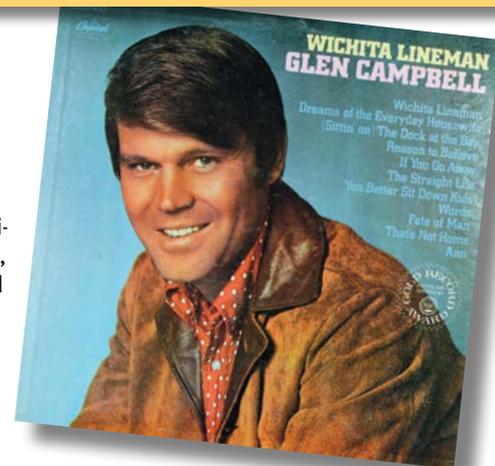
fering from Alzheimer's. Jimmy Webb, 68, who has produced music for Broadway, film and dozens of artists and a book on songwriting, is still performing.

While the song mixes the work of a telephone lineman talking on a phone with that of utility lineman "searching for overloads," the tune nevertheless resonates with everyone who climbs poles for a living, says IBEW Utility Department International Representative Don Hartley, a Richmond, Va., Local 50 lineman.

"It's the song for all linemen. How many jobs have their own song?"



*'I hear you singin' in the wire, I can hear you through the whine  
And the Wichita Lineman is still on the line.'*



David Cray's song about a tramp lineman, "The Ballad of Jason Jordan," is available on his CD, "Outlaw Side," available by writing to David at 850141 S. 3500 Road, Stroud, Okla., 74079. All proceeds from donations or sales of the CDs will be contributed to the Senior Citizens Center of Davenport, Okla. ■

## The IBEW's Interview with Jimmy Webb

**EW:** You have said that no one should assume that one's job has anything to do with how deeply they understand or feel about their surroundings and life. *Wichita Lineman* exhibits that respect for average workers. Where did that respect come from?

**JW:** I came from a middle-class home. My father served in the Marines in the South Pacific during WWII before he became a Baptist minister. We worked on my grandfather's farm in Oklahoma. We picked cotton and threw hay up on a trailer. I was plowing wheat the day I heard Glen Campbell's recording of "Turn Around Look at Me" and found a sound I could identify with, an American life and a blue-collar voice.

Later, my friends included singer-songwriters like Warren Zevon and Harry Nilsson, guys who had pretty rough and interesting childhoods and came from real-life situations, not mansions and privileged educations.

Everyone should respect average workers. We shouldn't turn into a country where we only get excited about celebrity and wealth.

**EW:** Linemen like Tulsa, Okla., member David Cray, interviewed on BBC, say *Wichita Lineman* speaks profoundly to the loneliness of working away from their homes and families. The song has become an anthem for a profession. How do you feel about that?

**JW:** This ratifies my instincts about what was the right thing to write. I was inspired when I wrote the song. I was getting help. I felt like I was being told what to do. So, it's very meaningful to know that the guys feel good about the song. I feel honored when linemen say they like my song. That's all I could hope for as a writer. A while back, a guy came up to me after a concert. He said his father was a lineman who had just passed on. Before he died, he said the last thing he wanted was for someone to play *Wichita Lineman* for him. I wish he had called me. I would have been there.

Being appreciated by folks in the electrical trade is similar to how I felt when a Vietnam Navy vet came up after one of my concerts and thanked me for writing *Galveston*. It's always a really emotional moment when I hear from one of the warriors.

He said he was stationed on the *Wichita*, a replenishment oiler. One day the oiler approached the light cruiser [CLG-3 *Galveston*] and the crews on both ships blasted out their respective songs [*Wichita Lineman* and *Galveston*]. I got chills up my back when he told me that. You never really know what effect your songs are having. Those songs were pieces of home coming together [during the Vietnam War].

I always wanted to be a songwriter, but I never dreamed about serving a higher purpose and helping others get through difficult situations.

**EW:** What was it like climbing the pole of the music profession to success?

**JW:** After a long struggle, I was working for \$100 a week for the already-famous musician Johnny Rivers writing music. I tried to always work close to the studio. I remember one morning Rod McKuen [the poet, composer] came into the studio and wanted me to play the piano. We worked until 1 or 2 in the morning and recorded 52 songs. I got a dollar for each. After I was done, I swept out the studio and put everything where it belonged and locked up.



Webb wrote 'Galveston' and 'The Highwayman' as well as 'Wichita Lineman.'

**EW:** In *The Highwayman*, you talk about a construction worker who drowns in cement. Where did that image come from?

**JW:** I was told by someone that 13 workers fell into cement while building the Hoover Dam. They were never recovered and are part of the dam. On my original acrylic disc of *The Highwaymen*, I had a special sleeve with a huge shot of Hoover Dam. It was my way of paying tribute to the guys who fell in. Everything has a human component and an emotional component. I don't know why, but I like songs like Gordon Lightfoot's "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald" [about a freighter carrying iron ore that sank on the Great Lakes]. I am entranced by human beings at their best. We already see plenty of stories about human beings at their worst.

**EW:** As a vice president of the American Society of Composers, Authors, Publishers (ASCAP), you have been outspoken about the piracy of songs and writings. Your concerns are similar to those expressed by IBEW and our manufacturing partners about unfair competition from counterfeit electrical devices like circuit breakers. What should be done?

**JW:** A patent is the same as a copyright. The guy who worked to design his music is the same as a guy who designs a pump. If somebody else is getting paid, I want to get paid. If Google is getting paid for music being distributed on illegal sites, I want a seat at the table. They are an industry that has a very cavalier attitude toward 'what belongs to you' and 'what belongs to me.' Business and money should not be allowed to change the fundamentals of democracy. If a man gives an honest day's work, he should be paid for it.

**EW:** Thanks for taking the time to talk.

**JW:** It's my pleasure and my honor.