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DEADLINE EXTENDED

THE IBEW'S 2026 PHOTO CONTEST

Deadline: Nov. 30 • Details on pg. 39



After a productive week, International President Kenneth W. Cooper wields the gavel handcrafted to open and close the 41st IBEW International Convention.

With the rap of a gavel, a momentous convention came to an end and a new era began, one promising even greater growth, innovation and solidarity for the thriving Brotherhood and Sisterhood of the IBEW.

"What an incredible week," International President Kenneth W. Cooper roared from the stage at the San Diego Convention Center. "I've been to seven IBEW conventions in my time. And this was the most energized, most productive and, I am positive, one of the most historic."

The 41st International Convention brought more than 6,000 delegates, guests and staff to San Diego, now a "great union city" thanks to the tireless efforts of its IBEW locals and labor allies over the past 30 years, Cooper said.

He announced that the next convention — in 2031 — will be in Pittsburgh, a city whose union lineage dates to the 1800s.

"The 42nd IBEW International Convention is going home to the cradle of the American labor movement," Cooper said. "A town with labor roots so deep, they can never be questioned."

While official business began Sept. 21, many delegates arrived earlier for pre-convention committee meetings and the always-popular Day of Service, a hallmark of IBEW conferences and conventions.

More than 200 volunteers with garbage bags, pails and big smiles tackled five parks and beach areas along the San Diego waterfront Sept. 17.

The biggest-ever IBEW expo opened its doors Sept. 18 for three days, with 170 vendors and exhibitors offering everything from safety gear and software to union healthcare, financial and technical services.



The expo also featured a traveling version of the IBEW Museum, a dazzling array of artifacts and displays tracing the union's history since its founding in 1891.

It was an afternoon of camaraderie for brothers and sisters the Saturday before the convention, with a picnic at the convention center, followed by a short walk to a festive outdoor concert as the sun set.

41ST CONVENTION *continued on page 2*

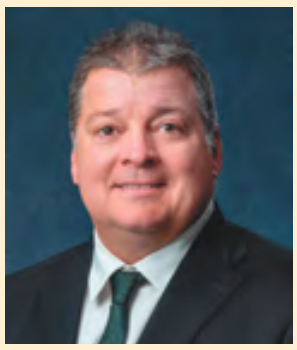
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FROM THE OFFICERS

A Historic Week



Kenneth W. Cooper
International President



Paul A. Noble
International Secretary-Treasurer

We have attended many IBEW conventions throughout our careers, but the 41st International Convention, held in San Diego in September, was one of the most energized and consequential we have ever experienced.

More than 2,000 delegates from across the United States and Canada came to California with a big job to do: chart the course of the IBEW for the next five years.

And every one of them took that responsibility seriously.

We elected officers, voted on amendments and resolutions, debated the issues, and made the tough decisions that will shape our union's future.

In this issue of The Electrical Worker, you can review those actions and the votes taken in San Diego.

We didn't see eye to eye on every issue. There was real debate among delegates about which direction to take.

But our solidarity never wavered. Whatever our differences, we knew we were all part of one united IBEW.

Among the many decisions we made, we voted to push for stronger retirement benefits, strengthen our grassroots political program and defend the IBEW from other unions seeking to perform electrical work.

We also voted to strengthen the IBEW's general fund, ensuring our financial stability and supporting investments in programs that will power our union's future.

But one of our most important decisions was to rededicate ourselves to organizing.

There is no question that the IBEW came to the West Coast with the wind at our backs.

The last decade has brought consistently strong growth, with the last two years breaking organizing records that had stood for more than 50 years.

Today, IBEW membership stands at more than 920,000, putting us even closer to our goal of 1 million members before the decade is out.

But delegates understood that those positive numbers come with a challenge: Can we grow fast enough to meet the historic demand for electrical workers?

Demand for skilled electrical workers is higher than ever, and opportunities for growth are exploding in nearly every branch of the IBEW.

Delegates committed to making organizing a priority and endorsed Day One membership, ensuring that every worker in our industries has a welcoming home in the IBEW from the very start.

They also doubled down on support for the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus, RENEW/NextGen, and our women's and veterans' committees — all vital to bringing more workers into our ranks and developing the next generation of IBEW leaders.

The hunger for everything we enjoy as IBEW members — good wages, secure benefits and a voice at work — is stronger than ever. Everything we did at the convention was about strengthening our ability to bring more workers into our union and ensuring that we truly represent every community across our two nations.

Of course, we're not organizing just for the sake of it. We're organizing because it's the source of our power.

More members means more power to fight for higher wages, better benefits and stronger contracts. A bigger IBEW gives us a stronger voice in the policy decisions that directly affect our jobs and livelihoods.

And a bigger IBEW is a more secure IBEW — protecting everything we've won for working families and preserving our legacy for future generations of electrical workers.

"Powering a Brighter Future" wasn't just a slogan on a banner.

It defines our responsibility as IBEW leaders for the next five years: to write the next chapter of IBEW history and strengthen our leadership in our industries, in the labor movement and across our two nations.

And whether you were in San Diego or not, every member ready to take action has a role in leading this union forward.

So take the time to read through this issue.

Because the votes we took in San Diego weren't just words on paper.

They are our battle plan for victory over the next five years — with consequences for generations to come.

We both arrived in San Diego feeling deeply optimistic about the IBEW's future.

Our power and influence are stronger than ever, as reflected in the many guests who joined us, including leaders from politics, business and labor, as well as union friends from around the world.

But when the final gavel fell, we both knew our future was even brighter.

We knew our delegates were fired up and ready to head home and carry out our mission to organize every electrical worker in North America.

You — our brothers and sisters in every local — will shape our future. And with you leading the way, we couldn't be more confident about where we go next.

Thank you for a historic week. Now let's keep making history.

41ST CONVENTION RECAP





At top, the Toronto Highlanders helped kick off the convention during opening ceremonies Sept. 21. Above, delegates vote on a resolution by show of hands.

ABOUT THIS ISSUE

The articles in this double issue are adapted from our coverage of the 41st IBEW International Convention, which took place Sept. 21-25 in San Diego. An archive of that coverage can be found at **ibew.org/41st-ibew-convention/news**. Full convention proceedings, including all committee reports, will be available at a later date.

▼ ***Continued from page 1***

Monday morning began with the presentation of colors from U.S. and Canadian military units and both nations' pledges and anthems.

The chair pro tem of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors welcomed delegates, arriving with a framed proclamation declaring Sept. 21, 2026, as IBEW Day. Paloma Aguirre, a forceful IBEW ally, presented the award to the business managers of the convention's host locals — San Diego Locals 569 and 465 and Diamond Bar Local 47.

A high-energy roll call of IBEW districts followed. Music pulsated as each international vice president, flanked by delegates, proudly shouted out district highlights and fun facts.

Nominations and voting for the union's top officers took place Sept. 21-22, with delegates electing Cooper, International Secretary-Treasurer Paul Noble and International Executive Council Chair Joseph Calabro to full five-year terms.

Cooper's keynote speech Sept. 22 celebrated the IBEW's historic organizing surge since the Chicago convention, taking the union from about 700,000 active and retired members to more than 920,000 today.

AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler also



International President Kenneth W. Cooper celebrates with International Executive Council Chair Joseph Calabro, left, and International Secretary-Treasurer Paul Noble after all three won full five-year terms.



AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler takes the stage, where she shared her pride in IBEW sisterhood.

hailed the huge gains and told delegates she couldn't be prouder to be one of them — an IBEW sister out of Portland, Ore., Local 125.

IBEW brother and U.S. Rep. Donald Norcross also spoke Sept. 22, the first of a series of video and in-person remarks from IBEW political allies throughout the week. Several industry leaders also spoke, emphasizing their strong relationships with the IBEW leadership team.

The busy convention agenda included 22 proposed amendments to the IBEW Constitution and consideration of 61 resolutions.

The convention drew 2,032 delegates from 597 locals in the U.S. and Canada, representing nearly 700,000 members.

Winding up his grateful and optimistic sendoff, Cooper reflected on IBEW unity and asked delegates to stand and look around the room.

"Look at someone you don't know," he said. "You might not know their name. They might work in a different industry, live in a different city or come from a different country. They might be from a different generation, a different gender, a different race.

"You might not agree with them on every issue. But every single one of them is your brother or sister. That's what solidarity means. No matter our differences, we are a united IBEW." ▮





The Electrical Industry Expo featured a record number of exhibitors, from boot makers to financial products, plus a mobile version of the IBEW Museum. At left, Kansas City, Mo., Local 124 member Christopher Keegan brought his granddaughter Kay to the Day of Service before the convention.



Cooper Wins New Term as International President, Pledges 'Bigger, Stronger' IBEW

International President Kenneth W. Cooper won election to a five-year term Sept. 22 at the 41st IBEW International Convention, setting the stage to keep the union on the path of unprecedented growth forged in the first three years of his presidency.

"What an incredible four years it has been since we last gathered in Chicago," he said in his address to the assembled delegates. "Just look at what we set out to do four years ago at our last convention, and look at what we've accomplished since."

Cooper was nominated by New York City Local 3 Business Manager Christopher Erikson Jr. on Sept. 21.

"Because of the leadership of President Cooper, who so boldly and publicly claimed to this membership since day one of his tenure that the IBEW will reach 1 million members again, we are closer than we've been in over 40 years," Erikson said.

After the election results were announced, Cooper began by thanking the convention delegates for electing him to his first full five-year term. Cooper was appointed international president by the International Executive Council in January 2023 after the retirement of Lonnie R. Stephenson.

"Thank you so much for placing your trust in me to serve this great Brotherhood of ours for another term. I say it everywhere I go: Serving as your international president has been the honor of my life," he said. "I'm humbled by your faith in my leadership, and I vow always to give my all."

Cooper also thanked International Secretary-Treasurer Paul Noble, International Executive Council Chair Joseph Calabro, the other elected leaders of the IBEW, and his senior staff.

"I'm so lucky to serve with the best leadership team in all of labor," he said.

Cooper then told his own story and how the IBEW changed the trajectory of his life.

"Every person in this hall has a story of their own," he said. "We are here in San Diego to chart the course for a bigger, stronger, more united IBEW."

The most consequential commitment of the IBEW since its last convention, and the most ambitious, he said, was the rededication to organizing.

"We haven't just been organizing. We've been breaking records. We have more journeyman wiremen than at any point in our history. More journeyman linemen than at any point in our history. More apprentices than at any point in our history. Recorded more hours worked than at any point in our history," he said.

In 2022, the IBEW had 775,000 members. As the convention began, the membership had grown to more than 920,000.

Cooper credited policies enacted since the last convention — the 12,000-hour rule, four-year apprenticeships, district organizing plans and Strategic Winning Action Teams — for driving that growth.



> "We've come from different backgrounds. Different regions. Different industries. Even different nations. But we are united by one mission: power. The power to improve lives."
>
> *– International President Kenneth W. Cooper*

He also lauded recent critical agreements that safeguard and grow the union's work: the Tri-Trade Agreement and the consolidation of the National Maintenance Agreement, the General President's Project Maintenance Agreement and the National Construction Agreement into one national agreement.

"The Tri-Trade Agreement with the Laborers and Operating Engineers ensures that solar work is IBEW work, protecting our transmission and underground work and finally cutting the Carpenters out altogether," he said. "The consolidated agreement means better wages and benefits, including stronger overtime provisions and shift differential pay. Critically, all IBEW outside work is excluded from the agreement, ensuring that outside work remains IBEW work. It also protects all our solar work."

With so many new members working so many hours, and with skilled electrical workers in such short supply and high demand, Cooper said the IBEW was able to win benefits that had been priorities for IBEW for the decades.

"We set up the first new IBEW pension plan since 1949, the NEIB, and we got the first NEBF increase in two decades, from $32 to $33 for every year of service, all the way back," he said.

Cooper then turned to where he sees the IBEW going in the years ahead.

"Economists predict that the United States and Canada will need nearly 100,000 new electrical workers every year for decades to come," he said. "The real question facing us isn't whether we're growing. We know we are. It's whether we're growing fast enough. Because this work is going to happen, whether we're ready for it or not."

Once again, Cooper exhorted business managers to finally end policies that keep people working under IBEW contracts out of membership.

"The days of telling potential recruits to get to the back of the line are over. If you work in our industry and you pay your dues, then, from Day One, you are a full-fledged member of the IBEW," he said. "In the 1890s, turning people away was a luxury our founders didn't have. And in 2026, it's a luxury we don't have, either."

Neither is excluding communities that traditionally haven't found a warm welcome in the trades.

"We need to recommit our support for our affinity groups like the EWMC, RENEW/NextGen, and our Women's and Veterans' committees," he said. "Besides helping us organize in different communities, they are mentoring the next generation of the IBEW leadership and ensuring that new members become lifelong members and leaders."

Finally, he turned to the poisonous politics driven by President Donald Trump.

Trump has sabotaged the National Labor Relations Board, he said, making it harder for unions to organize and win, and stripped collective bargaining rights from more than a million federal workers — including IBEW members. Cooper noted that this administration has killed tens of thousands of energy jobs that were going to put IBEW members to work and rolled back health and safety protections.

"[They] are turning Americans against one another. Dividing us by race. By gender. By sexual orientation. By immigration status. By religion. It's the oldest anti-union trick in the book: get working people fighting among themselves so they forget what they have in common. We cannot fall for it," he said.

The antidote, he said, isn't in attachment to either party. Its building our own power.

"We've come from different backgrounds. Different regions. Different industries. Even different nations. But we are united by one mission: power. The power to improve lives. The power to give working people a voice — on the job, in our communities, and in the halls of power," he said. ▮



Experience at the Top: Noble, Calabro Elected to Full Terms as International Officers

International Secretary-Treasurer Paul Noble and International Executive Council Chair Joseph Calabro were elected to five-year terms on the opening day of the 41st IBEW International Convention.

In gracious acceptance speeches, both men celebrated the IBEW's growth and other successes in recent years while they pledged to achieve even more going forward.

"We have created a bigger, better, stronger IBEW — and we're just getting started," said Noble, who was Sixth District international vice president before he was appointed to his current role.

Calabro, who represented the IEC First District before being elevated to Chair in January, is the council's longest-serving member, as well as business manager of Newark, N.J., Local 1158.

"It is an honor I do not take lightly, and I will work every day to maintain your trust," Calabro told delegates. "I've held many titles throughout my career. But no matter what title I've had in front of my name, I've always been dedicated to one thing: serving the hard-working brothers and sisters of the IBEW."

Noble was promoted to his position in January 2023.

Noble's nomination for a full term came from Steve Hughart, business manager of West Frankfort, Ill., Local 702, the same job Noble once held.

"We always knew we could count on Paul to do the right thing," said Hughart, who's known Noble for more than 30 years. "He is an organizer, he is a leader, and I'm proud to call him my friend."

Colin Lavin, business manager of Diamond Bar, Calif., Local 47 — one of the convention's three host locals — nominated Calabro.

Extolling Calabro's many contributions to the IBEW, Lavin said, "He leads with humility, kindness, and strength, always focused on representing working people and protecting the dignity of our members."



"It is an honor I do not take lightly, and I will work every day to maintain your trust."

– International Executive Council Chair Joseph Calabro



"We have created a bigger, better, stronger IBEW — and we're just getting started."

– International Secretary-Treasurer Paul Noble

THE METER

2,032

The number of delegates registered for the 41st IBEW International Convention. They came from 597 locals representing nearly 700,000 members.

International President Kenneth W. Cooper's Keynote Address To the 41st IBEW International Convention



Brothers and sisters, thank you so much for placing your trust in me to serve this great Brotherhood of ours for another term. I say it everywhere I go: Serving as your international president has been the honor of my life. The IBEW has done so much for me and my family. And I cherish every opportunity to give something back.

So, thank you to each of you, for your pledge of confidence and trust in me. I'm humbled by your faith in my leadership. And I vow always to give my all and never to walk away from my duty as president of the greatest union in the world: the IBEW, to fight for the wellbeing of IBEW members and their families, always and everywhere.

I've held many titles during my IBEW career, but I've never forgotten where I come from: inside journeyman wireman out of Mansfield, Ohio, Local 688. Card number D570792.

I remember those days back at the Local 688 union hall, working alongside some truly great IBEW leaders. Brothers like J.R. Rice, who helped me organize; Carl Nuestling, who worked by my side; Dave Yezter, who mentored me. They helped make me who I am today.

Some are here this week. Whether you're here or back in Ohio, from the bottom of my heart, thank you.

And thanks to Brian McPeek for keeping Local 688 moving forward.

This week, your families have had to step up so you all could be here. We couldn't do what we do for the IBEW without the support of those at home. For me, that's my wife, Gina.

Gina had a big role at the last convention, where she was elected the first woman officer to serve as an international vice president. But even then, she has always been there for me, helping to hold everything together. Thank you for being the love of my life, and thank you for all you do for our family.

I also want to thank my children: Ashlee, who a lot of you know works with an amazing team, the [Digital Organizing Department]; Lyndsee, who a lot of you know helps guide all of the IBEW through mental health; Skylar; Kale; and Colton, who couldn't be here.

Also, I want to thank my sister Diane and my brother Dennis, who are here for me. My family has sacrificed so much to allow and support me in my quest to provide opportunities for workers for a better life. Thank you all. I love you guys.

As international president, I'm so lucky to serve with the best leadership team in all of labor. I've been doing this a long time — 15 years as an officer. I've seen the rest, so I know we've got the best.

First off, International Secretary-Treasurer Paul Noble. Every day, I count on his loyalty and leadership with the finances of the IBEW. He's been there for me every step of the way.

I also want to congratulate IEC Chairman Joe Calabro on his election. Thank you for your leadership and service to the IBEW. It's an honor to serve with you for the last 15 years as officers. I am looking forward to the next five years.

Let me acknowledge our international vice presidents and IEC members. We're stronger than ever because of their collective leadership. It's such a privilege to work with all of you.

Without my hard-working and talented staff, I couldn't do this job: Chief of Staff Ricky Oakland, Deputy Chief of Staff Louis Spencer and Senior Executive Assistant Jammi Ouellette. They've all been working hard to make this convention a reality, so let's give them a round of applause.

Of course, I want to thank our entire staff at the International Office, our clerical and technical staff, directors, reps, and all the field reps in the districts that help and assist locals navigate the labor movement. They all do a fantastic job, so thank you.

Thank you to Brother Chris Erikson Jr. for that very generous nomination this morning and for all the work he does on behalf of his members at IBEW Local 3.

Above all, I want to thank you, our delegates here representing IBEW members across North America. Brothers and sisters, what an incredible four years it has been since we last gathered in Chicago. Once again, thank you for the confidence you placed in me.

This afternoon, I want to talk about the love I have for this great union and what we need to do to keep it moving forward. A union that changed my life as it has changed the lives of millions of working people throughout our history.

When I became a wireman in Mansfield, Ohio, more than 40 years ago, I never imagined I would be standing before you today. I'm just a country boy from Ohio. And while I didn't fully realize it at the time, I grew up poor. I remember waking up with snow on my blanket because we had little or no insulation in the walls. We had an outhouse growing up, with no indoor bathroom.

My sister and brother and I talk about it often and still: what a



Delegates give International President Kenneth W. Cooper a standing ovation during his keynote address, during which he urged all members to rededicate themselves to organizing new members.



wonderful childhood we had. Again, thank you both for being here for me once again.

Everything changed when I joined IBEW Local 688. It meant wages and benefits that allowed me to raise a family, giving them things that I never had. It meant having a voice on the job. And most of all, it meant dignity and respect.

Because of the IBEW, I've enjoyed a life beyond my wildest dreams. Because of the IBEW, my wife enjoyed a better life. Because of the IBEW, my children have enjoyed opportunities my parents could never have imagined.

As the years passed, I came to understand that none of those things were simply handed to us. Someone fought for them. Someone sacrificed for them. And sometimes they stood against overwhelming odds to secure them for the generations that followed.

I realized that if those same opportunities were going to exist for my children and grandchildren, then it was my responsibility to step up and continue that fight. That's how my journey in the IBEW began. And I wouldn't have had it any other way.

Every person in this hall has a story of their own. We've come from different backgrounds, different regions, different industries, even different nations. But we are united by one mission.

As our founding objects declare, our purpose is "to organize all workers in the entire electrical industry and by legal and proper means elevate the moral, intellectual, and social conditions of our members, their families and their dependents, in the interest of a higher standard of citizenship." In other words, we organize so every electrical worker has the power to demand the dignity and respect they deserve.

That's what this union is all about: power. The power to improve lives. The power to give working people a voice — on the job, in our communities and in the halls of power. The power to strengthen the IBEW and ensure that the opportunities we've enjoyed are passed on to the generations that follow.

That's why our convention theme is "Powering a Brighter Future." Because that's exactly why we're here in San Diego this week: to chart the course for a bigger, stronger, more united IBEW, and to make sure the next generation of electrical workers has an even a better IBEW than the one we inherited.

We're going to have a lot of debates this week and take a lot of votes. Sometimes it might seem like all the resolutions and amendments we vote on are just words on paper. But they're a lot more than that.

The decisions we make this week will shape the direction of this union through the end of this decade. They'll determine our priorities. They'll guide where we put our time, our resources and our energy.

And brothers and sisters, those decisions make a difference. Just look at what we set out to do four years ago at our last convention, and look at what we've accomplished since.

Brothers and sisters, we have had a resolution to increase the NEBF for two decades. Well, we not only got the first NEBF increase in two decades, but we took the NEBF from $32 to $33 for every year of service all the way back.

We also got the first time ever a 13th check for every retired member. We also set up the first new IBEW pension plan since 1949, the NEIB — 50 cents minimum.

We voted to increase support for all our affinity groups. The Electrical Workers Minority Caucus last year had the largest attendance ever. RENEW/NextGen has grown to a record 221 committees. And the IBEW Women's Committee has grown to 104 committees. And they are stronger than ever, recruiting and mentoring a new generation of IBEW leaders.

We voted to reaffirm our commitment to IBEW Strong and to ensuring that all workers have a home in our union. While we've still got a way to go, today we're closer than ever to being a union that represents every community in our two nations.

We voted to increase support for veterans in the IBEW and step up efforts to bring even more of them into the union. Today, there are 119 local Veterans' Committees representing every district, and we've hired

KEYNOTE ADDRESS *continued on page 8*





an international representative for veterans affairs and expanded the Veterans Electrical Entry Program.

We also left Chicago with a renewed commitment to protect our work. We secured the Tri-Trade Agreement with the Laborers and Operating Engineers, ensuring that solar work is IBEW work and finally cutting the Carpenters out altogether. We also reached agreements with both unions protecting our transmission and underground work.

And I'm especially proud to announce that the Association of Union Contractors voted to approve the consolidation of the National Maintenance Agreement, the General President's Project Maintenance Agreement and the National Construction Agreement into one national agreement covering both maintenance and new construction.

It was a long time coming, but working closely with our friends in the Building Trades, we made it happen. And it's an enormous step forward for the IBEW.

First, all IBEW outside work is excluded from the agreement, ensuring that outside work remains IBEW work. It also protects all our solar work.

Second, it means better wages and benefits, including stronger overtime provisions, shift differential pay and much more.

We're hoping to see the new agreement go into effect by January 1, and we'll keep you updated as the details take shape.

We started a manufacturing training trust to start an apprenticeship in manufacturing, to help organize new factories and strengthen the manufacturing industry for our current membership.

We started PAL training to educate our members on why we are involved in politics and how it affects their livelihood and families.

This is Mental Health Awareness Month. We worked with FMCP and Darrin Golden's team to start mental health first-aid training, because too many members are struggling and we must break the stigma of mental health. Mental health is just as important as physical health.

We stood strong with our Railroad members to achieve better benefits as the rail companies fought back.

We continue to fight for our Government members as they continue their battle against this administration. We will win this battle.

We have started conversations and plans with our utility companies because the horizon will have a bright future as the demand for electricity continues to grow.

We left the 40th International Convention with an ambitious agenda, and with all of us working together, we made it happen.

But the most important decision we made in Chicago was to rededicate ourselves to organizing, because organizing is how we were able to accomplish all we've done in the last four years.

In 2022, we had 775,000 members. Today, our membership stands at more than 922,000.

Reaching that million-member goal I set upon becoming president is closer than ever.

We haven't just been organizing; we've been breaking records. Last year, we grew more than we had in a year since 1969. We grew by more than 24,000. This year alone, we organized 37,000 new members. That's a milestone we haven't hit in half a century.

Last month was a record of 6,339 in a month, the most ever.

Today, we have more journeyman wiremen than at any point in our history, more journeyman linemen than at any point in our history, more apprentices than at any point in our history, and recorded more hours worked than at any point in our history.

Delegates to our last convention charged the international president with developing organizing policies to strengthen our local unions' ability to organize and grow. And every policy, every tool I've rolled out as your president — the 12,000-hour rule, four-year apprenticeships, district organizing plans, Strategic Winning Action Teams — has been all about that.

But all the tools in the world are useless unless someone picks them up and uses them. And that's just what you've been doing, brothers and sisters. From here in San Diego out to Boston, from Ohio to Florida, from Texas to Alberta — in every district, in every state and province, the IBEW is on the march.

Our numbers are growing. Our solidarity is growing. And our power is growing.

That's because of all of you and the IBEW leaders and activists back home who have made organizing their number one priority.

So, let's all give each other a round of applause.

Now, I want us to take pride in what we've accomplished. But this week isn't about looking backward. It's about where we're going over the next five years, and what we need to do to take every advantage of every opportunity in front of us. Because we can't afford to miss any of them.

The hunger for skilled electrical workers is higher than ever. We're seeing it almost everywhere. Data centers are a major driver, and I'm proud to say the IBEW has been on the front lines of this work because we've demonstrated just how important our members are.

Some of the world's biggest companies — including Google, Blackrock and Microsoft — are turning to the IBEW to meet the workforce demands of today's energy economy. That's why they're partnering with us, NECA and ETA, investing tens of millions of dollars to recruit, train and prepare the next generation of highly skilled electrical workers.

I also know how controversial data centers have become in some communities. As members of our communities, we need to make our position clear: The IBEW supports responsible data center build-out that



Cooper emphasized not just organizing but also retention. "We need to make it easier for new members to get work, receive benefits and take a leadership role in their locals," he said.

creates good-paying union jobs while protecting customers from high energy costs. That's why we oppose blanket moratoriums as bad for the IBEW, and bad for the economy.

So, it's more important than ever that you're active in your communities, talking about just how crucial these projects are to our economy and the long-term wellbeing of our two nations.

But this historic demand isn't just being driven by data centers. Manufacturing plants; massive investments in transmission and distribution; and new nuclear, natural gas and other energy projects are all creating an unprecedented need for skilled electrical workers.

And that demand isn't going away anytime soon. Economists predict that the United States and Canada will need nearly 100,000 new electrical workers every year for decades to come.

That's an enormous challenge. But for the IBEW, it's also an enormous opportunity.

The real question facing us isn't whether we're growing. We know we are. It's whether we're growing fast enough. Because this work is going to happen. Whether we're ready for it or not. And if we're not doing it, someone else is.

So, this week I call on every delegate to rededicate themselves to organizing. It's Resolution No. 1 for a reason. And key to that is reaffirming Day One membership as binding IBEW policy.

Let's be clear. It doesn't matter if someone has been doing electrical work for 10 years, 10 months or ten days. If they're doing IBEW work, then they belong in the IBEW. Period. Full stop.

The days of telling potential recruits to get to the back of the line are over. If you work in our industry

and you pay your dues, then, from Day One, you are a full-fledged member of the IBEW.

That's how Henry Miller organized. He didn't ask people if they had the right certificate. Or what kind of training they've had. All he knew was if they were doing electrical work, then he was going to organize them. In the 1890s, turning people away was a luxury he didn't have. And in 2026, it's a luxury we don't have either.

We're also going to double down on professional and industrial organizing. We've seen some big wins in nearly every P&I branch: electrical co-ops, freelance broadcasters, Xfinity technicians.

And there are plenty more targets to go after. In fact, we've identified more than 5,000 manufacturing targets and 1,500 telecommunications targets across North America.

But I'm not on the ground in those communities. You are. P& I is much tougher to organize, I get it. But if we organize just 10% of those new factories, imagine how many new members that would mean. How much more power we have at the bargaining table, our community and our nations.

But you need to start the ball rolling. Identify these worksites. Find out who's working inside. And have a plan to reach those workers and talk to them about what the IBEW can offer.

Just as important as recruitment is retention. It's no good to organize someone if they're going to drop out a couple of months later. That's why we need to make it easier for new members to get work, receive benefits and take a leadership role in their locals.

We also need to recommit our support for our affinity groups like the EWMC, RENEW/NextGen, and our women's and veterans' committees. Besides helping us organize in different communities, they are mentoring the next generation of the IBEW leadership and ensuring that new members become lifelong members and leaders.

Here's something else we need to recommit ourselves to this week: solidarity.

Right now, it feels like we're more divided than ever. Politicians, social media companies and billionaires like Elon Musk are turning Americans against one another. Dividing us by race. By gender. By sexual orientation. By immigration status. By religion.

There's a lot of ugly rhetoric out there. And too much of it is designed to get working people to fear and hate one another. Things may not be as bad in Canada, but even there, there are those who want to divide us.

Brothers and sisters, we know this game. It's the oldest anti-union trick in the book: get working people fighting among themselves so they forget what they have in common. We cannot fall for it.

We need to speak out against bigotry wherever we see it, because our strength as a union depends on all of us standing together. That's what solidarity is about.

So I'm asking you: Stand with every one of our members. Have their backs. And fight like hell for every worker — regardless of where they come from, what they look like, who they love or how they worship. Because when we stand together, there is nothing we can't accomplish.

We also need to stand together when it comes to politics. I know politics is more polarized than ever. It's a hard conversation to have. That's why we're getting back to basics.

Our approach is simple. This isn't about political party or your personal philosophy. It's about asking every candidate for public office: Will you stand with the IBEW? Will you fight for workers or carry water for the billionaires? Will you put Main Street or Wall Street first? Will you help the middle class or hurt it?

Look, we're blessed to live in a democracy, where we have the right to speak out and vote for our leaders. And as union members, we can't afford not to exercise that right. Because as much as we've won, there are those in power working day and night to take it all away. Our wages, our benefits, our jobs. And yes, our union.

So, let's cut through the crap and get straight to the issues that matter. Again, I'm not talking about party labels. We don't work for any political party. To paraphrase AFL founder Samuel Gompers: "We'll stand with our friends and punish our enemies."

I'll say nice things about any Republican who's trying to help us, And I'll call out any Democrat who's trying to screw us. Because I'm not talking partisanship; I'm talking about speaking the truth.

And the truth is, while Democrats need to do a whole lot better for workers, Donald Trump and his MAGA allies in Congress have been against everything we stand and fight for. He's sabotaged the National Labor Relations Board, making it harder for workers to organize and win. He's stripped collective bargaining rights from more than a million federal workers — including some of our own members.

He's killed tens of thousands of energy jobs that were going to put IBEW members to work. He's rolled back health and safety protections that save workers' lives. And his billionaire allies are working to gut the laws that make strong unions possible in the first place.

Meanwhile, working people are getting squeezed by rising costs — from the grocery store to the gas pump. And Trump's policies have made that squeeze worse. Much worse.

So, this November, I need all our American brothers and sisters to step up. Educate your members.

Talk to them about what's at stake. Make sure they're registered. And make sure they vote.

Let's make sure we reward our friends and punish our enemies on Election Day.

But even better than electing friends of the IBEW is electing IBEW members themselves. Because who knows our issues better than we do? And we're seeing more and more IBEW brothers and sisters stepping up and running for office. I want to see even more in the years ahead.

I'm asking all of you: Take a serious look at running for office yourselves. School board. City council. State legislature. Congress. Wherever you think you can make a difference. Because every IBEW member we elect is another voice for our members, another voice for working families, and another voice for the IBEW.

Brothers and sisters, everything we do this week comes down to one thing: building an even bigger and stronger IBEW. And there are no shortcuts to getting there. It takes bottom-up, in-the-trenches organizing. It takes talking to workers one-on-one. It takes earning their trust. It takes showing them what being part of the IBEW can mean for them and their families.

I've talked about some of the policies and tools we've rolled out to help you organize. But our most effective organizing tool isn't anything we cooked up at the IO. It's our stories.

You know my story. And every one of us has our own story about how the IBEW changed our lives — and our families' lives — for the better.

I've heard so many of them over the years. The member who, for the first time in their life, didn't have to worry about how they were going to pay the doctor's bills.

The member who grew up in poverty, surrounded by violence, and found in the IBEW a pathway to a better life.

The member who bounced from one dead-end job to another, never sure where they were headed, until they found a lifelong career in the IBEW.

The member who drives through downtown with their kids, points to a building or a bridge or a power line, and says with pride, "I helped build that."

The member who found in the IBEW not just a job, not just a union, but a family.

I'm sure many of them sound familiar. Brothers and sisters, those are our stories. And together, they make up the great story of the IBEW. I'm calling on everyone here today — and every IBEW member across North America — to join me in sharing those stories.

Share them with our co-workers and our neighbors, in every workplace and every community across our two great nations.

Share them with every worker looking for a better life. With every family fighting for their place in the middle class. With every worker who wants a career they can be proud of. And with everyone who has the drive, the hunger and the determination to be the very best at what they do.

Now is the time, brothers and sisters, for us to stand together. Standing together, our union — the IBEW — will continue to reach heights our founders could have never dreamed of.

Standing together, we'll make sure our best days are still ahead of us.

Standing together, we'll power a brighter future for generations to come.

Thank you, brothers and sisters. God bless you, and God bless the IBEW.

SERVING THE COMMUNITY

‘The Solidarity of Pitching In’: Day of Service Volunteers Help San Diego Sparkle



IBEW volunteers fanned out to several parks around San Diego during the Day of Service in the week leading up to the convention. They collected 375 pounds of trash, including thousands of cigarette butts that can be recycled.

Equipped with garbage bags, pails and gloves, teams of IBEW members fanned out across San Diego’s waterfront last Thursday morning to leave their glistening host city even cleaner than they found it.

The Day of Service, a proud tradition at IBEW conventions and conferences, drew more than 200 pairs of hands from across the U.S. and Canada.

“It’s been an awesome time,” said Gaston Moore, president of Bakersfield, Calif., Local 428. “All the camaraderie, the solidarity of everybody coming together, pitching in, cleaning up the parks. It’s a lot of fun. The weather’s beautiful. You can’t ask for better.”

Moore volunteered at the Children’s Park, a grassy area and pirate-ship-themed playground across from the Convention Center and adjacent to the city’s New Children’s Museum, whose workers are represented by San Diego Local 465.

Four other teams boarded buses to bayfront locations, including Harbor Island Park north of downtown. Navigating a rocky embankment, IBEW brothers and sisters carefully removed more than 100 pounds of trash — Styrofoam, plastic, cigarette butts and other debris.

Alton Wilkerson, president of Los Angeles Local 11, even pulled an old sailor’s hat from the rocks, working in tandem with New York Local 3 member Wendell Yee. The men became close friends through RENEW/NextGen and the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus, which years ago launched the union’s first Day of Service.

“This shows that we don’t just come to put money into your city,” Yee said. “We come to brighten it up and make it a better place.”

Many volunteers remarked on the city’s overall tidiness. “Whoever’s doing it, they’re doing a good job keeping it clean,” said Dana Jones of Boston Local 103 as he hunted for litter at the Children’s Park.

He and Avery Rogers of Lansing, Mich., Local 665 were happy to pick up whatever bits and pieces they found, saying children, especially, need clean and safe outdoor spaces.

“We need our kids to go outside and play,” Rogers said. “Thirty years ago, I was outside all the time.”

At Harbor Island, Jessica Schneider of Fairbanks, Alaska, said cleanups are one of the many ways members of Anchorage-based Local 1547 give back to their communities, noting that diligence is key.

“Trash and litter are a big thing,” she said. “It’s like weight gain. It’s twice as easy to put on and it takes twice as much effort to get out and get it picked up.”

The locations were selected in partnership with I Love a Clean San Diego, a county-wide organization. Programs coordinator Jessica Du Mont said IBEW members collectively picked up 375 pounds of trash, calling it a “massive amount” considering the size of the debris.

“It was a bunch of microplastics and small things that don’t weigh a lot but have a huge impact on our environment,” Du Mont said.

Accompanying the Children’s Park team, development coordinator Chanelle Carney said she couldn’t have been more impressed.

“One of the things that stood out most to me was just how detailed and dedicated everyone was, and super enthusiastic about giving back to the community,” Carney said. “They were digging through the bushes, looking through the dirt, really hunting for trash.”

As volunteers in neon-green Day of Service T-shirts swarmed each location, grateful residents took notice.

“The Children’s Park is next to a dog park, and we had people coming up with their dogs and asking who we are and what we were doing,” said Ninth District International Representative Kelly Foster. “They were very happy and very grateful that we were there.”

The largest group, some 60 delegates, headed to Embarcadero Marina Park — a third of them from Local 103. “We’re deep. We don’t play,” instructor Narica Gaskin said of the Boston-area contingent. “We want to be part of the convention. It’s a historical event, and I thought it would be pretty cool to talk about with my first-years.”

Jutting into the bay from downtown, the park’s two peninsulas offer green space, walking trails and panoramic bay views. Participants included Joel Basore, president of San Diego Local 569.

“I’m so proud and also humbled to have everyone come to our town,” Basore said. “What the IBEW stands for is not just making our own lives better but trying to do better in our communities and carry it

Another marina volunteer, Fred Ries of Chester, Pa., Local 654, said Day of Service projects are also a way of thanking host locals. “They’re putting this great convention together, and we’re giving a little bit of our time back to help the community.”

Port Park, in a busy industrial area of San Diego Bay, may have been the liveliest site, with horn blasts from tugboats filling the air and noisy trolleys and freight trains passing nearby.

Volunteers plucked litter from grassy areas, along walls separating the park from tugboat docks, and up and down the park’s long pier and rocky seawall.

One of them, Andy Starling, will become business manager of Gainesville, Fla., Local 1205 in October. Outreach like the Day of Service was one of his major goals when he launched a RENEW chapter at the local in 2018.

“A lot of people in organized labor do want to show up and help, but you need somebody to kind of lead the way and lay a path for them to follow,” he said.

The Port Park crew also featured a fifth-generation IBEW member, Donovan Reiser. He said a business agent noticed his volunteer activities and nudged him to get involved in the RENEW chapter at Jersey City, N.J., Local 164.

Whether he’s helping disabled children enjoy the beach — as he does each summer — or picking up debris on the Day of Service, he said it “hardly feels like volunteer work” when he’s having fun giving back.

Two miles north, members from as far as Montreal tackled Ruocco Park in the shadow of the aircraft carrier/museum USS Midway.

Christopher Keegan, a 47-year member of Kansas City Local 124, brought his granddaughter Kay. “I wanted to help the animals in the sea,” the 11-year-old said. “Turtles. Especially turtles.”

“We’re pretty far from the ocean at home, but she just really, really cares about the animals,” said her granddad.

Keegan spent 30 years on the tools before serving as an international and local organizer, among other roles. He’ll retire next year.

“There’s some melancholy coming here, knowing this is my last one,” he said. “That’s why I like to come to the Day of Service. It’s a way to say thank you to the hosts. I feel like I’ve given back my share.”

Adrian Hall of Tucson, Ariz., Local 570 was on cigarette-butt duty at Ruocco. Scouring garden beds, bushes and fields, volunteers collected two and a half pounds’ worth — well over 1,000 butts — and kept them separate from other garbage.

That’s because the city recycles cigarette butts in partnership with a company that turns their tiny plastic filters into park benches, pallets and other products.

After nearly 30 years as a Local 570 member, Hall is attending his first IBEW convention. He decided to come early, in particular for the Day of Service.

“I was nervous,” he said. “I know how to do service, though. I thought I would come for this. And it’s a really great way to meet brothers and sisters.”

STRENGTH IN DIVERSITY

Minority Caucus Celebrates History as It Remembers a Legend



The death of EWMC President Emerita Robbie Sparks loomed over the meeting. During the section of the meeting dedicated to her memory, each attendee raised their mobile phones in honor of the light Sister Sparks brought to the IBEW.

Hundreds of people attended a historic gathering of the Electrical Worker Minority Caucus' meeting Saturday morning, celebrating a civil rights pioneer and measuring the seismic impact of the caucus over 50-plus years.

> "Our diversity is our strength. If you do the work, it doesn't matter who you are — you belong in the IBEW and the EWMC."
>
> *– EWMC President Sean Bagsby*

After the recent death of EWMC co-founder and former President Robbie Sparks, the caucus organizers presented a panel unlike any they had held at recent international conventions. Instead of the usual focus on the current work of the EWMC and how membership in the EWMC has changed individual lives, they spoke about how the organization has changed the IBEW.

EWMC President Sean Bagsby introduced International President Kenneth W. Cooper, along with International Secretary-Treasurer Paul Noble and International Executive Council Chair Joseph Calabro.

"This is truly the house that Robbie built," Cooper said. "She never stopped working, and the work speaks for her."

There was deep sadness from speaker after speaker, including past EWMC presidents Keith Edwards and Victor Uno; former EWMC executive council members including Royetta Sanford and Dorothy Fortier; and longtime EWMC leaders Joe Wells, Sabrina Hernandez and John Easton.

"Since the last convention, we turned 50, and with the passing of Sister Sparks, we felt the need to focus on history, but also on impact," Wells said. "We've changed the IBEW in so many ways, but many of the newer members don't know it was our work."

Edwards told the story of the founding of the EWMC in 1974 by International Representative Mel Horton and two delegates to the 30th convention, Leon Wilkerson and Johnny Walker, all members of now-defunct Shreveport, La., Local 2188.

Sanford told the stories of the founding members of the EWMC executive council.

"Through strategic action by those founding members and their vision and foresight, they built a bigger, better, stronger and more inclusive IBEW. Our members are stewards, union officers, mentors, examiners, foremen, training instructors, executive board members, business managers and even some international representatives," she said. "The IBEW is literally being led by the EWMC."



Left: Electrical Worker Minority Caucus President Sean Bagsby, a member of Seattle Local 46, flanked by Vice President Grace Smith, welcomed the hundreds of delegates to the pre-convention EWMC caucus.

Fortier carried the story through the 1990s and retold the long history of EWMC-sponsored convention resolutions that expanded the Brotherhood's focus and concern more broadly.

Wells spoke about the growth from six EWMC chapters in 2006 to an expected 60 by the time of the annual EWMC Leadership Conference, to be held in Boston in January 2027.

"We've had great growth in the last 20 years. Now we need everyone's help to make sure people know who we really are," he said.

There were personal stories about how membership in the EWMC gave the speaker the training, connections and confidence to thrive and grow into leadership positions.

"My experience in the IBEW has been almost flawless since my first day in 2015. Sometimes I feel like it has been too easy," said Chicago Local 134 executive board member Pamela Wilson. "But I know it was the work of the last 50 years of the EWMC that has made my career what it was supposed to be."

The meeting closed with brief reports from chapter presidents from across the country, who reeled through community service projects they've run and are planning.

Bagsby closed the meeting emphasizing the centrality of the EWMC to the IBEW's million-member mission.

"EWMC is part of the coalition to reach a million … plus. Our diversity is our strength. If you do the work, it doesn't matter who you are — you belong in the IBEW and the EWMC," he said. "We know what we've been charged to do. Now let's do it."

A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Themes of Education, Growth Mark RENEW/NextGen Caucus



Civic and Community Engagement Director Jennifer Gray welcomed participants to the pre-convention caucus on the IBEW's RENEW/NextGen affinity initiative. Gray's office has oversight of the program.

On the Thursday before the opening of the union's 41st International Convention, more than 300 IBEW members representing their locals' RENEW and NextGen committees heard from International President Kenneth W. Cooper about how the program is playing a key role in helping the IBEW grow toward his million-member goal.

"I don't care if you've been in the IBEW 10 weeks or 10 years," Cooper told the group, adding that RENEW/NextGen, for younger members, is the union's fastest-growing affinity group. "If you pay your dues and you're willing to put in the work, you can be a leader in this union."

An initiative that grew out of the IBEW's 38th Convention, Reach Out and Engage Next-Generation Electrical Workers — better known as RENEW — aims to help the union's 35-and-younger members become active in their local unions. In Canada, the program is known as NextGen.

"What began as an idea has grown to 221 local committees across North America," said Civic and Community Engagement Director Jennifer Gray, who oversees the program. "Leadership is not something that happens overnight. It's built through experience, service and a willingness to step forward when called."

Starting RENEW/NextGen was one of the IBEW's smartest investments, "especially when it comes to making IBEW power felt at the ballot box," said International Secretary-Treasurer Paul Noble. "You guys know your co-workers and communities," he said. "It's crucial that you talk to them about what's at stake."

International Executive Committee Chair Joseph Calabro added that longtime IBEW members have a responsibility to open doors for new members. "The strength of the IBEW has never been about where we are today," he said. "It's about who's going to carry this Brotherhood forward tomorrow."

The afternoon's panel discussions were led by members of RENEW/NextGen's international advisory committee, starting with a talk about building and sustaining strong committees for locals. Moderated by Las Vegas Local 357's Ronnie Young, that panel's members were Providence, R.I., Local 99's Sidney Jablonski; Pittsburgh Local 29's Jordan Layhew; Baton Rouge, La., Local 995's Stephanie La Prairie; and Youngstown, Ohio, Local 64's Chris Platten.

The second panel focused on how RENEW/NextGen leaders can help their fellow members understand the connection between the union's political and legislative engagement and work opportunities. Moderator Dylan Gorman, business manager of Madison, Wis., Local 965, led the discussion with Utility Director Drew Stover; Construction and Maintenance Director Matt Paules; and Erica Fein, the Government Affairs Department's legislative and policy director.

"Your local union leadership has to develop and maintain political relationships," Paules said, "but you, the rank-and-file members, give them the ability and influence to do that."

Wrapping up the afternoon meeting was a talk about mental health resources, beginning with remarks from Matthew Hutto of Houston Local 66, who spoke about treating his own mental health struggles like an apprenticeship.

"Some days I do well, some days I get my butt kicked, but every day, I aim to make progress," he said. "We're trained to watch each other's backs on the job. We need to do the same thing when the workday ends."

In her presentation, Lyndsee Cooper, the IBEW-NECA Family Medical Care Plan's director for mental health awareness and advocacy, said the FMCP has added several mental health resources in recent years.

"We never know when someone around us might be struggling," she said, "or when a single conversation could save a life."

Also on the international RENEW/NextGen advisory committee are Vancouver, British Columbia, Local 213's Manny Randhawa; Colorado Springs Local 113's Justin McMahon; Little Rock, Ark., Local 295's Jackie McGarvey; Kansas City, Mo., Local 124's Billy Crain; and Los Angeles Local 11's Alan Mora. ▮

Women's Conference Brings Message of Courage

IBEW women and their allies filled a ballroom at the San Diego Convention Center for the Women's Conference prior to the beginning of the 41st IBEW International Convention.

"Together, we are creating a legacy where women will have the space to create opportunities and build networks that strengthen their local union, the community and each other," said IBEW Civic and Community Engagement Director Jennifer Gray.

Attendees heard from International President Kenneth W. Cooper, International Secretary-Treasurer Paul Noble, International Executive Committee Chair Joseph Calabro, Ninth District International Vice President Dave Reaves and members of the International Women's Committee.





Women members and allies heard from IBEW leadership at the Women's Conference, held before the start of the convention, and about services available for them on a variety of issues.

"As we begin this conference, may we leave here stronger, more connected and ready for what comes next," said Erin Sullivan, International Women's Committee member for the Third District. "Because when IBEW women stand together, we don't just make room at the table, we make the table bigger."

Cooper told those in attendance that there are 104 Women's Committees throughout the U.S. and Canada, beating the goal of 100 by the convention.

"It's not enough, but it continues to grow," he said, further noting that 34% of new apprentices are women and people of color, and that there has been a 90% increase in the number of women apprentices in the past seven years.

Retired Fourth District International Vice President Gina Cooper told attendees that becoming the first woman in that role was never something she aspired to do.

"I'm almost embarrassed to tell you how close I came to refusing the position outright," she said. "Not because I didn't think I could do the job. I knew I could do the job. I just didn't want to have to prove it — again."

But, she said, leadership often means rising above inequality, because when one woman speaks out, another finds her voice.

"It means refusing to shrink yourself so someone else can feel comfortable, and remembering that you don't have to be fearless to be courageous," she said.

The speeches were followed by a panel discussion that offered guidance on a variety of workplace topics.

"I appreciated the panel's advice," said Dianna O'Brien, business manager of Lincoln, Neb., Local 2366, a manufacturing local. "There are differences between working in manufacturing and construction, but the advice still applies."

The portion of the conference on mental health included information from Lyndsee Cooper, director of mental health awareness and advocacy for the NECA/IBEW Family Medical Care Plan.

She shared that one in five adults in the U.S. has experienced a mental health issue, which comes out to roughly 61.5 million people, including 183,200 IBEW members. She emphasized women's mental health as it relates to issues including postpartum depression and shared information on services offered through the FMCP, such as suicide prevention training and its Member Assistance Program.

The conference ended with a discussion of the difference between being a bystander to harassment and being an "upstander," someone who speaks up and works against such treatment. The training is available through the IBEW Education Department and details different methods for intervening when someone witnesses harassment.

"Learning about the different intervention styles was helpful because not everybody is comfortable being confrontational," said Josee Ellei, a member from New Brunswick attending the convention as a NextGen delegate. NextGen is IBEW Canada's young-worker initiative.

For Sullivan, groups like the International Women's Committee will be needed until women achieve true equality on the job.

"We're still dealing with dynamics like 'John has to work himself out of a job and Mary has to work herself into one,'" she said. "If we can get the decision-makers into a room of the Women's Conference, they would see the energy and power they're failing to tap into. Women get things done. Why wouldn't any business manager want that for their membership?" ▮

A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Members Urged to Seize Political Momentum and 'Keep Fighting'



International President Kenneth W. Cooper addresses the Government Affairs Caucus, between Political Director Joseph Zahorik and Legislative Director Erica Fein.

Momentum is on the side of working families heading into November's midterm elections, IBEW officials and allies said Sept. 18 during the Government Affairs Caucus.

But that will matter little if union members don't vote in greater numbers — and don't fight back against the Trump administration's plans to make it more difficult for many Americans to vote.

"People hear news stories about how it is going to be a big 'blue wave' and start to think their vote is less important," Political Director Joseph Zahorik said. "I implore all of you to keep your foot on the gas, ignore the polls and keep fighting for every single vote. This is our fight, specifically."



One attendee of the Government Affairs Caucus showed his commitment to the Brotherhood on the back of his T-shirt.

> "We need your leadership now more than ever. ... Unions are one of the first and strongest organizations to protect our constitutional rights."
>
> *– U.S. Rep. Sara Jacobs, a California Democrat*

Zahorik and other speakers advised attendees to take three steps:

- Take a few minutes to confirm that you are registered, and help others do the same.
- Commit to at least one date of canvassing or calling on behalf of an IBEW-endorsed candidate.
- Volunteer or recruit someone to work as a poll worker.

"We need your leadership now more than ever," U.S. Rep. Sara Jacobs, a California Democrat whose district includes parts of San Diego, told the caucus. "Unions are one of our most powerful tools to encounter the rise of authoritarianism. Unions are one of the first and strongest organizations to protect our constitutional rights."

One of the caucus's themes was "Make It Too Big to Rig," a reference to not only winning in November elections, but doing so with a large enough margin to protect against false attempts to challenge the results.

IBEW membership has soared past 900,000. But the Trump administration has canceled thousands of jobs that were to be filled by electrical workers, particularly in clean energy.

"Political action is absolutely crucial to everything we do, as you know all too well," International President Kenneth W. Cooper said. "We can't lead in our communities and our industries if the elected offices are set on stopping each one of us and what we want to do."

David Carpio, the AFL-CIO's political director, urged members to build relationships with election officials in their home areas before the November vote. He also reminded attendees they can call 1-866-OUR-VOTE to speak with a trained election volunteer for help with a pressing matter, such as someone wrongly being denied a chance to vote on Election Day.

A panel of four business managers discussed ways to counter the public's and some lawmakers' shifts in attitudes toward data centers. More are speaking out against them, even though they provide good jobs with life-changing benefits for electricians and other skilled construction workers.

The Government Affairs Department distributed a list of the IBEW's four data center principles to help counter those attacks, one of which is that that data center operators should pay their fair share for energy so residential customers are protected.

Chicago Local 134 Business Manager Don Finn said it is vital for local unions to have a healthy political action fund. Nothing gets a politician's attention quicker than when an organization no longer donates financially to their campaign, he said.

Local 134 recently cut off donations to some Illinois legislators after they signed a letter calling for a moratorium on further data center construction in the state.

"You signed a letter against our membership," said Finn, who serves on the International Executive Council. "You're done. We'll find the next candidate. That's the way it's got to be."

There is a positive side to the ongoing debate, however. Companies building data centers are increasingly calling on the IBEW to help navigate the government approval process — and Finn and others urged attendees to take advantage of that.

"They're getting us in the doors at high schools and vocational programs that previously would not give us the time of day," Dallas-Fort Worth Local 20 Business Manager Price Warwick III said. "They're getting us in there to talk about what a career in the trades looks like.

"Now, we have a repeat relationship with that school when we couldn't get the school board to return our phone calls." ▮

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LEADING THE INDUSTRY

‘Incredible’ IBEW Expo Showcases Union’s Past, Present and Future

With IBEW museum exhibits dating to the 1890s and allied vendors promoting everything from time-tested boots and tools to organizing software and healthcare apps, the sprawling Electrical Industry Expo at the 41st International Convention was a testament to 135 years of innovation.

“What an incredible room full of people dedicated to our industry and our IBEW members,” International President Kenneth W. Cooper told an exuberant crowd moments before he and International Secretary-Treasurer Paul Noble cut the pavilion’s ceremonial ribbon Friday morning.

The expo’s 170 vendors and exhibitors not only broke the IBEW’s record — 114 in St. Louis in 2016 — it was nearly twice as large as the 2022 exhibition in Chicago.

Support Services Director David Salazar attributes the surge to rising membership and the IBEW’s expanding partnerships with pro-union — and often unionized, many by the IBEW — companies and nonprofits.

That included insurers; financial and mortgage programs; healthcare providers; union-focused software developers; North American manufacturers of work gear, tools and safety equipment; T-shirt and novelty makers; and IBEW employers such as Southern Co., a major U.S. utility.

“The whole goal of the expo is to provide a platform for our partners so that members and local leaders can get face-to-face time with the people who provide products and services that help them and help the IBEW,” Salazar said.

First, though, delegates and guests entering the expo found themselves inside the story of the IBEW, as told through traveling museum exhibits going back to Henry Miller and the band of brothers who founded the union in 1891.

“This is my first time here, and it’s an honor to see the experiences of our past brotherhood,” said Angel Sanchez of Phoenix Local 769, whose 9- and 13-year-old daughters were looking up at panels showing trailblazing IBEW women as far back as 1896.

“To see where we came from and where we are now is a big eye-opener,” Sanchez said.

After the expo closed Sept. 20, parts of the museum were moved to the lobby near the delegates’ entrance to the convention hall.

“The goal of the museum is for members to not only see the progress the union has made over the past 135 years, but to see their place in it, as well,” said IBEW Museum curator Curtis Bateman. “All the objects are taken from the archive at the International Office in Washington, D.C., and many haven’t seen the light of day in decades because the collection is so large.”

IBEW pride pulsated on the promotional side of the expo, too, where exhibitors were eager to show and tell the ways their products and services can help the union thrive.

“It’s such a win-win,” said Dr. Kimberly Moore at the booth for the Clean Technology Training Trust, a nonprofit that unites labor, industry, education, government and donors to develop training for tomorrow’s workforce.

“We are building on the great history of the IBEW and using it as a bridge to move into the future,” said Moore, the organization’s executive director. “That means growing our membership, expanding our jurisdiction in the areas of transportation, advanced manufacturing, batteries, etc. It’s a huge opportunity for locals to play a major role in driving the destiny of a larger, million-member-plus IBEW.”

For Salazar, the expo was his sixth and last, as he prepared to retire in late September after 30 years in the IBEW’s Support Services Department.

“It’s been incredible. There’s a buzz,” he said of his final show. “For this to be the best expo, the most attended, the most represented by our partners, it feels like a victory lap.”



Members of El Paso, Texas, Local 960 stop by the Huskie Tools booth a one of many exhibiting heavy-duty tools and climbing and safety gear.



At the expo’s museum, sisters Frida and Natalee Sanchez gaze at panels celebrating the history of IBEW women. Nearby, their father, Angel Sanchez of Phoenix Local 769, and mother, Elizabeth, watched with pride.

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www.617mediagroup.com

636 Union Apparel
www.636unionapparel.com

A. Philip Randolph Institute
www.apri.org

AECInspire
www.aecinspire.com

AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust
www.aflcio-hit.com

AG Force Transport Services
www.agforcets.com

Allen Bates Technologies Inc.
www.allenbates.com

Alliance for Retired Americans
www.retiredamericans.org

Amalgamated Bank
www.amalgamatedbank.com

Amalgamated Employee Benefits Administrators
www.amalgamatedbenefits.com

American Income Life Insurance
www.ailife.com

American Manufacturers
www.americanbenchcraft.com

American Roots Wear
www.americanrootswear.com

American Technical Publishers
www.atplearning.com

American Time Companies
www.american-time.com

Ameriserv Financial Inc.
www.ameriserv.com

Apex Tool Group LLC
www.apextoolgroup.com

ASB Capital Management LLC
www.asbcm.com

Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance
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Awards & T-Shirts Specialists Inc.
www.awardsandtshirts.com

Bank of Labor
www.bankoflabor.com

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www.beaconpointe.com

BeneSys
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Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Group
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Blackout Tees
www.blackouttees.com

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Bronson Creative
www.bronsoncreative.net

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www.bumperactive.com

CAEL (Council for Adult and Experiential Learning)
www.cael.org

Cementex Products Inc.
www.cementexusa.com

CIGNA Healthcare
www.cigna.com

Coalition of Black Trade Unionists
www.cbtu.org

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www.color.com

Columbia Partners Private Capital
www.cpprivatecap.com

Current Tools
www.currenttools.com

Cutco Knives / UnionBlade
www.unionblade.com

Day & Night Solar
www.dayandnightsolar.com

Delta Dental
www.deltadental.com



The Electrical Industry Expo featured 170 vendors and exhibitors, a convention record.

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www.dewalt.com

DragonWear
www.truenorthgear.com/dragonwear

Eberts & Harrison Inc.
www.ebertsandharrison.com

Electric Power Research Institute
www.epri.com

Electrical NOW
www.electricalnow.com

Electrical Training Alliance
www.electricaltrainingalliance.org

Electrical Workers Minority Caucus
www.ibew-ewmc.org

Electrical Workers Without Borders North America
www.ewwbna.org

Empower
www.empower.com

EnTrust Global
www.entrustglobal.com

EPRLive
www.eprlive.com

FallTech
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Fengate Asset Management
www.fengate.com

Fluke Corporation
www.fluke.com

Foster & Foster Actuaries and Consultants
www.foster-foster.com

Four Leaf Federal Credit Union
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www.fulcrumapp.com

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www.gcmgrosvenor.com

Green Imaging
www.greenimaging.net

Hello Heart Inc.
www.helloheart.com

Helmets to Hardhats
www.helmetstohardhats.org

Hudson Edge Investment Partners Inc.
www.hudsonedgeip.com

Humana Group Medicare Advantage
www.humana.com

Huskie Tools
www.huskietools.com

IBEWmade.com
www.ibewmade.com

Image Pointe
www.imagepointe.com

IronRootz
www.ironrootz.com

JNCTN
www.jnctn-inc.com

John Hancock Retirement Services
www.johnhancock.com

Johnson Kendall Johnson Inc.
www.jkj.com

Juno
www.junokids.com

K&R Branding Solutions
www.gokandr.com

Kaiser Permanente
www.kp.org

Klein Tools Inc.
www.kleintools.com

Labor Council for Latin American Advancement
www.lclaa.org

LaborFirst
www.laborfirst.com

Laborstrong
www.laborstrong.live

Lantern
www.lanterncare.com

Linebird
www.linebird.net

Local Infusion Center
www.mylocalinfusion.com

Locomotive Engineers & Conductors Mutual Protective
www.lecmpa.org

MAD Promo
www.madpromo.com

Marathon Health
www.marathon.health

March of Dimes
www.marchofdimes.org

Mechanix Wear
www.mechanix.com

Milwaukee Tool
www.milwaukeetool.com

Mosaic Learning Inc.
www.mosaiclearning.com

Mosaic Printing
www.mosaic.buzz

MWG Apparel Corporation
www.mwgapparel.com

MYHEALTH.US
www.myhealth.us

National Cable Splicing Certification Board
www.ncscbinc.com

National Clean Transportation & Advanced Manufacturing
www.cleantechnologytrainingtrust.org

National Real Estate Advisors
www.natadvisors.com

National Sisterhood United for Journeymen Linemen
www.nsujl.org

National Utility Industry Training Fund
www.nuitf.org

NC Media Services
www.ncmediaservices.com

NEP Services
www.nepservices.com

Novak Francella CPAs
www.novakfrancella.com

Part D Advisors
www.partdadvisors.com

Pereira Wealth Management
www.pereiawm.com

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www.poweryourcommunity.org

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www.premisehealth.com

PrepWell Industry
www.prepwell-industry.com

Principal Financial Group
www.principal.com

Progyny Inc.
www.progyny.com

Promote Unions
www.promoteunions.com

Quanta Services Lazy Q Line School
www.quantaservices.com

Rael-Letson
www.rael-letson.com

Ripley Tools LLC
www.ripley-tools.com

Rowan University
www.rowan.edu

SAI Actuarial Services
www.nioflo.com

SavRX Prescription Services
www.savrx.com

Scarborough Alliance
www.planmember.com

ScreenSafe Inc.
www.screensafeinc.com

Secure Unions / Onsite Logic
www.secureunions.com

Segal Marco Advisors
www.segalmarco.com

Seminole Promotional Products
www.seminolepromo.com

Sharp Business Systems
business.sharpusa.com

Soleo Health
www.soleohealth.com

Solidaritus Health
www.solidaritus.com

Southern Company Services
www.southerncompany.com

SPARK Federal Credit Union
www.sparkcu.org

Stars & Stripes Inc.
www.ss-ink.com

State Street Investment Management
www.statestreet.com

Studson Inc.
www.studson.com

The Frank Doolittle Company
www.frankdoolittle.com

The Labor 411 Foundation
www.labor411.org

ThinkEDU
www.thinkedu.com

Thorogood Boots
www.thorogoodusa.com

TruHearing
www.truhearing.com

Tucker-Haskins & Associates
www.tucker-haskins.com

Tyndale Company Inc.
www.tyndaleusa.com

Ullico
www.ullico.com

Union Bank and Trust
www.unionbankandtrust.com

Union Insurance Group Inc.
www.uigins.com

Union Labor Works
www.unionlaborworks.com

Union One
www.unionone.com

Union Plus
www.unionplus.org

Union Sportsmen's Alliance
www.unionsportsmen.org

Union Strong App
www.unionstrongapp.com

Union Worx
www.unionworx.cloud

United HealthCare
www.uhc.com

Universal Promotions
www.universalpromotions.com

Utilities Employees Credit Union
www.uecu.org

Viveka Health
www.vivekahealth.com

Web Connectivity LLC
www.webconnectivity.com

WellRithms
www.wellrithms.com

WESCO
www.wesco.com

WIN Fertility
www.winfertility.com

Working Systems Inc.
www.workingsystems.com

Youngstown Glove Company
www.ytgloves.com

Zubie Wear
www.zubiewear.com

UNION POWER

Local Leader Kicks Off Convention With 'IBEW Day' Proclamation

Paloma Aguirre, chair pro tem of San Diego County's Board of Supervisors, presented delegates Monday morning with a proclamation designating Sept. 21, 2026, as IBEW Day in the county.

"I am so proud of the work you have done over these last years," she said during her remarks welcoming delegates to the IBEW's 41st International Convention. "I am so incredibly excited of what the future holds for IBEW."

Lauding the union's 125-year history in the county, Aguirre noted how the three locals with jurisdiction in it — San Diego locals 465 and 569, along with Diamond Bar, Calif., Local 47 — represent more than 5,400 workers who keep the region running. "This is what power looks like," she said.

"You're living through something historic," she added: "Twenty thousand projects, $2 trillion in customer spending, utilities planning $1.4 trillion on the grid over five years."

> "When we build water systems, when we upgrade the grid, when we expand power to serve our growing economy, those are IBEW projects."
>
> – *Paloma Aguirre, chair pro tem of San Diego County's Board of Supervisors*

The county supervisor, who recently introduced legislation to fight craft misclassification and wage theft, was introduced by Local 569 Business Manager Jeremy Abrams, who described her as a "fierce advocate for workers, unions and every member of our community."

"Paloma has consistently stood shoulder to shoulder with us," Abrams said, "fighting for fair wages, safe working conditions and the dignity that every worker deserves."

Aguirre represents the southern part of the county and is a former mayor of Imperial Beach. She said she became an activist when she learned that her community had some of the most polluted water in the U.S., contaminated by untreated waste leaking into the Tijuana River from Mexico.



Sept. 21 was proclaimed IBEW Day in San Diego County. Pictured from left: Ninth District International Vice President Dave Reaves, County Supervisor Paloma Aguirre, Local 465 Business Manager Nate Fairman, Local 569 Business Manager Jeremy Abrams and Local 47 Business Manager Colin Lavin.

"Organizing can bring attention. It can move government," she said. "But somebody still has to build a solution, especially if it's an infrastructure solution.

"The solution is somebody running the pipes, pouring the concrete, pulling the wires and connecting the power, turning it on, and making it work," Aguirre said. "That's you. That's IBEW."

And while the federal government may be walking back clean energy investments and canceling projects, she said, "San Diego County isn't backing down."

"When we build water systems, when we upgrade the grid, when we expand power to serve our growing economy, those are IBEW projects," Aguirre said. "Those are IBEW apprenticeships. Those are local jobs. Those are IBEW family wages and standards that don't change."

Those standards include apprenticeships like those provided by the IBEW, which Aguirre said are the best deal for working people who don't want to be saddled with thousands of dollars of college debt.

"People need training, a standard," she said, "people who know the craft standing behind them."

Mayor Welcomes Delegates to Proudly Pro-Union San Diego

Delegates started the third day of the 41st IBEW International Convention with a speech from San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria, a longtime partner of the IBEW.

"He stood shoulder to shoulder with us and signed a seven-year project labor agreement worth $635 million," said San Diego Local 569 Business Manager Jeremy Abrams, who introduced Gloria with fellow Southern California Business Managers Nate Fairman of San Diego Local 465 and Colin Lavin of Diamondbar Local 47. "A PLA that is creating generational wealth, changing lives and developing more apprenticeship opportunities for our members."



San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria signed a groundbreaking city-wide project labor agreement in 2024.

> "We recognize that when workers have a voice, earn fair wages and return home safely at the end of the day, our entire community is stronger."
>
> – *San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria*

Gloria recalled that San Diego was long considered an anti-union stronghold, but thanks to decades of hard work by the labor movement, it has transformed into a place where workers can thrive.

"We recognize that when workers have a voice, earn fair wages and return home safely at the end of the day, our entire community is stronger," he said.

Part of the revolution included Gloria signing the bill to create a city-wide PLA for nearly all city-funded construction, making San Diego the first major city in the U.S. to do so.

Gloria said the theme of the convention — "Powering a Brighter Future" — reflects the story of San Diego as it shed its anti-worker reputation and reinvented itself.

"This future will not build itself, nor will it power itself. Skilled workers will," Gloria said. "And as we modernize our electric grid, expand clean energy, build more housing and strengthen our infrastructure, the infrastructure our communities depend on, we will need highly trained electrical workers to make that happen."

Gloria also thanked the delegates who participated in the Day of Service on Sept. 17, when hundreds of IBEW members cleaned up different areas of the city.

"On behalf of the people of San Diego, thank you for leaving our city even better than you found it," Gloria said. "That spirit of service says a great deal about this union."

UNION POWER

Electrical Workers Without Borders ‘Making a Profound Difference’ in Navajo Nation



Deenise Becenti represented the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority on the convention stage Sept. 22. She was joined by former New York City Local 3 Business Manager Chris Erikson, who is president of EWWBNA.

A longtime IBEW leader was joined onstage at the 41st International Convention by a tribal utility official to highlight the work done at the Navajo Nation by Electrical Workers Without Borders North America — and commit to expanding the effort.

“We all take electricity for granted. We just assume that when we turn on a switch, the lights come on. But for millions around the world, electric power is still out of reach,” International President Kenneth W. Cooper said when he introduced EWWBNA President Chris Erikson and the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority’s Deenise Becenti, who was there to highlight the Brotherhood’s work with her tribe.

Roughly the size of West Virginia, the Navajo Nation comprises 27,000 square miles in northern Arizona, northwestern New Mexico and southeastern Utah. Approximately 9,000 families live without electricity, which accounts for 75% of all U.S. households that live without power.

> “Our IBEW volunteers are making a profound difference in [Native American] lives.”
>
> *– EWWBNA President Chris Erikson, a former New York City Local 3 business manager and International Executive Committee chair*

“We are bringing power to the homes of Native Americans who have never had electricity, and our IBEW volunteers are making a profound difference in their lives,” said Erikson, a former New York City Local 3 business manager and International Executive Committee chair.

Becenti, the government and public affairs manager of the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority, the organization the IBEW works with, expressed her gratitude for the union’s continued support with the partnership Naasgo’ Wiring the Navajo Nation.

“In Navajo, we would say, ‘Ahxe’hee Nitsaago — Ta’yisshe’ Ba’he’da’ne’stin Ni’he’Dine’ Ba’ka’o’jee’,” she said, “which means we are extremely grateful and deeply appreciate that you have helped our people.”

EWWBNA was started by International President Emeritus Edwin D. Hill. The nonprofit organization has also worked in countries including Angola, Peru and Haiti.

“The theme for this year’s International convention is befitting: ‘Powering a Brighter Future,’” Becenti said. “It’s a perfect description of what we are trying to do. It’s all about people helping people, neighbor helping neighbor. Through Naasgo’ we are dramatically changing lives — especially for future generations.”

Erikson implored the delegates to donate whatever funds they can, noting that it’s the best way to support the EWWBNA currently. For those who wish to contribute, go to **http://ewwbna.org/donate.**

The EWWBNA presentation followed the delegates’ approval of Resolution No. 2, which supports the work of Electrical Workers Without Borders. ▮

Congress’ Only Electrician Urges IBEW Members to Run for Office

U.S. Rep. Donald Norcross, a journeyman inside wireman with Folsom, N.J., Local 351, who has represented New Jersey’s 1st Congressional District since 2014, delivered an inspiring and challenging message Sept. 22 to delegates of the 41st IBEW International Convention.

“It is remarkable that, somehow, a kid growing up in Pennsauken, who didn’t go to college, ends up as a member of Congress,” said the former Local 351 business representative as he proudly showed convention delegates his IBEW membership card.



> “You know the dignity of going to work with your hands and your brain.”

Rep. Donald Norcross, a New Jersey Democrat and Local 351 member, urged convention delegates to run for office.

Norcross credited the union and the larger labor movement for getting him to where he is today, considering how a lot of elected officials don’t understand what electrical workers do.

“So many politicians think they understand what labor wants, versus what workers actually know they need,” he said. “When they start talking about cutting OSHA — how it’s just overhead and it’s no good — I get really passionate about this, because in my career in the field, unfortunately, three times, somebody on my job didn’t go home.”

Norcross, who sits on the House Labor and Education Committee, also co-chairs the 125-member Congressional Labor Congress, which works on putting issues important to working people in the forefront.

The congressman noted that in June, his Fair Labor Standards Act passed the House of Representatives. The bill aims to speed the process for newly created bargaining units to reach a first contract.

“Now we’ve got to get it to our friends in the Senate,” he said.

Norcross also encouraged members to run for local office whenever possible.

“Things change when you’re in the room,” he said. “You understand what it means to be on the job, and you bring those experiences whether it’s to a board of education, local town council, mayor, commissioner, state legislator or even to a member of Congress.

“You know the dignity of going to work with your hands and your brain,” he added. “And the values that you grew up with in the IBEW, about working hard and learning the craft, will make a difference that helps to change the course of American history.” ▮

UNION POWER

Delegates Approve Pension, Death Benefit Increases

Delegates voted Sept. 22 to enhance the IBEW's monthly Pension Benefit Fund payout to $5.50 per month multiplied by all years of service for "A" members.

Since the 40th International Convention in Chicago in 2022, the benefit had been calculated at $4.50 per month for all years prior to 2023 and at $5.50 per month since 2023.

Based on the Law Committee's recommendations, delegates also approved a $2 increase in monthly contributions — $1 in July 2027 and $1 in July 2029, for a total of $25 a month.



International Secretary-Treasurer Paul Noble presents the plan to increase "A" members' pension and death fund benefits, which delegates approved by acclamation.

> "You get every penny you pay in contributions back in the first five years and six months of collecting benefits."

International Secretary-Treasurer Paul Noble said a member who retires at age 62 after 30 years of service will have paid $9,000 into the fund. They will earn that amount back in full in less than six years while receiving an annual benefit of $1,584.

"You get every penny you pay in contributions back in the first five years and six months of collecting benefits," Noble said. "That's a 100% payback in 66 months. The average participant draws PBF for 240 months."

Additionally, death benefits were increased to $13,500 for accidental death, $6,750 for death by natural causes, and a minimum benefit of $3,250.

Between the PBF and minimum death payments, a beneficiary would earn nearly $35,000 over 20 years.

Delegates Vote to Strengthen General Fund

Delegates to the 41st International Convention on Sept. 22 approved an increase in members' contributions to the general fund, shoring up the union's finances while keeping dues low compared to other building trades.

International Secretary-Treasurer Paul Noble, who provided delegates with a report on the state of the union's general fund, recommended approval of a constitutional amendment to modestly raise the monthly per capita tax rate by $1 starting on July 1, 2027, with additional $1 increases taking effect each successive July 1 through 2031.

Noble pointed out that, even with such an increase, IBEW members' dues remain some of the lowest among all unions, well below those of other building trades and the labor movement at large.

"We came to this recommendation because we believe it is truly in the best interest of our members to keep our fiscal house in order," Noble said.

Law Committee Chairman Bob Dean, business manager of Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245, and Secretary Mark Lynch, business manager of Philadelphia Local 98, introduced the amendment and noted the committee's recommendation of concurrence.

"Based on the need for additional revenue to ensure continued growth, the information provided by International Secretary-Treasurer Noble, and the fact that the IBEW continues to have one of the lower per capita tax rates of any international union," Lynch said, "your committee believes that this amendment presents a responsible plan to protect and serve our Brotherhood until the next International Convention."

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Labor Leaders Sing IBEW's Praises, Call for Worker Unity

'This Union Is on a Tear': Shuler Salutes IBEW Progress in Homecoming Speech

Liz Shuler, AFL-CIO president and IBEW sister



AFL-CIO President and IBEW Sister Liz Shuler brought delegates to their feet Sept. 22 as she hailed the union as a trailblazer, celebrated the movement's growth and emphasized the work ahead, from electing pro-worker lawmakers in November to protecting jobs in the new AI universe.

"Wherever this economy is moving, the IBEW is moving with it — thinking about where the work will be five, 10 years from now, and making sure those jobs become good union careers," Shuler said in a speech filled with IBEW pride. "That's the mentality our entire labor movement needs."

A member of Portland, Ore., Local 125 and former assistant to the late International President Edwin D. Hill, Shuler was reelected in June as the first woman to lead the AFL-CIO.

While calling her job an "incredible honor," Shuler also told delegates: "I'm most proud of being your IBEW sister. To be here is like coming home."

Since she was first elected in 2022, the federation has skyrocketed past its organizing goal — a million new union members in 10 years — and now is determined to organize 2 million more inside five years.

The IBEW's own record-breaking growth spurs Shuler's optimism.

"Sisters and brothers, this union is on a tear right now — 24,000 new members last year, the most in a single year in half a century, and 37,000 more this year," she said to cheers.

Praising the IBEW's leadership team, she cited International Presi-

dent Kenneth W. Cooper's pivotal role on the AFL-CIO Executive Council.

"I am so damn proud of the vision he's brought in this moment and his relentless focus on organizing and growth," Shuler said. "Thank you for taking risks and challenging us all to be bold, and that's what we need in this moment."

She stressed that the movement's continued growth and power to fight for workers' rights is directly tied to the choices voters make at the polls between now and Nov. 3.

"I know some people get uncomfortable when we start talking politics. But here's the thing: Politics is already making decisions about us every single day — whether we can organize freely, whether our collective bargaining rights exist. Whether we're safe on the job and our retirements are going to be there for us," she said.

The AFL-CIO has committed to train 50,000 election-protection volunteers this fall and turn out 16 million union voters and their families — 2 million more than in the 2022 midterms.

"That means helping people register to vote," Shuler said. "Making sure they understand when and where they can vote, staffing voter-protection hotlines, as this administration keeps trying to intimidate people and discourage them from voting."

She said a new and critical question for candidates is where they stand on workers and artificial intelligence.

"We need to make sure the future of work is defined on our terms," she said. "If I'm out there on a power line, is AI going to be making decisions about our crew size, dispatch, workload, safety — without listening to the people who actually work around thousands of volts of electricity every day?"

Likewise, she said wiremen building giant data centers need to know if AI's opportunities also mean invasive monitoring and pressure to work faster or cut corners.

She pointed delegates toward the Workers First AI Initiative, launched by the AFL-CIO last October.

"We put our stake in the ground. We said: 'Here are our demands: We want humans in control. We want our seat at the table. We want training and upskilling for our workers. We want our civil rights protected. And we want our basic right to organize.'"

No matter how much technology has evolved, she said, "one thing that's never changed is the power of this union."

She's understood that power since childhood, when her father became a Local 125 lineman apprentice. "It changed everything for our family. That's what the IBEW does. It changes generations."

In a world where tech billionaires and anti-worker politicians have far too much control, she said the IBEW has a major role to play in building an economy that works for working people.

"One where innovation doesn't mean leaving workers behind," Shuler said. "Where jobs can sustain a family, where young people look at an apprenticeship the same way my dad did and say, 'That's my ticket to a better life.'"

NABTU President: IBEW's Growth, Strength Will Power North America's Future

Sean McGarvey, NABTU president



The IBEW is in the driver's seat as demand accelerates for available power and digital infrastructure, including the responsible expansion of data centers, the president of North America's Building Trades Unions told delegates Sept. 23.

"The growth, strength and influence of this union are evident to anyone paying attention," Sean McGarvey said, extolling the IBEW's strong leadership and unparalleled workforce.

"North America needs more power generation: more transmission, manufacturing, electrification, broadband, data and infrastructure," he said. "Every one of those opportunities will depend on the men and women of the IBEW to power, connect and define North America's future."

While data centers have become a major source of opportunity, McGarvey said he understands why they are controversial.

"Communities have legitimate questions about energy, water, land use and community impact. But the answer is not a moratorium that turns our backs on the work," he said.

"The answer is responsible development to make sure the work is done right — done by us, with real community engagement, common-sense guardrails, and written agreements that create family-sustaining union careers and lasting value for the communities where these projects operate."

The IBEW's values, training and performance give it the clout to fight for those kind of conditions, power that increases as the union grows, McGarvey said. "Every worker organized, every apprentice recruited, every contractor relationship strengthened and every agreement signed makes this union stronger."

He cited the IBEW's wide-net approach, from signing up nonunion journey-level electricians to recruiting and training diverse classes of young people, veterans and career-changers.

One measurement of success, he said, is that IBEW apprentice wiremen accounted for more than 14% of NABTU Apprenticeship Readiness Program placements last year, "making the electrical trades a destination for new workers."

More than ever, that includes women, he said, singling out the IBEW's dynamic sisterhood and the voice it brings to NABTU committees and conferences.

"IBEW tradeswomen show up in force and demonstrate exactly what leadership, mentorship and solidarity look like," McGarvey said.

He's especially proud of the IBEW's advocacy for mental health, saying the union has "long led the trades in safety, health and member wellbeing."

"Brothers and sisters, you're making an impact. In fact, suicides and overdoses are down across our industry," he said. "Your work is helping create the kind of culture we are striving for … where asking for help is treated as a sign of strength, and where brotherhood and sisterhood means showing up before a crisis becomes a tragedy."

International Labor Leaders Issue Call for Global Solidarity

Delegates heard messages of solidarity from labor leaders across the world on the final day of the 41st IBEW International Convention.

Representatives from Australia, Ireland, Italy and Sweden took to the stage and shared their thoughts on the importance of working together and continuing to foster the strong relationships between their unions and the IBEW.

Amedeo Testa, national secretary general of the Federation of Italian Electricity Company Workers



Amedeo Testa, the national secretary general of the Federation of Italian Electricity Company Workers, recounted the long history his union has with the IBEW, including the role the IBEW played in creating Italy's trade unions.

Testa also told the delegates about a group of New York City Local 3 members who traveled to Italy to mark the 25th anniversary of 9/11 and pay respects at a memorial in Padua, home to the largest 9/11 memorial outside the United States.

"This is what international trade union solidarity means to us: working together, helping one another and never leaving anyone behind," Testa said.

Urban Petterson, president of the Swedish Electricians Union



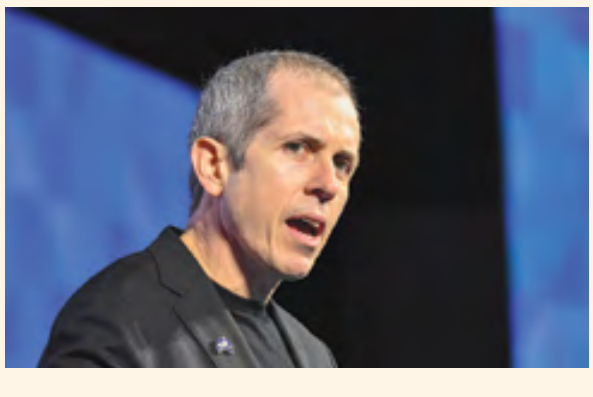
Urban Petterson, president of the Swedish Electricians Union, spoke about how international solidarity is more important now than ever.

LABOR ALLIES *continued on page 20*

UNION POWER

"Unions must cooperate across borders, just as companies do," he said. "We must share knowledge, support organizing efforts and defend workers' rights wherever they are threatened. No worker should be exploited so that a corporation can make larger profits."

Michael Wright, secretary of Australia's Electrical Trades Union



Michael Wright, secretary of Australia's Electrical Trades Union, told the delegates that "both of our countries are undergoing two industrial revolutions at the same time."

"Our job is to turn that work into good, union jobs," he said, adding that the future has never been brighter for both his union and the IBEW.

Wright thanked IBEW members for their financial support and in-person help as Australians recovered from devastating wildfires in 2019-20.

"That support was not just generous," he said. "It was a reminder of what union solidarity means."

Paddy Kavanagh, general secretary of Ireland's Connect Trade Union



Paddy Kavanagh, general secretary of Ireland's Connect Trade Union, noted that trade unions were formed in Ireland and by many immigrants to the U.S. to fight back against corrupt monarchies and government tyranny.

"Now, we have a new form of royalty," Kavanagh said. "Billionaires, trillionaires, with resources greater than some nations on the planet, who believe in a new age of domination by elites and oligarchs."

That makes the trade union movement more important now than at any time during the last century, he said.

"We must stand up against this," he said. "The best way to do it is to fight harder, continue to struggle, and ensure our principles of fairness, equality, respect and the building of a just society."

Kavanagh, who is retiring in November, said he was proud of the closer bonds built between the IBEW and his union during his 10-year tenure, beginning with an IBEW-sponsored training session that Connect members attended in Ann Arbor, Mich., in 2016.

Industry Partner

Quanta CEO Treasures His IBEW History

Earl "Duke" Austin, Quanta Services CEO



Quanta Services CEO Earl "Duke" Austin told delegates on Sept. 23 how humbling it was for him to stand in front of the 41st IBEW International Convention and see the many members who make things happen.

"It warms my heart, warms my soul," said Austin, who noted that his family experience with Houston Local 66 goes back generations. "I watched my granddad get his 50-year pin when I was 9."

He recalled another childhood scene: "My dad was just coming off a pole. He had creosote all over him, he'd hug me, put creosote on my face, and my mom would freak out."

The IBEW and Quanta are both growing, said Austin, who has served as Quanta's CEO since 2016.

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rs Honor Members' Leadership, Expertise

Family's

praised International President Kenneth W. the IBEW's other elected leaders for their to making things better for members and for

for you, the men and women in the field. I bout the great things these trades do every O said. "I love my job, and Kenny loves his s his ass off. That's why we get along."

nen the IBEW and Quanta are on opposite ssue, "we're still trying to win," Austin said. making things better for you and making for our people."

ieves the world is experiencing another volution.

ink about where the railroads were built and at were done," Austin said. "My granddad rom Galveston, Texas, into Houston. Today, facilities in West Texas where there is noth- eople will have to build towns and cities we're doing in electrification."

g a future like that requires journeyman elec-, he said.

ly way you get a journeyman is to have a jour- stin said. "I'm seeing money get put in the dreds of millions of dollars, and all of a sud- n are going to appear? That's not how it works. e not a commodity," he said. "You drive our nd you drive the future of everyone's

used Quanta's $5 billion, 3.5-gigawatt Sun Zia on and transmission project as one example. were messing with it for 15 years. They had eds of millions of dollars," he said. "There unication gap. People were talking past each other. I just said, 'Hey, I know Cooper. Let me just call him,'" Austin said.

And so in 2023, the IBEW signed a project labor agreement with Quanta to build the $1.3 billion, 580-mile transmission line in New Mexico and Arizona in support of Sun Zia.

At its peak, Sun Zia — one of the largest-ever renewable energy projects in North America — is expected to create more than 2,000 construction jobs across the Southwest.

"We were able to work together and have that thing solved because we communicated," Austin said.

Cooper noted that Austin's remarks were unscripted. "He spoke from his heart. That's the kind of person he really is," the international president said. "I'm very proud to say that every time Duke gave me his word, he's kept that word."

NECA CEO Long Lauds 125 Years of IBEW Partnership

David Long, National Electrical Contractors Association CEO



Addressing the 41st IBEW International Convention on Sept. 22, National Electrical Contractors Association CEO David Long compared his organization's 125-year relationship with the IBEW to two workers using a crosscut saw.

"It only works when both sides are working together," he said, "when both sides are in rhythm, one pushing and one pulling."

NECA was founded in 1901 to help electrical contractors across the United States grow their businesses safely and professionally. Today, most of the estimated 70,000 contracting firms in the U.S. are IBEW-NECA signatories.

"We can look back at periods of time in history when we worked together, the sawing was easier, the work was easier," Long said. "It is essential that we saw in rhythm."

Long has remained a card-carrying member of Jacksonville, Fla., Local 177 since 1975, when he began his construction wireman career with Miller Electric. He became Miller's president in 2012 and has served as NECA's CEO since 2019.

"I can't tell you how much I value the partnership we have with NECA," said International President Kenneth W. Cooper, who introduced Long. "I owe so much to David's vision and leadership."

Long said that electrical workers nowadays are the "cool kids."

"The work we're doing right now is so important in this country that every time you turn on the TV, they're talking about electrical workers," he said.

Long also noted how the IBEW-NECA partnership has led to several significant accomplishments, not least of which was the 2024 creation of the first new retirement benefit in nearly eight decades, the National Electrical Individual Benefit.

The CEO also lauded the collaboration of the two organizations on expanding IBEW apprenticeships and rolling out new hiring initiatives amid historic demand for skilled electrical workers.

"Our contractors and myself have been a part of seeing the largest increase in 'A' membership in five decades," he said. "We have record applicants; we have record numbers."

The IBEW-NECA partnership, Long said, also has led to the settlement in recent years of hundreds of local agreements and the resolution of more than 100 Council on Industrial Relations cases.

"We believe that every nonunion worker ought to be working for a NECA contractor belonging to the IBEW," he said. "No, we don't always agree, but we have some things in common, and the very things that keep us in common are the ties that bind.

"If we're going to power a brighter future, we have to sharpen ourselves, and we have to be in rhythm like never before," Long said. "Every moment going forward will take us pulling in a rhythm that has never been seen before, so we can change the industry, so we can reach 1 million members."



OUR LEGACY

Benefits Officer Lauds Ever-Growing Family of Funds, Urges Delegate Support



Darrin Golden, secretary-treasurer of the National Electrical Benefit Fund, told delegates that the IBEW's four medical and retirement plans now exceed $41 billion in net assets.

The IBEW's healthcare and retirement funds have grown to $41 billion in net assets, including an innovative defined-contribution plan launched in January 2025, Darrin Golden, secretary-treasurer of the National Electrical Benefit Fund, reported to delegates at the 41st IBEW International Convention on Sept. 23.

Golden described the Family of Funds, an umbrella title established in 2024, as "a substantial national benefit ecosystem" with over a million participants and 15,352 employers that contribute more than $3.2 billion a year.

Collectively, beneficiaries receive annual payments exceeding $2.2 billion. Golden said the figures "illustrate the remarkable growth and complexity of a benefit fund that began nearly 80 years ago."

"The history of the benefit funds is ultimately a story of commitment, adaptation and stewardship," he said. "As the electrical industry has changed, so too have the needs of its workforce."

Four plans are under the funding umbrella: the NEBF; the Family Medical Care Plan, or FMCP; the National Electrical Annuity Plan, or NEAP, for BA members; and the newest, the National Electrical Individual Benefit, or NEIB, rolled out by the NEBF after nearly a decade of planning by the IBEW and NECA.

"Brothers and sisters, I can only best describe this benefit as an absolute game-changer," Golden said. "It will fundamentally reshape and redefine the retirement benefits of electrical workers. It is absolutely as significant as the creation of the NEBF itself."

An optional benefit, the NEIB is funded by employers at a rate of 50 cents or more per hour worked, providing future retirees with an additional monthly benefit equal to 1.5% of contributions made on their behalf over their career. Since Jan. 1, 2025, 13 IBEW locals with more than 870 contributing employers have chosen to participate.

Golden urged delegates to support and advocate for all four funds.

"I ask you to work to band together and use these economic tailwinds that we have been so blessed with to propel our members toward a higher standard of living," he said, describing "a dignified retirement with multiple stable revenue streams and high-quality affordable healthcare with world-class customer service, the likes of which we have never seen."

'These Make Old Linemen Smile': Local 465 Retiree Honors Bygone Tools

In the final moments before the convention exhibit hall opened to the public the week before the 41st IBEW International Convention, Charlie Tuck was the calm center in a mass of increasingly frenetic last-minute preparations.

Tuck's booth was done. He was home. Tuck was the host and curator of the San Diego Local 465 museum, and everywhere he looked were images and artifacts that tell the Tuck family story as much as they trace the evolution of linemen's tools in far Southern California.

On one side were hand tools and photos that belonged to his father Charlie E. Tuck, and hanging between antique wood-handled hot sticks hung the tool belt of his grandfather William "Whispering" Tuck.

"He was a boomer," Tuck said, using the term for a construction lineman. "And I don't think I could fit my leg through that belt."

Tuck is a third-generation lineman from San Diego Local 465. He worked as a lineman for San Diego Gas and Electric for more than 40 years and retired in May 2025.

The family collection of antique glass and porcelain high-voltage line resistors and vintage tools draws linemen like a porch light draws moths. Especially the 30 oak-handled hot sticks that his father and grandfather used. Using rubber gloves to handle live wires wasn't allowed in California until the late '90s, Tuck said.

"These make old linemen smile when they see them. There was something about the finesse you needed to do everything with the sticks that we all miss," he said.

This is Tuck's first convention, and the exhibition hall is a much grander venue for his collection than he is used to.

"Normally, I am putting it all out on card tables in the dirt at a rodeo or an SDG&E safety meeting," he said.

The exhibit includes pictures from the '40s through the '80s, including a picture of his father topping out of his apprenticeship in 1964. He has dozens of insulators that he collected, inherited or bought, including glass ones in all colors, Pyrex, rubber, Bakelite and porcelain.

"We all look for the unique ones. The ones that have slumped in the heat or have faded into new colors from the sun. Some have what look like little snowflakes in the glass, and some you keep because they have a unique design," he said.

His oldest is an iron ram's-horn insulator, with a chunk of pole wood still attached, that held up telegraph wire along the transcontinental railway in the late 1800s. The rarest, and most valuable, are two pale green high voltage insulators about 10 inches tall that he converted into lamps.



The San Diego Local 465 Museum at the 41st IBEW International Convention's Exposition Hall showed off a part of member Charlie Tuck's family's extensive collection of lineman tools and memorabilia.

Below: Tuck has hand tools that any working lineman might find in his tool belt next to conductors and splicing tools that haven't been seen on a jobsite in three-quarters of a century, next to a picture of his father or grandfather using that same tool.



Tuck has a few pieces that show the evolution of conductors, including about 12 inches of a hollow high-voltage copper conductor about an inch and a half in diameter. The sleeve of the conductor is made up of flat copper panels about a half-inch wide with that slowly rotate around the open core. They are held together by tongue-and-groove joints. He also has another piece that has solid copper wire sheathing and a twisting copper I-beam running through the center.

"I have no idea how you splice that," he said, staring at the chunk of it in his hand.

What he likes about the old tools is the way they show tradesman adapting and learning as the trade changed voltages increased.

"I'm really into the history of line work, and I want the younger guys to know where we came from," he said.

SALUTE TO SERVICE

Helmets to Hardhats Leader Asks IBEW to Supercharge Veteran Recruitment



Above: The IBEW held a reception for veteran members the week before the convention aboard the USS Midway, which is now a museum in San Diego.

> "You guys are Number 1 out of all our affiliates. With a continued, focused coordination and commitment, this Brotherhood has the potential to be an absolute dominant recruitment resource for our veterans into the trades."
>
> *– Helmets to Hardhats Executive Director Martin Helms said the IBEW is among North America's strongest unions at integrating veterans.*

Helmets to Hardhats Executive Director Martin Helms spoke to delegates of the 41st International Convention on Sept. 23 about how his organization has helped thousands of military veterans find union building trades careers — himself included.

"I came into this Brotherhood as a young man, freshly off a deployment, seeking an opportunity that was real: a pathway to the middle class and a chance to build something solid," he said.

Founded in 2002, Helmets to Hardhats is a partnership among 15 NABTU affiliates, including the IBEW, to help veterans transition into to careers in the trades.

A member of Akron, Ohio, Local 306 who's served in the National Guard since in 1999, Helms became the first IBEW member to lead H2H as executive director in 2021.

He praised the IBEW for being among the strongest unions when it comes to veterans' integration.

"You guys are Number 1 out of all our affiliates," he said. "With a continued, focused coordination and commitment, this Brotherhood has the potential to be an absolute dominant recruitment resource for our veterans into the trades."

H2H works hand-in-hand with the IBEW's Veterans Electrical Entry Program, or VEEP, to support a pipeline of veterans into the electrical trades.

"Together, we expand opportunities available to veterans who want a career in this field," Helms said. He added that his own electrical career began "with tools in my hands, sweat on my brow and a union that gave me a chance when I needed it the most."

Across North America, H2H continues to grow, he said.

"Every year, more servicemembers, reservists and National Guard soldiers are looking toward the skilled trades as their next chapter," Helms said. "The number of career seekers through our program has climbed year after year, and many of them are choosing the electrical industry."

He said that this year's H2H recruitment figures are already comparable with the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division at full strength.

"This is the scale of opportunity that's in front of us," he said, although there is still a notable gap between interest and intake.

"It's not a failure, it's a signal: that with clear communication, stronger coordination and a more consistent use of this program, we can capture more of the talent that is already knocking," Helms said.

Strengthening partnerships between the electrical industry and veterans requires both parties to work together with clarity, purpose and solidarity, he added.

"Make sure every local understands how Helmets to Hardhats works," he said. "Make sure every veteran who applies gets a fair and consistent shot, and make sure the pathway is visible, accessible and clearly defined."

Across the military, servicemembers gain a variety of transferable electrical skills that align directly with the IBEW, Helms said.

"We shouldn't let that talent sit unused."

One strategy that would help is tightening coordination between locals and H2H, he said.

"When communication is strong, the veteran succeeds," Helms said. "When the process is streamlined, veterans get placed faster. And when we operate as partners, the entire electrical industry benefits."

The IBEW can help veterans build a future with a chance to belong to something bigger than themselves, Helms said, "a place where they can continue serving, this time by building North America.

"Together, we can build the next generation of linemen, inside wiremen, teledata technicians, utility workers, tree trimmers — and, most importantly, leaders."

The same day as Helms' address, the convention approved a resolution urging locals to appoint veterans advocates and form Veterans Committees. ▮

9/11 TRIBUTE



International President Kenneth W. Cooper leads convention delegates in a tribute to the IBEW members who lost their lives during the 9/11 attacks or by 9/11-related illness. Inset: New York City Local 3 President Tom Cleary reads the names of the IBEW's 9/11 fallen.

Delegates Recognize 25th Anniversary of 9/11, Remember Lost Colleagues

Convention delegates took a moment Sept. 24 to recognize the 25th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks and to honor the IBEW members who lost their lives during or as a result of the attacks.

New York City Local 3 President Thomas Cleary read the names of the members who died on 9/11, as well as the names of the members who later succumbed to certified 9/11-related illnesses resulting from exposure to toxins while working at the World Trade Center and other sites.

Cleary reported on the status of the IBEW Disaster Fund that was established to provide financial assistance to the families that lost loved ones on 9/11, as well as assistance to those affected by Hurricane Sandy.

The fund has collected nearly $4 million, which has been split among surviving 9/11 family members. In some cases, the beneficiaries will continue to receive assistance for the rest of their lives.

Additionally, the fund provided financial assistance to members from Local 3 and Long Island, N.Y., Locals 25 and 1049 after Hurricane Sandy. The fund collected donations totaling just over $1 million, which was distributed to members and their families.

Each check has "Please accept this small token of appreciation from the members of the IBEW" written on it.

"It was through the generosity of members such as yourselves that the IBEW Disaster Fund was established," Cleary said. "On behalf of the directors of the fund and the recipients of your generosity, I say thank you."

Upon conclusion of the report, International President Kenneth W. Cooper called for a moment of silence to honor all of those the Brotherhood has lost.

> "It was through the generosity of members such as yourselves that the IBEW Disaster Fund was established."
>
> *– New York City Local 3 President Thomas Cleary*

BROTHERHOOD

Affection, Respect Abound as Thursday Speakers Embrace Their IBEW Family

International President Emeritus Lonnie R. Stephenson headlined a series of speakers at the 41st IBEW International Convention on Sept. 24, talking proudly about his half-century as an IBEW brother.

A 50-year member of Local 145 in Rock Island, Ill., he told delegates: "I still have my full-dues-paid ticket in my pocket. And I'll have a full-dues-paid ticket in my pocket the day I die. I will never retire from my local."

Other speakers included International Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus Salvatore "Sam" Chilia and Walt Ingram, who leads the Union Sportsmen's Alliance.

Chilia is a second-generation member whose mother, a generator and alternator factory worker, was represented by Cleveland Local 1377. She collected an IBEW pension until her death in 2020 at age 99.

Saluting international officers "Coop, Paul and Joe" and members and leaders across the union, Chilia said that when he retired in 2017, "I believed the IBEW was in a strong position."

"But I have to tell you, the progress you've made since Chicago [at the 40th International Convention in 2022] has been remarkable," he said. "The gains of these last few years speak for themselves.



International President Emeritus Lonnie R. Stephenson, who retired in January 2023, said the IBEW's surging membership is "awesome" and told delegates, "I miss each and every one of you."



International Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus Sam Chilia addressed delegates via video. "The progress you've made since Chicago has been remarkable," he said.

"This union is stronger than ever, in position for an even brighter future. It has been inspiring to watch our brotherhood and sisterhood grow," Chilia added.

Stephenson also applauded the IBEW's substantial growth, saying he set a goal to surpass 700,000 active members during his tenure, from 2016 to January 2023.

"I think it's some 790,000 active members now," he said, looking toward International President Kenneth W. Cooper. "That's awesome."

While he's enjoying retirement, Stephenson told his IBEW family, "I miss each and every one of you. I miss being around you and I think about you all the time."

Union Sportsmen's Alliance CEO and Executive Director Walt Ingram thanked the IBEW for its support of the organization, noting that it has more members of the alliance than any other trade union.

Better yet, many of those 85,000 members answer the call on projects that further the alliance's mission of improving the public's access to the outdoors, especially for groups that have limited opportunities to do so.

"IBEW members aren't just supporting the Union Sportsmen's Alliance," Ingram said while addressing the 41st IBEW International Convention. "You are helping drive it."

"Whether it's an IBEW member … helping at a conservation dinner, competing at a sporting clays shoot, building a pier, improving a public park or taking the kids fishing, you are putting the values of the Brotherhood and Sisterhood at work into action," he added.

Founded in 2007 and recognized by the AFL-CIO, the Union Sportsmen's Alliance is the nation's largest organization dedicated to the outdoors that is entirely made up of union members.

It mobilizes those members for conservation projects, such as making wildlife areas more accessible and building outdoor boat ramps.

It also regularly hosts fishing events for children who have little or no experience with the outdoors. IBEW local unions also have hosted fundraisers for the alliance, which is often referred to as USA.

"That's really what the USA is all about," Ingram said. "Connecting union members with union leaders and connecting union locals with communities through conservation.

"You are also creating memories and leaving our outdoor heritage better than you found it," he added.

Ingram, a member of the machinists' union, has led the alliance since 2022.

"To everyone in this room who has volunteered, attended an event, supported a project or simply helped spread the word, if you hear nothing else I say today, thank you for what you do," he said. ▮



Walt Ingram, CEO and executive director of the Union Sportsmen's Alliance, thanked the IBEW for its support and said more IBEW brothers and sisters participate in USA than any other trade union.

Credentials Committee Report

A total of 2,032 delegates registered for the convention through Sept. 24, according to the Credentials Committee supplemental report presented Sept. 25 by International Executive Council Chair Joseph P. Calabro.

The delegates represent 597 local unions with a total membership of 696,572. The convention adopted the Credentials Committee's supplemental report. ▮

Delegates to Federation Conventions Appointed

The 41st IBEW International Convention on Sept. 25 approved the following delegates appointed by International President Kenneth W. Cooper to labor federation conventions:

AFL-CIO

Leticia Marcum, El Paso, Texas, Local 583
Jeffrey Heimerl, Minneapolis Local 292

Canadian Labour Congress

Jeffrey Wendt, Ottawa, Ontario, Local 2228
James Lofty, Vancouver, British Columbia, Local 213

North America's Building Trades Unions

Ryan Charney, Bay City, Mich., Local 692
Shaun Enright, Toledo, Ohio, Local 8

Metal Trades

Mark Lynch, Philadelphia Local 98
Glen Sell, Portsmouth, N.H., Local 2071

Maritime Trades Department

Sean Banks, Groton, Conn., Local 261

Union Label and Services Department

Sam Fratto, New City, N.Y., Local 363 ▮

Additional Reports and Appeals

Convention delegates unanimously approved the reports of the International Executive Council Report Committee, the International President Report Committee, the International Secretary-Treasurer Committee and the Finance Committee, and acted on a number of appeals. More information on these will be available in the Convention Proceedings. ▮

SHAPING THE FUTURE

Top Lawmakers Eager to Deliver Big Victories for IBEW

Delegates heard from Congress' two highest-ranking friends of labor Sept. 24, as Democratic leaders in the U.S. House and Senate sung the IBEW's praises and pledged to remain fierce advocates for the union on Capitol Hill.

In video addresses to the 41st International Convention, Sen. Chuck Schumer and Rep. Hakeem Jeffries, both New York Democrats, said the IBEW was essential to the narrow passage of historic pro-union bills under President Biden, and they are enthusiastic about how much more can be accomplished if their party wins control of Congress in November.

"When we win back the House of Representatives, we will pass the PRO Act to protect the right to organize, and — always and forever — we will promote Davis-Bacon prevailing wage standards," Jeffries said.

Schumer said the IBEW's fight for the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and 2022 CHIPS and Science Act is still paying dividends, even as the White House and Congressional Republicans erode the laws' provisions.

"Right now in New York, union workers are building Micron's new semi fab, the largest semiconductor plant in the nation," Schumer said.

Meanwhile, the infrastructure law "has created more building, more construction than we've seen in America in decades," he said. "And I insisted that every federal dollar be spent on union labor."

Over the past two turbulent years, he and Jeffries said, their party has been battling for workers, good jobs, organizing and bargaining rights, and more — making a few strides and staving off some of the worst attacks.

"So we're fighting hard, and if Democrats win back the Senate, you ain't seen nothing yet in terms of good labor jobs," said Schumer, who also cited permitting reforms and energy legislation benefiting consumers and workers as priorities.



"So we're fighting hard … you ain't seen nothing yet in terms of good labor jobs."

Sen. Chuck Schumer, the top Democrat in the Senate, said that "you ain't seen nothing yet" in terms of pro-union action if the Democrats retake Congress.



"We will pass the PRO Act to protect the right to organize, and … we will promote Davis-Bacon prevailing wage standards."

Rep. Hakeem Jeffries, House minority leader, pledging to deliver major pro-union victories if Democrats win control of Congress in November.

Ohio Senate Candidate Sherrod Brown Opens Friday Session

The final day of the 41st IBEW International Convention kicked off with a passionate call to arms by Ohio Democratic Senate candidate Sherrod Brown.

"Unions are the only real check we have in corporate power. Government's not doing it the way we should. Unions do. You're doing your part, but no one in Washington is standing up to the corporations that game this system and raise your prices and screw your workers," he said.

Brown served as a U.S. senator for three terms before being defeated in 2024. He is running again in a special election against incumbent Jon Husted.

Brown, appearing on video, recounted a recent visit to a swearing-in of new members in Reynoldsburg, Ohio, that was hosted by Fourth District International Representative Austin Keyser.

"I've never seen anything quite like that," he said. "I got to see 20 people raise their right hands and get sworn in, and they know their life was going to change. They know that they were going to make good wages, good benefits, healthcare, pension and good job security, something they never really probably thought they [would have.] Because they walked out of that job fair carrying a union card."

He closed with a call to overthrow the corrupt political class running the federal government this fall.

"I think about the lesson, any union organizer knows, they don't just give you collective bargaining rights. They don't just give you fair wages, or safe workplaces, or good benefits. … You have to go out and take it," he said. "This November, we're going to get it."



"Unions are the only real check we have in corporate power. Government's not doing it the way we should. Unions do."

Ohio's staunchly pro-union Sherrod Brown decried corporate and government abuses and affirmed labor's power to fight back and win. Brown is campaigning to return to the U.S. Senate after losing his seat to an anti-worker opponent in 2024.

SHAPING THE FUTURE

IBEW's Top Lawyer Urges Delegates to Fight Back Against Anti-Worker Policies

IBEW General Counsel Jon Newman addressed the delegates to the 41st IBEW International Convention on Sept. 25 with a clear-eyed message about the political and legal realities facing the IBEW in the middle of the second Trump administration.

"Law school teaches you that nothing — and I mean nothing — is random. Nothing is the result of the 'natural order of things.' Nothing is just the result of free market forces. Instead, everything is the result of law and policy choices that elected leaders make," said Newman, who has represented the labor movement before many courts and agencies, including Congress, the National Labor Relations Board and the Supreme Court.

And the reality, he said, is that even though times are good for many IBEW members, there is an assault on organized labor and working people in the U.S.

"There is nothing magical about being an electrician that says you will have a solid middle-class job. The reason IBEW members are solidly in the middle class is not because they are electricians. … It is because they are IBEW electricians," he said.



"You must be the ones to deliver that message because no one else will."

IBEW General Counsel Jon Newman addressed delegates Sept. 25 and urged them to get involved in politics at all levels.

Since the last convention, Newman said, multiple decisions by the Supreme Court have attacked the foundations of American organized labor.

In 2024, the Supreme Court ruled 6-3 in Loper Bright v. Raimondo that administrative agencies like the NLRB and the Department of Energy are not entitled to any deference from the court for their decision-making. Instead, unelected judges and justices can now more easily overrule those agencies' decisions.

Then earlier this year, in Trump v. Slaughter, by an identical 6-3 decision, the court ruled that the president has the power to fire members of "independent" federal agencies such as the NLRB for any reason.

"Take those two cases together, and our model of federal labor law in the United States, which has been in place since 1935, is less stable and less predictable than it has ever been," Newman said. "It makes it harder for you to do your jobs and organize because, even if you succeed at the NLRB, courts now have more room to overturn that victory and hand management and the nonunion sector a win."

The good news, he said, is that it doesn't have to be this way. There is an election just weeks after the close of the convention, and every leader in the IBEW has an opportunity to get out to the membership and talk about taking power back.

"You must be the ones to deliver that message because no one else will. And you need to, even if it is personally easier as matter of union politics not to," he said. "I don't care if it is a town council race or a U.S. Senate race, we must … get out of the local union office, go to jobsites and have those conversations."

As leaders in their locals, delegates at the convention are in the best position to educate members, Newman said.

"IBEW members are fed a constant stream of political messaging about who they should elect. But none of it concerns who is best for the IBEW. None of it concerns who will help us negotiate the strongest contracts possible. None of it concerns who will help us secure work for years to come. And none of it concerns who will ensure that we can organize the unorganized. You must be the ones," he said.

Newman urged the delegates to listen to members and answer their concerns, Newman said, but tell them the truth about which candidates will not just talk about jobs but will fight for unions.

"Leave this convention hall fired up, go home, get out the vote, and continue to fight the good fight," he said.

'Pin or Coin?': Members Trade Swag and Stories



The action at the trading table ebbs and flows but never stops. Most people want a coin for a coin, a pin for a pin. But for the special ones — the giants, the spinners, the danglers — it's all about negotiation.

Every pin and coin has a story, and swapping stories is as much a part of the experience as swapping swag. Explaining why your local's pin looks the way it does is a quick way to tell the world about work and home.

Throughout the day, far from the noise and buzz of registration and the exhibition hall at the San Diego Convention Center, men and women emptied Ziploc bags, canvas pouches and sometimes backpacks onto a horseshoe of card tables. Dozens of colorfully enameled pins and challenge coins from all parts of the Brotherhood spilled out on the white tablecloth.

And then the trading, and trading stories, began anew.

The constant question was "Pin or coin?"

It was coins for Daniel Marrero from Hamlet, N.C., Local 1923.

"Pins are more fragile. Coins have two sides, so you can display them however you want. I love pins. Don't get me wrong. I was on the road for 10 years, and I would always buy a pin when I went to a new hall. But in the end, coins are just easier to carry," he said during the weekend before the opening of the 41st IBEW International Convention.



Brett Schuler from Knoxville, Tenn., Local 760 prefers pins.

"I was on the road for eight years living in a camper, and the coins just sat in a bag. The pins could come out. Now I'm in the office, so coins and pins are no different, but I still prefer the pins," he said.

In the end, while at the table, they both traded for both types of collectibles.

"It's such a good ice-breaker at a progress meeting or on a job. You trade pins, and you have something in common immediately. You wear your pin or pull out a coin from your home local, and you can show who you are," Schuler said.

Schuler is always on the lookout for anything with Reddy Kilowatt — the lightbulb-nosed lightning-bolt cartoon mascot of the power industry — or "danglers," large, multi-part pins with additional enameled pieces, usually connected by delicate chains.

Some locals go all in. Portland, Ore., Local 48 created a near-full-size, but flat, Nintendo cartridge that weighs well over a pound.

Travis Sellers, business manager of Kennewick, Wash., Local 112, came with multiple four-piece sets of "Fat Man"-themed coins, honoring the local's role in refining the plutonium used in the second bomb dropped on Japan, ending World War II.

Marrero looks for a pin or coin that says something special about where the local is. Wilmington, N.C., for example, has a challenge coin featuring the Venus fly trap, the famously carnivorous plant native to the Carolina swamps.

But then he reached into his pocket, pulled out a coin with a longhorn skull from Houston Local 716 with a free-turning rim.

"Fidget spinner," he said, smiling.

The group of six people stopped negotiating swaps and looked at the edge glinting in the San Diego sunlight. They all smiled and nodded. Someone said, "Cool."

Then they turned back to the table, picking, trading and telling stories again.

CONVENTION COMMITTEES

Finance Committee



Finance Committee members are, from left: Morrow, Van Zante, Fiore, Parsels, Williams, Walsh, Lofty, Cappelletty, Simonin, Clarida and Allen.

Name	Local Union	City
Joseph Walsh, *Chairman*	99	Providence, R.I.
Jim Lofty, *Secretary*	213	Vancouver, B.C.
Ed Allen	66	Houston
Justin Cappelletty	245	Toledo, Ohio
Jim Clarida	531	LaPorte, Ind.
Dave Fiore	102	Paterson, N.J.
Jeff Morrow	415	Cheyenne, Wyo.
Mark Simonin	639	San Luis Obispo, Calif.
Chris Parsels	108	Tampa Bay, Fla.
Jon Van Zante	204	Cedar Rapids, Iowa
David Williams	721	Chattanooga, Tenn.

Grievance & Appeals Committee



Grievance and Appeals Committee members are, from left: Reid, Abrams, Gonzales, Skinner, Murphy, Jacobs, Muttik, Mathis, Axford and Tincher. (Note: Daniel Mondragon not pictured)

Name	Local Union	City
Brian Murphy, *Chairman*	104	Boston
John Jacobs, *Secretary*	494	Milwaukee, Wis.
Jeremy Abrams	569	San Diego
Rob Axford	553	Raleigh, N.C.
Stephen Gonzales	716	Houston
Lanny Mathis	1205	Gainesville, Fla.
Daniel Mondragon	113	Colorado Springs, Colo.
Richard Muttik	126	Philadelphia
David Reid	347	Des Moines, Iowa
Jeff Skinner	2085	Winnipeg, Manitoba
Chris Tincher	466	Charleston, W. Va.

IEC Report Committee



IEC Report Committee members are, from left: Hollman, McEntagart, McCoy, Richardson, Lawrence, Gallagher, DeBolt, Robinson, Martinez, Martin and Charney.

Name	Local Union	City
Mark Lawrence, *Chairman*	1249	Syracuse, N.Y.
Dan Gallagher, *Secretary*	38	Cleveland
Ryan Charney	692	Bay City, Mich.
Dan DeBolt	532	Billings, Mont.
James Hollman	776	Charleston, S.C.
James Martin	2330	St. John's, Newfoundland
Alfonso Martinez	611	Albuquerque, N.M.
Scott McCoy	457	Meriden, Conn.
John McEntagart	551	Santa Rosa, Calif.
David Richardson	796	Dothan, Ala.
Danny Robinson	545	St. Joseph, Mo.

IP Report Committee



IP Report Committee members are, from left: Brown, Eurioste, Gniadek, Bartholomew, DeSpain, Lavin, Shaw, Sherman, Hixson, Salerno and Richardson.

Name	Local Union	City
Colin Lavin, *Chairman*	47	Diamond Bar, Calif.
Joshua DeSpain, *Secretary*	570	Tucson, Ariz.
Ansylem Bartholomew	362	Washington, D.C.
David Brown	37	Fredericton, New Brunswick
Timothy Eurioste	667	Pueblo, Colo.
Jamie Gniadek	2325	Worcester, Mass.
Barry Hixson	459	Johnstown, Pa.
J.R. Richardson	1579	Augusta, Ga.
Mark Salerno	1483	Omaha, Neb.
James Shaw	17	Detroit
Noel Sherman	474	Memphis, Tenn.

CONVENTION COMMITTEES

IST Report Committee



IST Report Committee members are, from left: Holland, Henley, Dillow, Mumford, Marcum, Hughart, Habner, Carson, Yates, Vanderslice and Craig.

Name	Local Union	City
Steve Hughart, *Chairman*	702	West Frankfort, Ill.
Leticia Marcum, *Secretary*	583	El Paso, Texas
Barb Carson	2213	Syracuse, N.Y.
Troy Craig	2034	Winnipeg, Manitoba
Joe Dillow	575	Portsmouth, Ohio
Rex Habner	77	Seattle
David Henley	917	Meridian, Miss.
Kevin Holland	2222	Boston
Van Mumford	495	Wilmington, N.C.
Joel Vanderslice	257	Jefferson City, Mo.
Stacey Yates	1638	Colstrip, Mont.

Law Committee



Law Committee members are, from left: Cardwell, Bruno, Woodman, Leonard, Dean, Lynch, McHale, Ringuette, Niesman and Pour.

Name	Local Union	City
Robert Dean, *Chairman*	1245	Vacaville, Calif.
Mark Lynch, *Secretary*	98	Philadelphia
John Bruno	1505	Waltham, Mass.
Brandon Cardwell	443	Montgomery, Ala.
Michael Leonard	444	Ponca City, Okla.
Michael McHale	24	Baltimore
William Niesman	9	Chicago
Jeremy Pour	1439	St. Louis
Jean Marc Ringuette	502	St. John, New Brunswick
Toby Shelton	175	Chattanooga, Tenn.
Steve Woodman	354	Salt Lake City

Resolutions Committee



Resolutions Committee members are, from left: Hirning, Gaudaur, Bush, Warwick, Hook, Hetrick, Rico, Gumble, Wallis, Corona and Johnson.

Name	Local Union	City
Pat Hook, *Chairman*	683	Columbus, Ohio
Alvin Warwick, *Secretary*	342	Winston-Salem, N.C.
Benjamin Bush	53	Kansas City, Mo.
Robert Corona	11	Los Angeles
Kevin Gaudaur	1687	Sudbury, Ontario
Dan Gumble	164	Jersey City, N.J.
Eric Hetrick	2322	Middleboro, Mass.
Clay Hirning	449	Pocatello, Idaho
Johnny Johnson	2286	Beaumont, Texas
Andy Rico	176	Joliet, Ill.
Rodney Wallis	130	New Orleans

Sergeant-at-Arms Committee



Sergeant-at-Arms Committee members.

Name	Local Union	City
Rich Duva, *Chairman*	3	New York
Hector Benavides	759	Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.
Joshua Bourgeois	1196	Ashton, R.I.
Brian Brawley	753	Springfield, Mo.
Nick Carpenter	659	Medford, Ore.
Shawna Charbonneau	1730	Dryden, Ontario
Rodney Cummings	45	Hollywood, Calif.
Randy Curry	191	Everett, Wash.
John Doherty	6	San Francisco
Chris Donaldson	301	Texarkana, Texas
Thomas Emerson	265	Lincoln, Neb.
Mickey Fortenberry	1077	Bogalusa, La.
Lindsay Grinder	1718	Waldorf, Md.
Jacob Haas	401	Reno, Nev.
Tom Henchey	229	York, Pa.
Mike Henry	738	Longview, Texas
Corey Hester	1288	Memphis, Tenn.
Lee Hooper	2042	Kamloops, British Columbia
Jacob Jackson	772	Columbia, S.C.
Jesse Jacques	158	Green Bay, Wis.
Kent Joesel	106	Jamestown, N.Y.
Tom Kelley	12	Pueblo, Colo.
Todd Kessler	71	Columbus, Ohio
Jason Layne	175	Chattanooga, Tenn.
Domenic Marcanti	518	Globe, Ariz.
Daniel Marrero	1923	Hamlet, N.C.
Jackie McBroom	233	Helena, Mont.
Dylan Meyer	426	Sioux Falls, S.D.
Timothy Miller	398	Charleston, S.C.
Rose Mitchell	483	Tacoma, Wash.
Stacey Mixson	1316	Macon, Ga.
Jeff Morash	1555	Moncton, New Brunswick
Jose Munoz	234	Castroville, Calif.
Domenic Murdaca	636	Toronto
John Novak	129	Lorain, Ohio
Murray Palmer	529	Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
Nathan Payne	1523	Wichita, Kan.
Glen Petznick	1525	Omaha, Neb.
Braydon Potter	586	Ottawa, Ontario
Kristin Renskers	31	Duluth, Minn.
Rodney Rice	307	Cumberland, Md.
Jeff Rowe	1340	Newport News, Va.
John Rusnak	673	Painesville, Ohio
Christopher Sanderson	206	Helena, Mont.
Ben Schilling	1426	Grand Forks, N.D.
Danny Simpson	1183	Plymouth, N.C.
Steven Stewart	1620	St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador
Dan Sweatt	2144	Rumford, Maine
Jonas Talbott	275	Muskegon, Mich.
Will Teti	626	Avon Park, Fla.
Sandra Tumosa	2326	Montpelier, Vt.
Chuck Zittle	306	Akron, Ohio

CAUCUS RESULTS

Convention Ratifies IVPs, IEC Members

Delegates to the 41st IBEW International Convention on Sept. 23 approved the slates of international vice presidents and International Executive Council representatives elected by district caucuses earlier in the week.

The 11 vice presidential candidates were officially nominated for office, and each spoke briefly to the convention assembly. Then the eight winning candidates for the IEC were nominated and also spoke to the convention. International Secretary-Treasurer Paul Noble cast the single vote for each slate, and convention delegates approved the appointments.

All 19 were then sworn in by retired Fourth District International Vice President Gina Cooper.

"There will be disagreements. There will be difficult decisions. There will be moments of frustration and anger. What matters is that we remember who we work for and why we're here," Cooper said. "The members come first. The union comes first. And solidarity has to mean something beyond a word we put on a banner."

Excerpts from each international vice president and International Executive Council member's acceptance speech are included below:

First District International Vice President



Vice President Matt Wayland

Mark Cherney, business manager of St. Catharines, Ontario, Local 303, nominated Matt Wayland, the newly elected First District international vice president.

"Canada is entering period of real change. There is uncertainty, but there is also tremendous opportunity: new infrastructure, new industries, more training and thousands of good union jobs."

Second District International Vice President

Vice President Michael P. Monahan

Kevin Holland, Boston Local 2222 business manager, nominated Second District International Vice President Michael Monahan.



"When it comes to solidarity, there is no inside or outside, no utility or manufacturing. There is only the Brotherhood. When New England finally builds, and it will, the transmission, the generation, the storage, the data centers, the grid of the future, the most skilled, safest, best-trained workforce in the world will already be standing there."

Third District International Vice President



Vice President Frank Muia

Paul Nylin, assistant business manager and president of Albany, N.Y., Local Union 236, nominated Third District International Vice President Frank Muia.

"When people ask, 'What jobs are IBEW members involved in?' My answer is simple: look around. Our opportunity is here. Our opportunity is now, and together we will make the most of it and grow even stronger."

Fourth District International Vice President

Vice President Austin Keyser

Joe Dillow, business manager of Portsmouth, Ohio, Local 575, nominated Austin Keyser for Fourth District international vice president.



"We have to recognize the moment we're in, the power we have. We built the power plants; we operate the power plants. We built the transmission lines and substations and distribution system. We install the end-use systems; we operate the facilities that use it. We network it with our telecommunications systems. We manufacture the components that go into all that. … We are the center of the world's economy."

Fifth District International Vice President



Vice President Glenn Brannen

William Upchurch, business manager of Shreveport, La., Local 194, nominated Glenn Brannen for Fifth District international vice president.

"When I joined the IBEW 44 years ago, I had no idea where that yellow ticket would take me, and I'm proud of every step of that journey. But that's in my past. What I'm really excited about is what's in our future."

Sixth District International Vice President

Vice President Michael Clemmons

Andy Rico, business manager of Joliet, Ill., Local 176, nominated Michael Clemmons for Sixth District international vice president.



"At 19 years old, I was working a couple dead-end jobs and had a little baby at home. When Local 176 opened that door, it changed my life. It changed my family's future. And it changed what I believed was possible. That's why organizing and the IBEW will always be personal to me."

Seventh District International Vice President



Vice President Christian J. Wagner

Ed Allen, business manager of Houston Local 66, nominated Chris Wagner for Seventh District international vice president.

"We have seen incredible growth in the Seventh District. And not only do I not take credit for all of it, I also don't take credit for any of it. From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank the Seventh District delegates to this convention for nominating me."

Eighth District International Vice President

Vice President Jerry Bellah

Steve Woodman, business manager of Salt Lake City Local 354, nominated Jerry Bellah for Eight District international vice president.



"I want to recognize our Eighth District local union leadership and the members who are working in their tools every day proving that the IBEW has the best union craftsmen in the world."

Ninth District International Vice President



Vice President David E. Reaves Jr.

Bob Dean, business manager of Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245, nominated David Reaves for Ninth District international vice president.

"I work for all 60 local unions and members of the Ninth District. Whether your local has 50 members or 30,000 — you matter. Your members matter. Your voice matters. My door will be open. My phone will be answered. And I will listen."

Tenth District International Vice President

Vice President Curtis Sharpe

David Williams, business manager of Chattanooga, Tenn., Local 721, nominated Curtis Sharpe for Tenth District international vice president.



"We face tremendous challenges, including attacks on organized labor from the highest offices of our government, and these attacks bring a greater responsibility to strengthen our resolve and advance organized labor. I will stand with you to secure what others in our movement fought for. Power to each and every one of you. Power to organized labor. And power to the IBEW!"

Eleventh District International Vice President



Vice President Mark Hager

Bob Wolf, business manager of Minot, N.D., Local 714, nominated Mark Hager for Eleventh District international vice president.

"The Eleventh District is growing just as the IBEW overall is growing. We are on the move, and we are ready to embrace the opportunities and overcome any challenges that come along with that growth."

First District International Executive Council

IEC Representative Daniel P. Cosner

Andy Helsel, business agent, organizer and executive board chairman of Folsom, N.J., Local 351, nominated Daniel Cosner as the First District International Executive Council representative. Cosner is business manager of Local 351.



"When President Cooper asked if I would serve … I have to tell you, that moment got to me. The IBEW is all I've ever known, and I never imagined that someday I would have the opportunity to serve at this level. Every time I thought I had reached a place in the IBEW that I never imagined I'd reach, I was given another opportunity to serve. But no matter what position I've held or what title I've had, I'm still just one of the guys."

Second District International Executive Council



IEC Representative Louis J. Antonellis

Boston Local 103 Assistant Business Manager Rich Antonellis nominated Lou Antonellis for Second District International Executive Council representative. Antonellis is business manager of Local 103.

"We may come from different locals. We may represent different branches. And we may face different challenges. But we see clearly through to the Brotherhood that unites us. The direction for this Brotherhood won't be determined by any one of us. It must be determined by all of us."

Third District International Executive Council

IEC Representative Jeff T. Wheeler

Lance Bradbury, business representative from Indianapolis Local 481, nominated Jeff T. Wheeler, the newly elected Third District International Executive Council representative. Wheeler is business manager of Local 481.



"If there's one thing this Brotherhood has taught me, it's that none of us gets anywhere by ourselves. Whatever I have accomplished has been because people believed in me, gave me an opportunity, challenged me, supported me and trusted me. I intend to repay that trust with hard work and service."

Fourth District International Executive Council



IEC Representative Zachary T. Cassidy

Justin McIntosh, president of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Local 728, nominated Zachary Cassidy for Fourth District International Executive Council representative.

Cassidy is business manager/financial secretary of Local 728.

"Two years ago this week, I was appointed to represent the IEC's Fourth District when our brother Bill Riley passed away. Rest in peace, Bill. I hope I am making you proud."

Fifth District International Executive Council

IEC Representative Donald B. Finn

Bill Niesman, business manager of Chicago Local 9, nominated Donald Finn for Fifth District International Executive Council representative. Finn is business manager of Chicago Local 134.



"Regardless of the challenges before [the IEC], we came together, did the job we were assigned to do. To those who were recently elected, my door will always be open. … I look forward to working with each and every one of you brothers."

Sixth District International Executive Council



IEC Representative Mark H. Cunningham

Price Warwick III, business manager of Dallas-Fort Worth Local 20, nominated Mark Cunningham for Sixth District International Executive Council representative. Cunningham is business manager of Phoenix Local 769.

"I am so grateful for the opportunities the IBEW has given to me. I work every day to make the IBEW better than when I started."

Seventh District International Executive Council

IEC Representative Travis E. Eri

Nate Fairman, business manager of San Diego Local 465, nominated Travis E. Eri, the newly elected Seventh District International Executive Council representative. Eri is business manager of Portland Local 125.



"We organize, we represent, we fight like hell, but we also have to keep our members safe. Please remember to do your best to fight for your members' safety, too, because their families depend on it."

Eighth District International Executive Council



IEC Representative Domenic Murdaca

Christie Armstrong, assistant business manager of Toronto Local 636, nominated Domenic Murdaca, the newly elected Eighth District International Executive Council representative. Murdaca is business manager of Local 636.

"We can be good neighbors with our American Sisters and Brothers while still making sure the Canadian voice is heard. I will listen. I will ask questions. I will work with our international leadership. And when an issue affects Canadian members, I will make sure the Canadian perspective is clearly understood at the IEC table."

AMENDMENTS & RESOLUTIONS

Summary of Convention Action

On All Amendments to the IBEW Constitution & Resolutions at the 41st International Convention

Delegates Approve Amendments to Make Organizing Easier, Clarify Language

Delegates to the 41st IBEW International Convention considered more than 20 proposed amendments to the IBEW Constitution.

The amendments were introduced by Law Committee Chairman Bob Dean, business manager of Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245, and committee Secretary Mark Lynch, business manager of Philadelphia Local 98.

The first amendment would amend the second paragraph of **Article 15, Section 14** of the Constitution to require a local union to offer membership and admittance to an apprentice as soon as possible after the apprentice has worked in the local's jurisdiction.

Shreveport, La., Local 194 Business Manager William Upchurch spoke in favor of the amendment.

"Yesterday, we removed the waiting period for PBF death benefits. Apprentices should have that benefit," he said. "If apprentices are working, they should be members." PBF death benefits are only available to members.

No one spoke against adoption, and delegates approved the amendment.

The delegates then voted on an amendment to clarify language in **Article 15, Section 14** about apprentice eligibility for election to union office. Apprentices would still be ineligible for elected office, but they could be nominated for a position if the installation of officers occurred after they topped out of the apprenticeship.

Larry Roberts, business manager of Martin, Tenn., Local 1925, rose in support, and the amendment was approved.

Delegates also approved an amendment simplifying the constitutional section on good standing. The amendment changes **Article 21, Sections 3 and 4**, to clarify when a member is no longer in good standing because the member is in arrears on dues, per capita taxes or both.

Orlando, Fla., Local 606 Business Manager Todd Provost spoke in support of the amendment.

"This aligns the constitution with common practice, removes confusing language and ensures 'A' and 'BA' members are the same," he said.

No one spoke against the proposed amendment, and it was approved.

Delegates rejected three proposed amendments.

First, there was a proposal to add language to **Article 25, Section 1**, stating that a member could be disciplined for violating the Constitutional oath of obligation. The law committee recommended against adopting the amendment, because, it said, it was duplicative and could cause confusion.

Price Warwick of Dallas-Fort Worth Local 20 spoke in favor of rejecting the amendment, and the Law Committee's recommendation of nonconcurrence passed.

The delegates then rejected a proposal from Detroit Local 58 to change the word "objects" to "objectives" on **page iv of the IBEW Constitution**. The law committee recommended against adopting the language change because the two words have the same meaning, and the IBEW Constitution has had an "objects" provision since the founding of the IBEW.



Delegates at the International Convention debated more than 20 proposed amendments to the IBEW Constitution.



Convention delegates spoke in favor of, or in opposition to, constitutional amendments and resolutions from microphones spread throughout the floor.

Rumford, Maine, Local 2144 Business Manager Dan Sweatt spoke in favor of nonconcurrence.

"This isn't necessary," he said.

Detroit Local 58 member Kevin Mack then spoke against the nonconcurrence.

"The proposal was not to be disrespectful. It was for clearing up the language we use today and the language they used then," he said.

The delegates approved the Law Committee's recommendation of nonconcurrence.

The last rejected proposed amendment came from Orlando Local 2222. The amendment proposed to **Article 20, Section 12(a)** to prohibit an ex-member who resigned their membership from being admitted to any other local union except the one from which they had resigned.

The law committee recommended nonconcurrence because the amendment was not aligned with the union's many efforts to remove impediments to organizing. The amendment would make it nearly impossible to organize former members who had relocated since a local union can only admit an applicant that lives or works in its jurisdiction.

Milwaukee Local 494 Assistant Business Manager Nicholas Campbell spoke in favor of nonconcurrence.



"The first object is to organize all workers. We have a goal of 1 million members. If we want to reach it, we will need to organize new members, as well as bring back former members," he said.

No one spoke in favor of adoption, and the nonconcurrence recommendation passed.

Two amendments passed to allow the use of modern technologies.

First up was an amendment to **Article 15, Section 6** to allow the international president to implement a system for railroad locals and system councils to submit agreements and documents electronically. The amendment removes language that required railroad system councils to submit some documents "in duplicate."

San Antonio, Texas, Local 1911 Business Manager Alex Avila spoke in support of the Law Committee's recommendation of concurrence.

"It's common sense. The days of submitting anything in duplicate are long gone," he said.

The amendment was approved.

Finally, delegates approved an amendment to **Article 6, Section 1g**, removing the requirement that the international secretary-treasurer produce a physical local union directory. The Law Committee recommended supporting the amendment because physical "tramp guides" can be outdated before they are even published and an easily searchable version of the directory already exists online.

Santa Rosa, Calif., Local 551 Business Manager John McEntagart spoke in favor of the amendment.

"This is necessary to reflect modern times," he said.

No one spoke against the Law Committee recommendation of concurrence, and the amendment was approved.

Delegate Action on Resolutions

The Resolutions Committee was chaired by Columbus, Ohio, Local 683 Business Manager Patrick Hook. Winston-Salem, N.C., Local 342 Business Manager Alvin Warwick was the committee's secretary.

Resolutions are nonbinding, but they articulate the delegates' beliefs on important issues and influence the Brotherhood's policy going forward. Delegates began work on resolutions Sept. 22 and concluded Sept. 25.



When a clear majority could not be determined by a voice vote, delegates were asked to raise their hands in favor of, or against, an amendment or resolution. Below, Patrick Hook, Columbus, Ohio, Local 683 business manager and Resolutions Committee chair, addresses the convention.



Resolution No. 1: Reaffirmed the importance of organizing by calling on the International President to develop and implement organizing strategies in all branches. It was a reaffirmation of organizing resolutions passed during the three previous International Conventions.

Resolution No. 2: Calls for local unions to champion and encourage financial support of Electrical Workers Without Borders North America by members, utilities, signatory contractors and others. Like the first resolution, it passed by voice vote. EWWBNA is currently working on a multi-year project to bring electrical power to homes in the Navajo Nation in Arizona, New Mexico and Utah.

Resolution No. 3: Calling for local unions to make every effort through member education to nurture and maintain solidarity so the Brotherhood is in the best position to organize and negotiate the strongest collective bargaining agreements.

Resolution No. 4: Calling on local unions in the Construction Branch to continue to participate in local business development practices, encourage their members to support business development, and cooperate with contractors to meet or exceed customers' expectations and create sustainable employment in all branches.

Resolution No. 5: Strongly encouraging each local to appoint at least one full- or part-time organizer who will assist in meeting its obligation to organize all workers in the electrical industry in the United States and Canada. All construction locals will continue to have at least one full-time organizer.

Resolution No. 6: Calling for all local unions to follow the IBEW's organizing policies and implement a Day One membership policy for anyone working under one of the local union's collective bargaining agreements.

Resolution No. 7: Recommitting to the Code of Excellence program and its core values of safety, professionalism, accountability, effective relationships and quality. Each local shall implement the COE program with training materials that provide consistency while also addressing the unique issues of each branch.

Resolution No. 8: Calling on the international president and secretary-treasurer to continue their efforts to increase the employer contribution rate to National Electrical Benefit Fund. They will also work to increase the multiplier payable for each NEBF pension credit earned.

Resolution No. 9: Continuing to foster and enhance the working relationship with the National Electrical Contractors Association, the IBEW's working partner in the electrical construction industry.

Resolution No. 10: Encouraging local unions with NEBF language in their collective bargaining agreements to implement the optional National Electrical Individual Benefit language. This will allow members to receive an outstanding new benefit and enjoy the security of a comfortable retirement.

Resolution No. 11: Encouraging locals to use the Family Medical Care Plan to provide high-quality healthcare benefits to their members at a reasonable cost.

Resolution No. 12: Calling for local unions to continue to support the National Utility Industry Training Fund and encouraging non-construction local unions to explore and, where feasible, implement training and workforce development programs offered through NUITF.

Resolution No. 13: Encouraging local unions representing Manufacturing Branch members to promote the Clean Technology Training Trust to their signatory employers.

Resolution No. 14: Encouraging construction local unions to explore opportunities to implement the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program in their areas to ensure that the IBEW-trained skilled workers perform this work.

Resolution No. 15: Encouraging the IBEW to commit financial and political resources to encourage union-built data centers with strong labor standards. The IBEW opposes all data center moratoriums and other obstacles to responsible data center construction.

Resolution No. 16: Urging every local to appoint a veterans advocate and form a veterans committee to advance veterans' issues and help newly organized veterans access IBEW training and employment opportunities.

Resolution No. 17: Calling on the IBEW, NECA and the Electrical Training Alliance to continue to promote and implement pathways for veterans to gain direct entry into apprenticeship programs. Apprenticeship programs are urged to take action to ensure placement of approved VEEP applicants into their programs.

Resolution No. 18: Calling for increased support and promotion from local unions in the U.S. and Canada for the Helmets to Hardhats program and its mission of placing former military servicemembers in the union building trades, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 19: Calling for recognition and support from the IBEW for VIPER Transitions, a program that assists transitioning military service members and veterans to careers in the electrical industry, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 20: The delegates adopted an amended version of Resolution No. 20, encouraging the international president to create full-time military and veteran's affairs coordinator positions to assist veteran members and work with the Department of Defense, Department of Veterans' Affairs and other transition programs for service members.

Resolution No. 21: Calling for all U.S.-based locals to recommit to supporting and protecting the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts and calling on all locals to participate in prevailing wage surveys within their jurisdictions, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 22: Calling for the IBEW to reaffirm its support and encourage every local to form Electrical Workers Minority Caucus, RENEW/NextGen, Women's, Veterans, and Retiree committees, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 23: Calling for all members, including historically underrepresented workers, to have access to training and leadership opportunities and for the IBEW to reaffirm its support for IBEW Strong so all members learn the centrality of diversity to the labor movement generally and the IBEW specifically, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 24: Calling for the IBEW to reaffirm support for IBEW Women's Committees, prioritize identifying and training women for leadership positions, and to support the efforts of the International Women's Conference and International Women's Committee, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 25: Calling for the IBEW to reaffirm support for the RENEW/NextGen initiative, strongly encourage every local union to establish and support RENEW/NextGen committees, and support young members establishing themselves in the IBEW, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 26: Calling for the IBEW to denounce all forms of workplace harassment, bullying, discrimination and violence; reaffirm its commitment to safe, respectful and inclusive workplaces; and encourage all locals to use every available tool so all members can work with dignity, safety and respect, which was adopted.

Resolutions Nos. 27 and 28: Calling for the IBEW and all local unions to support and defend immigrants and migrants, advocate for the creation of immigration systems that protect and value workers, and support all IBEW members impacted by the elimination of work authorization policies and programs. The delegates adopted a substitute resolution recommended by the Resolutions Committee.

Resolutions Nos. 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33: Calling for the IBEW to publish and make available Spanish translations of the IBEW Constitution, Basic Laws and Policies, Guide for IBEW Stewards and U.S. Pattern Bylaws and to encourage locals with significant numbers of monolingual Spanish speakers to provide translation services for their meetings. The delegates adopted Resolution No. 33, which provides for these actions, but did not adopt Resolution Nos. 29, 30, 31 and 32, which would have required additional actions.

Resolution No. 34: Calling for the IBEW to reaffirm its support for the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus and encourage all local union leaders to attend the EWMC annual leadership conference, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 35: Calling on all U.S. locals to commit to raising at least $15 per member per year for the IBEW PAC, by payroll deduction if possible. Discouraging locals from operating their own PACs and asks delegates to support use of the IBEW PAC. The delegates adopted an amendment to Resolution No. 35 calling on the IBEW PAC to lengthen its look-back period when considering requests from local unions, system councils and

SUMMARY *continued on page 36*

AMENDMENTS & RESOLUTIONS

groups of local unions.

Resolution No. 37: Encouraging locals to use all available political tools provided by the AFL-CIO and IBEW International Office, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 38: Calling on locals to appoint an officer or member to complete a train-the-trainer course to become certified to conduct Politics, Activism and Livelihood training at the local, and to strive for at least 80% of their membership to receive PAL training, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 39: Encouraging local presidents to appoint, in addition to registrars, political education committees that mirror locals' demographics, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 40: Encouraging all IBEW members in the U.S. in Canada to run for public office, and asking the IBEW to support IBEW candidates for public office by providing advice and, in accordance with campaign finance laws and at leaders' discretion, resources and financial support, which was adopted.

Resolutions Nos. 41 and 42: Calling on the IBEW to take action to defend against the Carpenters' encroachment on the IBEW's electrical trade jurisdiction. The delegates did not adopt Resolution No. 41 as submitted but adopted an amendment to Resolution No. 42 calling on the IBEW to treat the defense against the Carpenters as a strategic priority, to establish a dedicated Electrical Jurisdiction Defense Fund or allocation, to work to prevent the Carpenters from benefiting from national agreements and to keep the membership informed of progress in this fight.

Resolution No. 43: Recognizing that placing tariffs on Canada hurts workers and calling on the IBEW to advocate for the U.S. and Canadian governments to address trade issues with countries having lower wage and labor standards using those standards to unfairly compete with businesses. Asking the entire IBEW to stand in solidarity to ensure that workers are protected as global trade policies are renegotiated, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 44: Encouraging the IBEW to work with stakeholders to revitalize and strengthen domestic commercial and defense shipbuilding, and to redouble efforts to train and support the industry's workers. Calling on the union to support legislation and funding for such shipbuilding and to oppose efforts to move shipbuilding or repair work overseas. Asking the IBEW to amplify the global importance of revitalizing shipbuilding, ship repair and maritime industries, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 45: Encouraging the IBEW to oppose attempts to weaken or dismantle the Jones Act, which was adopted.

Resolutions Nos. 46 and 47: Prior to the convention, the Resolutions Committee combined its report on Resolutions Nos. 46 and 47, which expressed support for federal government workers



Delegates began work on resolutions, which are nonbinding, on Sept.22 and concluded Sept. 25.

in the U.S., but it recommended concurrence only on Resolution No. 47 because Resolution No. 46 was limited to a certain group of federal employees and directed IBEW officers, international representatives and others to act in a way that was inconsistent with the IBEW Constitution. Delegates adopted a version of Resolution No. 46 that was amended to reaffirm the right of federal workers in the U.S. to bargain collectively under continuing and enforceable statutory protections. Delegates adopted Resolution No. 47 as submitted.

Resolution No. 48: Encouraging locals to coordinate with their JATCs to market curricula, programs and facilities to help potential apprentices, customers and elected officials better understand the benefits of community-based electrical training, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 49: Urging the IBEW to continue supporting and promoting the National Training Institute and encouraging construction locals to fully participate in the NTI, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 50: Supporting the Union Sportsmen's Alliance and urging all local unions and members to support the work of the alliance and to participate in its Boots on the Ground program and other education and conservation projects, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 51: Strongly encourage members to receive The Electrical Worker by electronic delivery, and that the international president implement a policy requiring that all new IBEW members receive The Electrical Worker by electronic delivery unless they opt to receive it by mail, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 52: Encouraging all local unions to support and contribute to the Electrical Workers Historical Society and its efforts to preserve our history for future generations, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 53: Maintaining and using the Unity Fund and encouraging all local unions to support and contribute, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 54: Continuing the IBEW's commitment to health and safety, including mental health and safety, and working to eliminate the stigma around seeking help for mental health challenges. Additionally, all local union and international officers are strongly encouraged to take Mental Health First Aid at Work or similar training so that they are better able to recognize, understand, and respond to mental health challenges faced by any union sister or brother, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 55: Recognizing the importance of local unions participating in the Safety Caucus to continue our fight for safety and health provisions that benefit all working people, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 56: Reminding locals that the IBEW Constitution requires use of the union's web-based accident reporting system to report to the International Office all serious lost-time accidents and fatalities, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 57: Urging the IBEW and its locals to continue their support and work with the National Safety Council and encouraging locals' membership in the council and use of its resources, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 58: Calling on all IBEW locals to require newly elected officers participate in new officers training, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 59: Urging all IBEW locals to require election judges to participate in election judge training, which was adopted.

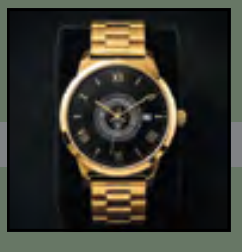
Resolution No. 60: Encouraging all IBEW locals and the Manufacturing Department to use, promote and maintain **IBEWMade.com** as a listing resource for products made and services offered by IBEW members, which was adopted.

Resolution No. 61: Calling on all IBEW locals and the Manufacturing Department to work with signatory employers to identify, label and promote products manufactured or assembled by IBEW-represented workers as "Union Made" or "Union Assembled," and to educate employers on the benefits of using such labels, and urging the IBEW to reaffirm its commitment to promoting and recognizing Canadian and U.S. union members' work. The resolution was adopted.

IBEW MERCHANDISE







RENEW / NEXTGEN SHORT SLEEVE T-SHIRT $18.00

100% cotton blood orange unisex t-shirt. Features RENEW and NextGen logos on the sleeves and IBEW logo on full back.

IBEW STRONG BUMPER STICKER – NAVY BLUE $1.00

3" x 5" weatherproof, ultra removable vinyl bumper sticker. Features navy blue background with IBEW Strong.

**** NEW ****

42MM SIZE LOGO WATCH W/ DATE $125.00

A modern update to the classic watch. This redesigned timepiece features a bold new appearance with a larger 42mm face, offering improved visibility and a more contemporary style while maintaining its timeless IBEW look.

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

www.ibewmerchandise.com

In Memoriam

Local	Surname	Date of Death
1	Benson, J. D.	6/12/26
1	Childers, M. F.	5/28/26
1	Frazier, R. L.	7/18/26
1	Ley, S. J.	6/30/26
1	Miller, J. P.	6/30/26
1	Schultz, R. A.	10/20/25
1	Yenzer, M. A.	6/28/26
3	Avveduto, A. J.	7/10/26
3	Berthier, F.	5/7/26
3	Castellano, J.	7/6/26
3	Cidorac, R.	6/11/26
3	Connelly, P. G.	7/25/26
3	Costanzo, A. J.	11/20/25
3	Forte, G. P.	5/8/26
3	Gagliardi, J. L.	4/25/26
3	Gdoviak, M.	6/23/26
3	Iorio, V. A.	7/25/26
3	Jaramillo, J.	7/9/26
3	Johnson Sally, P.	1/6/26
3	Kahrs, J. F.	10/23/23
3	Kallinikos, C.	5/22/26
3	Khachaturyan, V.	6/10/26
3	Levrano, B.	7/9/26
3	LiCausi, L. J.	7/18/26
3	Loftus, J. F.	7/10/26
3	Oley, J. A.	7/5/26
3	Olivera, W.	6/18/26
3	Pinkus, S. A.	6/17/26
3	Saunders, R. J.	3/30/26
3	Scarfone, J. D.	7/12/26
3	Smith, T.	7/24/26
3	Sterling, R.	6/12/26
3	Vitucci, V. J.	11/11/25
3	Work, R. L.	6/12/26
5	Jasper, W. L.	12/19/25
5	Kapton, W. M.	3/28/26
5	Sobien, J. J.	6/21/26
6	Lostale, J. M.	11/11/25
6	Mork, A. E.	6/16/26
6	Radoff, R. H.	5/11/26
7	Picard, L.	7/30/25
8	Damschroder, P. A.	7/12/26
9	Leonardo, R. T.	7/5/26
11	Bell, J. M.	5/2/26
11	Brach, D. M.	10/5/25
11	Brady, D. P.	4/29/26
11	Carlos, M. C.	10/28/24
11	De Young, R.	7/4/26
11	Martinez, M. E.	6/18/26
11	Mejia, F. M.	7/14/26
11	Saldana, J. M.	3/11/26
11	Sanchez, L. M.	5/16/19
11	Zepeda, L.	3/1/26
17	Brodski, J.	6/4/26
20	Collard, B. J.	7/4/26
22	Bahr, C. D.	5/26/26
22	Pettigrew, R. D.	5/19/26
22	Suden, R. D.	6/16/26
22	Zoucha, L. A.	6/20/26
24	Armstrong, J. R.	7/16/26
24	Sauter, S. A.	6/25/26
25	Breuning, V.	6/21/26
25	Corbett, J. M.	10/15/25
25	Heaney, R. D.	6/24/26
25	O'Hanlon, T. P.	6/26/26
25	Swaine, T. R.	7/11/26
26	Bemis, G. S.	2/9/19
26	Jeffra, M. H.	4/17/26
26	Shumaker, K. A.	7/10/26
26	Whitestone, R. F.	6/4/26
26	Young, V. B.	6/16/26
32	Fraber, G. D.	6/13/26
34	Burke, H. D.	6/24/26
34	Willis, J. D.	1/22/26
38	Davis, T. C.	4/27/26
38	Flannery, D. T.	6/26/26
38	Narowitz, J. C.	7/9/26
40	Welborn, W. E.	7/17/26
41	McCraw, J. W.	7/31/26
42	Burke, M. E.	5/5/26
43	Fuelleman, W. E.	5/6/26
46	Freeman, M. J.	6/17/26
46	Helton, S. B.	7/22/26
46	Palko, J.	5/19/26
46	Saclo, B. C.	4/14/26
46	Young, L. M.	7/6/26
47	Morton, J. P.	5/23/26
48	Downey, W. E.	12/3/25
53	Ferguson, C. A.	5/22/26
58	Baker, J. M.	6/7/26
58	Czeponis, D. M.	5/14/26
58	Duchenne, M. L.	7/20/26
58	Edwards, G.	11/27/22
58	Hackney, A.	4/21/21
58	McKay, K. P.	7/24/26
58	Nesbitt, J. B.	6/22/26
58	Parks, R. W.	12/31/25
58	Smick, J. D.	7/10/26
58	Stevens, J. L.	6/25/26
58	Waatti, M. B.	7/7/26
64	Bates, P. W.	4/19/26
66	Huff, C. J.	6/5/26
66	Ortiz, E. A.	3/20/25
68	Shriver, C. L.	9/28/23
68	Thompson-Sickles, T. J.	9/9/25
71	Robishaw, W. A.	6/29/26
76	Brackeen, H. G.	6/15/26
77	Heiner, S. W.	7/2/26
77	Lorang, M. F.	6/19/26
77	Sollars, W. D.	7/8/26
81	O'Leary, G.	5/29/26
82	King, R. D.	7/17/26
84	Ray, S. A.	7/27/26
86	Mars, G. J.	2/13/25
86	Thieme, W.	7/23/26
98	Jordan, W. C.	5/24/26
98	Limbach, T. C.	5/24/26
98	Nagel, E.	5/31/26
98	Schultz, R. A.	6/30/26
100	Greco, R. L.	6/14/26
103	Beausoleil, R. J.	7/15/26
103	Drake, S. M.	6/28/26
103	Lahijaniha, S.	4/1/25
103	LaRosa, N. R.	12/31/25
103	Pandt, F.	6/18/26
104	Brownell, D. R.	5/19/26
104	Ericson, E. E.	3/3/26
104	Kelly, J. R.	1/10/26
104	Pinnetti, P. V.	5/16/26
105	Smith, D. A.	2/24/26
106	Soper, R. C.	4/10/26
108	Parrish, R. L.	6/12/26
111	Clopton, R. J.	5/3/26
111	Engel, R. D.	7/3/26
112	Paullus, R. L.	6/27/26
113	Kinsley, D. D.	3/9/26
115	Smith, R. E.	8/8/25
117	Martin, R. A.	7/12/26
120	Schneider, A.	10/8/24
124	Ferrell, B. G.	7/1/26
124	Heide, R. W.	6/24/26
124	Hilliard, L. F.	6/12/26
124	Hulsey, R. G.	7/11/26
124	Jones, G. F.	7/6/26
124	Lawrence, A. D.	6/14/26
124	McMurry, R. R.	2/28/26
124	Vincent, D. G.	7/4/26
125	Fouse, R. G.	6/11/26
126	Bennett, J. T.	7/7/26
126	Henze, A. A.	7/22/26
130	Hollis, G.	5/15/26
130	Miller, J. C.	5/22/26
130	Pollard, J.	5/31/26
131	Bailey, L. C.	4/16/26
134	Bottari, D. J.	12/24/24
134	Engelbrecht, D. E.	7/1/26
134	Feely, T. J.	6/17/26
134	Forman, J. J.	7/13/26
134	Johnson, R. A.	7/22/26
134	Muttschall, S. J.	6/27/26
134	Reese, G.	5/7/26
134	Sagan, J. M.	7/8/26
134	Scheuerman, R. E.	4/20/26
134	Smiley, R.	6/17/26
134	Williams, B. D.	2/22/26
145	Schneckloth, J. V.	7/22/26
145	Swearingen, B. L.	5/12/26
150	Schultz, T. M.	7/3/26
153	Berche, H.	10/29/25
153	Buford, J. G.	7/3/26
158	Kruzicki, K. J.	7/1/26
158	Van Laanen, K. M.	7/12/26
159	Anderson, P. L.	1/30/26
160	LaPointe, R. A.	4/4/26
164	McElroy, P. J.	7/13/26
164	Sweeney, J. J.	6/5/26
164	Tagliabue, R.	6/30/26
175	Holt, G.	7/5/26
175	Shipley, P. W.	4/5/26
176	Clemens, H. L.	7/22/26
176	Regganie, L. E.	7/5/26
191	Allen, R. J.	11/3/25
191	Davis, D. R.	1/17/24
194	Wisinger, B. D.	6/21/26
196	Wicklund, D. K.	7/20/26
213	Bureau, J. P.	10/19/25
222	Tatum, H. C.	7/3/26
223	St. Amour, R. A.	7/11/26
234	Smith, R. C.	5/28/25
236	Maring, R. H.	5/6/26
242	Kolojeski, P. H.	7/6/26
242	Schroeder, K.	6/21/26
245	Reeder, J. C.	7/2/26
257	Sooter, C. L.	6/10/26
265	Freier, D. J.	12/1/25
269	Adam, J. M.	6/5/26
278	Hand, J. E.	5/8/26
280	Danielson, C. J.	6/13/26
291	McClaran, S. D.	4/21/26
292	Crep, M. J.	3/9/26
292	Erickson, L. J.	2/16/26
292	Holscher, R. E.	6/27/26
292	Thomas, J. L.	2/26/26
295	Kiessling, B. A.	4/15/26
302	Cordy, K. O.	6/16/26
302	Hogan, L. L.	5/18/26
302	Kempner, S. J.	3/30/26
302	Smith, P. K.	7/30/26
303	Lanctot, R.	8/2/26
303	Stacey, J. H.	6/26/26
304	Gilley, J. P.	7/17/26
306	Meyer, E. C.	7/12/26
306	Miller, H. E.	7/19/26
309	Burrell, J. H.	5/26/24
309	Koerber, D. A.	7/4/26
309	Morrison, D. L.	7/13/26
309	Stechmesser, A. L.	5/31/26
313	Angeline, A. P.	6/4/26
332	Butcher, G. L.	7/11/26
332	Tanner, T. D.	7/1/26
332	Tsurumoto, R. S.	2/18/25
340	Walker, R. C.	3/19/26
343	Myers, W. L.	7/9/26
347	Granberg, G. A.	7/12/26
349	Fried, M.	2/14/26
349	Martin, W. T.	5/13/26
349	Sauve, E. J.	3/8/26
351	Campbell, F. B.	7/26/26
351	Cocuzza, D. P.	1/12/26
353	Amyot, R. C.	6/28/26
353	Prezio, T. J.	1/15/26
353	Stevens, H.	4/21/26
353	Walker, H.	6/28/26
354	Perschon, A. F.	3/9/26
357	Johnson, H. R.	4/12/26
357	Raiano, R. A.	5/3/26
363	Giammattei, A.	4/12/26
363	Olivieri, R. R.	6/12/26
363	Pomerantz, R. L.	5/9/26
364	Clark, D. R.	6/11/26
369	Brown, C. L.	6/23/26
369	Hunter, R. E.	6/1/26
369	Shepherd, C. T.	6/18/26
369	Sinclair, F.	6/2/26
375	Brandmeier, D. E.	3/12/26
379	Oden, F. A.	5/15/26
387	Troska, H. G.	8/29/25
401	Clausen, S. M.	5/20/26
402	Treichler, M. H.	6/25/26
424	Nicolay, H. J.	7/8/26
424	Tober, H.	7/17/26
426	Perleberg, R. C.	5/1/26
428	Spears, C. A.	3/30/26
429	Lee, L. J.	7/9/26
429	Malone, R. D.	7/4/26
429	Roberts, E.	7/4/26
429	Singletary, J. S.	6/2/25
429	Taylor, K. E.	7/3/26
430	Langenstroer, H. P.	10/10/25
440	Brown, L. C.	6/30/26
440	Duran, F. A.	6/26/26
441	Berger, J. C.	6/24/26
453	Schultz, G. D.	4/3/26
453	Williams, B. J.	7/22/26
456	Inzano, A. J.	2/11/26
456	Mella, D.	7/14/26
461	Walling, M. J.	7/25/26
465	Lee, B. K.	1/2/26
474	Freeman, W. L.	12/23/24
474	Rudolph, R. W.	5/15/26
474	Steward, J. R.	6/26/26
479	Burns, T. W.	12/12/25
479	Chambers, E. A.	6/14/25
479	Green, D. V.	12/8/25
479	Singleton, D. C.	6/6/26
481	LaFever, M. A.	7/24/26
494	Jacobsen, R. B.	6/19/26
494	Megna, A. M.	6/30/26
494	Nell, C. A.	5/26/26
502	Sheffar, D. L.	6/30/26
503	Mutchler, J. J.	6/15/26
505	Ivory, J.	6/15/26
508	Hodges, M. E.	7/2/26
508	Shuman, J. F.	7/3/26
527	Ruiz, N. C.	7/7/26
540	Kibler, D. R.	7/28/26
540	Smith, W. R.	7/27/26
551	Williamson, M. T.	5/9/26
558	Barnett, C. K.	6/4/26
558	Berry, J. R.	7/10/26
558	Carwile, M. B.	6/12/26
558	Voce, R.	6/14/26
569	Clark, R. M.	7/8/26
569	Degener, G.	1/18/25
569	Fisher, R. D.	6/3/26
569	Gould, M. D.	2/28/26
569	Miranda Rivera, M. E.	3/30/25
569	Wolfe, G. F.	3/22/26
570	Ishmael, J. M.	6/4/26
570	Patterson, D. K.	7/25/26
575	Bailey, R. J.	6/15/26
575	Oberer, L. D.	2/3/25
577	Paessler, R.	5/22/26
583	Woodberry, J. G.	3/21/26
584	Ree, L. H.	5/30/26
595	Blair, M. J.	12/3/25
606	Carling, H. G.	7/9/26
606	Walker, R. D.	6/14/26
611	Crawford, H. L.	7/10/26
613	Gossage, F. E.	5/28/26
613	Withers, J. D.	2/8/26
617	Hemingway, I. E.	2/6/26
617	Jameson, E. A.	5/16/26
617	Larson, R. T.	5/1/26
625	Clements, C. R.	5/31/26
640	Bolt, S. L.	6/30/26
649	Hodge, J. A.	11/17/25
659	Grimm, A. F.	10/26/25
673	Sulzer, S. C.	6/29/26
681	Stell, D. R.	7/4/26
683	Derringer, B.	7/28/26
683	Gillespie, L. C.	7/27/26
683	Hedges, J. D.	7/9/26
683	Shutts, M. R.	6/8/26
684	Thompson, R. C.	5/28/26
688	Boyce, A. R.	5/3/26
688	Ewers, R. E.	6/20/26
697	Hancock, G. L.	7/9/26
697	Reschan, R.	5/24/26
701	Frost, C. M.	6/27/26
701	Nielsen, R. C.	5/30/26
701	Olsen, G. G.	6/24/26
701	Sarley, D. R.	1/4/26
716	Allen, R. W.	3/31/26
716	Jones, J. G.	5/24/26
716	Munoz, C.	6/30/26
716	Nacvich, R.	7/17/26
716	Parker, D. A.	5/16/26
716	Pennington, M. M.	6/28/23
716	Smith, R. S.	5/19/26
725	Brough, H. O.	8/6/26
725	Kent, D.	6/18/26
728	Kohlhepp, M. C.	7/6/26
728	Weir, J.	2/26/26
743	Fisher, D. K.	7/21/26
753	Day, D. C.	7/26/26
760	Reed, P. L.	4/20/26
760	Wells, J. E.	7/3/26
768	Floyd, D. A.	6/29/26
769	Lenardo, J. G.	11/26/25
769	Urquijo, J.	7/12/26
776	Campbell, H. F.	4/19/26
816	Carter, J. E.	6/5/26
855	Molina, B. H.	7/24/26
873	Red, C.	7/14/26
890	Sokolik, L. F.	7/17/26
906	Rudden, P. E.	5/11/26
915	Austin, J. E.	11/13/25
915	Krasinski, B. V.	5/28/26
915	Matos, M.	7/18/26
917	Day, A. J.	6/28/26
953	Christie, D. J.	5/20/26
972	Walker, D. S.	6/22/26
985	Hemphill, A.	4/30/26
985	Howell, T. E.	6/18/26
995	Claxton, J. L.	6/16/26
1077	Kliebert, K. J.	4/6/26
1077	Poss, J. R.	5/8/26
1186	Kimata, R. Y.	4/8/26
1186	Yoshimura, H. S.	6/17/26
1205	Bryant, M. P.	4/11/25
1205	Poppell, C. E.	6/29/26
1245	Cutshall, J. L.	6/29/26
1249	Halsey, E. L.	6/2/17
1393	Howard, T. J.	1/23/26
1434	LaClair, L. C.	6/24/26
1531	Hill, R. J.	6/14/26
1547	DeFedericis, J.	7/7/26
1555	Murray, J. E.	6/11/26
1687	Benner, R.	3/5/25
1687	Henry, F. M.	5/28/26
1687	King, S.	1/15/26
1990	Ledbetter, G.	3/14/23
2085	Boychuk, M. C.	6/30/26
2085	Lysak, O.	6/23/26
2286	Peavy, J. R.	6/13/26
I.O. (120)	Hopkins, R. G.	7/26/26
I.O. (134)	Macadlo, J.	2/27/26
I.O. (134)	Spaniol, R. C.	6/5/26
I.O. (134)	Waldukat, R. G.	1/26/26
I.O. (134)	Walsh, J. T.	5/6/26
I.O. (424)	Tischer, H. E.	7/21/26
I.O. (605)	Strahan, M. R.	6/6/26
I.O. (625)	Kidston, D. C.	7/7/26
I.O. (1057)	Knowles, M. H.	7/1/26
I.O. (1377)	Lewis, R. W.	5/21/25
I.O. (1412)	Baker, J. L.	6/6/26
Pens. (I.O)	Brochin, L. R.	6/14/26
Pens. (I.O)	Chidichimo, J. W.	4/6/24
Pens. (I.O)	Culbert, J. K.	3/16/26
Pens. (I.O)	Dea, D. A.	7/19/26
Pens. (I.O)	Green, V. L.	6/12/26
Pens. (I.O)	Kirkpatrick, W. R.	6/25/26
Pens. (I.O)	Lynch, M. K.	5/3/26
Pens. (I.O)	Mason, H. L.	10/24/25
Pens. (I.O)	Saulisberry, J. D.	7/11/26
Pens. (I.O)	Snowden, V. L.	6/16/26
Pens. (I.O)	Spagnolia, A. D.	5/9/26
Pens. (I.O)	Squeo, F.	2/24/26

This list shows members for whom PBF death claims were approved in August 2026.

In Memoriam

Local	Surname	Date of Death
1	Kelley, K. G.	7/30/26
1	Kirby, D. G.	1/19/26
1	Mouser, M. L.	7/12/26
1	Pils, J. T.	7/14/26
1	Smith, J. L.	8/25/26
2	Stroppel, R. U.	5/9/26
3	Baker, R. M.	8/17/26
3	Buonocore, J.	2/2/26
3	Corenzwit, J. C.	7/15/26
3	Dabbene, S. J.	6/20/26
3	DeCola, G. D.	7/27/26
3	Dondero, R. J.	1/15/26
3	Feldman, J. J.	7/3/26
3	Gore, W.	7/26/26
3	Gratto, G. N.	7/31/26
3	Halloran, R. L.	8/8/26
3	Kehoe, W. J.	7/5/26
3	Khachaturyan, V.	6/10/26
3	Leibowitz, J.	8/12/26
3	Mancino, P.	8/8/26
3	McCabe, W. J.	8/3/26
3	McMorris, E. J.	10/30/24
3	Mistretta, M.	7/4/26
3	O'Boyle, T. M.	3/21/26
3	Olivera, W.	6/18/26
3	Roller, D. J.	8/8/26
3	Romani, T.	1/16/26
3	Seddio, C. D.	8/7/26
5	McClaine, G. E.	7/23/26
7	Grincavitch, J.	6/25/26
7	Hartlage, B. A.	6/25/26
7	Houck, G. F.	12/15/24
11	Agulia, J. B.	7/28/25
11	Diez, D. R.	6/7/26
11	Heitzenreder, F. D.	6/8/26
11	Johnson, R. L.	11/16/25
11	Moore, R.	7/22/26
11	Pelayo, L.	1/14/26
12	Keator, W. M.	6/27/26
16	Current, D. G.	8/19/26
18	Fahey, J. M.	8/2/26
20	Dehn, G. A.	8/20/26
20	Loria, A. L.	7/28/26
20	Price, R. L.	7/11/26
22	Burnham, L. K.	7/11/26
22	Foresman, J. S.	4/2/26
22	Suden, C. A.	12/14/25
22	Suden, R. D.	6/16/26
25	Black, R. P.	8/22/26
25	Haffer, R. E.	5/20/26
25	Parker, T. D.	12/24/25
25	Reynolds, B. M.	4/1/26
26	Anderson, W. E.	1/29/26
26	Meadows, C. D.	6/17/26
26	Nowell, R. M.	6/25/26
26	Taylor, S. E.	7/27/26
26	Wianke, S. H.	8/6/26
40	Markham, T. G.	7/17/26
41	Blackson, N.	7/7/26
41	Hill, E. G.	7/28/26
41	McNamara, J. D.	6/21/26
41	Naffky, R. L.	4/3/26
42	Geigle, F. W.	7/18/26
43	Kuhn, E. W.	7/30/26
43	Salerno, J. M.	8/21/26
46	Graishe, S. A.	7/27/26
48	Bauer, W. A.	3/21/26
48	Cole, C. N.	7/7/26
48	Hauck, J. H.	2/12/26
48	McCarty, D. B.	2/13/26
48	Nelson, E. F.	9/19/25
48	Quillen, J. A.	8/5/26
48	Schlauch, A. H.	5/3/26
48	Tappan, L. W.	6/28/26
48	Ueltschi, D. F.	7/20/26
55	Brookes, M. J.	7/28/26
56	Fails, K. H.	7/31/26
57	Bleazard, B. R.	3/20/26
57	Chapman, J. T.	5/24/26
58	Brandenburg, M. L.	8/6/26
58	Climer, T. W.	6/29/26
58	Donovan, R. T.	7/30/26
58	Hellmer, G. B.	7/27/26
58	Levitt, M.	7/14/26
58	Phillips, J. H.	5/5/23
58	Smick, J. D.	7/10/26
58	Toczylowski, D. R.	8/10/26
66	Chaffin, W. C.	7/16/26
66	Dotson, J. E.	2/13/26
66	Martinez, H.	5/3/26
68	Brown, L. L.	7/17/26
68	Pacheco, L.	7/30/26
68	Reilly, P. M.	6/5/26
68	Williams, R. K.	6/19/26
70	Chaney, M. V.	7/12/26
70	Taylor, J. A.	7/16/26
71	Hanna, J. A.	8/10/26
72	Wondra, W. J.	7/27/26
73	Albertson, D. M.	5/6/26
77	Fugle, L. J.	8/14/26
77	Noon, P. O.	4/21/26
80	Scott, A.	8/11/26
84	Taylor, W. S.	8/22/26
86	Szpakowski, B. F.	8/13/26
90	Mierzejewski, M. T.	6/9/26
98	Carrigan, J. W.	7/17/26
98	Geary, W. L.	7/28/26
98	Redden, F. J.	6/29/26
98	Ubele, P. R.	8/11/26
102	Kirk, D. B.	4/23/26
102	Steward, L.	7/14/26
103	Battiato, M. A.	7/29/26
103	Bond, J. M.	8/3/26
103	Lombardi, L. M.	9/23/25
103	Magazu, J. F.	12/7/25
103	Richmond, J. C.	5/31/26
104	Brownell, D. R.	5/19/26
104	Frias, R. C.	8/3/26
104	LaPointe, M. A.	1/13/25
105	Cooper, H. F.	8/16/26
106	Soper, R. C.	4/10/26
110	L'Allier, J. J.	7/22/26
111	McBartlett, K. J.	8/5/26
111	Papoff, R. L.	7/7/26
111	Wright, K. L.	7/29/26
112	Sweeney, G. C.	6/5/26
124	Diecidue, S. H.	7/15/26
124	Ernst, G. W.	5/25/26
124	Gore, J. L.	5/22/26
125	Black, F. R.	8/3/26
125	Johnson, T. C.	8/26/26
126	McCauley, R. G.	6/30/26
126	Pergola, L. J.	7/27/26
126	Phillips, J. G.	7/31/26
127	Nelson, G. D.	7/16/26
129	Kennedy, D. M.	6/29/26
134	Alex, N. J.	8/3/26
134	Carney, T.	7/28/26
134	Darnell, J. P.	7/22/26
134	Johnson, R. A.	7/22/26
134	Johnson, W. R.	7/21/26
134	Kelley, M. E.	8/11/26
134	Knoll, J.	5/30/26
134	Lelko, B.	4/28/26
134	Reese, G.	5/7/26
134	Shea, P. G.	5/28/26
134	Smith, T. M.	2/22/26
134	Townsend, M. E.	8/23/26
136	Taylor, D. R.	7/14/26
141	Yahn, H. V.	10/1/25
150	Schultz, T. M.	7/3/26
153	Umbaugh, F. G.	8/17/26
160	Emberland, W. S.	8/11/26
163	Nilon, W. P.	7/14/26
164	Thompson, S. P.	7/3/26
164	Turs, B. D.	8/21/26
175	Dunn, B. W.	7/18/26
175	Moore, J.	7/25/26
175	Scott, C. W.	2/25/26
176	Schueler, R. S.	8/30/26
196	Blakesley, B. L.	4/16/26
212	Rabe, J. D.	7/24/26
212	Sayne, G. L.	7/18/26
222	Cartwright, B. J.	8/8/26
222	Walker, H. L.	8/1/26
223	Levesque, H. P.	8/10/26
226	Dodson, B. M.	7/12/26
230	Birch, G. C.	8/22/26
230	Loo, S. F.	3/12/26
230	Ward, A. B.	11/12/24
231	Garlinghouse, A. C.	7/28/26
236	Bicknell, F. A.	6/23/26
237	Belford, W. H.	7/18/26
242	Olson, D.	6/28/26
257	Jordan, R. L.	6/17/26
266	McCabe, O. L.	7/13/26
270	Vaughn, R. E.	7/13/26
271	McClelland, R. G.	7/24/26
275	Moree, K. A.	8/10/26
275	Niles, E. C.	7/18/26
275	Wiseman, R. D.	7/6/26
278	Homeyer, D. B.	7/19/26
278	Proctor, P. S.	4/17/26
280	Lochner, A. L.	7/24/26
280	Sloan, R. A.	8/8/26
291	Collins, M. M.	5/8/26
291	D'Alessio, G. C.	7/16/26
292	Anderson, S. G.	7/29/26
292	Beihoffer, B.	1/5/26
292	Nettleton, J. G.	3/16/26
295	Ferguson, R. E.	8/5/26
301	Ward, W. R.	7/14/26
303	Berta, T.	7/3/26
306	Miller, H. E.	7/19/26
307	Starr, J. R.	7/9/26
309	Robinson, C. S.	11/18/25
329	Scott, W. A.	6/2/26
332	Rivera, J.	8/5/26
340	Bello, R. L.	7/4/26
343	Halverson, L. D.	8/2/26
343	Twite, D. L.	6/29/26
347	Kouri, J. T.	8/14/26
347	Rogers, J. L.	7/21/26
349	Moran, C. T.	7/17/26
349	Timmons, R. M.	9/22/25
351	Cocuzza, D. P.	1/12/26
351	Wood, D. B.	8/11/26
353	Barros, A. R.	1/8/26
353	Fountain, D. J.	7/28/26
353	Kassam, A. E.	7/28/26
353	MacAulay, I.	6/12/26
353	Malfara, J.	8/11/26
353	Moratti, P.	8/7/26
353	Stokes, A. J.	7/14/25
353	Tittoto, E.	3/27/26
354	Bolton, J. F.	8/19/26
354	Whitaker, R. L.	6/2/26
363	Butler, H. N.	7/25/26
364	Worf, C. A.	6/10/26
369	Kappesser, R. J.	6/29/26
369	Vogt, A. A.	4/24/26
379	Bell, T. E.	5/1/26
387	Dattellas, A. C.	6/27/26
387	Hasemann, E. E.	5/30/21
387	Perkins, J. P.	7/7/26
400	Dvornek, T. R.	7/1/26
405	McCoy, G. A.	8/6/26
413	Stevens, D. E.	6/13/26
424	Deslauriers, J. A.	7/28/26
424	Hennig, B.	8/10/26
424	Ling, M. Y.	6/17/26
424	Majeau, A. G.	6/23/25
424	Sinclair, J. T.	7/20/26
424	Tym, B. B.	7/30/26
428	LeViner, J. V.	7/25/26
428	Traynor, R. M.	8/13/26
429	Branham, A. L.	8/23/26
436	Nix, G. M.	2/15/26
441	Edson, N.	6/2/26
441	Engle, R. L.	7/17/26
441	Wilson, D. A.	8/13/26
443	Hendrix, W. M.	8/6/26
459	Hardy, S. L.	6/6/26
459	Saputski, H. E.	12/4/24
461	West, L.	6/26/26
474	Beason, M.	8/2/26
474	Gavrock, F. G.	7/15/26
474	Pickett, C. H.	7/4/26
479	Purgahn, W. R.	6/26/26
479	Sullivan, C. E.	5/25/26
480	Ables, C. G.	10/15/25
480	Ertz, R. K.	6/2/26
481	Hill, R. A.	7/17/26
481	Mabrey, P. B.	8/1/26
481	Parsley, J. L.	6/29/26
488	Hudock, M.	7/17/26
490	Carter, J. W.	4/13/26
494	Brzezinski, J.	8/18/26
494	Griffin, T. O.	6/16/26
494	Rudy, B. A.	8/7/26
494	Terrell, R. P.	7/22/26
495	Beattie, R. F.	5/28/26
495	Thornton, R. L.	4/7/26
503	Mutchler, J. J.	6/15/26
505	Ochs, F.	6/5/26
520	Bluhm, E. E.	5/13/26
529	Ford, G. R.	8/30/26
530	Lockett, R. J.	8/31/26
540	Baughman, D. W.	7/8/26
551	Chapman, H. L.	7/19/26
551	Menosse, E. J.	7/3/26
553	Brown, J. M.	7/15/26
553	Wood, W. D.	7/31/26
557	Trahan, G. A.	7/31/26
569	Bell, G. W.	7/30/26
575	Weisner, R.	7/31/26
577	Kiesow, E. C.	7/19/26
595	Pace, K. K.	6/13/26
595	Rozell, D. R.	7/19/26
595	Ury, R. F.	12/28/25
602	Smyer, R. L.	7/1/26
602	Whitfield, J. D.	8/2/26
611	Green, J. A.	8/12/26
611	Huber, R. J.	6/3/26
611	Mullins, E. M.	7/1/26
611	Nielson, G. W.	8/12/26
613	Anderson, C. K.	3/16/26
613	Chambers, T. F.	8/9/26
613	Cisson, L. F.	6/28/26
613	Drake, W. R.	7/26/26
613	Duvall, G. V.	6/14/26
613	Irvin, G. A.	8/11/26
613	Johnson, J. H.	5/31/26
613	Locklear, J. E.	7/19/26
613	Savelli, F. V.	8/11/26
613	Sharman, C. M.	6/5/26
613	Van Zandvliet, L.	7/17/26
613	Waldrop, J. D.	7/30/26
617	Thomas, D. E.	7/4/26
640	Babcock, S. J.	7/2/26
640	Bond, S. G.	7/13/26
640	Line, E. C.	5/7/26
640	Phifer, N. D.	7/25/26
641	Thompson, B. K.	9/19/25
648	Cloud, W. D.	3/25/26
648	Ristaneo, J. E.	8/24/26
649	Overbey, J. D.	2/28/26
654	Kirk, R. B.	7/9/26
659	Ewens, J. R.	3/25/26
659	Holland, E. L.	6/5/24
659	Leggett, L. R.	7/6/26
665	Van Horn, C. L.	5/9/26
666	Page, C. M.	8/20/26
681	Collins, T. D.	8/4/26
683	Haines, M. D.	7/31/26
683	Roush, J. D.	8/16/26
701	Neville, G. R.	5/31/26
701	Nielsen, R. C.	5/30/26
702	Byers, R. L.	8/7/26
702	King, G. L.	8/4/26
712	Coffey, H. J.	6/22/26
716	LeBlanc, J. L.	8/1/26
725	Lofton, G. D.	7/20/26
733	Richardson, D. M.	6/22/26
738	Davis, W. W.	3/18/26
743	Horst, R. B.	8/7/26
760	Brooks, J. A.	3/9/26
760	Hayden, L. W.	6/26/26
760	McPeters, G. V.	7/14/26
769	Hevern, T. W.	4/25/26
769	Ripley, J. F.	7/1/26
804	Steen, D. W.	7/26/26
861	Johnson, L. H.	8/17/26
876	Roth, B. F.	3/21/26
890	Larsen, L. J.	3/22/26
903	Shaw, J.	6/25/26
915	Arondel de Hayes, P. J.	6/30/26
915	Carter, D. W.	4/2/26
915	Goldsmith, G. L.	7/30/26
952	Allee, J. W.	10/2/25
952	Cawse, R.	5/20/26
993	Albinati, L. J.	9/5/26
993	Tucker, B.	5/20/26
993	Wilson, R. J.	4/30/26
995	Achord, J. M.	2/21/26
995	Jackson, J. A.	7/23/26
995	James, J. A.	8/9/26
1002	Clark, J. E.	7/28/26
1141	Self, D. K.	11/16/25
1186	Nishi, R. S.	8/2/26
1186	Yamamoto, G. A.	6/5/24
1245	Herman, G. R.	7/14/26
1245	Turner, S.	6/21/26
1245	Wiseman, H. L.	6/3/26
1379	Gregorich, L. E.	5/13/26
1393	Howard, T. J.	1/23/26
1516	Sharp, H. A.	7/1/26
1547	Bonner, L. K.	6/3/23
1547	Cook, B. R.	7/22/26
1547	Gonzalez, J. L.	6/19/26
1547	Merrill, D. F.	7/26/26
1555	Day, H. J.	8/9/26
1579	Hartfield, L. J.	8/19/26
1579	Shoaf, W. A.	7/12/26
1682	Regalado, P. B.	8/2/26
1687	Howse, M. J.	8/9/26
1749	Rush, C. K.	7/25/26
1852	Ferguson, M.	5/18/26
2038	Gavin, F. N.	5/15/26
2150	Rocke, R. J.	1/28/26
I.O. (29)	Lutz, J. J.	7/31/26
I.O. (40)	Bartley, R. J.	8/4/26
I.O. (43)	Huttleston, T. R.	1/19/26
I.O. (134)	DeBlock, A. R.	6/11/26
I.O. (134)	Griffin, A. B.	4/25/26
I.O. (134)	Larson, D. L.	7/30/26
I.O. (134)	Seneker, J. R.	7/22/26
I.O. (134)	Tuley, R. L.	4/21/26
I.O. (191)	Frye, R. R.	4/12/26
Pens. (I.O)	Brown, W. W.	7/31/26
Pens. (I.O)	Bryant, T. J.	6/20/26
Pens. (I.O)	McQuillan, C. E.	8/12/26
Pens. (I.O)	Rada, J.	6/13/26
Pens. (I.O)	Russell, J. D.	11/9/21
Pens. (I.O)	Saltalamacchi, G.	8/22/26
Pens. (I.O)	Simmons, L.	8/14/26
Pens. (I.O)	Sparks, G. C.	7/31/13

This list shows members for whom PBF death claims were approved in September 2026.

DEADLINE EXTENDED



THE IBEW'S 2026 PHOTO CONTEST

The IBEW Photo Contest has been The Electrical Worker's way to ride shotgun with brothers and sisters for a quarter of a century. Your pictures bring us closer together and are a showcase for the critical role members play in the life and work of North America.

The hundreds of submissions we receive every year are a priceless contribution to our story: the story of working people that is too often ignored or, worse, hidden. But just because something is priceless doesn't mean a value can't be put on it.

Top Prize: $1,000

Second Place: $750 Third Place: $500

A $200 Honorable Mention will also be awarded for EACH BRANCH of the IBEW:

- Broadcasting
- Inside Construction
- Outside Construction
- Government
- Manufacturing
- Railroad
- Telecommunications
- Utility



DEADLINE: NOV. 30

See official rules and submission instructions at **IBEW.org/photocontest**.

Entries MUST be submitted electronically by Nov. 30 via the Photo Contest link on ***IBEW.org***. Please contact the Media Department at ***media@IBEW.org*** or 202-728-6102 with additional questions.

THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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

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HOW TO REACH US

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

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Or send by email to: *media@ibew.org*

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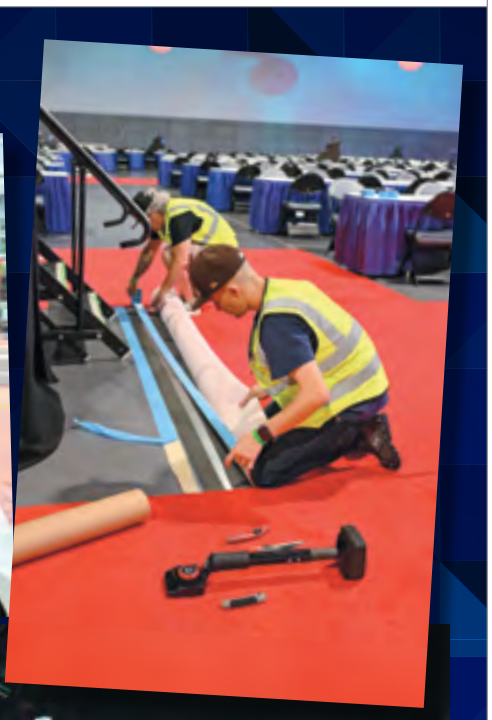
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BEHIND THE SCENES

The 41st IBEW International Convention was powered by hundreds of IBEW and other union members who made sure the thousands of delegates and guests had the best experience possible. Thank you to everyone who took part in making the convention a massive success.





