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Humber River Regional Hospital will be North America's first 100 percent digital hospital when it opens next month.

(Photos courtesy: Plan Group)

IBEW Helps Build Hospital of the Future in Toronto

More than 2.6 million people call Toronto home, and every year, lots of them get sick.

If they need to go to a hospital, they have dozens of choices, but like most large North American cities, their hospitals have barely kept up with the furious pace of technological advances and are often run using paper-based systems that would be familiar to a doctor 30 or 40 years ago.

So when the Government of Ontario began planning the consolidation of the three-campus Hum-

21ST CENTURY DIGITAL CARE

ber Regional Hospital in 2005, health officials weren't interested in building a state-of-the-art teaching hospital. Far more was needed.

On Oct. 18, doors will open at the new CA\$1.7 billion Humber River Regional Hospital, North America's first 100-percent digital hospital, a nearly paperless, interconnected, green and efficient apotheosis of the 21st century hospital, and nearly all of the most complicated, advanced systems were built by members of Toronto Local 353.

"It was one of our most complex data and electrical jobs ever and the scope and size of the job was at some points overwhelming," said Local 353 Business Manager Steven Martin. "There were up to eight tower cranes on 16 slabs and it was right in the middle

of the city. We had 500 or more guys on one corner block for a significant amount of time and the partnership ethic across trades was upfront and in your face."

The project also boasted a remarkable safety record: 5 million man-hours without time lost due to injury.

"The general contractor, PCL, had never reached that marker on a project before," said Ted Szwec, Local 353 business representative. "They were very impressed."

A permanent testament to the work done by Local 353 will be marked on the wall honoring hospital sponsors. Martin negotiated a deal with the hospital that if all the electrical work was union, the local would give back a dollar for every hour on the job.

"Next to the foundations, the corporations and the citizens of Ontario, Local 353 will be remembered for donating CA\$600,000 to the hospital. We are very proud of what that number represents for the local and our members," Martin said.

FULLY DIGITAL HOSPITAL *continued on page 2*

THE
**IBEW'S PHOTO
2015 Contest**
Deadline: Nov. 30
See page 16 for details

Continued from page 1

IBEW Builds First Fully Digital Hospital in Toronto

'The benchmark of what hospitals aspire to be'

The Paperless Hospital

Even the most advanced hospitals in North America are built on overlapping and disconnected systems throwing out hundreds of thousands of pages of paper each year. Highly advanced diagnostic machines go unused while nurses hunt down missing wheelchairs. Patient status is written down with pen and paper, separate from medical histories—also paper files—while test results are on other pieces of paper and prescriptions are written on still other pieces of paper.

Not at Humber.

"The only paper trail in that whole building is the band around the patient's wrist. Everything else goes through antennas or wires," said Dave Lonsdale, project manager for the electrical and data contractor Plan Group and a 35-year member of Local 353.

Paper-based records simply can't keep up with the organizational demands of a 21st century urban hospital.

"When we talked to our staff, the amount of time they spent looking for wheelchairs and stretchers is inordinate," said Humber River Hospital CEO Dr. Reuben Devlin. "You'd think it would be easy in a hospital, but in a busy hospital, at the beginning of the day they're all in one place. At the end of the day, they are all over the place."

Obviously the technology exists to separately solve the piles of paper, the missing wheelchairs, test results sitting in out baskets and getting the right pills to the right patient at the right time. The job at Humber was to solve all the problems at the same time, seamlessly.

It starts with very simple ideas. When a patient is lying in bed, all of the monitoring equipment sends a continuous stream of data to a secure hospital-wide wireless system. The radio frequency ID chip on the patient's wristband, nurse's ID badge, and the sticker on the wheelchair are constantly monitored by the real-time locating system. All tests are ordered from handheld



Special features of the hospital include autonomous supply delivery carts (above) and hundreds of sensors throughout the building monitoring equipment, staff and patients. (Photos courtesy: Plan Group)

devices carried by hospital staff and transmitted over the extensive Wi-Fi and distributed cellular antenna network.

As soon as a test is run, the results are sent out to the doctors who ordered them, and automatically added to a patient's file, which they can access from bedside tablets that also control the temperature in the room, identify a doctor or nurse when they enter the room and even allow access to movies and video calls with family and friends.

"You really have to see inside the ceilings," Lonsdale said. "The most technically complicated part of the job was making sure all the antennas were able to communicate effectively without interfering with one another."

And the schematics for each floor simply weren't detailed enough to be blindly followed.

"No design is perfect and our guys had to be aware of a lot of variables in every

room so that errors were not integrated," Lonsdale said.

There is even a self-guided delivery system more often seen in auto plants than hospitals. The wheeled carts will deliver nearly three-quarters of the hospital's supplies through the facility support corridors that thread throughout the hospital. Unlike older automated delivery systems that could only travel along copper strips embedded in the floor, Humber's robots use the Wi-Fi antennas in the ceiling to triangulate their location, allowing them to ride in the elevators, go around obstacles or call for help if they get stuck.

"All of this had to be 'future-proofed,'" Lonsdale said. "The backbone has 60 percent more fiber than we need today and 60 percent more space on the cable trays running through the building. The racks in the server rooms also have 60 percent additional space to allow new tech-



'You really have to see inside the ceilings.'

— Dave Lonsdale, project manager and Local 353 member

But this seemingly simple idea led to something quite radical. Each of the 653 bathrooms was built entirely offsite in a multi-trade assembly line.

"In 12 years, this is the first time I have seen anything on this scale," Szwec said. "PCL is not bound to us. They could have gone nonunion. I think doing it this way will keep us competitive."

Making a Hospital Digital

Humber is the first, but it won't be the last. According to industry analysts at the Dorenfest Group, North American hospitals will spend \$30.5 billion on information technology next year.

The reason is simple. Hospital errors killed between 100,000 and 120,000 people last year in the U.S. and Canada, according to studies by the U.S. National Academy of Medicine and the Canadian Institute for Health Information. Just under 10 percent of them were from missed drug-interactions alone.

Evidence shows that even partial digitizing patient information can yield remarkable improvements in patient outcomes. At Hackensack University Medical Center in New Jersey, the digital drug-order system has prevented dozens of potentially dangerous combinations before the prescription is even filled, according to a report in Businessweek magazine. Hospital officials attribute much of the 16 percent reduction in patient mortality to their digital initiatives.

Humber is going much further.

"This will be the benchmark of what a hospital aspires to be," Lonsdale said. "Every hospital built in North America will be compared to it." ■

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NORTH OF 49°

Canadian Senate Approves Anti-Worker Bill

Conservative senators approved anti-union bill C-377 in June, forcing labor unions to publicly disclose all their financial transactions to the federal government—everything from office supply purchases to salaries—creating onerous reporting requirements for union leaders and staff.

Exempt from the bill are Conservative-allied membership organizations, such as the Canadian Federation of Independent Businesses and Merit Canada, the country's largest open-shop contractors association.

"This bill, whatever may have been its laudable transparency goals, is really an expression of statutory contempt for the working men and women in our trade unions," said former Conservative Sen. Hugh Segal.

C-377 was first introduced by Conservative MP Russ Hiebert more than three years ago. While ostensibly a private-member bill (introduced without official support of the prime minister's office), it received wide support from Prime Minister Stephen Harper's Conservative government.

In fact, the Senate rushed a vote on the bill without a public hearing, a rarity for a private-member bill.



Photo: Márcio Cabral de Moura
Prime Minister Stephen Harper's party pushed a bill through Parliament mandating strict financial reporting requirements for unions.

"You rarely ever see the Senate cut short debate on anything besides a government bill," said First District Political Action/Media Strategist Matt Wayland. "This is unprecedented."

It was opposed by all the chamber's Liberal members, as well as three Conservatives and two independents.

"This is an unconstitutional bill to begin with and it does not comply with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms," Conservative Sen. Diane Bellemare told Blacklock's Reporter earlier this year.

In many ways, C-377's reporting requirements are even more stringent

than those in the United States.

"Unlike the U.S. financial disclosure laws, Canada's C-377 requires the same reporting standards for all labor organizations, regardless of their size," wrote Ella Bedard at rabble.ca. "[United Steelworkers President Leo] Gerard said that his union's accountants have estimated that it takes the equivalent of roughly three or four people working full-time to file their financial disclosure reports to the U.S. government. That's time and money that smaller locals just cannot afford."

Despite this setback, Wayland says that he is hopeful that it will be overturned at the ballot box.

"The best way we can get rid of C-377 is to throw out Harper and his government," he said.

Federal elections are scheduled for Oct. 19. Leaders of the Liberal and New Democratic parties—both of which are running closely with the Conservatives in the polls—have vowed to repeal the bill if they take power.

"It's helping mobilize our members to unseat the Conservatives in the fall," said Wayland. ■

TRANSITIONS

RETIRED
Alan Goddard



After 45 years of service in the IBEW, Sixth District International Representative Alan Goddard has retired, effective May 1.

Brother Goddard was born and raised in South Bend, Ind. Some of his earliest memories, he said, were playing with his maternal grandfather, August Dosmann, president of the South Bend rubber workers local.

"He was my best buddy," Goddard said.

After graduating from Penn High School in Mishawaka, Ind., in 1969 Goddard was drafted into the U.S. Marine Corps, but was injured during training and medically discharged. It was then that he was hired at the Mishawaka power plant owned by American Electric Power and joined Ft. Wayne Local 1392.

"It was a job that seemed challenging, and would give me a trade and pay well, so I applied there, rather than UPS or a manufacturing plant," Goddard said. "I wanted something challenging."

Almost immediately, Goddard said, he was asked to be a steward and four years later he was appointed president of the local. He was 23 years old.

"There was an older guy, Bob Alexander, who worked at the power plant and he was on jobs I was on. We'd eat together or get coffee. We'd talk politics and union issues and I never kept my mouth shut," Goddard said. "One day, I don't know what we were talking about, he said 'We need young guys like you who aren't afraid to speak their mind to get involved with the union.' And I said ok."

What he found at the union hall was a purpose that defined his working life, he said.

"There were other people who were interested in making things better for everybody," Goddard said. "They were thoughtful and would stand up and speak out. They were committed and it was where I wanted to be."

In 1978, Goddard was appointed business manager of Local 1392 and re-elected three times before then-International President J.J. Barry appointed him as international representative.

"I got the call on April 1 and wasn't sure if someone was having a joke on me," Goddard said.

It was then that Goddard said he began work on his most important accomplishment, unifying the many locals with members at AEP into a single voice with the power to negotiate with the quickly growing utility.

"When I became business manager, we had five contracts with AEP for 750 members and we had to negotiate all five separately," Goddard said. "We wasted so much time and money in negotiations and driving back and forth to grievance meetings, I was just committed to stopping it."

With then-President Barry's approval, Goddard and a team of international representatives put together System Council U-9.

"AEP grew exponentially through mergers. The system council is the only tool we have to deal with these monsters and stick up for the members. You can't present a united front any other way," he said.

When he finally helped negotiate a master agreement, it was without question the highlight of his career.

"I grew up on that company and we fought tooth and nail for decades. A lot of people over the years struggled mightily to represent our workers," he said. "Now we think they are a model for the industry. The IBEW is one of the best friends they have and I think AEP management gladly recognizes that. They figured out they would do better when they stopped trying to kick the crap out of their workers."

Late in his career, Goddard met then-Chicago Local 1220 Business Manager Jessica Logan. In 1998 they were married.

"I had been so busy traveling and working, and that life and commitment was hard for other people to understand, but my lovely wife was right there in it herself, negotiating with CBS for a month every year. She knows what it meant to me," Goddard said. "While there was a lot of travel and stress being a rep, I loved every minute of it and wouldn't trade it for anything. It was just so rewarding knowing you were helping people because you could."

The IBEW officers, staff and membership wish Brother Goddard and Sister Logan a long, happy and healthy retirement. ■

'People were interested in making things better for everybody... They were committed and it was where I wanted to be.'

— Alan Goddard

AU NORD DU 49° PARALLÈLE

Le Sénat canadien adopte le projet de loi anti-travailleur

En juin dernier, les sénateurs conservateurs ont adopté le projet de loi C-377. Cette législation oblige les syndicats à dévoiler toutes transactions financières au gouvernement fédéral. Toutes les transactions allant de l'achat de fourniture de bureau jusqu'aux salaires créent de lourdes tâches pour les dirigeants syndicaux et le personnel.

Les organisations alliées aux conservateurs, dont la Fédération canadienne de l'entreprise indépendante et Merit Canada, sont exclues de ce projet de loi. Ces associations représentent les plus grands entrepreneurs d'atelier ouvert au Canada.

« Ce projet de loi, quels que soient ses louables objectifs de transparence, n'est qu'un exemple du mépris législatif pour les travailleurs et les travailleuses de nos syndicats, » mentionne l'ancien sénateur conservateur Hugh Segal.

C-377 a été présenté il y a trois ans par le député conservateur Ross Hiebert. Alors qu'en principe, il s'agit d'un projet de loi d'intérêt privé (présenté sans soutien officiel du Bureau du premier minis-

tre), il a été largement soutenu par le gouvernement conservateur du premier ministre Stephen Harper.

En fait, le Sénat s'est dépêché de passer le vote sans audience publique, ce qui est très rare pour un projet de loi d'intérêt privé.

« On voit rarement le sénat court-circuiter un débat sur tout sauf un projet de loi du gouvernement, » mentionne Matt Wayland de l'action politique/stratège en relation médiatique du Premier District. « C'est sans précédent. »

Il a été opposé par tous les membres du parti libéral de la Chambre ainsi que trois conservateurs et deux indépendants.

« Ce projet de loi est anticonstitutionnel et ne respecte pas la Charte canadienne des droits et libertés », mentionne la sénatrice du parti conservateur Diane Bellemare au *Blacklock Reporter* plus tôt cette année.

À bien des égards, les exigences en termes de déclarations du C-377 sont encore plus sévères que celles des États-Unis.

« Contrairement aux lois sur la déclaration des avoirs financiers des États-Unis, C-377 du Canada exige les mêmes normes

d'information pour toutes les organisations syndicales, quelle que soit leur taille, » écrit Ella Bedard au rabble.ca. Le président Leo Gerard de *United Steelworkers* mentionne que : « les comptes de son syndicat ont estimé qu'il faut l'équivalent d'environ trois ou quatre personnes travaillant à temps plein pour déposer leurs déclarations d'avoir financiers au gouvernement américain. C'est du temps et de l'argent que les petits locaux ne disposent tout simplement pas. »

Malgré ce revers, Wayland garde espoir que la décision sera renversée aux urnes.

« La meilleure façon de se débarrasser du C-377 est d'éjecter Harper et son gouvernement, » dit-il.

Les élections fédérales sont prévues pour le 19 octobre prochain. Les Leaders du parti libéral et du NPD qui sont présentement nez à nez avec les conservateurs dans les intentions de vote ont juré d'abroger cette loi s'ils prennent le pouvoir.

« Ceci aidera à mobiliser nos membres dans le but de détrôner les conservateurs à l'automne, » dit Wayland. ■

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CIRCUITS

Canadian Government, Industry Join IBEW to Promote Women in Trades

Go to any IBEW conference, rally or gathering of activists, and you'll frequently see a popular slogan on T-shirts and bumper stickers: "A woman's place is in her union."

In Canada, that sentiment is growing stronger, thanks to a new nationwide initiative.

The IBEW has joined a coalition of government, industry and academic partners to launch Connected Women—a mentorship program tailored to women looking to enter or advance in the trades and other non-traditional occupations.

Women make up less than one quarter of the electrical workforce, and less than 5 percent of those are in trade occupations. Connected Women will help address this gap, especially at a time when the utility industry is facing down looming retirements and will need to shore up its ranks.



'Connected Women' aims to boost the number of Canadian women working in the trades.

The new program takes its cues from a recently-completed research project called Bridging the Gap. The project's contributors examined the reasons why women say they feel successful in the profession and identified roadblocks to career advancement. The final Bridging the Gap report states that having mentors in the trade can make the difference for female electrical workers.

"There are significant barriers to the recruitment and retention of women in the trade, including isolation, physical demands and the challenge of working in an all-male environment," said Halifax, Nova Scotia, Local 1928 Assistant Business Manager Andrea McQuillan, who is a power line technician. "Over time, this project will provide significant benefits and training opportunities for women."

Connected Women is funded by Status of Women Canada, a government initiative focusing on issues such as career advancement, leadership and economic security. Connected Women's first cohort features graduates of Algonquin College's Women in Electrical Engineering Technology program in Ottawa. As the pilot group of mentees, the graduates will partner with women who are already established in their careers. Over time, the mentees will become the

new mentors, ushering in a larger wave of talent, said Michelle Branigan of Electricity Human Resources Canada, the group that spearheaded Connected Women. Local 1928's McQuillan also serves on EHRC's Connected Women steering committee.

"We always have to remember there are two challenges to getting more women in the industry: first of all, we have to attract them to the sector and, then, once we get them in, we have to make sure that we keep them," Branigan said.

Learn more about Connected Women at the EHRC website: www.electricity-hr.ca. ■

U.S.A. Union Members Restore N.Y. Presidential Birthplace Cabin

A little known tourist attraction in New York's Finger Lakes region is the birthplace of the 13th U.S. president, Millard Fillmore, born on Jan. 7, 1800, in Moravia. The replica house sits in the namesake park Fillmore Glen four miles from the family log cabin that is no longer standing. But the imitation house was falling into disrepair until the members of the Union Sportsmen Alliance went to work last spring.

Syracuse, N.Y., Local 43 Business Manager Donald Morgan and more than 20 other volunteers helped restore the 50-year-old log cabin about 50 miles south of Syracuse. In nearly 345 man-hours, they replaced the cedar shake shingles, installed new floorboards, and put in new logs at the bottom of the cabin—while maintaining the style of a 19th century home.

"We had roofers, sheet metal workers, masons, insulators, guys from (United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters), electrical workers... It was a team effort for sure," Morgan said.

The Union Sportsmen Alliance's Work Boots on the Ground, including the North and Central N.Y. Building and Construction Trades Council volunteers, coordinated the project. U.S.A. is a nonprofit conservation organization seeking to unite the union community through conservation to preserve North America's outdoor heritage.

"We really appreciate our communities, so we love the chance to give back to them and it helps us paint a picture of who union members really are," Morgan said. "We really hit a homerun. It was just what we were hoping for."

Even though President Fillmore is known to be among the least influential U.S. presidents, the replica cabin is a hot



Roofers Local 195 Business Manager Ron Haney, left, Fillmore Glen Park Manager Jeff Zaia, Regional Director of N.Y. State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Fred Bonn and IBEW Local 43 Business Manager Donald Morgan stand at the doorway of the replica home.



spot for patrons of the state park. When visitors aren't camping, swimming, or enjoying the many other amenities of Fillmore Glen, they can be found taking a stroll through the look-a-like cabin. ■

Donations Boost Lineman Safety in South American Country

With tree trunks sometimes serving as utility poles, the small South American country of Suriname is largely in need of critical energy infrastructure upgrades. Fortunately, rigorous efforts by electricians in the nation of 540,000 are continuing to get a boost from the IBEW.

For more than a year, linemen with several locals on the West Coast have volunteered time and training with the Suriname American Brotherhood Initiative, spearheaded by Seattle Local 77 member Brady Hansen. Now, members of Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245 are stepping up their

commitment, donating materials via Recycling for Linemen, a nonprofit that provides pre-owned but still perfectly functional safety gear to the growing number of electricians in the developing world.

Hansen spoke at a safety summit for utility provider NV Energy in early 2015, inspiring management and IBEW employees to participate.

"Both NV Energy and Local 1245 provide the necessary equipment, training and opportunities to do our job to the best of our abilities," Local 1245 Business Representative Pat Waite told Reno, Nev., KRN Channel 4. "Sharing supplies and knowledge with the Surinamese linemen is the right thing to do. I'm really proud we have partnered with this program."

Members and management donated harnesses, tool belts, rubber boots, climbing gaffs, flashlights, first aid kits and traffic signs and cones. "At NV Energy, safety is such an important part of our culture," said Pat Wynen, the company's lines and construction maintenance supervisor. "When we learned about the dangerous



Local 1245 members are donating time and safety equipment to linemen in Suriname.

and unsafe conditions of linemen in developing countries, we were immediately moved to become a part of this program. The materials we are sending to Suriname may very well save someone's life."

IBEW.org reported on a 2014 service trip that brought Hansen and members from Local 77 and Portland, Ore., Local 125 to the country to instruct local electricians in pole top rescues, conductor tying and more.

"It was almost like we went back in time over 80 years to when apprenticeships were just being established," said Local 125 lineman Kurt Shriver. "The trip was one of the high points of my career. It

was awesome to know that we were sharing skills of the trade and helping linemen stay safe at work to return home and be husbands and fathers." ■

Ninth District RENEW Activists Keep up Momentum

If there's one word that defines young workers' efforts in the IBEW's Ninth District, it's action.

From holding fundraiser bowling events and baseball games to hosting trainings to learn from veteran activists, members in the district's RENEW (Reach out and Engage Next-gen Electrical Workers) initiative are fusing the best of tradition with the spirit of enthusiastic young leaders.

Georgette Carrillo is one of those activists. By day, the five-year member is a customer service representative at Pacific Gas & Electric and a Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245 organizing steward.

Outside of the office, Carrillo is helping bring fellow young workers into the movement as the district's RENEW Advisory Committee representative.

"Being in this role makes me feel like I am doing the greatest work in my career, helping to strengthen the labor movement," she said. "I no longer feel like just a call center employee—I feel like a true IBEW leader in the making."

Carrillo joined fellow young workers in July at the Ninth District Progress Meeting in San Diego. There, she had the chance to work with International Representative Harold Dias in planning the Young Workers Caucus. One of the workshop's goals was to improve organizing and skill sharing between younger members, via email, social media and in-person.

"Every local has its own challenges and strategies of how they get young members involved," Carrillo said.

Those efforts are paying off. Seattle Local 77 recently hosted a meet and greet to educate young workers about taking more of a role in their union. San Diego Locals 465 and 569 volunteered time and energy for the annual Letter Carriers' 'Stamp Out Hunger' Food Drive. Riverside, Calif., Local 440 has hosted cookout fundraisers, and Las Vegas Local 357's recent Texas Hold 'em poker fundraiser was a success, Carrillo said.



Ninth district RENEW members are fostering future leaders.

All of this points at two of the key missions of the IBEW: grow the membership and keep it engaged and active.

“It really is amazing to help get workers connected with other union

members within our district,” Carrillo said. “I am a very small part of this movement, and there are so many people who believe in RENEW as I do and are determined to keep building this.”

Connect with the Ninth District’s RENEW group on Facebook: www.bit.ly/RENEW-ninth-district. (The link is case-sensitive.) ■

Cleveland Members Build Hotel Complex

Cleveland, Ohio, Local 38 members have been hard at work with the expansion of Legacy Village, a popular shopping center in Northeast Ohio.

Ron Ullman, chief operating officer of Ullman Electric, said that as the Hyatt Place hotel and parking garage project progresses, there could be up to 15 Local 38 members on site through early 2016.

About 20 miles east of Cleveland, Legacy Village’s new additions are expected to open next June, in time for

the 2016 Republican National Convention at the Quicken Loans Arena in Cleveland. The project, which includes restaurant and retail, is being funded by a \$33 million National Electrical Benefit Fund loan.

“It means a lot to us that they’re employing members from Local 38,” said Local 38 Business Manager Dennis Meaney. “This job will produce tens of thousands of man-hours for Local 38 and for the other union tradesmen in our jurisdiction. Financing by using the NEBF Real Estate Funds is a great way to circulate dollars by creating union jobs, which in turn provide more pension hours and dollars to our members.” ■

Local 38 members John Broderick, Jack Sparcio, Patrick Kunc and first year apprentice Mitch Bear, helped install wires for the two new buildings at Legacy Village complex.



ORGANIZING WIRE

Sun Shines on Calif. Solar Workers’ Organizing Drive

In the parched expanse of California’s Mojave Desert, there’s little escape from the scorching heat.

The abundant sunshine is good news for the 91,000 households that rely on the Abengoa Mojave Solar facility, a 280-megawatt plant about two hours northeast of Los Angeles that provides clean energy to a power-hungry state.

But for the nearly 60 employees maintaining day-to-day operations at the site, it can be a grueling job. Extreme temperatures, safety concerns, favoritism and nepotism had been weighing on the workers. And recent murmurs of the Spain-based multinational company bringing in foreign replacements didn’t help.

“That was a big fear,” said organizer Bob Oedy. “The workers wanted the protections of a collective bargaining agreement.”

Last October, employees reached out to Diamond Bar Local 47 for representation. A three-month campaign resulted in a decisive victory for workers, who voted “yes” by a 4-1 margin in an NLRB-certified election.

Extreme temperatures, safety concerns and favoritism prompt Mojave Desert solar maintenance workers to join the IBEW by a 4-1 margin.

“We could tell right off the bat that it was going to be a good campaign,” Oedy said. Local 47 organizers Rick Garcia and Tracy Dougherty joined with Oedy and Lead Organizer Mark Meyer to tap the resources of a robust volunteer organizing committee. “The meetings were fantastic,” said Oedy, who, along with other leaders, spent many nights after the workers’ shifts answering questions and building solidarity among

the employees.

Company resistance largely backfired. Management used carrot-and-stick techniques like holding captive audience meetings while also mailing the employees Christmas cards that included gift certificates to local merchants.

“It just came off as insincere,” Oedy said. “They’d never done that in previous years, and the workers saw through it. Overall, they knew the union was a good bet for them.”

Bloomberg Business reported last November that Abengoa’s profit



Solar workers scored a runaway victory in a Mojave Desert organizing drive. Photo used under a Creative Commons license from Flickr user Jeff Turner.

rose 37 percent for the first nine months of 2014, peaking at \$124.4 million.

IBEW leaders said that the employees are currently preparing a negotiating committee to bargain for a first contract. ■

Ind. 911 Dispatchers Unite for Fair Contract

When an emergency happens, quick thinking by 911 dispatchers can mean the difference between life and death.

In northwest Indiana, nearly 100 emergency dispatchers in Lake County, Ind., direct firefighters, ambulances and police to dangerous scenes. Many have logged decades on the job. But a new law last year that sought to upgrade response times in the county merged all area responders under the same umbrella. Now, instead of working for 17 separate cities and townships, each with different pay and benefit packages, the dispatchers will work out of a state-of-the-art response station as some of the newest employees of Lake County’s government.

The change has come with both risks and rewards, said Downers Grove, Ill., Local 21 Business Representative Byron Bonham.

“This is great news for the area in terms of safety—but there’s a downside,” he said. Namely, all the employees have had to essentially reapply for their jobs. The changeover has also caused confusion about seniority rules, vacation schedules, overtime and a host of other issues.

In January, some of the dispatchers reached out to Local 21, which is about an hour’s drive northwest across the state border. What followed was a smooth effort to bring bargaining rights to the employees, who voted 68-4 for representation in an NLRB-sponsored election on June 16.

“They were just looking for a voice,” said Bonham, who characterized the talks between county management and the workforce as amica-

ble. “The county has been cooperative with other employees who are with the Teamsters and the Fraternal Order of Police—they followed the rules of a campaign to the letter.” Bonham said the county shunned hosting captive audience meetings or engaging in negative dealings. “We all acted like professionals,” he said.

Consolidating the work crew into one central location does have some advantages, Bonham said. New computer systems, software and upgraded equipment will make many tasks easier, and having a larger group of employees will reduce the staffing challenges that can arise at a two- or three-person workplace, as some had been used to.

The workers are also looking to address some proposed new rules, scheduling changes and the possibility of mandatory overtime in contract talks. “Now we have more than 90 people who are all looking to speak with one voice.”

Bonham thanked Gary and Hammond, Ind., Local 697 leaders for their time and resources and said that both the area carpenters local and the Northwest Indiana Federation of Labor are helping ensure a win-win process for the workers and the county. “Because of everyone’s efforts, there was no negative campaigning and everyone was positive. The county has said how much they respect organized labor—not just the IBEW, but everybody.”

Local 21 Business Manager Paul Wright said he looks forward to contract negotiations. “The dispatchers protect the county’s citizens every day,” he said. “We look forward to working with county representatives to negotiate a contract that rewards them for their service to the residents of Lake County.” ■



Lake County, Ind., emergency dispatchers organized with little opposition from management.

LOCAL LINES

Advanced Foremanship Course; 'Net Zero Plus' Retrofit at ETI

L.U. 11 (i,rts&spa), LOS ANGELES, CA—Local 11 held elections in June for our units, officers of the local union, the executive board, the examining board, and convention delegates. Congratulations to re-elected Bus. Mgr. Marvin Kropke and all the elected officers and delegates. Thanks to the members who voted, the volunteers who served as election tellers, and election judge Robert Corona. [Photo at bottom, left.]

Our Local Wide Picnic was June 20, once again at the Rose Bowl. Approximately 3,200 members and guests attended, despite scorching heat! Thanks to the Picnic Committee, the volunteers and all who made donations to help make the event a great success.

Effective July 28 this year, foremen dispatched out of the hiring hall must have completed the 40-hour Advanced Foremanship course through the Electrical Training Institute. After a long history of the wage percentage for foremen and general foremen remaining the same, the Inside Wireman and Intelligent Transportation Systems foreman percentage has increased. Our hard-working supervision deserves this raise! The Sound & Communication Unit also received historical wage increases in their agreement.

Take a look at www.nzp-eti.com to learn about the groundbreaking of our Net Zero Plus retrofit at the ETI.

Enjoy your Labor Day and join us for our annual concert, NightShift LA 2015, in conjunction with Working Californians.

Diana Limon, P.S.

Meritorious Award Recipients

L.U. 15 (u), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—Congratulations to newly appointed IBEW Int. Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson! Pres. Stephenson took office following the retire-

ment of Int. Pres. Emeritus Edwin D. Hill in June. Pres. Stephenson is an Illinois native and previously was international vice president for the IBEW Sixth District. He has done a great job for our district. Local 15 has worked with him for years in Springfield, the state capital. We look forward to future opportunities to work with Pres. Stephenson and wish him the best of luck in his new position.

Congratulations also to newly appointed Sixth District Int. Vice Pres. David J. Ruhmkorff. Local 15 looks forward to working with him.

In April, Local 15 members Ryan Lawrence and Kyle Lawrence, who are siblings, had their house destroyed by a tornado. The brothers are linemen for Commonwealth Edison. Donations were collected at our monthly local unit meetings to assist them. Local 15 Pres./Bus. Mgr. Dean Apple also requested help from the International's Unity Fund, to which our local contributes, and the fund provided some assistance for Ryan and Kyle during their trying time.

Midwest Energy Assoc. presented an award to 11 Local 15 members this year, for performing service above and beyond the call of duty, by saving a life or preventing a serious injury. Local 15 recipients of the Meritorious Award are: William Clark, Kevin Fitzgerald, Nicholas Barnes, Scott Condon, Andrew Wierdak, Salvador Rangel, Terrence Schultz, Brian Combs, Scott Vierck, Todd Earhardt and Bradly Kaisner. Great job, brothers!

Doug Vedas, P.S.

A Triple Crown Win & IBEW Crew at Belmont Stakes

L.U. 25 (catv,i&rts), LONG ISLAND, NY—In a historic victory, American Pharoah recently won the Triple Crown of thoroughbred horse racing at the Belmont Stakes in Elmont, NY. The June race marked the first Triple Crown winner in 37 years.



Local 11 election judge and tellers gather for local union election day on June 6.

IBEW Local 25 electricians spent weeks preparing for the last leg of the Triple Crown and were on standby for the historic race. Foreman John Felsberg, Shop Steward Tom Skladel and the entire crew did a great job representing the IBEW and Local 25.

We congratulate the apprentice graduating class of 2015. The Joseph C. Gramer Sr. Award went to Chris a DiStefano. The 2015 Outstanding Apprentice award recipients were Joseph K. Soviero and Ryan G. Teague.

I would like to pay tribute to a friend and IBEW brother, Bob Stawkowski, who lost his life on June 12 in a tragic motorcycle accident. He was a great friend to all and a tremendous electrician. He will be greatly missed. RIP, brother.

Tom Lawless, E-Brd., P.S.



Some of the Local 25 crew members at Belmont Stakes racetrack jobsite.

Safety Milestone Achieved

L.U. 37 (em,o&u), FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA—IBEW Local 37 members employed with the Emera Utility Services' Telecommunications group recently achieved a remarkable safety milestone of 1,500 days without a lost time incident. That is four years, one month and eight days. This accomplishment is extremely significant to this group as they work in all weather conditions—seven days a week, 365 days a year.

The Telecommunications group provides installation and repair services, communication construction services, and project management and support services to various customers. The group specializes in fibre optical as well as traditional copper infrastructure.

The 65 IBEW members working in this operations group are based in Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick, but have worked in all four Atlantic Provinces over the four years, racking up over 9

million kilometres of driving and working on nearly 500,000 jobsites. During those four years the group had to navigate through 12 metres of snow and slug through more than 2 metres of rain.

Congratulations to the entire group. Great job!

Ross Galbraith, B.M./F.S.

IBEW 3DYC/RENEW Tour

L.U. 41 (em,es,govt,i,se&spa), BUFFALO, NY—Local 41 was honored to be one of the host locals in four cities where the 2015 IBEW Third District Youth Caucus/RENEW Tour took place May 30-31.

Forty members from nine IBEW locals attended the 3DYC/RENEW (Reach out and Engage Next-gen Electrical Workers) weekend events. Attendees were from Locals 36, 41, 43, 86, 237, 241, 1249, 2154 and 2199. Members participated in a community volunteer project, attended a minor league baseball game and attended sessions on leadership and labor history. All participants represented their locals admirably.

When performing the community service project at Vive La Casa, a center for international refugees, the IBEW volunteers cleaned the kitchen, organized the pantry, removed trash, installed new receptacles, traced electrical circuits to label panels correctly and extended several circuits.

After a hard day of volunteering, great brotherhood and camaraderie were on display during the Buffalo Bison's game where refreshments were served, new friendships were made and new ideas were considered for taking back home. The following



Some of the IBEW members who attended the 2015 3DYC/RENEW Tour.

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 email (locallines@ibew.org) or U.S. Mail. We have a 200-word limit. We make every effort to assist local unions in publishing useful and relevant local union news; however, all final content decisions are based on the editor's judgment. Our guidelines and deadlines are available at www.ibew.org/articles/journaldeadlines.htm. Please email 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	(rtb) Radio-Television Broadcasting	(tm) Transportation Manufacturing
(ei) Electrical Inspection	(mo) Maintenance & Operation	(u) Utility	(uow) Utility Office Workers
(em) Electrical Manufacturing	(mow) Manufacturing Office Workers	(rtm) Radio-Television Manufacturing	(ws) Warehouse and Supply
(es) Electric Signs	(mar) Marine		

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

day, all returned for morning seminars. At a closing segment, Local 41 Bus. Mgr. Mike Gaiser congratulated attendees for completing the weekend and taking an active role in becoming the future of the IBEW.

Seeing the weekend participation and enthusiasm firsthand renewed my faith that the IBEW and our brotherhood will continue to grow and help build our country's future in the years ahead. Thank you to all who attended ... "Two Days, Four Cities, Growing the Movement, One Person at a Time."

Gregory R. Inglut, A.B.M.

A Night at the Ball Game & Charity for Kids Fundraiser

L.U. 43 (em,i&rts), SYRACUSE, NY—On Friday, June 19, Local 43 members and their families enjoyed an evening of Syracuse Chiefs baseball. Early arrivals were entertained by a pre-game concert by the band "Mini Kiss," advertised as the world's hottest, littlest tribute band! The nightly 50/50 raffle was co-sponsored by Local 43 and raised over \$2,000 for Charity for Children. The night wrapped up with a spectacular fireworks display.

Even though the hometown Chiefs lost to the Buffalo Bisons by a score of 8-6, it was a pleasant evening to spend with Local 43 brothers and sisters.

Gene Townsend, P.S.



At the ballpark, Local 43 Bus. Mgr. Don Morgan (left), Charity for Children Inc. Exec. Dir. Nina Albino and Local 43 Membership Development Coordinator Alan Marzullo. The children at front received signed baseballs from the hometown team.

Solidarity & Success

L.U. 47 (lctt,mo,o,u&uow), DIAMOND BAR, CA—Local 47 extends greetings to all IBEW members.

Solidarity was in full force when IBEW members employed by Southern California Edison (SCE) voted overwhelmingly to ratify the General Benefits Agreement. Local 47 members also overwhelmingly ratified the: General Wages & Working Conditions Agreement; the AirOps Agreement; and the Surveyors Agreement. A special thank-you to the bargaining and ballot committees for their time and efforts in what was a long and difficult process.

Local 47 rolls out the welcome mat and congratulates our newest members working with Pacific Coast Tree. They ratified their first contract by a vote of 71-5.

The local held its 13th Annual Memorial Golf Tournament. Proceeds from the event are used to fund the local's Injured Workers Fund. The tournament is a good time for a good cause.

We are saddened by the passing of members Leno Santy, Brian Thomas, Christopher Kelly and Chris Parazoo. May they rest in peace.

Local 47 wishes a full and speedy recovery to Senior Asst. Bus. Mgr. Stan Stosel and Bus. Rep. Ernie Lopez.

Work safe and buy union!

Stan Stosel, P.S.

Scholarships Awarded; Sept. 12 Picnic/Fish Fry

L.U. 51 (catv,lctt,o,ptc,rtb,t,u&uow), SPRINGFIELD, IL—Our annual golf scholarship outing was another success and we were able to award eight \$500 scholarships. Congratulations to scholarship recipients: Michael Beardsley, Phillip Cook, Kelsi Gortner, Andrea Hettinger, Adriaunna King, Jessica Leimbach, Coby Mumm and Katie Wildman. This year's winning golf team consisted of Kyle Smith, Caleb Smith, Kyle Buhrmaster and Justin Scherbring. Also a hearty congratulations to our special DL team: Tom Hocking, Dennis Hocking, Jeff Rivara and Dan Schmitt.

Two of our long-term executive board members are retiring, Tom Kane and Roger Beran. These brothers have supported our local union through the years and served on many contract negotiation committees. We thank them for their dedication to the IBEW and wish them the very best retirement.

Our annual picnic/fish fry is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 12, at the local union. Please plan to attend and bring your family. At the time of this writing, our work picture is slow.

Karlene Knisley, B.R.

Five-Year Contract Ratified

L.U. 97 (u), SYRACUSE, NY—The first half of 2015 has been very busy for Local 97. In January, members employed by St. Lawrence Gas ratified a five-year contract agreement, which includes yearly wage increases, small changes to health care for active employees, and newly established rules for health and welfare benefits for new hires. Overall it is a solid contract that will provide our members with job stability and growth for the future.

In February, the Local 97 Women's Committee was established. Named as the "Women of IBEW Local 97 Power and Light Society," their objective is to promote women's involvement, training and support within the union and community. They will also take on the role of organizing future new-member-orientation meetings throughout the year. Planned events for the year will also be scheduled within the divisions. We wish the best for the committee and appreciate all their enthusiasm.

Members of Local 97 also participated in the Third District Youth Caucus community project in Albany, which included volunteer work and a mini-conference in May. We are proud to see them get involved and participate in the community.

James Zabinski, V.P.



Local 97 Women of the Power & Light Society, from left: Cindy Metchick, Sue Sweeney, Robyn Palmer and Gina Clifford.

Fundraisers, Picnics & Parades

L.U. 99 (govt&i), PROVIDENCE, RI—Contract negotiations, charity fundraisers, membership picnics and patriotic parades—we had a busy spring in some respects. At this writing, as we eased into summer we were hoping for the job calls to begin.

Our first Local 99 Bike Run was successfully launched on May 17, thanks to the efforts of event organizer Joe Walsh. The local plans to make the Bike Run an annual event. There was a big turnout, with over 250 folks participating, 147 of whom were motorcycle riders, raising money for cancer research. Once the final tally on the monies raised for the charity Pink Heals is in, we will report on the numbers and the check presentation.

Our 4th Annual Family Picnic was held at Goddard Park on June 7. Picnic committee chairman Mike D'Amico presided over the day, having ordered sunshine and tents weeks in advance. Close to 100 members and their families participated in games and raffles.

The Local 99 Marching Color Guard, led by Bus. Mgr. Mike Daley in Ben Franklin garb, walked and wowed the normally subdued Gaspee Days Parade crowd on June 13, as the Local 99 minibus crawled along behind the marchers.

Lastly, contract negotiations were unresolved at the local level and consequently were moved to Washington, D.C., for Council on Industrial Relations (CIR) mediation.

William Smith, P.S.



Local 99 Bus. Mgr. Mike Daley, costumed as Benjamin Franklin, greets Rhode Island Gov. Gina Raimondo at Gaspee Days parade.

Boston Shines Project

L.U. 103 (cs&i), BOSTON, MA—On May 2, the Annual Boston Shines project took place. Over 30 members of Local 103 and its young worker group, RENEW103, volunteered by cleaning up the neighborhood that surrounds our union hall, hitting the sidewalks armed with brooms, shovels and trash bags. Our members spent the morning making the Dorchester neighborhood shine. Thanks again to the members who gave up their Saturday morning to help out.

Local 103 held its 38th Annual Pin Night on June

23. Pin Night is an occasion to recognize our working and retired members for their years of IBEW service. The ceremony commences as members have their names announced and are then presented with an IBEW pin identifying their number of years served as an IBEW member. Congratulations to Robert W. Baker on receiving his 73-year pin. The night, as always, was special for Local 103, its members and families. Congratulations and thank you to all of the pin recipients for their dedication to the IBEW.

Kevin C. Molineaux, P.S.

New Executive Board Member

L.U. 111 (em,govt,lctt,mt,o,rtb,spa&u), DENVER, CO—We welcome Bro. John Martinez, who was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Local 111 Executive Board; he was appointed March 6 and in April was sworn in. John strongly believes in the need to have a union within company workplaces in our industrialized world.

John became a Local 111 member in 1987, as an operator at Fort St. Vrain Power Plant for Public Service Company of Colorado (PSCO). However, in May 1991 he took a nonunion position as an instrument technician at Cherokee Power Plant. But, John couldn't stay away and subsequently returned as a Local 111 member. He took the lead (along with Bros. Tim Lester and Patrick Gulick) in organizing the instrument and control (I&C) technicians at PSCO in Colorado by starting discussions and dialogue about unionizing at his plant, followed by visiting the other PSCO plants and speaking to technicians, acquiring the necessary signed authorizations for certification. These efforts resulted in unionization of the I&C technicians. John served on the negotiating committee during the long, drawn-out process of getting this group "armour globed" into the current collective bargaining agreement.

Our new webpage is up and running. Construction members can now pay union dues online and re-sign the books. Please register at www.ibew111.com and see what is happening around your local.

The EWMC 3rd Annual Car Show & Poker Run on June 27 was a great success. Thank you to everyone who turned out and participated in the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus event.

Mike Kosteletzky, P.S.

Lineman Hall of Fame

L.U. 125 (lctt,o,t&u), PORTLAND, OR—On May 16 this year, Harvey Haven was inducted into the International Lineman Hall of Fame. Known throughout the industry as a teaching legend, Harvey was celebrated for his contribution to the safety and education of apprentices and journeymen. Bonneville Power Administration journeyman lineman Troy Anderson nominated him.

"Harvey has dedicated himself to safety and has selflessly shared his knowledge and passion with anyone who wants to accept it," said Bus. Mgr. Travis Eri. "He's been a great mentor, friend and leader without ever sacrificing his commitment to excellence." Eri also added, "Thank you to Mrs. Debbie Haven for sharing her husband with us all."

Members employed at Portland General Electric's Gresham yard organized a "pass the hat" campaign to purchase a United States flag that measures 24 feet by 36 feet. Local 125 members and other PGE employees donated approximately \$1,300 for the flag, which will be stored at the Local 125 business office. Executive Board member Randy Bryson said, "This flag can be used to honor the [memory] of any IBEW Local 125 member during a memorial or celebration of life ceremony. By having our own flag, we aren't dependent on anyone else to recognize our own."

Marcy Grail, A.B.M.

LOCAL LINES

Work Picture Update

L.U. 141 (ees,i,o&u), WHEELING, WV—As of this writing, our work picture continues to hold steady, keeping the majority of our members employed.

There recently was a major announcement that a large fraction plant might be built in our jurisdiction, in Belmont County, Ohio. PTT Global Chemical has reportedly narrowed its search for a site to Belmont County, which would be a huge boost to our possible work outlook and local economy. The project is projected to cost an estimated \$5 billion, and the final decision for the location should come sometime in 2016.

As this article went to press, we were busy planning our local picnic and golf scramble which were scheduled for Aug. 15, as well as a motorcycle club ride.

Congratulations to retired member Stan Jasinski on receiving his pin for 60 years of IBEW service.

Michael Parker, P.S.



Local 141 Bus. Mgr. Thomas Connor (left) awards 60-year pin to retiree Stan Jasinski.

Leadership & Solidarity

L.U. 145 (em,i,o,rts,se,spa&u), ROCK ISLAND, IL—Officers and members of Local 145 congratulate IBEW Int. Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson on his recent appointment. We are very proud of Int. Pres. Stephenson, who in earlier years served as Local 145 business manager, and we stand shoulder to shoulder with all fellow brothers and sisters in supporting him in his leadership of this great union! We also extend our best wishes to Int. Pres. Emeritus Edwin D. Hill for a wonderful retirement.

Labor Day ... a time to reflect, to be thankful and to celebrate the great men and women, current and past, for all their efforts in the labor movement. A labor union is an association of workers that promotes and protects the welfare and rights of its members. We are grateful to be where we are today because of the sacrifices of so many people who care about the labor movement.

Our work outlook for the fall season is anticipated to pick up. Two land-based casinos and related hotel projects are underway. Work at the ALCOA Plant [Davenport Works] is expected to help keep our members busy during the fall/winter months.

We acknowledge the loss of recently deceased members and retirees. Their contributions to our industry were instrumental in the success of Local 145.

Dan Larson, P.S.

New Training Center Update

L.U. 159 (i), MADISON, WI—As of this mid-summer writing, the Wisconsin Legislature was still working on the state budget. At this writing, a prevailing-wage bill was also still up in the air, as Republicans sought to repeal prevailing-wage statutes.

In other news, this is an exciting time at the Local 159 office as construction moves along on our Training Center and we work to prepare for fall classes. We are also planning the Training Center Grand

Opening celebration scheduled for Oct. 10.

With this new facility, we want to focus our training more intensively on emerging technologies like BAS (Building Automation Systems) and other low-voltage systems. Our future depends upon our ability to innovate.

Please note our new address, 4903 Commerce Ct., McFarland, WI 53558. Our other contact information remains the same.

Lisa Goodman, B.A.

Work Picture is Good

L.U. 191 (c,i,m,rtb&st), EVERETT, WA—Greetings from IBEW Local 191. We are experiencing a very good work picture and we thank our members and travelers for manning the work.

At this writing, many Local 191 summertime social events for members and their families were planned, including golf and picnics on both the Westside and Eastside. The members and their families always enjoy such occasions to get together for fun and fellowship. We appreciate the participants and volunteers who help make these events a great success.

Our inside agreement was recently extended for three years, with package increases of \$5.09 for the Westside and \$5.39 for the Eastside. The membership overwhelmingly approved the package. Many thanks go to Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Joseph Lorenzo and his negotiating team.

The local is upgrading its phone system to better link our four office locations. It will also allow us to do broadcast texts to members for important events and issues.

Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Lorenzo has instituted an intern program to train young leaders on how our local operates. Currently, Bros. Tim Kornelis and Gary Kemp are learning organizing, dispatch and representation. Welcome, brothers!

Lastly, we had a busy legislative session at our state Capitol, trying to advance positive bills and block anti-labor proposals. Thank you to all the members who assisted in these efforts.

Bill Mirand, P.S.



Local 191 Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Joe Lorenzo (second from left) and Executive Board members at a recent Leadership Picnic. From left, E-Board member Brad Baker, Bus. Mgr. Lorenzo, and E-Board members Char Leabo-Straub and John Waite.

September Activities

L.U. 197 (em&i), BLOOMINGTON, IL—During the summer our work picture picked up with a few small projects at Nestle Beich, Kongsilde, and Cargill. However, that uptick in our work picture doesn't appear long-term as of now. The work outlook for our sister locals looks positive, so we encourage our out-of-work members to sign a few books. Thank you to those locals that are putting our members to work.

In September, we will march in the McLean County Labor Day parade once again, with a picnic at the hall afterward. The hall sent communications about when and where to line up; if there are questions, please call. Please attend and invite family



Local 197 members volunteered to help local charity Clare House update its wiring. From left: Jason Bohm, Ken McLean, Tina Sipula (from Clare House), Matt Strupp and Dennis Nolan.

and friends. It will be a good day to celebrate with brothers and sisters.

On Sept. 12, the Illinois State Redbirds Football team open up at home, and the McLean County Building Trades are holding a Union Day for the occasion. We do a lot of work at Illinois State University and have members employed by ISU, so it's fitting that we support the school's programs and also join fellow union members for fun and comradery. Discounted tickets are available for \$12, which includes a tailgate with food, beverages and activities before the game. Tickets are available to union members and family; please check our website www.ibew197.org for details.

Work safe and get involved in the local and stay involved!

Mike Raikes, Pres.

'INPO Excellent Rating'

L.U. 245 (govt,lctt,o,rtb&u), TOLEDO, OH—On the utility side, congratulations to Davis Besse and Beaver Valley nuclear power plants—both plants received an Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO) excellent rating. Nuclear power plants are graded every two years by the INPO. This is the third consecutive excellent rating for Davis Besse and the fourth for Beaver Valley. Both are IBEW plants in the First Energy Fleet.

On the broadcast side, congratulations and thanks to Jack Schell, a longtime steward at public broadcast station WGTE-Channel 30. Jack became a Local 245 member in 1973 and served on the Executive Board for 23 years. Jack retired June 30 this year.

On to politics ... it seems that everybody wants to run for president, especially in the Republican Party. At press time, there are 16 Republican candidates for president. Ohio Gov. John Kasich, who announced his candidacy July 21, became the 16th announced Republican candidate for president as of this writing. These candidates offer us an array of anti-worker, anti-union and anti-immigrant platforms. It seems they are anti-everything, but that shouldn't surprise us—after the last eight years, they proved that in the U.S. Congress. I mean, how many times can you vote on the Affordable Care Act with the same results before you get the picture?

On a more pleasant note, football season is upon us and this will be an exciting year for us Buckeye fans. Work safe, come home the way you left ... and "Go, Bucks."

Ray Zychowicz, P.S.

2015 Apprenticeship Graduates

L.U. 257 (em,i,rtb,rts,spa&t), JEFFERSON CITY, MO—Local 257 is proud to recognize our apprenticeship graduating class of 2015 (see photo below). Congratulations to our new journeymen! Best wishes to the graduates for a rewarding IBEW career ahead.

Joel Vanderslice, P.S.



Local 257 recent apprenticeship graduates: Kyle Leslie (left), Drew Webb, Steven Imler, Jeremiah Martin, Norman Otto and Corey Powell. Not pictured: Lannie Sullivan and Bryan Phillips.

'Paint the Town' Project

L.U. 291 (i,m,o,r,rtb&rts), BOISE, ID—Greetings from the Gem State! Local 291 has been very busy these last couple of months with our inside negotiations, the Idaho State AFL-CIO Convention, and a community service project called Paint the Town.

Negotiations for our inside collective bargaining agreement went very well. We were able to agree to a raise and a lengthy contract. A very big thank-you goes out to our negotiating committee and especially to those who sat at the table with the contractors.

The state AFL-CIO Convention is always a great opportunity to network with other unions and friends of labor. Congratulations to all the newly elected officials including one of our own brothers, Aaron White, who was re-elected as president of the Idaho State AFL-CIO.

Local 291 participated with the Boise Central Trades & Labor Council in a community service project called Paint the Town. This program sends out volunteers to people who own houses that need a little touching up but are unable to do the work themselves due to disabilities. We are proud to give back to the community and help out those in need.

Keep calm, stay strong and work union.

Nick Baumann, P.S.

'Stay Informed & Involved'

L.U. 309 (i,lctt,m,mt,o,rts,spa&u), COLLINSVILLE, IL—The Inside Wireman's agreement was recently bargained. A tentative settlement was reached June 30. The four-year agreement was ratified by members on July 14.

Gov. Bruce Rauner has been going to various city halls and county boards touting his so-called "turnaround agenda." Our Local 309 officers and members have been joining forces with other trade unions to show the governor our displeasure with his relentless attacks on the working class.

Stay informed by giving the local union your e-mail address or mobile phone number to receive a mass text.

Bus. Mgr. Tim Evans and Asst. Bus. Mgr. Chris Weir attended the recent groundbreaking for the \$300

million St. Elizabeth's Hospital project in O'Fallon, IL. This project is welcome news for all the building trades.

As press time approached, we were looking forward to our annual "Party at the Park" at Fairmount Racetrack scheduled for Aug. 29. This is always a great event for the members.

Congratulations to our new IBEW Int. Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson. Int. Pres. Stephenson was appointed effective June 1 by the IBEW International Executive Council. Also, congratulations to newly appointed Sixth District Int. Vice Pres. David J. Ruhmkorff. We extend best wishes to Int. Pres. Emeritus Edwin D. Hill on his retirement. Good luck to all!

Scott Tweedy, A.B.M.

cross on the occasion of his retirement from our local. Norcross is a former Local 351 assistant business manager and has a record of labor-wide service.

The local enshrined a recent article that was published in The Electrical Worker about Norcross running for Congress. [See article "A Candidate of Our Own: IBEW's Norcross Runs for U.S. House," The Electrical Worker, October 2014; and "A Call to Serve: IBEW's Members in Public Office," The Electrical Worker, June 2015.] We are very proud of Rep. Norcross and everything he has done for the IBEW and our local. We extend our congratulations and best wishes to him and his family in the future.

Dan Cosner, A.B.M./P.S.

Welcome to New Members

L.U. 317 (i,o,rts,t&u), HUNTINGTON, WV—Welcome to our new brothers and sisters from Asplundh Tree Experts!

For the past several months our organizers, our business manager and the entire office staff have been busy working on the Asplundh Tree Experts organizing campaign. While the hard work is far from being finished, the campaign has been a huge success to date. So far 22 Asplundh lots have elected to have Local 317 represent them. That translates to more than 600 hard-working men and women who stood up and exercised their right to organize and join a union. Their fight is far from over, as they now work to secure a fair contract. If you see these new brothers and sisters out working or just in the community, take a minute to welcome them to the IBEW family.

I'd also like to remind everyone to "like" our Local 317 Facebook pages, www.facebook.com/ibew317 and www.facebook.com/317renew, to keep up to date on what's going on with the local and our community. It is important to stay informed on the issues that affect our livelihoods, and social media is one way we are able to do that.

James Stacy, P.S.

'Annual Fish Tales'

L.U. 343 (i,spa&st), LE SUEUR, MN—Rainy weather did not discourage the group of approximately 15 members and guests who gathered early on a June Saturday morning to join in the annual Sparky Fishing Opener event on the Mississippi River.

A half-dozen boats set off to fill the categories of largest northern, walleye, bass, pan fish and rough fish. The skies cleared mid-afternoon for the prize drawings and lunch. Member Kevin Farmer won the grand prize of a gas grill styled after a car engine complete with header pipes.

A day on the river would not be complete without a fish story. Bro. Mike Steffes unintentionally filled the category of largest "dead fish caught with a net." He spotted something floating. Swinging his boat around, he scooped it out of the water. To his surprise, Mike landed a 57-inch sturgeon weighing around 100 pounds. Although it bent the net, it didn't put up much of a fight.

Thanks go out to members Chris Hallet and John Powrie for organizing the event.

Reap the rewards union membership has to offer and enjoy some brotherhood and solidarity. Support American workers! Buy Made in USA!

Tom Small, P.S.

Celebrated Career of Service: U.S. Rep. Norcross Honored

L.U. 351 (c,cs,i,it,lctt,mt,o,se,spa&t), FOLSOM, NJ—At a recent general meeting, Local 351 officers and members celebrated newly elected U.S. Rep. Donald Norcross on the occasion of his retirement from our local.



Local 351 Pres./Asst. Bus. Mgr. Bill Hosey (left), Bus. Mgr. Ed Gant, Asst. Bus. Mgr. Roy Foster, U.S. Rep. Donald Norcross, Asst. Bus. Mgr. Dan Cosner and Treas./Bus. Agent Bob Nedohon.

IBEW Night at the Ballpark

L.U. 375 (catv,ees&i), ALLENTOWN, PA—IBEW Local 375 celebrated Memorial Day by holding its annual family picnic on Saturday, May 23, at Dorney Park and Wild Water Kingdom. Approximately 624 members and their families attended the fun day featuring food, beverages and rides.

We welcome our newest journeypersons, who graduated this June. Congratulations to: Rodney Fritchman, Eric Keck, Jean Mascornick, Alexander Reich, Anthony Smith, Neal Treskot and Steven Wehr.

Our IBEW Local 375 Night at the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs was Monday, July 20. This was our second promotional night with our Triple A affiliate baseball team, the Iron Pigs. That date also happened to be Bring Your Dog to the Game Night, so there was plenty of action both on the ball field and in the stands.

The July 20 event was a complete success in reaching out to the community and promoting the IBEW. The local's 3DYC (IBEW Third District Youth Caucus) group participated by supplying every dog at the ballgame with a new food scoop and a Frisbee. Dog owners received a publication about "Home Electrical Safety" as well as information on our apprenticeship training.

Dave Reichard, Pres./A.B.M.

LMCC Bowl-a-Thon Fundraiser; Apprenticeship Graduation

L.U. 413 (i&mo), SANTA BARBARA, CA—Congratulations to our 2015 graduating inside apprenticeship class. Santa Barbara County Supervisor Salud Carbajal was guest speaker at our apprentice graduation ceremony.

We are proud of all the graduates: Nicholas Munoz, Ryan McCormick, Allen Johnson, Wayne Ito, Robert Day, Sandro Candelario and Darrin Alvarez.

Ryan McCormick was honored as the 2015 Outstanding Graduate. Training Dir. Brian Gregory announced that the Graduate Dedication Award winner, Wayne Ito, will represent our local at the Western States competition. Named as Outstanding Apprentices for the other four classes were: for fourth-year class—Eric Rice; third-year class—Kenneth Moody; second-year class—Samuel Wellford; and first-year class—Chris Scott.

Our local LMCC sponsored the Santa Maria Food



Local 413 celebrates graduating apprentices. From left: Bus. Mgr. Chuck Huddleston; graduates Allen Johnson, Ryan McCormick, Wayne Ito, Robert Day, Sandro Candelario, Darrin Alvarez; and NECA Chapter Mgr. Shari Brunner. Not pictured: graduate Nicholas Munoz.

Bank Bowl-a-Thon Fundraiser. This Labor-Management Cooperation Committee community service project was again a great success. Over 115 pounds of canned goods were collected and we raised over \$2,200.

Bowling score results were as follows: highest scoring individual—Shane Sanchez; highest overall scoring team—the "Lindsey Lebowski's" of Lindsey Watters, Shane Sanchez, Damian Sanchez and Steven Keys; highest scoring apprentice team—the "Gutter

Gang 413" of Ryan McCormick, Wayne Ito, Shaun Grimm and Clarence Caldwell; lowest scoring team—the "Concentric Knock-outs" team of Sam Wellford, Kyle Sousa, Eric Perez and Juan Salcedo.

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

Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), Hospital Corporation of America and General Motors. This work is keeping our members busy.

We congratulate our 2015 apprenticeship graduates topping out this year. The graduates are: Robert Avaritt, Mitchell Brenner, Justin Bush, Zachary Cox, Joshua Fly, Will Edwards, Peter Grunwald, Brandon Hajdu, Nelson Johnson, Michael Mashburn, Colyn Massaro, Jeremy Motz, Bradford Stirewalt and Eric Varner. The Outstanding Apprentice Award was presented to Peter Grunwald. The Leadership Award recipient was Nelson Johnson.

Next year our local will have its 100th anniversary on Aug. 31. We are planning several events throughout next year in celebration.

Cameron Bennett, P.S.

Apprenticeship Graduates

L.U. 479 (i&u), BEAUMONT, TX—Local 479 is proud of the 17 men who have persevered and recently graduated from our five-year apprenticeship program. Congratulations to all. Some of the graduates, as of this writing, have yet to pass the craft certification test and/or the state of Texas journeyman license test. In time they will complete those requirements and become licensed inside journeyman wiremen. These men could be among our future leaders.

Every day we all must do what is best for our members and the IBEW. You must begin to act, think and communicate like a leader long before that promotion. Leadership is an action not a position. Take some time to reflect and decide if what you do today matters. Odds are it probably does to someone. Here are a couple of morals conveyed in the stories of Aesop's Fables: union gives strength, and it is easy to propose impossible remedies.

Jimmy Burk, B.M./F.S.



Local 429 congratulates Nashville Electrical JATC class of 2015 apprenticeship graduates, honored at the graduation banquet ceremony on June 27. [Editor's Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) rebranded in 2014 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.]

Strong Work Picture

L.U. 429 (em,i,lctt,o,ptc,rtb&u), NASHVILLE, TN—Greetings, brothers and sisters.

Our work picture looks strong. At this summer writing, we are going into Book 2 at times. Our signatory contractors are winning work that was once manned by nonunion contractors. Customers are seeing the value of skilled organized workers thanks to our membership development. Jobsites hiring more electricians here include tire plants, a tile plant, the

Local 479 apprenticeship graduates: back row, Leo Lane, Brian Turner, Andrew Gallet, Matthew Griffin, John Lamey, Michael Dickson; middle row, Cameron Smith, Kelvin Clubb, Joshua Morton, Charles Young, Ryan Nichols, Jason Pinner; front row, Edward Bernal, Kyle Prosperie, Johnathon Bolser, John Williams and Christopher Arndt.



LOCAL LINES

Volunteers & Graduates

L.U. 481 (ees,em,i,mt,rts,s&spa), INDIANAPOLIS, IN—Congratulations to newly appointed IBEW Sixth District Int. Vice Pres. David J. Ruhmkorff, a fellow Local 481 member. We wish him the best of luck in his new leadership role with the IBEW.

In May, Local 481 was proud to welcome the latest class of journeyman wiremen, as 14 apprentices passed their final exams. Congratulations, graduates! This is an accomplishment you all should be very proud of. I encourage you to stay active in the local. Good luck in your careers as journeymen.

Also in May, many Local 481 volunteers, joined by Bro. Ruhmkorff, came together to rewire a house for a Hearts and Hands project. It was an opportunity for our members to once again give back to the community. It is always great to see our members take advantage of opportunities to represent IBEW Local 481 in such a positive way. Thanks to all the volunteers for doing a great job completing the project.

Blake Andrews, R.S.

Making a Difference: IBEW Community Service

L.U. 483 (catv,lctt,o&u), TACOMA, WA—Annually for the past four years, IBEW Local 483 has participated in Pierce County Central Labor Council's Annual Peanut Butter Drive to assist Pierce County's Emergency Food Network.

At our first drive four years ago, we raised 483 jars, and each year since then our members have more than doubled the amount raised in the previous year.

This year, Bus. Mgr. Alice Phillips challenged the Local 483 members to raise 3,483 jars of peanut butter. She said if they were successful, she would wear a Batman suit for a day. Not only did the members exceed the challenge and raise 4,018 jars of peanut butter, but they also formed a human chain to deliver the six tons of peanut butter over a block away to the Pierce County Central Labor Council office. The peanut butter was then transferred to the Emergency Food Network for distribution to area Pierce County food banks to provide lunch to children throughout the summer.

Bus. Mgr. Phillips extends a sincere thank-you to those involved in the food drive to help provide Pierce County with a nutritious source of food for area children.

Alice Phillips, B.M./F.S.



Local 483 Bus. Mgr. Alice Phillips dons Batman costume to mark success of annual food drive.

'Greetings from the North Bay'

L.U. 551 (c,i&st), SANTA ROSA, CA—Congratulations to our class of 2015 apprenticeship graduates! The new inside wiremen are: Artur Jagoda, Ben Souza, Cornelius Bracy-Cruz, Chris Clinton, Simon Geddes, Arthur Cader, Budd Glock and William Leeming. The new Sound & Communications installers are: Peter Pinney, Adrian Hardesty, Angelo Scalese and Wanic Jean-Pierre! We wish you all the very best in your new careers in our great trade profession. Stay busy and work safe!

The books are cooking here with everyone

working. We had a three-week spell in June with open calls; thankfully, they were filled within 48 hours. We appreciate the travelers coming in to fill these needs. Travelers, please be advised that you will need California State Certification to take a call from this hall.

Our project-labor-agreement (PLA) Marin General Hospital project broke ground in June. The general contractor for the Casino Hotel project, also a PLA job, was awarded in June and as of this writing we anticipate that work to start in September.

We remove our hardhats for three members who recently passed away: Bro. Ralph Twichell, who was a 41-year member; Bro. Allan Muggle, 47-year member; and Bro. Bob Barnes, 53-year member. They will be remembered.

Stay cool, brothers and sisters, and please work safe!

Denise D. Soza, B.R./P.S.



Local 557 members at the Caro Center jobsite in Caro, MI. From left, Rich Urbany, John Hagarty, Nick Isles and Mike Tilot.

Standing up for Workers

L.U. 557 (i,mt,rts&spa), SAGINAW, MI—Things have been very busy in our state. With work being at a moderate rate in our local, many of our members have been able to remain close to home and work in surrounding locals. We secured a three-year contract in April.

Workers in our state have been under attack with attempts at repeal of the prevailing wage law. Many people throughout our communities and the state are working tirelessly to increase awareness about the issue, and as of this writing we have seen some success. Although the state Senate voted in May for repeal of the prevailing wage law, as of press time no further action has been taken in the state House. The governor has shown no interest in repeal of prevailing wage law—however, as of press time opponents of working people are attempting to gain signatures for a ballot measure to repeal prevailing wage. We continue our fight to defend the interests of working people in Michigan.

Local 557 congratulates IBEW Int. Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson on his recent appointment. Also, we thank Int. Pres. Emeritus Edwin D. Hill for his dedicated service and we wish him a happy retirement.

We encourage members to remain active in their communities. There are many volunteer opportunities, and helping the community is a great way for union members to make a positive impact.

Howard Revard, P.S.

Veteran of the Year

L.U. 569 (i,mar,mt,rts&spa), SAN DIEGO, CA—IBEW Local 569 member Ramon Castro was named as the 56th Assembly District's "2015 Veteran of the Year" by California Assembly Member Eduardo Garcia! "Ramon has valiantly fought for our country while serving in the U.S. Marine Corps, and has continued to dedicate his life by helping local veterans in Imperial County," Assembly Member Garcia said. "I applaud his honorable and faithful service." Through his many collaborative efforts, Ramon has improved the quality of life



California Assembly Member Eduardo Garcia (left) named IBEW Local 569 member Ramon Castro (center) as a 2015 Veteran of the Year. Bro. Castro was joined by family members at the awards presentation.

for veterans in Imperial County.

We wish to also congratulate our recent apprenticeship graduates. Our new inside wireman graduates are: Chase Beck, Dominic Cardenas, Luke Eisele, Kevin Frederick, Francisco Jimenez, Timothy Leisch, Jose Magana, Ronnie Maynard, Timothy Ramm, Daniel Riley, Ben Ruckle, Christopher Sanchez, Joseph Schmidt, John Sherrell, Devin Wilcox and Jesse Willis. Our new sound technician graduates are: Angel Bernal, Nicholas English, Jeremy Graham, David Kem and Hector Murrieta. Graduates, your work and success in our apprenticeship program and union make us proud!

Finally, we extend our thanks to the hundreds of IBEW Local 569 members, families and volunteers who attended our annual picnic for a full day of fun, food and sun! Together, we're strengthening our union and advocating for working families and good jobs.

Gretchen K. Newsom, P.S./Organizer

Belmont Park Train Station Renovation Project a Success

L.U. 589 (rr), JAMAICA, NY—The 147th running of the Belmont Stakes took place Saturday, June 6. Members of Local 589 and other crafts on the Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) worked very hard and against the clock to have the newly renovated Belmont Park train station up and running for the race. The platforms were remodeled, and our electricians installed new, efficient lighting and power throughout the station. Additionally, our third-rail members ensured that the trains would have the power to transport the 20,000-plus fans to and from this small station.

On the big day, thousands of fans came to see if American Pharoah would seize the Triple Crown (which he did, by the way.) The electric train fleet of the LIRR transported 9,000 passengers in the first half-hour; by the time the race was over, more than 24,000 passengers had passed through our new station platforms. Local 589 thanks all of our members involved in this very important project. They "stepped up" and got the job done.

We thank these and all Local 589 electricians for their hard work throughout the year, and for providing time and time again that this is a "brotherhood."

Hope everyone enjoyed a great summer. Please always remember to work safe!

Augie Maccarone, R.S.

IBEW Specialized Training—Evolving Construction Industry

L.U. 595 (c,cs,govt,i,mt,o,se&st), DUBLIN, CA—Will there be a need for tape measures in the future? Of course, we will always have one in our tool box. Today's industry has evolved utilizing 3D modeling and GPS or laser-guided navigation for underground and above-ground structures. Local 595's own Susan Bowron has developed a class and instructs beginning and advanced journeyman training using AutoCAD's MEP 3D Modeling and NAVIS Manage, starting with basic 2D designs and progressing to advanced 3D modeling. After nearly one year of training, Susan's students receive a certificate of completion from Autodesk. Bowron graduated from the Inside Wireman apprentice program in 2012 and immediately joined the 3D modeling team with one of the Bay Area's largest contractors, using her skills to design hospitals and high-tech facilities.

Once layout points are created within the 3D model, they can be easily exported to a field layout instrument such as Trimble and Total Station, also covered with hands-on training, for easy stake-out in the field without the need of strings and tape measure.

Construction has become increasingly complex, with tighter schedules and budgets. Use of Building Information Modeling (BIM) software on-site and in the office has helped to streamline workflows, maintain more accurate information and avoid conflicts with other crafts before construction even starts.

Susan's class is training our members in this emerging technology. It's a demanding class, but with her expertise, preparation and patience it remains one of our most sought-after courses in our journeyman training program.

Bob Tieman, B.R.



Local 595 instructor Susan Bowron (front row, left) with class members including Clark Denning, Salvador Ramirez, Justin Ethchells, Albert Baumgardner, Christine Sigel, James Bohacek, Kevin Goto, Russell Clay, Dave Thoni, Chico Hernandez, Mariano Yenke, Wilber Cuellar-Arandia and Mark Simpson.

Big Projects Ongoing

L.U. 601 (i&rtb), CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, IL—At this summer writing, work in our local is great. Our Book I is clear and there are currently 265 on Book II. We have been putting Book II out for over a month as of this writing, with the prospect of more jobs for our traveling brothers and sisters in the near future as we anticipate about two years of new commercial construction in the area.

We have several big jobs that are ongoing.

These include: the Kraft Foods warehouse project with Bodine Electric, which has nearly 25 electricians on the job; the Tank Farm project in our northern area; the State Farm (assembly hall) project; the Carle Hospital project; and several projects on the University of Illinois campus.

We took in 17 new first-year apprentices and had 11 apprentices graduate in May. Congratulations to all.

Our annual Steak Stag was a huge success thanks to Bob Withers and his apprentices, along with Bobby Woodard, manning the grills. It was attended by a great number of members, both active and retired. At press time we were preparing to host our 39th Annual Softball Tournament on Aug. 8-9 with 12 teams on the roster; this is always a great occasion to support our team and have a meal and a beverage!

Daniel Hatter, P.S.



Local 601 apprentice graduates: back row, Andrew Svoboda (left), Jacob Buchanan, Eric Andresen, Pete Billhymer, Bryce Hallowell, Keith Wolf, Jack Gillespie; front row, Richard Hensler, Derek Chandler, Daniel Chapa and Kevin Baker.

2015 Apprenticeship Graduates

L.U. 617 (c,i,m&st), SAN MATEO, CA—Congratulations to the graduating apprenticeship class of 2015! The local welcomes to its ranks these new inside wiremen and sound & communications installers.

The inside wireman graduates are: Jose Arevalo, Daniel Blum, Paul Burlic, Francisco Castano, Toby Chaliros, Michael Davis, Walter Diaz, Edward Flair, Alfonso Flores, Joseph Grant, Lawrence Huang, Matthew Marnell, Brandy McDaniel, Ethan McGraw, Victor Meza, James Nolan, Ivan Refrea, Alex Roth, Michael Schreifer, Matt Sereda, Joshua Sullins, Louis Tatola, Eric Turner and David Wiesenhausen. The new sound & communications installers are: Antonio Artavia, Luis Bueno, Armando Orozco, David Richards, William Rivard, Ryan Vance and Travis Warren.

Louis Tatola and Eric Turner both received special recognition as the Outstanding Electrical Apprentice of the Year. Armando Orozco was honored as the Outstanding Sound and Communications Installer of the Year. Francisco Castano received the Joe Hogan Leadership Award. Toby Chaliros was honored with the Ed Towle Achievement Award. Bros. Dan Pasini and Adam Pisani were recognized as Journeyman Trainer of the Year. We are proud of you, graduates, and celebrate your accomplishment!

Dan Pasini, Pres.



Local 617 apprentice graduating class of 2015.

Apprentice Graduates; Election Time in Canada

L.U. 625 (c,ees,em,i,it,mar&mt), HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA—A big congratulations goes out to the members who recently completed their apprenticeship programs. They are: Bros. Donald L. LeBlanc, Donald Chisholm, Brad Wood, Jon Enslow, Blaine Hamilton, Joseph Allen, Derick Hudson and Phil MacCormack. We are on track to graduate 50 percent more journeyman wiremen this year than in 2014 and 100 percent more than in 2013. When we start delivering our own Block Training in 2016, we will accelerate apprenticeship completions even more.

A couple of members retired in the last three months: Bros. Peter Citulski and Robert Langille. I missed mentioning Bernie MacNeil, who retired in June 2014. My apologies, Bernie. Remember to put your name in for the 11th Annual Retirees Banquet this fall. It is always a great meal with a dance and prizes.

This fall is election time in Canada. Hopefully union members in Canada will show Harper's Conservatives that we don't stand for attacks on our way of life. If the middle class is to survive in this country, we need to elect progressive representation. Vote for real change and give the New Democratic Party (NDP) a chance to make Canada the country it should be: democratic, respectful and responsible.

Tom Griffiths, A.B.M.

September & School Season

L.U. 627 (u), FORT PIERCE, FL—Brothers and sisters, in our daily travels let's please remember that children and school buses are on the road after the summer lull. Drive as if the children are yours.

Congratulations to newly appointed IBEW Int. Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson. Also, best wishes to recently retired Int. Pres. Emeritus Edwin D. Hill. There is not enough space to recall here all that Pres. Emeritus Hill has done for our members.

The Ironman Tournament has replenished our Community Affairs Fund. Thank you to all who participated as a player or sponsor.

Local 627 Bus. Mgr./Pres. Mark MacNichol announced that the 2016 Motorcycle Run will take place in February next year. This is an open invitation to all IBEW members. If considering a visit to the Sunshine State, leave us a message at the union hall; the phone number is 772-878-8036.

Ray Vos, P.S.



Local 639 graduating apprentices, from left: outstanding apprentice award recipient Tibor Pasti, Matt Flores, Kevin Grimes, Tom Drexhage, Robert Knighten, Jesse Campos, Nick Cooper, Robert Martell and Taylor McKeever.

Apprentice Graduation

L.U. 639 (i&rts), SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA—Congratulations to the apprenticeship graduating class of 2015. Graduation ceremonies were held May 30 at F. McLintocks in Shell Beach. Keynote speaker was labor-friendly Salud Carbajal, Santa Barbara County 1st District supervisor.

Salud Carbajal is the Democratic candidate in the race to succeed retiring U.S. Rep. Lois Capps in California's 24th congressional district. Both Rep. Capps and Local 639 have endorsed Salud Carbajal for Congress. Our most powerful weapon against anti-labor forces is our vote.

Kurt McClave, P.S.

Tribute to Life of Service

L.U. 659 (c,catv,em,i,lctt,o,st,t&u), MEDFORD, OR—It is with deep regret that I report the passing of retired former Local 659 business manager Jim McLean on March 3. He was 81. Jim's two sons are also IBEW members. His son Bert is a Local 659 member, and his son Mark is a California Local 1245 member.

Jim's legendary career began in 1952 in Vancouver, British Columbia, where he became a journeyman lineman. In 1962 Jim migrated south, where he took a job with COPCO in Medford, OR.

Jim accepted an assistant business manager position with Local 659 in 1967. He became the fourth business manager of Local 659 in 1977 and subse-

quently was re-elected for numerous terms, serving until he retired in 1998.

While on staff, Jim helped found LINECO and served as one of its first trustees.

Jim's IBEW career included appointments to the Council on Industrial Relations (CIR) and the NEBF board of trustees. He was appointed to the Oregon State Electrical Safety Council and the Oregon Governor's Labor Advisory Committee.

Jim McLean will be remembered by family, friends and the Local 659 members he served for 31 years. You will be missed, Bro. Jim.

Thank you to former business manager Ron Jones for providing information for this article.

Leonard Ellis, B.M./F.S.

Training & Mentorship

L.U. 673 (catv,i,rts,spa,t&u), PAINESVILLE, OH—One of our longtime contractors, Goulder Electric, has faced some of the same challenges that our local is facing. Just as the local's membership is aging, so are many of the employees of Goulder. Over the past few years Goulder has begun adding some fine young journeymen to its crew. It is only a matter of time before these talented brothers will be running major projects for this company as other members retire.

One of the assets that both Goulder and our local are fortunate to have are foremen like Rory Breedlove (photo, pg. 12) who are willing to spend time with young journeymen such as Nate Balaban (pictured). We are

IBEW MERCHANDISE



Camouflage Hat \$12.00

Orange and green brushed cotton camouflage hat with custom IBEW lettering. Adjustable size to fit all.

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

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Each set contains (1) USA Flag, (1) Canadian Flag, (1) IBEW Flag and (1) Flag Base. Each Flag stands 10.5" tall and 5.75" wide.

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

www.ibewmerchandise.com

LOCAL LINES

not born with an innate sense of how to run a job properly. Only through education and encouragement from qualified electricians is that accomplished.

Over the years as I see this process (changing of the guard), I can't help but acknowledge what a great institution we have in the JATC. Our method of developing electricians is something that should make us all proud. Good luck to all our new journeyman wiremen.

[Editor's Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) rebranded in 2014 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.]

Jim Braunlich, P.S.



Local 673 apprentice Ryan Cudlip (left), foreman Rory Breedlove, and journeymen Don Balaban and Nate Balaban at the Lake County Garage jobsite.

Membership's Summer Activities

L.U. 683 (em&i), COLUMBUS, OH—The summer season got off to a busy start this year, with several membership activities and events.

Members participated in Rebuilding Together Central Ohio, a program to help our neighbors in need maintain their homes.

Our Union Sportsman's Alliance group held their annual walleye fishing trip to Lake Erie.

Additionally, we also held our long-running annual Chuck Bland Memorial Fish Fry in early June.

At this writing, Local 683 was getting ready to host this year's softball tournament scheduled for August 7-9. We always look forward to the games and the spirit of brotherhood with the other locals attending.

Congratulations to our local's class of 2015 apprenticeship graduates. [Photo at bottom, left.] We welcome these new journeyman wiremen.

Tracy Starcher, V.P./P.S.

Upcoming Union Activities; 'To the Polls on Nov. 3'

L.U. 697 (c,es,i,mt&se), GARY AND HAMMOND, IN—As summer comes to a close, we have several activities coming up for our members to participate in.

Upcoming activities include: On Sept. 7 - Lowell Labor Day Parade; Sept. 12 - Local 697 Picnic; Sept. 19 - Heart Walk; and the September Apprenticeship Completion Banquet (date to be announced). Also



Local 683 class of 2015 apprenticeship graduates. Front row, James Daniels (left), Ahmad Anderson, Jimmy Knox, Josh Hawley, Kenneth Copley, Jack Hickman, Shirley Blessing; back row, Justin Henry, Clint Murphy, Zach Hatcher, Michael Riggs, Glenn Litchfield, Kyle Charles and John Obert. Not pictured: John Baron, Adam Brown, Tyler Cremeans and Josh Rose.

scheduled are: Oct. 2 - Awards Night; Oct. 23 - Blood Drive; Nov. 3 - Election Day (6 a.m. to 6 p.m.); and Nov. 26 - Thanksgiving (also Bears/Packers game).

I wish to thank all of the IBEW locals that have welcomed our Local 697 members onto their jobsites. We appreciate the hospitality.

Upcoming elections for mayors, city councils, etc., will be Tuesday, Nov. 3. As former Speaker of the U.S. House Tip O'Neil once famously said, "All politics is local." Yes, these mayoral candidates and city council candidates are not the ones who voted on the most recent anti-labor initiatives, but they can have as much of an effect depending on how well they understand the plight of hard-working Hoosiers. We must get to the polls! If you are working extended hours or you are out

of town, request and submit an absentee ballot. It's the least you can do! Check the Local 697 website at www.ibew697.org for voting and election details. Registration and polling info is available at www.IndianaWorkersVote.com.

Dan Waldrop, B.M.

Stand Up for Working People

L.U. 725 (i,rts&spa), TERRE HAUTE, IN—Congratulations to the Terre Haute Electrical JATC Class of 2015! We have 11 new inside journeyman wiremen and one new residential wireman. Justin Hedden was recognized as the Outstanding Apprentice. Great job to all of you, graduates! We look forward to your continued participation in the local's activities and keeping our union strong.

[Editor's Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) rebranded in 2014 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.]

We hope that anyone who has not registered to vote takes the time to do so now for next year's elections. If you haven't voted lately, you may want to reconsider doing so at this juncture. As Indiana has lost every pro-worker and pro-union law on the books in the last few elections as a result of actions by our state Republican legislators, Illinois now faces a similar battle.

Please think about how important your vote is, how important it is to educate your family and friends, and especially how important it is to talk with your



Local 725 apprentice graduating class of 2015: back row, Steve Dowell (left), Mike Clark, Dallas Graham, Matt Owen, Brian Hawkins, Clark Young; front row, Justin Hedden, Don Sims, Matt Robinson, Chris Grant, Bryan Bumpus and Danny Smith.



Some of the IBEW Local 773 electricians and travellers who worked on the Fiat Chrysler plant project in Windsor, Ontario.

co-workers about your paycheck, your livelihood, and your work opportunities. With our worker rights won over a 100-year period, we are now having all of those benefits taken away in a flash, in large part because we voted against our own economic interests or because we think our vote doesn't matter. Vote your paycheck!

Tom Szymanski, P.S.

Fiat Chrysler Plant Project

L.U. 773 (as,em,i,mo&o), WINDSOR, ONTARIO, CANADA—The FCA Fiat Chrysler Windsor Assembly Plant (formerly known as Chrysler Minivan Plant) located in Windsor, Ontario, recently completed a major retooling, which included the Metal/Body, Paint and Trim Shops.

The Body Shop retooling included a Pulse conveyor, which uses linear synchronous motor technology to move a parts carrier through the robot line weld stations. The FCA plant also features a "Skillet" platform assembly system with the capability of height adjustment for personnel working on the line.

Both of these new technologies involved increased electrical content, which resulted in a greater number of electrical man-hours for our membership during the shutdown. The plant will once again be able to build different vehicle models on the same assembly line. At press time, another scheduled summer shutdown of the FCA plant was underway to finish off needed changes required for a new vehicle launch.

Local 773 thanks all the members, union stewards and 300 IBEW travellers it took to complete this project. As we have done in the past, under tight timelines and schedules, the project was finished on time—and we delivered another "IBEW quality" project.

David Spencer, P.S.

IBEW Union Pride — Power Line Extension Project

L.U. 777 (u), READING, PA—IBEW Local 777 was tasked with running a power line extension to part of

Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P.'s project Mariner East. Mariner East is a natural gas pipeline that will

run from Delmont Station in Westmoreland County in central Pennsylvania to Marcus Hook on the Delaware River just outside of Philadelphia.

The \$2.5 billion project will deliver natural gas liquids from the shale regions to Sunoco Logistics' Marcus Hook Industrial Complex where it will be processed, stored and distributed locally and internationally.

Local 777 within two weeks helped organize and stock a remote staging area from which 10 linemen and crew leaders worked. The job involved the installation of 42 poles, 6.5 miles of wire, re-closers, regulators, a capacitor bank and overhead switches. Also, extensive support work was required from the substation, meter and relay departments.

Forty-seven days into the project, the three-phase primary feed for the Beckersville Station went into service. The crews finished the assignment two weeks ahead of schedule and well under budget.

Mark Power, P.S.

Tribute to Union Brother

L.U. 827 (catv&t), EAST WINDSOR, NJ—On Sunday, May 24, this year Local 827 joined together with the De Pinho family to celebrate the life of deceased member John A. De Pinho at a Red Bulls soccer game and pregame tailgate in Harrison, NJ. [See photo at bottom, right.] Bro. De Pinho passed away suddenly in January after surgery at the young age of 32.

Local 827 will always remember John as a dedicated union steward, Raritan Unit chairman, ACCLS (Advisory Council on Career and Life Strategies) advocate, and dear friend to all who knew him. John was always in attendance at all union functions and will be deeply missed by all.

Suzanne M. Wallin, R.S.

Election of Officers

L.U. 1015 (em&i), WESLACO, TX—Things are alive and well in Local 1015!

Elections got underway Thursday, June 11, in the south Texas region as dedicated union members flooded the hall to show their support for their local union.

With the final vote count in, the following officers won re-election for a three-year term: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Sergio Salinas, Pres. Angel Castillo, Rec. Sec. Pablo Puente and Treas. Wenceslao Castaneda. Paul Sivy also won re-election as an Executive Board member and is now joined by newly elected E-Board members Oscar Villagomez and Ray Duran. Local 1015 also



IBEW Local 827 members join the De Pinho family at soccer game to celebrate the life of the late Bro. John A. De Pinho.



Local 1015 officers, joined by Int. Rep. Bennie J. Sandoval (second from left). From left: Rec. Sec. Pablo Puente, Int. Rep. Sandoval, Vice Pres. Pete Lopez, Treas. Wenceslao Castaneda, Executive Board member Ray Duran, Pres. Angel Castillo and Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Sergio A. Salinas. Not pictured: E-Board members Oscar Villagomez and Ray Duran.

welcomes Pete Lopez as our new vice president.

Local 1015 is proud of the commitment these brothers have made to serve the union membership. Their dedication showcases the IBEW commitment to excellence. These next three years promise to be a productive time with great opportunities. Local 1015 thanks these men for being a pillar of encouragement in their community.

Maria A. Estman, P.S.



Local 1105 apprenticeship graduates of 2015: David "Alex" Hunt (left), Eric Stafford, Travis Eddleblute and Christopher Barker. Not pictured: Dale Brown.

Welcome to New Graduates

L.U. 1105 (i), NEWARK, OH—On May 27 at our annual banquet, we celebrated the graduation of the apprenticeship class of 2015. Our local's newest graduates from the Newark JATC all received their completion certificates. The 2015 graduates are: Christopher Barker, Dale Brown, Travis Eddleblute, David "Alex" Hunt and Eric Stafford.

[Editor's Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) rebranded in 2014 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.]

We are proud of all of these outstanding graduates. This year's Outstanding Apprentice Award recipient was Christopher Barker. Congratulations to all! We wish you all a long and wonderful career with the IBEW!

On May 13, our local held our first blood drive in association with the American Red Cross. Turnout was good and we hope to hold many future blood drives. At this writing a second drive was scheduled for July 14 and we hoped to improve on the turnout.

It is with great sadness that we extend condolences to the families of our recently deceased retirees: David Kuster and Joseph Paul.

William Hamilton, B.M.

Tribute to a Life of Service; IBEW Rodeo Champions

L.U. 1245 (catv,em,govt,lctt,o,pet,t&u), VACAVILLE, CA—We mourn the recent loss of Rec. Sec. Chris Habecker. Chris was more than an officer, activist and leader; she was a sister and a friend to all. Chris played a significant role in keeping the union financially sound, and in expanding the union's power through the creation of safety stewards and organizing stewards.

Congratulations to members from Modesto Irriga-

tion District (MID)—Matt McCurdy, Sean Coulson, Brian Szuggar and James Boere—for taking first place in this year's American Public Power Association Rodeo. Journeymen and apprentices from Sacramento Municipal Utility District, which hosted the rodeo, also took several awards, as did apprentices from the City of Roseville and MID. Also participating were members from Turlock Irrigation District, City of Lodi and City of Healdsburg.

PG&E gas workers competed in a local rodeo for the chance to participate in the upcoming national gas rodeo in Colorado Springs. Apprentices from Pacific Gas & Electric and NV Energy participated in a line workers rodeo in Reno that raised over \$12,000 for charity.

We salute Int. Pres. Emeritus Edwin D. Hill for his leadership and wish him well in retirement. We are excited at the prospect of working with new Int. Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson.

The work picture remains steady in outside construction, with various projects across California and Nevada. We are working to secure a project labor agreement for the CalTrain project, the 54-mile electrification of CalTrain through San Francisco, San Mateo and San Jose.

Local 1245 recently piloted a day-long orientation program for new members, immersing them in local union history and opportunities for participation.

Eric Wolfe, P.S.



Local 1245 rodeo team for Modesto Irrigation District took first place at APPA rodeo: from left, Matt McCurdy, Sean Coulson, Brian Szuggar and James Boere.

Business Manager Retires

L.U. 1249 (catv,lctt,o,t&u), SYRACUSE, NY—On behalf of Local 1249, I wish to extend a huge thank-you to Bus. Mgr. Bill Boire. For 43 years he has served Local 1249, and for the last eight years we were lucky enough to call him business manager. He has been a true leader and great friend. Through the good days and the bad, the struggles and the victories, Bill was there to ensure the success of the membership and the local. Besides leading us in our great brotherhood, he taught us many useful, not-to-be forgotten

lessons for living, a few of which should probably not be repeated here.

Bill, we wish you all of the happiness in retirement that one can experience and we will miss your smiling (and frowning) face every day. Congratulations and best of luck!

Jennifer Schneider, P.S.

IBEW RENEW Volunteers

L.U. 1393 (catv,lctt,o,t&u), INDIANAPOLIS, IN—The RENEW (Reach out and Engage Next-gen Electrical Workers) committee of IBEW Local 1393 has been busy!

In recent months, RENEW volunteers participated in several community service activities. These included volunteering at a food pantry in Indianapolis, the Cupboard of Lawrence Township, as well as running a charity golf scramble in Sullivan, IN, to benefit the Riley Children's Foundation. The foundation supports research and family resources at the Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis. Children visit RCH more than 300,000 times each year. As one of the nation's leading hospitals, RCH reportedly treats over 80 percent of the children in Indiana diagnosed with cancer, and is home to a Level 1 Pediatric Trauma Center.

The RENEW committee will be involved in several Labor Day festivities where we will focus on showing union pride as well as recruitment for our apprenticeship training opportunities. We'll be involved in celebrations throughout the state, in Petersburg, Terre Haute and Indianapolis.

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



IBEW 50-Year Pins Awarded

Anchorage, AK, Local 1547 Bus. Mgr. Mike Hodsdon (left) presents IBEW 50-year service awards to retired journeyman wiremen Alan Dickson (center) and Donald Cox (right). The awards presentation took place at a recent Unit 101 general meeting in Anchorage.

Local Leadership Transitions; 2015 Election of Officers

L.U. 1579 (i&o), AUGUSTA, GA—Former Bus. Mgr. Ken Ward and Pres. Raymond Hawkinberry retired at the end of their term in July. A big thank-you to both of these leaders for their service and dedication to the IBEW.

Local 1579 held its scheduled election of officers in June. Officers elected for a three-year term are: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Will Salters, Pres. Rick Dubose, Vice Pres. Chuck Anderson, Rec. Sec. Betty Griffin, Treas. Jason Allen and Executive Board members Lee Buoy, Chris Byrd, Tim Crabb, Tommie Crabb, Ken Green, Wayne Irby and Wes Young. Delegates to the IBEW Convention are: Rick Dubose and Brian McGowan.

Congratulations to all fellow Local 1579 officers, and thank you to all who participated in the democratic process.

Until next time, God bless.

Will Salters, B.M./F.S.

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

The IBEW's website has a new look, with improved layout and easier navigation. The new www.ibew.org is a one-stop shop for union information.

YouTube

For the past four years, Local 95 members have worked to restore the town of Joplin, Mo. after an F-5 tornado killed 161 people and destroyed the city on May 22, 2011. YouTube.com/TheElectricalWorker

Vimeo

With a 99 percent female bargaining unit, Toronto, Ontario, Local 636 members work to keep the Windsor Regional Hospital moving forward. Vimeo.com/IBEW.



HourPower

The IBEW is about more than the work done on the job. In this edition of Hour Power, we go along for the annual IBEW Motorcycle Ride to see the fun, camaraderie and brotherhood firsthand. IBEWHourPower.com



ElectricTV

In the latest feature from ElectricTV.net, take a closer look at the clean, sustainable, renewable energy produced by Copper Mountain Solar 3, a project made possible by the NECA/IBEW team.



RETIREEES



Local 3, Nassau Chapter, Retirees Club members gather at Education Center in Cutchogue, Long Island, NY.

Club Activities & Trips

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, NASSAU CHAPTER—"How we can live to be 100 years old and remain active" was the topic of a seminar at the new state-of-the-art Education Center in Cutchogue, Long Island. We also learned how, in a seated position, we can excise at any age. We learned how to watch what we eat to be able to live longer and healthier. The weather for the three days was spectacular as was the Wednesday night barbecue provided by our members. Who ever thought an electrician could be a culinary artist?

Nassau chapter is a very active club. So far this year we have had a Saint Patrick's Day luncheon and a 9/11 Memorial & Museum trip. We enjoyed a Broadway show and dinner afterward, as well as a spring luncheon hosted by the Wives & Widows group. At the June luncheon, we presented the Sam Miceli Good Guy Award to Bob Cooper. The annual fishing trip was also a great outing, and we actually caught fish.

At this writing, we were looking forward to our Annual Picnic in August, where everyone always enjoys the food, fun and games. At press time, we were also getting ready for a September Labor Day tribute to the IBEW and all New York City workers.

Hope everyone has enjoyed a great and safe summer. Looking forward to a seeing everyone in September.

John Milligan, P.S.

Suffolk Chapter Activities

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, SUFFOLK CHAPTER—At our June meeting, a report was given on our scheduled upcoming events. These included: the Labor Day parade, a bus trip to the Rockefeller Estate, and our stay at the Long Island Educational Center. We also will have a barbecue in September as well as our holiday party in December.

We had our annual summer luncheon, which everyone always enjoys. Our Chapter Chmn. Jack Foley wished attendees a safe and happy summer.

When we arrived at the Long Island Educational Center, we were greeted by Thomas Gallagher, Local 3 pension director. Mr. Gallagher reported on what is happening in our industry. He stressed how important it is for us to stay involved politically and encouraged us to attend the Labor Day parade.

Stephanie Saladino, Educational Center director, welcomed us to the facility and said the staff was there to help make our stay safe and enjoyable. We attended two informative lectures. The first was given by Judy Blades, wellness director for our local, who spoke about portion control and diet. Erica Vinas, nutritionist and dietician, spoke about maintaining a healthy lifestyle and provided nutrition tips for good health.

It was great to see so many of our members. The barbecue committee did a great job and everyone had a fun time. We also enjoyed a make-your-own ice cream sundae party.

Harvey Goldman, P.S.

Panama Canal Cruise

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, WEST FLORIDA CHAPTER—This past spring, seven members of our Retirees Club and their wives took an 11-day cruise to the Panama Canal aboard the "Coral Princess" of Princess Cruise Line.

This was our seventh retirees cruise. We also took a ship tour of the new section of the canal, which is still under construction and is due to be opened in February 2016.

Ben Costa, P.S.



Local 3, West Florida Chapter, Retirees Club members enjoy an 11-day cruise: standing, T. Broderick (left), R. Krauss, W. Dejohn, B. Costa, A. Mannino, F. Ledetsch; and seated, C. Phillips.

Sept. 11 Memorial Museum

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, WESTCHESTER/PUTNAM CHAPTER—On May 6, a group of 43 members and guests went to the National September 11 Memorial Museum, at the World Trade Center in New York City.

Upon our arrival, one of two reflecting pools, approximately one acre in size and built on the footprint of the World Trade Center, was visible. Designed to resemble a waterfall, water traversed down its four sides. Carved in bronze panels surrounding the pool's edge were the names of those we lost that day.

As we entered the museum, a tour guide supplied us with headphones, which enabled us to hear all the intricate details we might otherwise have missed. Informational bronze plaques were also on display.

Throughout the museum were reminders of the Twin Towers, including the original "Last Column Standing." An IBEW logo memorializing the 17 IBEW



Local 3, Westchester/Putnam Chapter, Retirees Club members visited the September 11 Memorial Museum in the spring.

Local 3 members who were lost was fastened to a steel column, along with other tributes.

We observed two wall displays. The first display, with the words "God Bless America" over the Twin Towers, also includes a representation of the faces of the deceased, a plane taking off, the Pentagon and much more. The second display, with a blue background, features the following quote: "No Day Shall Erase You from the Memory of Time." – Virgil

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

Observing Labor Day

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 35, HARTFORD, CT—On this Labor Day holiday, let us remember all the men and women before us who became IBEW members in order to seek a higher standard of living for themselves, their families and fellow workers in the trade among other worthy goals. I look out at the Hartford skyline and reminisce about all the jobsites we have worked on. Local 35 members should be so proud! As retirees, we are grateful for all the improvements made in our medical, pension, and annuity plans. These accomplishments have made our retirement more comfortable.

We join our brothers and sisters in Local 90 in grieving the loss of their business manager, Frank J. Halloran. Frank was a dedicated, hard-working man with a vibrant personality. He will be sorely missed.

We would like to wish Int. Pres. Emeritus Edwin D. Hill a healthy and prosperous retirement. We thank him for his dedicated IBEW service.

Kenneth R. White, P.S.

September Fishing Trip

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 42, HARTFORD, CT—The Retirees Club invites anyone who is a retired member of Local 42 to come and join them. If you would like to get out of the house or take some time out of your busy life for a couple of hours, then come on down and join them.

Club meetings are held bimonthly on Tuesdays at the Local 42 union hall. Annual dues are \$12. The meetings start at 9 a.m. sharp, with a discussion of upcoming business and events. Then attendees enjoy talking about old times over donuts and coffee. The Retirees Club would love to have you. For more information, call us at 860-646-7297.

The Retirees Club thanks all the ladies in Local 42's office for their dedication and hard work and for making everyone feel welcome. They work hard putting all the events together to make them enjoyable.

Save the dates: Sept. 12 - Cod Fishing Trip; and Dec. 10 - Union Meeting/Christmas Party.

Jacquelyn Moffitt, P.S.

Travel, Picnic & Pin Party

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 58, DETROIT, MI—April 25 was the date of our Association of Retirees, Wives and Widows annual Pin Party. This year Treas. Ray Owen received his 70-year pin. Congratulations to all who were honored.

Our Annual Picnic was held again this year at Rotary Park, in Livonia, on Aug. 26. This gathering is a favorite for our group, with members and their guests enjoying the usual picnic fare, fellowship and lots of euchre games. The day began with coffee and doughnuts at 10 a.m.

Our Annual Fall Bus Trip this year is going to New York City. With three buses full, this promises to be a good time for all aboard. We will tour all the popular spots within the city, including time at the World Trade Center memorial site. Much thanks to Rick Koerber for spearheading these trips for our group.

Evidence of board member Barb McNamara's green thumb can be seen when visiting our union hall. She gathered dozens of hosta plants for new flower beds, some created as a result of renovations to our parking lot. This outdoor beautification will be enjoyed by members and our neighbors for years to come.

Pat Nuznov, P.S.

Service Awards Presentation

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 60, SAN ANTONIO, TX—On May 14, Local 60 retirees held a very special meeting to award service pins to several longtime members. Honorees in attendance included seven retired members: Bros. John Weber, Leroy Joost, Robin Johns, Cleo Gibb, Stanley Zettner, Ernest Elsworth and Charles Watson. (Watch for photo of honorees in our December article.) These seven members are among the many, past and present, who helped build Local 60 to what it is today.

After John Weber was awarded his 75-year membership pin, the club presented him with an appreciation plaque. Leroy Joost and Robin Johns received their 60-year pins. Cleo Gibbs received his 50-year pin. Stanley Zettner, Ernest Elsworth and Charles Watson received their 55-year pins.

Congratulations also to service award recipients who were not present for the May 14 event. They include: 50-year members Lee Roy Bitzke Jr., Arthur King, Jack Moore, Everett Robel, Robert Rupp and Kenneth Weston; 55-year members Frank Green, John Smith, Robert Stuart and George Weber; and 65-year member Clyde Day. Congratulations to all.

In April, the club held a successful golf tournament as a fundraiser, ensuring funds for the club's activities and meals for another year. The Retired Members Club meets the second Thursday of the month at 12 noon, at the Plumbers and Pipefitters Training Bldg., 3630 Belgium Lane. Please join in.

Sandy Rogers, P.S.

Club Officers Re-elected

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 90, NEW HAVEN, CT—On June 2, the Local 90 Retirees Club met at our regular monthly meeting for election of officers. By a unanimous vote, the three incumbent officers were re-elected. They are: Pres. Robert Mantovani, Vice Pres. Gerry Asplund and Sec./Treas. Hugh McGuire. As this was our last meeting for the current fiscal year, pizza was served and enjoyed by all.

Our next scheduled meeting is Sept. 1. We invite all Local 90 retirees to join us at any of our meetings. We meet at 2 North Plains Industrial Rd., Wallingford, CT, on the first Tuesday of each month (except July

and August), at 1:30 p.m.

In closing, it is with great sadness that I report to you that our past Retirees Club president Richard "Rip" Kirby passed away on April 7. Our sincere condolences go out to his entire family. He will be missed by all.

Richard Launder, P.S.

Annual Breakfast Well-Attended

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 99, PROVIDENCE, RI—The Local 99 Retirees Club held its Annual May Breakfast this year on May 16 at the union hall in Cranston, RI. Ninety-seven members attended the event.

At the springtime breakfast gathering, Stephen Farina gave the invocation and blessing. Food was catered by Ralph's Catering in Cranston. We thank Bus. Mgr. Michael Daley and Local 99 for their support.

The retirees congratulate Bobby Bearwood on his retirement and his move to North Carolina. We also wish Joe McCarthy a healthy recovery from his recent operation.

The next Retirees Club meeting will be in September. At the time of this writing, Ken Marandola had scheduled three summer fishing trips leaving from the Port of Galilee.

Frank J. Colucci, P.S.

Service Awards Presentation

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 113, COLORADO SPRINGS, CO—Members of Local 113 gathered at the union hall for a dinner and service-pin presentation to honor members for their years of service. [Photo at bottom, left.] In total, 349 members were eligible for service awards, representing 7,880 years of service.

Thirty of those service-pin recipients had 50 or more years of service!

- 50-year pins were presented to: Sam Allen, Bill Campbell, Mel Cave, Thomas Farmer, Earl Garner, Walter Moos, Robert Palmer, Gunter Schneider and Archie Scott.
- 55-year pins were awarded to: Robert Andrews, Robert Cox, John Dake, Roger Fletcher, Donald Fuhs, Fred Mauch, John McNamara, John Middle and William J. Smith.
- 60-year pins were presented to: Jim Blanc, Phil Hunt, Al Kunau, Randall Newendyke, Edwin Perschbacher, Norman Pledger, Ray Sears, Andy Stone and Rolland Wilcox.
- A 65-year pin was awarded to Keith Wiley.

The officers, staff and members congratulate all the pin recipients for their longtime, dedicated service to our union, our industry and our community.

Bill Campbell, P.S.

'An Afternoon at the Theatre'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 124, KANSAS CITY, MO—The Local 124 Retirees Club spring event hosted 35 retirees, their wives and friends as they took in a concert at the Quality Hill Playhouse. The performance, "What They Did for Love," included Broadway hit



At Local 113 service awards presentation are: back row, Local 113 Pres. Brian Bradley (left), John McNamara, John Middle, Robert Palmer, Sam Allen, Earl Garner, Al Kunau, Edwin Perschbacher, Keith Wiley, Phil Hunt and Local 113 Bus. Mgr. Mike Ham; front row, Ray Sears, Randall Newendyke, Jim Blanc, Gunter Schneider and Archie Scott.



Members of Local 124 Retirees' Club and their guests enjoy an afternoon at the theatre.

songs of Marvin Hamlisch and Burt Bacharach, movie theme songs and other songs that we all knew way back when and can still appreciate today.

It was a very enjoyable afternoon and everyone came away with their spirits lifted. Thanks to retired member and former financial secretary Denny Liston for the help securing the tickets and making transportation arrangements.

We remember the following deceased members: Emmett P. Altis, Robert E. Brink, Marion W. Felkins, Larry E. Hampton, Stephen J. Hruska, William C. Kendall Sr.

Congratulations to the following recently retired members: William L. Baker, Bobby L. Evans, Thomas M. Ferman, Dennis K. Hatch, David H. Hill, Jack E. Joyce, Paul J. Joyce, Kenneth E. Kenyon, Thomas K. Lockwood, Michael R. McGill, Vincent A. Mannino, Michael D. Rimel, Gary E. Staatz and Charles S. Yaeger.

Ken Starr, P.S.



Local 130 Retirees Club Sec. Durel Legendre (left), retiring president George Clesi (center), and newly appointed Pres. Rodney Dupuis.

'A Job Well-Done'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 130, NEW ORLEANS, LA—On May 13, we held our annual Crawfish Boil in the Alexander Room. Over 100 people attended. As usual, the crawfish were great; there was an abundance of "mudbugs" to be eaten.

At our regular meeting on March 26, our president, George Clesi, decided to retire and enjoy our meetings as a spectator. After a long and successful term as president, George certainly has earned his retirement. However, he will still be offering his years of experience to us. On behalf of all the members we say: "Thank you, George, for a job well-done!"

At the April board meeting, Bro. Rodney Dupuis was appointed as club president. All other positions were filled by incumbents. On June 25, we held our

quarterly meeting, with 70 in attendance. At this meeting, the president's gavel was transferred. [Photo at center, left.]

Rodney T. Dupuis, Pres.

Annual Luncheon Honors Longtime IBEW Members

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 134, CHICAGO, IL—On June 10, our annual luncheon honored our 50-, 55-, 60- and 65-year members with live musical entertainment and photo taking. Congratulations to these longtime IBEW members. The celebrants are as follows:

50-year members—Nick Alex, John M. Armstrong, Robert W. Crock, Ronald C. Gibson, Richard C. Leonatti, William T. Lindahi, James E. McMahon, Daniel G. Meyer, James H. Schultz, Nickolas P. Speziale, Richard Swanson and Vito Terenzio;

55-year members—Robert Burzek, Richard C. Casale, James J. Fliris, Richard A. Grove, Steven C. Lindskoog, Arthur D. Minsky, James F. Popp, Roger C. Spike, Michael B. Tuner and Michael P. Wilkiel;

60-year members—Marvin W. Ball, Peter C. Canuso, Ronald Fibiger, Sam Guzzo, John F. Jeeger, James D. Kassner, Jerome F. Koch, Eugene Lewaniak, Ronald H. Marsden, Daniel J. McNamara, Robert J. Mersch, Kenneth W. Mueller, George E. Randle, Wayne H. Schroeder, James P. Walsh, Claude A. Wolcott and Donald F. Yara; 65-year members—Edward J. Dewbary, Daniel M. Fegan, Joseph D. Keenan and Henry J. Mueller.

It is with deepest regret that I report the death of Louis Andreoni on Feb. 16 this year. Bro. Andreoni was a 50-year IBEW member. May he rest in peace.

Louis Rodriguez, P.S.



Local 134 longtime members and retirees are honored at annual luncheon.

'Brothers are Remembered'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 212, CINCINNATI, OH—With deepest regret, I report the passing into eternity of four members: Bros. James "Jim" Zeinner, a 56-year IBEW member; Corwin Paris, 25-year member; Clifford North, 36-year member; and Albert Ihle, 46-year member.

Bro. Zeinner was also a signatory contractor for several years. His sons Jim, John and Doug are members of Local 212.

Bro. Ihle, a dear friend of mine, suffered with deteriorating health for a decade. A U.S. Air Force veteran, Al had a keen sense of humor and an infectious laugh. Al and Jean, his wife of 46 years, retired to Vero Beach, FL, in 1996. Our departed brothers are gone, but never forgotten. Farewell, dear brothers; may you rest in God's hands, near to His heart.

At the May Retirees Club meeting, six members were awarded service pins. Ray Kathman received his 60-year pin. Awarded 55-year pins were: Al Niederhelman, Tom Ruehl and Ray Schoster. A 50-year pin went to Fred Holthaus. The late Bro. Fred Kaufman was posthumously awarded a 60-year pin. Congratulations to all for your accomplishments.

Welcome to new members: Mike Kiefer, Terry Elfers and Nick Abernathy.

The annual club picnic was July 1. Bros. Jim McNerney, Earl Stalf and Danny Johnson, all 90+ years old and in good health, were among the 135 members and guests in attendance. Danny was visiting Cincinnati from his home in Florida.

Bob Schaefer, P.S.



Local 257 Retirees Club members attend July luncheon/meeting.

Labor Day Parade

RETIREES CLUB OF LU 257, JEFFERSON CITY, MO—On July 28 we held our luncheon/meeting at Westphalia, MO, and as usual the meal was enjoyed by all.

For our summer trip, Juanita Fischer made arrangements for us to see a play in August at the Lyceum Theater in Arrow Rock, MO. Bill Lang made arrangements for lunch at the 87 Diner before the play. At this writing, we were all looking forward to the trip.

Because of so much rain in the spring and summer months, it seems that many of us weren't able to get gardens out and those who did had little to show for it. And now the fall season approaches and winter will be around the corner again.

With the help of many of our members, along with Jerry Rehagen's offer of the use of his truck, our next event as of press time was to get a retirees' float ready for the Labor Day parade in Jefferson City.

Delores Melloway, P.S.

Sarnia Happenings

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 530, SARNIA, ONTARIO, CANADA—As I reported in our club's March 2015 article, the office of club president and secretary-treasurer changed hands in November 2014, and I wish to touch briefly on the two men who served us so well for the past 13 years.

Bohdan Kohut, our past president, took up the



Local 530 Retirees Club former president Bohdan Kohut (left) and former secretary-treasurer Ed McCormack.

RETIREES

tools of the trade when he was only 18 years old. He served as president of Local 530 for several years. He also has the distinction of having four sons and three grandsons follow him into the trade, all members of IBEW Local 530. At the Christmas Banquet in 2014, Bo received his 55-year service pin.

Edward McCormack, our past secretary-treasurer, also started working at the trade at a very young age and spent his entire career working in the Sarnia area. Ed also received his 55-year service pin in December 2014.

I must mention that Bo's wife, Marie, and Ed's wife, Carol, worked alongside these two men, helping to research and organize the countless events and outings we attended through these years.

Thirteen years of organizing and making our club run well is no small feat. So, once again, thanks to Bo and Ed—from the membership.

Nancy Stinson Philbin, P.S.

man, Charles W. Atkinson, James Hicks and Kenneth T. Miller. Our condolences also go out to the families of Christopher A. Tester and Richard Stafki.

Tracy Hall, Pres.

'Come Join Us'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 995, BATON ROUGE, LA—On the first Monday in June we held our meeting and luncheon for members and spouses.

We had a good turnout with about 30 spouses also attending. The food was great and everyone seemed to enjoy the social. [Photo at bottom, left.]

We are still looking for new members to join us. The meetings are the first Monday of every month. If you are a retired IBEW member come join us.

W. Roland Goetzman, P.S.

Reno-Sparks Retirees Donate Fans to Low-Income Seniors

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 1245, VACAVILLE, CA, RENO-SPARKS CHAPTER—In the Reno-Sparks area of Nevada, triple-digit temperatures in late summer aren't uncommon. Unfortunately, many seniors cannot afford to pay for air conditioning, and the sweltering heat makes summertime uncomfortable and downright dangerous for low-income seniors.

After seeing a local TV station urging individuals to donate electric fans for seniors, IBEW Local 1245 retiree and Reno-Sparks Retirees Club Pres. Ron Borst challenged the other members of his retirees club to get involved in the effort. He called on the IBEW retirees to bring fans to the group's monthly meeting in July. The retirees only had three days' notice but managed to bring in 21 fans, which they donated to Washoe County Senior Services, an organization that provides support and resources to low-income seniors in the Reno-Sparks area.

"We're the lucky ones," Borst said. "We had a good union contract to work under and now we have a good retirement. And if we can help others out who weren't so fortunate ... that's what we should do."

Ron Borst, Pres.



IBEW Local 1245, Reno-Sparks Chapter, Retirees Club members donated 21 electric fans to Washoe County Senior Services.

At Workers Memorial Day event, from left: Local 611 Bus Mgr. Carl Condit, Retirees Club Pres. Tracy Hall, Asst. Bus. Agent Pete Trujillo, E-Board member Baudio Baca, retirees James Moran and Brian Dougall.

Thanks to Foodbank Volunteers

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 611, ALBUQUERQUE, NM—Local 611 retirees volunteered their time at the first Roadrunner Food Bank distribution, held in April, May, June and July in the local's parking lot. Food was distributed to some 150-200 needy families. Retirees assisting with the project included: Brian Dougall, Tracy Hall, James Moran, Joe Romero and Adolfo "Al" Trujillo.

Union members, including retirees, attended a Workers Memorial Day event in April at the Memorial Park. Every year on April 28, Workers Memorial Day is observed to remember and honor workers who were injured or have died on the job.

In May four retired members, their wives, and Asst. Bus. Mgr. Pete Trujillo attended the annual Rank-and-File Heroes Banquet, sponsored by the New Mexico Central Labor Council. The council recognizes and gives certificates to union members who have given special time and talents in the past year for labor unions.

An historical scrapbook of pictures and Local 611 events is now available for viewing at all future regular union meetings. But you need to attend the union meetings, held the third Saturday of each month, in order to see the contents.

We offer our condolences to the families of several retirees who recently passed away: Robert L. Wicox, Fred W. Ringe, James W. Hold-



Local 995 Retirees Club members gather for a meeting.

IT'S TIME FOR

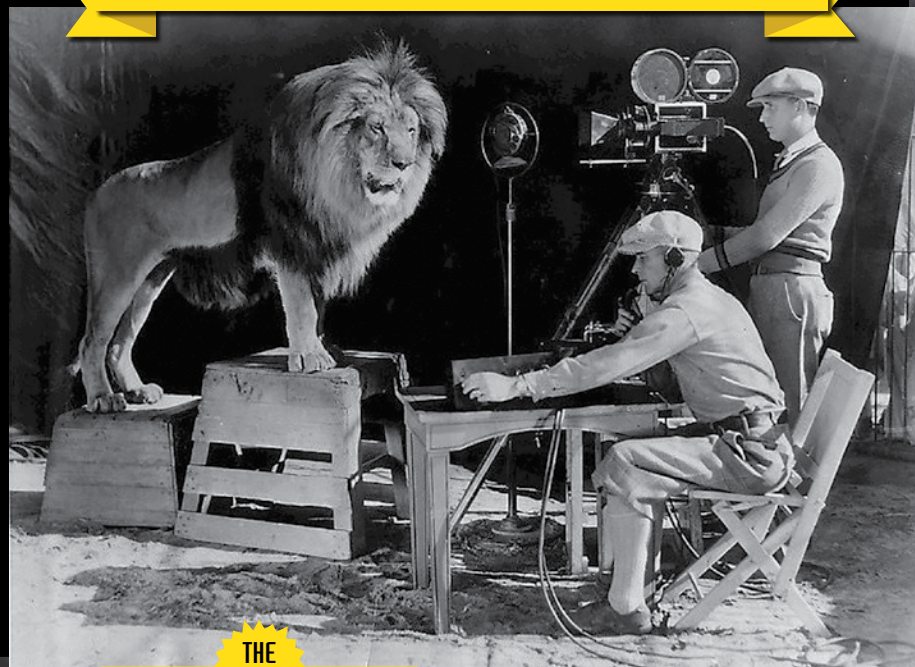


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IBEW'S PHOTO 2015 Contest

Enter Today!

Deadline: Nov. 30

1st Place: \$200

2nd Place: \$150

3rd Place: \$100

Honorable Mention: \$50

What makes a good photo? Is it the lighting or the contrast? Is it the colors or the subject? Maybe it's the story that's being told through the photo. Who better to convey the experiences and stories of IBEW membership through photography than members themselves?

For more than 16 years members of the IBEW from all over the U.S. and Canada have sent in images of their work. They capture shots that exemplify who we are as one of the largest and highly-skilled unions in the world. Now it's your turn.

Photo Contest Rules:

1. The contest is open to active or retired IBEW members only. The person submitting the photo must be the person who took the photograph. Members may enter more than one photo.
2. International Officers and staff are not eligible.
3. Photos can be submitted as digital files of at least 300 dpi, in color or black and white, on slides or prints. The preferred print size is 8"x10". For more guidance on electronic photo sizes, go to www.ibew.org. Click on the Photo Contest button, and see the "Contest Rules and Photo Guidelines."
4. All submissions become the property of the IBEW Media Department.
5. Photo entries must have an IBEW theme of some sort, with IBEW members at work, engaged in a union-related activity or subjects conveying images of the electrical industry or the union.
6. If members are featured in the photo, they should be identified. If large groups are pictured, the name of the group or the purpose of the gathering (e.g. a safety committee, a linemen's rodeo, a union meeting) can be submitted in place of individual names.
7. Photos previously published in IBEW publications or the website are not eligible for submission.
8. The preferred method of entry is through the Photo Contest application on the IBEW website at www.ibew.org.
9. 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.
10. Fifteen finalists will be selected and posted on www.ibew.org for final judging by the public. The winners will be featured in an upcoming issue of the Electrical Worker.

Contest Entry Form

Name _____

Address _____

City and state _____

Zip code _____

Phone number _____

E-mail address _____

Local union number _____ IBEW card number _____

Photo description _____

In Memoriam

Members for Whom PBF Death Claims were Approved in July 2015

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	Foster, G. P.	5/28/15	46	Wallner, O. K.	2/12/15	134	Koehler, R. L.	6/9/15	343	Sivertson, B. M.	5/13/15	531	Greer, L. E.	5/11/15	975	Condon, C. W.	3/10/15
1	Jansen, V. W.	12/22/14	47	Padilla, R. A.	2/19/15	134	Koseck, E. N.	6/7/15	343	Trapp, J. G.	5/19/15	538	Shaw, C. W.	4/13/15	993	Forster, A.	2/10/15
1	Linderer, J. D.	4/19/15	48	Bauer, D. R.	5/15/15	134	McDonald, J. A.	4/3/15	349	Pearman, G. L.	6/20/15	540	Booth, B. L.	4/21/15	993	Schweigert, J.	12/20/14
1	Stein, D.	6/3/15	48	Butler, O.	5/3/15	134	Messina, F.	6/8/15	349	Skinner, W. R.	9/11/14	558	Brooks, W. D.	5/11/15	1002	Lawrence, P. D.	12/28/14
1	Zimmermann, N. C.	6/13/15	48	Holthusen, M. A.	4/6/15	134	Mudro, B. L.	4/17/15	349	Watkins, J. R.	2/1/15	558	Campbell, E. A.	5/31/15	1077	King, S. L.	5/28/15
2	Craft, J. L.	5/17/15	48	Simonson, N. A.	6/10/15	134	Naumann, T. B.	5/20/15	350	McCarty, G. R.	3/21/15	558	Pepper, J. P.	5/12/15	1147	Ashbeck, J. A.	4/20/15
2	Hunter, N. J.	1/15/15	48	Wampler, W. C.	5/21/15	134	O'Connell, T. J.	5/16/15	351	Burgin, M. D.	4/28/15	558	Welch, J. F.	3/3/15	1151	Minor, J.	12/1/14
3	Adams, K. V.	5/31/15	48	Zimmerman, B. N.	4/27/15	134	Reese, I.	5/15/15	351	Krautwald, R. A.	11/27/14	568	Dallaire, R.	12/22/14	1186	Ishikawa, H. S.	4/24/15
3	Brown, T. J.	1/17/15	51	Doty, T. H.	6/15/15	134	Tongren, H. G.	5/23/15	353	Bar, J. E.	5/25/15	568	Ferland, J.	1/30/15	1205	Hickey, L. A.	11/28/13
3	Daverese, N. N.	2/18/15	51	Giles, G. D.	6/3/15	134	Witt, D. B.	3/28/15	353	Challice, R.	5/26/15	568	Gros-Louis, A. V.	4/4/15	1205	Rinaudo, B.	6/2/15
3	Dean, T. G.	5/19/15	51	Schulz, D. L.	6/9/15	134	Zavislak, E. A.	2/26/15	353	Gill, R. H.	5/27/15	569	Bohl, J. P.	5/14/15	1205	Ward, C.	11/12/14
3	Gutierrez, S. L.	6/2/15	51	Severns, D.	6/6/15	134	Zerfass, R. B.	5/30/15	353	Kraljevic, M.	10/5/13	569	Crissman, R. C.	11/18/14	1212	Kockler, W. C.	5/14/15
3	Hess, J.	6/10/15	53	Rust, W. E.	5/13/15	136	Cockrell, H. W.	5/9/15	353	Lovejoy, D. A.	6/11/14	569	Jessup, T. S.	2/3/15	1245	Bailey, M. C.	5/18/15
3	Holland, J. M.	5/11/15	56	Hauck, T. J.	6/8/15	136	Eddings, R. F.	2/1/15	353	Mortimore, C. M.	6/22/15	569	Thorpe, W. J.	6/17/15	1245	Martin, J. D.	12/25/14
3	Krasinski, L.	12/5/14	56	Sliter, M. A.	8/26/14	136	Hollis, N. C.	4/16/15	353	Noseworthy, R.	5/30/15	573	Brown, J. D.	5/5/15	1249	Sitterly, H. L.	5/15/15
3	Lepurage, P. M.	4/10/15	57	Greathouse, J. D.	11/11/13	136	Pearl, D. F.	5/9/15	353	Postello, C.	6/21/15	577	Hopkins, E.	4/10/15	1250	Brewer, A. L.	4/9/15
3	Liso, G.	6/1/15	58	Burger, R. J.	6/16/15	136	Waldrop, W. C.	4/16/15	353	Ritchie, D. A.	6/10/15	577	Korth, G. W.	6/1/15	1319	Bassett, E. R.	5/27/15
3	Mecca, D. J.	12/13/14	58	Cockfield, A. W.	5/16/15	139	Bedner, E.	2/27/15	353	Sellon, G. E.	6/8/15	577	Neuenfeldt, W. H.	1/18/15	1319	Dennis, V. T.	4/23/15
3	Moore, A. J.	5/22/15	58	Ehrler, D. J.	4/16/15	143	Habecker, C. E.	3/28/15	353	Skrinjar, B.	5/12/15	584	Bryan, D. L.	5/16/15	1377	Vilimonovic, M.	5/1/15
3	Paolucci, D.	5/4/15	58	Mattson, C. R.	3/6/15	143	Hummel, R. H.	5/26/15	353	Thajer, W. J.	5/20/15	584	Campbell, J. W.	5/21/15	1393	Engelhaupt, J. F.	4/8/15
3	Prout, D. G.	6/23/15	58	Preece, E. A.	5/9/15	145	Adams, D.	6/18/15	353	Vosters, J.	6/21/15	595	Eaton, F. E.	1/19/15	1426	Matuska, L.	11/29/14
3	Rodgers, J. A.	6/14/15	58	Reid, J. A.	1/9/15	145	Untiedt, L. H.	5/14/15	353	Williams, F.	5/19/15	595	Rasmussen, J. L.	1/22/15	1525	Tvrs, G. W.	4/3/15
3	Schenone, J. A.	6/14/15	60	Wahl, G. H.	5/25/15	146	Grisson, M. S.	5/4/15	354	Hodson, C. W.	5/12/15	601	Dillman, C. L.	3/7/15	1547	Haywood, M. M.	12/26/14
3	Shorr, C.	5/31/15	66	Kay, M. J.	3/17/15	150	Williams, R. M.	4/1/15	357	Begley, J. H.	5/10/15	602	Reese, L. A.	6/8/15	1547	Rizer, K. I.	6/1/15
3	Spinetta, E.	5/17/15	66	Yoakum, S. H.	6/7/15	159	Wieczorek, D. E.	5/4/15	357	Drollinger, E.	6/3/15	606	Hodges, L. P.	6/4/15	1547	Warner, J. S.	6/3/15
3	Thomas, D.	6/8/15	68	Burger, B. L.	5/22/15	159	Williams, N. L.	5/30/15	357	Gattuso, D. J.	2/27/15	606	Langanke, G. G.	9/13/06	1579	Hammett, W. W.	5/13/15
5	Ritts, H. A.	5/14/15	68	Deckert, A. R.	6/3/15	160	Zontelli, R. T.	3/26/15	357	Williams, D. L.	5/22/15	611	Simmons, H. O.	5/12/15	1579	Outley, H. M.	4/27/15
5	Rumburg, N. G.	6/29/15	68	Ferrari, J. M.	2/7/15	163	Walsh, T. J.	5/24/15	363	Marvel, W.	4/6/15	613	Aldridge, G. E.	5/6/15	1701	Rouse, J. D.	4/5/15
5	Taylor, J. P.	6/1/15	68	Miller, J. R.	2/26/15	164	Gentiluomo, P. P.	4/21/15	363	Pucino, N. A.	5/15/15	613	Chitwood, D. L.	6/21/15	1908	McGuill, O. J.	6/4/15
6	Szykowny, J. A.	6/9/15	68	Thompson, T. D.	5/22/15	164	Higgins, P. D.	6/16/15	364	Brouhard, R. L.	3/8/15	613	Langley, J. M.	3/7/15	1996	Wilson, C. E.	6/20/15
8	Niday, D. E.	6/10/15	70	Douglass, T. P.	5/15/15	164	Nogalo, J. F.	5/22/15	369	Duckwall, H. A.	5/16/15	613	Ruff, B. S.	1/13/15	2085	Bale, D. J.	2/7/15
9	Carlson, D. C.	5/24/15	70	Porter, D. K.	3/15/15	164	Pappicco, G.	6/11/15	369	Hardt, K. G.	4/7/15	613	Wade, D. R.	6/2/15	2085	Horzempa, L. J.	5/5/15
9	Pearce, E. A.	11/20/14	71	Starnes, S. S.	6/14/15	175	Angel, N. F.	6/20/15	369	Hayden, M. R.	5/4/15	617	Emerson, G. J.	1/24/15	2221	Goettler, G. J.	4/15/15
11	Busby, C. M.	5/15/15	76	Swift, B. M.	5/9/15	175	Branham, S. P.	2/10/15	369	McDonald, R. W.	5/11/15	618	Czapla, S. F.	5/4/15	2330	Barry, R. C.	12/10/14
11	Delashmutt, L. W.	3/22/15	77	Bockman, G. H.	4/20/15	175	Bush, C. B.	12/15/13	375	Ritter, T. A.	2/2/15	625	Conrad, C. A.	5/22/15	I.O. (3)	Kwitkin, D.	4/13/15
11	Gohdes, D. R.	5/23/15	77	Hatley, A. C.	6/2/15	175	Estes, J. M.	4/2/15	379	Bentley, M. E.	6/15/15	639	Fink, M. D.	3/30/15	I.O. (5)	Mazon, G. R.	5/15/15
11	Johnson, W. R.	5/8/15	77	Otto, R. D.	6/4/15	175	Foster, R. R.	4/12/15	387	Alvis, G. R.	4/21/15	640	Gonzalez, P. L.	4/30/15	I.O. (5)	Weber, W. F.	4/18/15
11	Jones, R. H.	3/13/15	77	Peel, T. L.	5/8/15	175	Lewis, T. H.	4/6/15	387	Gray, B. S.	12/29/14	640	Robison, C. T.	6/14/15	I.O. (26)	Gerardi, E. J.	1/26/15
11	Lenik, A. M.	2/28/15	77	Pierson, E. J.	4/26/15	175	Veal, R. D.	5/17/15	400	Ford, J. R.	5/29/15	659	Lopez, A. Z.	5/2/15	I.O. (134)	Wrobell, M. A.	5/21/15
11	Mills, H. E.	6/9/15	77	Schmidt, K. L.	3/9/15	175	White, J. L.	6/1/15	401	Hines, M. N.	10/30/14	661	Ayre, D. L.	6/14/15	I.O. (814)	Laughlin, J. D.	5/16/15
11	Waggener, G. R.	4/26/13	80	Woodhouse, J. J.	5/1/15	177	Hires, C. W.	4/14/15	405	Edgar, R. E.	6/19/15	666	Hall, B. L.	6/20/15	I.O. (841)	Butler, R. K.	5/26/15
11	Woods, L. M.	5/29/15	86	Conway, D. P.	5/29/15	180	Harmon, J.	6/6/15	405	Knoblauch, C. M.	6/21/15	666	Horn, R. H.	6/3/15	Pens. (88)	Osborne, J. E.	5/15/15
14	Richardson, J. A.	5/4/15	90	Bergus, S.	4/19/15	191	Neff, J. W.	4/17/15	405	Voss, D. D.	6/11/15	666	Pettway, M. K.	5/7/15	Pens. (242)	Boser, R. L.	4/26/15
15	Dagens, S. T.	5/31/15	97	O'Keefe, J. E.	1/20/15	193	Weiskopf, E. F.	6/16/15	413	Rozok, D.	5/14/15	667	Garrison, R. E.	2/24/15	Pens. (561)	Charland, D.	2/15/15
15	Fitzmaurice, D. F.	5/5/15	98	Clay, J. C.	5/1/15	196	Beck, C. E.	5/5/15	424	Jones, J. W.	6/19/15	681	Neely, B. F.	5/7/15	Pens. (835)	Elliott, C.	6/11/15
17	Makela, M. J.	5/27/15	98	Martin, C. E.	12/31/14	212	Paris, C. L.	5/20/15	424	Nelson, B. C.	3/20/15	683	Ballard, R.	5/14/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Anderson, S.	1/24/15
17	Schleicher, W.	6/16/15	98	Pfleger, J. R.	6/6/15	213	Brown, R. B.	10/28/14	424	Randles, C. K.	5/12/15	683	Cumbow, C. F.	5/23/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Bardelli, A.	1/4/15
17	Zimmerman, G. R.	12/11/14	98	Randall, R. R.	6/21/15	213	Ferguson, R.	2/9/15	424	Springstein, D. L.	3/6/15	683	Farmer, M. L.	5/12/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Bateman, C. K.	5/8/15
18	Parke, D. K.	3/22/15	98	Righter, E. J.	5/3/15	213	Rennie, L. W.	8/8/14	428	Howard, G. F.	6/19/15	683	Paini, D. R.	5/24/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Beecher, R. W.	4/24/15
20	Banks, W. P.	11/19/14	98	Spektor, E.	3/14/15	213	Serek, C. K.	4/18/15	429	Cook, M. D.	3/25/15	683	Toth, S. E.	5/28/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Bowren, R. E.	3/23/15
20	Dillard, A. S.	5/10/15	98	Stenack, F.	5/2/15	213	Uremovic, J. G.	4/30/15	429	Crane, R. H.	6/26/15	684	Schwerdtfeger, D. W.	4/19/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Bradley, I. S.	6/2/15
20	Roten, W. L.	5/12/15	98	Tubin, M. E.	4/12/15	219	Sorvisto, W. E.	5/26/15	430	Ericksen, J.	4/30/15	692	Konwinski, A. W.	4/24/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Brozek, W. A.	5/4/15
21	Vetrovec, M. O.	5/23/15	98	Walsh, M. J.	5/22/15	223	Franchi, J. G.	5/5/15	440	Ortiz, S.	4/4/15	692	Ranke, O.	2/22/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Campbell, J. W.	5/6/15
22	Bourne, J. P.	6/2/15	102	Kelly, H. T.	5/4/15	226	Fowler, J.	5/22/15	441	Chapman, C.	3/5/15	697	Crandall, D. D.	4/8/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Clineff, A. D.	3/22/15
22	Karnish, E. A.	5/25/15	102	Sigler, W. L.	5/4/15	230	Walker, C. D.	4/28/15	441	Grinstead, G. S.	11/5/14	697	Nedberg, O. M.	4/9/15	Pens. (I.O.)	DeRamus, R. O.	6/6/15
22	Polson, H. C.	5/18/15	103	Bent, R. G.	6/12/15	236	Del Signore, P. A.	5/17/15	441	Hepper, G. H.	5/8/15	697	Truchan, J. F.	6/17/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Goodman, G. F.	5/16/15
22	Warren, D. L.	6/7/15	103	Clark, J. J.	8/1/14	236	Mroz, J. A.	5/27/15	441	Igoe, S. J.	4/19/15	697	Wajvoda, R. C.	6/10/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Keller, C. L.	3/5/15
24	Cook, G. L.	5/8/15	103	Cotter, T. B.	3/27/15	238	Myles, J. L.	6/3/15	441	Peterson, L. W.	8/21/13	701	Wolverton, M. J.	4/18/15	Pens. (I.O.)	King, R. A.	5/11/14
24	Hinton, D. E.	4/20/15	103	DeCristoforo, E.	5/15/15	242	Lindstrom, A. H.	10/29/14	449	Gibson, J. E.	5/10/15	712	Spon, W. H.	7/23/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Klein, F. M.	6/1/15
25	Draper, E. R.	5/24/15	103	Doran, R. A.	3/6/15	245	Lockwood, W. J.	4/10/15	449	Roskelley, B. J.	6/15/15	712	Todd, R. V.	6/16/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Lacasse, R.	3/30/15
25	Efimetz, P. P.	6/10/15	103	Furbush, D. P.	5/5/15	245	Masters, C. E.	5/25/15	453	Sears, T. G.	6/6/15	716	Donald, B. D.	4/18/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Lang, W. H.	6/5/15
25	Lehmann, F. A.	5/24/15	103	Sharkey, B. T.	5/1/15	252	Gauss, K. J.	6/1/15	456	Buck, L. M.	6/4/15	716	Trapp, B. B.	3/30/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Lorenz, E. G.	5/5/15
25	Mejo, W.	6/2/15	103	Showstead, D. A.	5/25/15	258	Epp, V.	1/8/15	464	McKnight, R. O.	3/27/15	725	Gregory, N.	5/15/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Madden, M. E.	4/2/15
25	Roppelt, G. R.	5/27/15	104	Petrie, J. R.	4/1/15	258	Haston, W.	4/30/15	474	Clemmer, W. L.	5/27/15	725	Hill, E. L.	3/30/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Medlicott, J. V.	9/4/14
26	Baldwin, T. A.	4/6/15	105	Turner, G. E.	6/15/15	258	Westby, M. C.	5/28/15	474	Goedecke, E. F.	5/8/15	760	Bolton, F. E.	6/15/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Myers, J.	5/17/15
26	Neuland, J. K.	6/6/15	108	Smith, E. B.	5/18/15												



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:

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FROM THE OFFICERS

Excellence Shines at Florida Power



Lonnie R. Stephenson
International President

I was in Florida on Aug. 31, joining local union and company leaders to celebrate the success of the utility Code of Excellence adopted four years ago by the 11 local unions of System Council U-04 and Florida Power and Light.

There's no better place than Florida to demonstrate the transformative power of IBEW's commitment to excellence on the job.

But the Code of Excellence was never meant to be a secret weapon. So, IBEW and FPL came together to show the Sunshine State's citizens, including FPL ratepayers and unorganized workers, what the Brotherhood's skill and commitment is all about.

Our locals and FPL have come a long way. Hurricane season just might be a metaphor for the stormy relationship between the parties before the adoption of the Code of Excellence in 2011.

Negotiations on a new contract had dragged on for 16 months before it was signed in 2009. Then unilateral company staffing changes and layoffs led to plummeting morale.

Locals filed over 1,500 grievances. Tragically, job safety deteriorated. Things needed to change.

The distrust that resulted led IBEW to initiate the Code of Excellence on its own, training officers, job stewards and members in the program. In time, FPL saw the success of the program and its potential to reduce accidents. The company agreed to enable training during working hours.

Four years later, the grievance backlog has fallen below 150. And OSHA reportable accidents have fallen by 50 percent. Morale is enhanced. Lives have been saved.

It was an honor to see this progress firsthand and salute the men and women who made this happen, the folks on both sides who held one another accountable to the highest standards of their industry.

I joined them in proudly affixing our Code of Excellence stickers onto their service trucks and their hard hats. Now, I look forward to hearing about new waves of goodwill and respect that will roll across the state letting citizens know what we have known all our lives: IBEW workers are the customers' very best choice and the workers' strongest advocate in everything we do, everywhere we go. ■

Respect Apprenticeship

We make a mistake in the labor movement when we talk about apprenticeship as an alternative to higher education. I have often heard people say that apprenticeships are an excellent fallback for people not cut out for college.

Baloney.

Apprenticeship is not an alternative to higher education, it IS higher education. When our apprentices top out and get their journey license, they are prepared—safely and productively—to harness the power generated by holding back rivers, splitting the atom or the sun itself. We can put it to good use and go home safely at the end of every day.

That is not higher education?

If union-run apprenticeships were a university system, they would be the third largest in the U.S. Every year AFL-CIO apprenticeships educate 450,000 men and women with no government subsidies or loan programs. Only the state university systems of Ohio (520,000) and New York (468,000) are larger.

And our graduates leave job-ready, without debt and holding a paycheck.

Apprenticeships should no longer be left out of the national conversation about making higher education more accessible and affordable. There are some excellent ideas, worthy of our support, which would share some of the cost of apprenticeships across an economy that benefits from them.

For example, a bill introduced by Sens. Maria Cantwell of Washington and Kirsten Gillibrand of New York would give a \$5,000 training tax credit for every qualified apprentice a health care, manufacturing or technology company hires. It is not surprising that a senator from Washington would introduce the bill. A 2015 study issued by the state's workforce board found \$23 in economic benefit for every \$1 of state money supporting apprenticeships.

A separate bill sponsored by New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker and Sen. Tim Scott of South Carolina would give a \$1,000 tax credit to any company that hires an apprentice over age 25 and \$1,500 for apprentices under 25.

It makes simple sense. It is long overdue. Apprentices deserve not only our country's respect but its support. ■



Salvatore J. Chilia
International Secretary-Treasurer

“LETTERS TO THE EDITOR”

IBEW's Public Servants

I read with great pride the article about all of the IBEW members who have been elected to public office. The IBEW is one of the most politically engaged unions in the country and, I'm happy to say, we will soon have one more member in office.

Riverside, Calif., Local 440 Business Manager Robert Frost retired recently to run for the California Assembly. Bob joined Local 440 35 years ago after his tour of duty in the Navy. He's been in a position of leadership with the local since 1988. The number of union and government committees he has served on are far too numerous to name but do include being an executive board member of the Workforce Investment Board and chairman of the Riverside County Office of Education Foundation.

Bob has pledged to use his real-world experience as an educator, business manager and veteran to champion policies that support middle-class families. As a lifelong advocate for working families, his leadership will make a genuine difference in Sacramento as he fights for working-class people. To learn more go to Frost4Assembly.com or his Facebook page **Robert Frost for Assembly**. Contributions are gratefully accepted.

*Chuck McDaniel, Local 440 member
Riverside, Calif.*

This I Believe

I recently attended the IBEW Market Driven Contracting class in Baltimore. I'd like to share something I wrote on a piece of paper while there, which I still carry in my wallet:

- I Believe in myself.
- I Believe in my Brothers and Sisters.
- I Believe in the IBEW.

*Tony DeLeon, Local 280 member
Salem, Ore.*

Generations of Electricity

Granddad was a member,
when I was just a girl,
of the fastest growing local
in this part of our world.

Then dad became a member
When the local was still young
And we learned electrician's lingo
Union life had now begun.

Today we lived in our home town,
Tomorrow-packed and gone
A "traveler" dad called himself
When we were not at home.

Just when things would seem quite dull
Dad would swing right in and say
"Let's get packed up and head for home
For I "drug up" today."

Well, you'd think to have this background
I'd look for something new
But, no, I went and married
A local member, too.

He did his share of "traveling"
of "dragging up" and wow!
Nothing more exciting
Than a two months "turnaround."

Life always was exciting
Elections, strikes, negotiating
With the sure knowledge that tomorrow
A better job was waiting.

And so, three generations of my men
Have lived the electrician's way
Granddad, dad and husband
No regrets along the way.

One's retired, the other thinking
Upon that way of life
And, one day, I, too, will be
A retired electrician's wife.

And I guess I'll still have an interest
In the electrician's future way
For my son, fourth generation,
Chose that after graduation day.

Who knows, maybe someday
I'll still be alive
To watch my grandson serve our local
Making it generation five.

*Wife of Calvin Cloutre Sr., Local 995 retiree
Baton Rouge, La.*

WHO WE ARE

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



Retirees from across the country attend the Alliance for Retired Americans conference in Washington, D.C. Carolyn J. Williams, left, William E. Carpenter, Thomas Bird, Richard Hutchinson, Mack Goodman, Rita Weissnar, Elson Garrett, International Representative Dan Gardner and Jerry Booth.

IBEW's Activist Retirees Come to Washington

IBEW members know how to mobilize, and that doesn't stop when they retire. They are a formidable force who know the issues that affect working families. They also vote, in large numbers. That's why they were in Washington, D.C., July 7-10 to attend a national conference of the Alliance for Retired Americans.

Coinciding with the 50th birthday of Medicare and Social Security's 80th, the conference included workshops on organizing retirees to defend and extend past gains, sessions on scams that rob them of their savings and a lobby day on Capitol Hill to win support for progressive legislation that supports retirees and working families. Presidential primary candidate Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont and Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren addressed delegates.

Established in 2001, ARA, which is financially supported by the AFL-CIO, is a nationwide grassroots movement advocating a progressive political and social agenda that respects workers and strengthens families.

Most retiree associations, says IBEW Civic and Community Engagement Department Director Carolyn Williams, focus on organizing dinners and other social events that help renew ties among former co-workers and their spouses. "That's an important part of staying engaged and active during one's later years. But just as important is doing what we can to protect the gains our union fought for and the future of our children and grandchildren. Affiliating with the ARA is a natural way to promote this activism."

William Carpenter, a retired Columbus, Ohio, Local 683 journeyman inside wireman, traveled to Washington to

attend the conference. Local 683 retirees, says Carpenter, have been politically engaged for decades. The local was once affiliated with the National Council of Senior Citizens, ARA's predecessor, formed in the 1960s during the John F. Kennedy administration to push for a national health care insurance plan.

'All of us are much stronger than one of us. It is important to stay engaged and active so that our voice is heard ...

*— Columbus, Ohio, Local 683 retiree
William Carpenter*

"My local has a strong and vibrant history of being politically active, keeping members informed of what they need to do to stay active and viable in these changing times," Carpenter says. "All of us are much stronger than one of us. It is important to stay engaged and active so that our voice is heard to uphold and expand all workers' rights."

Other IBEW members whose retiree associations have affiliated with ARA joined Carpenter and more than 400 other retirees, in 35 state chapters at the gathering.

Tom Bird, a retired NV energy journeyman lineman and member of Northern California-based Local 1245, is president of the Nevada alliance. "T Bird" earned his organizing chops as a die-hard activist in the 2009 struggle of retirees at NV Energy to protect their pensions and health care insurance from cuts. He went on to help

form the Reno retiree club of Local 1245.

Mack Goodman, a retired Denver Local 68 journeyman inside wireman and ARA regional board member, joined other IBEW delegates at a breakfast during the conference. Mayor of Thornton, Colo., he says he is confident that activism by ARA members and others will not only protect Social Security from cuts and privatization, but will succeed in expanding the program, as proposed in eight different bills in Congress.

"Things have to change in America," Goodman says. "With low wages and a high cost of living, more and more citizens don't have much chance of making it unless we organize."

One of the benefits of attending ARA conferences is the brainstorming that takes place about how to reach out and involve IBEW retirees, says Williams.

Elson Garrett, a retired inside journeyman wireman member of Huntington, W.Va., Local 317, says the local's retiree association invites speakers to address club meetings with information about legislation and policies affecting retirees.

But Garrett says, opportunities for union retirees to communicate with others are endless and can happen anywhere other retirees congregate, including at meetings of the American Legion and VFW and at churches and community centers.

IBEW experience is well represented on the ARA's staff, too. New England Senior Field Organizer Jennifer Kenny is a retired inside journeyman wireman member of Orlando, Fla., Local 606.

Local union retiree associations interested in the ARA may contact Director Carolyn Williams at Carolyn.Williams@ibew.org or 202-728-6204. ■

World War II battle site home to new members

Big Organizing Win on Tiny Pacific Atoll

Wake Island is hard to find on a map, even if you know where to look. It is a three-square-mile speck in the western Pacific with white sand, a sky blue lagoon, a flat-roofed U.S. Air Force base and a buzz cut of palm trees.

Wake is also home to some of the newest members of Honolulu Local 1260, the 12 firefighters contracted by the Air Force to watch over the base, the military planes that regularly land there as well as the odd emergency landing of civilian airliners that runs into trouble in the most isolated reaches of the Pacific Ocean.

Wake is one of the most isolated inhabited islands on the planet and best known as the site of the first American battle with the Japanese after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Its closest inhabited neighbor is the Utirik Atoll in the Marshall Islands, nearly 600 miles away. It is a great deal closer to Asia than North America. Local 1260's headquarters is nearly 2,000 miles to the east and the closest IBEW members are 1,000 miles west in Guam.

"There is nothing to do there but work," said Honolulu Local 1260 Communication Director Russel Yamanoha. "It is beautiful, but the working conditions are hard."

Of the 12 unincorporated U.S. territories in the Caribbean and Pacific—including Guam, American Samoa and the U.S. Virgin Islands—Wake Island has the smallest permanent population, about 200. About half of the population are members of either the Air Force or satellite trackers for the U.S. Space Command. Nearly all the rest are civilian contractors and can be organized.

But the only way to get to Wake Island is on an Air Force charter and the only ticket is an official invitation. Trying to organize the firefighters by traditional in-person techniques like waiting outside the base gate or meeting them in the local bar was impossible.

"It was a challenge organizing there, but through our contacts we heard that wages were low and benefits not very good," Local 1260 Business Manager Brian Ahakuelo. "The Pacific is very large and it is a big deal for the local and for the IBEW that we are expanding across it to reach our brothers and sisters wherever they need and want us."

The firefighters are employees of Chugach Federal Solutions, a military contractor familiar to Local 1260. Hundreds of its members work for Chugach across multiple military bases in Hawaii. Ahakuelo said it was because of their positive history with Chugach that the organizing campaign was resolved so quickly.

"We spoke with potential members first to make sure we had strong backing with cards and when we were certain, we were able to convince Chugach that it would be good for them too," Ahakuelo said. "They see the value of our local and how we look out for our members, but that we are not grievance hounds. We negotiate, but based

on common interests wherever we can and we've been able to do that with Chugach."

New Opportunities

Ahakuelo, who credits Local 1260 Construction and Maintenance Director Brandon Ahakuelo for the organizing success, said the local's experience organizing Guam more than a decade ago is their blueprint for the push to organize across the Pacific.

Guam is the westernmost American territory, far closer to Australia than the mainland of the U.S. Local 1260 organized its first members in Guam in 2001.

Now there are more than 1,000 members, nearly 1 percent of the island's total population and, Ahakuelo says, those members are building a strong, local

labor movement that is transforming the local economy.

There are 16 territories in the Pacific that enforce U.S. labor laws, and Yamano-

ha said Local 1260 intends to organize on all of them.

"We already have a strong Guam-Hawaii connection," said Yamanoha. "With the organizing campaign in Wake, we are trying to turn it into more of a spider web."

Next targets include the 55,000 residents of American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, home to another 53,000.

"There are so many opportunities," Ahakuelo said.

"We are not only living up to our mantra of 'Bridging the Pacific Basin,' we are also venturing to take organized labor far beyond its normal boundaries." ■



Bridging the Pacific Basin and taking organized labor beyond its normal boundaries

SPOTLIGHT ON SAFETY

IBEW to OSHA: Investigate Potential Radiation Dangers

Telecom employees who climb cell towers for a living already take enough risks. In the past decade, more than 90 workers have lost their lives from deadly falls, sometimes from over 1,000 feet.

Now, IBEW safety advocates are raising questions about another potential challenge—exposure to radio frequency radiation from communications tower antennas.

Radio frequency, or RF, radiation comes from a variety of sources like broadcast antennas, portable radio systems, radar and cell phones.



IBEW pushes for safety review of the effects of radio frequency radiation from broadcast and cell phone antennas.

concerns, one of which was cell tower dangers.

While OSHA was initially concerned about fall fatalities, IBEW leaders took this as an opportunity to alert the agency to the ubiquity of RF radiation emitted from towers and to urge OSHA to implement safeguards.

"The IBEW represents a number of individuals who come into contact with RF hazards on a regular basis," International President Lonnie R. Stephenson wrote in a June 15 letter to the U.S. Department of Labor.

"In some cases, employers are rarely informed of the location of RF antennas and the potential hazards associated with exposure," Stephenson wrote. RF antennas are oftentimes close by but not recognizable because they are intentionally camouflaged with the landscape or hidden by building features. Therefore, the IBEW believes stronger RF monitoring and safety regulations are necessary to protect all workers, not just those employed in the telecommunications industry."

Stephenson also highlighted the growing number of RF monitors available on the market that could help identify high-level exposure areas.

With much of the science behind RF exposure still fuzzy, Mullen said that it remains in the best interest of industry and the membership to exercise caution.

"The best thing is just to educate our people," he said. "If it ends up being 'no harm, no foul,' that's fine—but if it is dangerous, we will have warned people early and

will be in a better position to implement protections."

IBEW members who have questions or concerns related to RF exposure, or who have information to share, are encouraged to email Mullen at Safety_Dept@ibew.org. ■

OSHA Issues Confined Spaces Rule

A new Occupational Safety and Health Administration rule on confined spaces in construction will affect anyone who works in spaces such as manholes, pipelines and tanks, just to name a few. It also adds new requirements to the safety training employers are required to provide their employees. The standard goes into effect Aug. 3, but will not be enforced until Oct. 2, due to a 60-day delay recently issued by OSHA.

OSHA defines a confined space as a space with limited or restricted means for entry or exit and is not designed for continuous occupancy.

The agency released the standard to regulate confined spaces in construction on May 1, but it has been in the works since 1994 when OSHA agreed to propose such a standard as part of a settlement agreement. What followed was a painstaking 21-year process that required national meetings among regulators, employers and workers to ensure worker safety.

OSHA estimates the new rule will prevent approximately five fatalities and 780 injuries per year.

"Before [the workers] were just being trained about the confined spaces; now they are aware of the present and potential hazards," said IBEW's Safety Department Director Dave Mullen.

To ensure their workers' safety, several requirements will have to be met by employers and their employees under the new rule:

- Employers will be required to provide training for all employees performing duties in work permitted spaces. Additional training will be required as job duties change, permits change, or as an employee's performance shows deficiencies.
- The rule says worksites should have trained personnel maintaining communication while a confined space is occupied. Verbal communication and signals such as pulling on ropes can be used between personnel and entrants.
- Along with consistent communication, breathing apparatus will be required on site as well—one being worn in a confined space and another on standby with the trained personnel.

And for those workers who speak another language, the rule also requires employers to provide translations on possible hazards, Mullen said. ■



New training requirements will further protect workers' safety and health in workspaces not designed for continuous occupancy.