

# IBEW JOURNAL

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June 2006

Seven years of struggle and solidarity ended with a union victory by members of IBEW Local 21 at Comcast in Illinois. It was one of the longest and hardest-fought victories in the history of the Brotherhood.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Standing Tall

The members of Local 43, Syracuse, N.Y., would like to thank Brothers Robert "Tiger" Hammond, New Orleans Local 130 and Curtis Murphy, Gulfport, Miss. Local 903, along with other IBEW business managers in the Gulf Coast, for standing tall in protecting Davis-Bacon rates on the reconstruction work after Hurricane Katrina and Rita. Through these brothers' efforts, President Bush's order to suspend Davis-Bacon rates on this work was reversed. This was a victory for every IBEW member in the United States.

If there was any doubt about the administration's lack of compassion and understanding of the problems facing the working families in our country, their decision to suspend Davis-Bacon should make it crystal clear to us where they stand. **They do not care.** To expect people who have lost everything to rebuild their lives and their communities and to cut their pay while doing it is unbelievable.

**Patrick Costello,**  
Local 43 member, Syracuse, New York

### Thanks, Brothers

I wish to thank you for your relief contributions. I especially want to thank four members of Local 3 for moral support. They are Joe Mandel, John Lamb and Bobby and Bill Mosley. Bobby and Bill Mosley's sons, William and Frank, came down to my home in Louisiana and helped tremendously by cutting up a mountain of fallen trees for a whole week.

**Stephen Butscher**  
Local 130 retiree, Talisheek, Louisiana

### Endless Opportunities

I am a new signatory contractor in the central Florida area. We are taking the Code of Excellence to a new level. We are competing with nonunion contractors and doing very well. We are only a small three-man shop with very little financial backing, but the opportunities are endless. We are currently doing a lot of service work fixing nonunion screw-ups and doing new housing the right way, including Gloria Estefan's house in Vero Beach. People are starting to realize that quality is much better than quantity.

**Angeluis Sosa**  
Local 728 member, Sebastian, Florida

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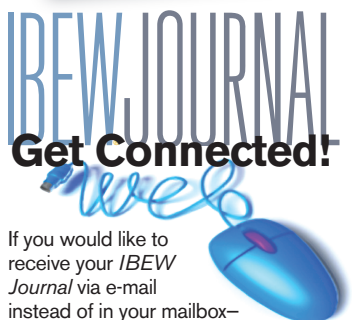
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# Judgment Day for Enron Bosses

After Enron came crashing down in 2001, some filmmakers released a documentary recounting the whole sordid tale of how the once vaunted energy giant was felled by its own greed and corruption. The film was called “The Smartest Guys in the Room.”

A jury in Houston convicted former Enron Corp. Chairman Kenneth Lay and President Jeffrey Skilling on a combined total of 25 out of 34 counts of conspiracy, fraud and insider trading that they faced. Lay and Skilling were so far off the charts of corporate behavior that even the editorial page of the *Wall Street Journal* thought that the final verdicts reflected that justice had been done.

We take satisfaction, but no joy from this result. These convictions write what is probably the final chapter in a tale of greed and corruption that did far more than enrich a few wayward executives at the expense of their company and its shareholders. Enron’s financial tricks and market manipulations devastated the economy of the largest state in America, left workers with empty pension accounts and perpetrated massive fraud on numerous investors and communities.

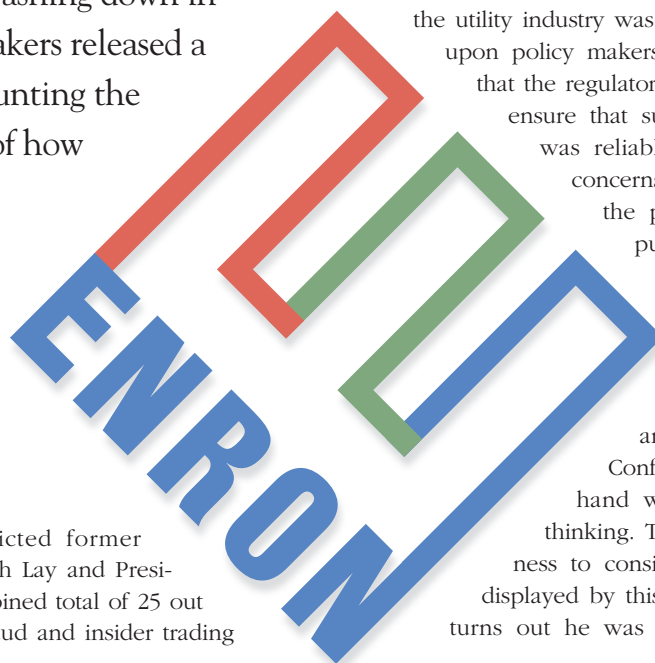
In the mid-1990s, the IBEW warned that deregulation of the utility industry was a bad idea. We tried to impress upon policy makers at the federal and state levels that the regulatory compact was put into place to ensure that such a vital service as electricity was reliable, predictable and stable. Our concerns, however, were outweighed by the powerful forces that wanted to put the money and the assets of the industry into financial play.

And no one entity was more vocal or put so much cash into the fight as Enron.

In 1997, the IBEW invited an Enron spokesman to the Utility Conference. We wanted to hear first-hand what this upstart company was thinking. The arrogance and the unwillingness to consider other viewpoints that were displayed by this official were infuriating. And it turns out he was reflecting the mindset that ran throughout the entire corporation.

Enron helped propel the deregulation of the market in California, with disastrous results. We all learned later that they gamed the system to their own advantage, manipulating the power market to hold up the state for exorbitant prices which caused skyrocketing rates, rolling blackouts, the bankruptcy of major utilities and a crisis in the state government that ultimately gave us Arnold Schwarzenegger as governor.

In Oregon, Enron acquired Portland General Electric (PGE), represented by IBEW Local 125. A short time later, our members at PGE found that their defined contribution plans had been locked



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LEADERS THAT THERE IS A BETTER WAY. ”

into Enron stock, which eventually proved worthless. Many of our members suffered tremendous financial setback and are still picking up the pieces. Several of them testified before Congress, helping to fuel the trend that resulted in the downfall of Enron.

Justice, as defined by the criminal code of the United States, has been served. But justice in the broader sense remains elusive. The recent convictions will not undo all of the tremendous damage done to companies, workers, consumers and governments by Enron.

The only good that will come of the Enron story would be the long needed realization on the part of corporate executives throughout North America and the world that they do not live in a bubble where profits are the only measure of success. They and their companies are a part of society, and there is more to gain from working in partnership with their employees and the communities in which they do business.

Corporate executives hold tremendous power in the world today, especially in the United States. The size and power of government has been limited. The party that is traditionally more friendly to big business, the Republicans, have held control of Congress since 1994 and by 2008 will have occupied the White House for 20 of the past 28 years. A host of economic factors—most notably unfair trade policies and the decline of American manufacturing—have eroded much of the union base in the United States, removing a vital counterbalance in many industries.

Clearly, the Enron executives were the worst apples in the bunch. But their sordid story can ultimately have a happy ending if their behavior serves as a model for executives on how not to use corporate power. The saga of Lay and Skilling can show other business leaders that there is a better way.

In the IBEW, we have been engaged in a campaign to rekindle every member's commitment to excellence and personal responsibility on the job. We realize that our goal of getting a good deal for our members will be advanced if we live up to our end of the bargain to be our best. That puts us in a stronger position to demand good wages and solid benefits and convince our employers and our customers that we

are an asset to their success.

We have met with numerous corporate executives in the past year and know that there are many out there who are potential partners in creating a better atmosphere for employers and employees alike to thrive. It's in our interest as a Brotherhood to work with them to show the world that cooperation is the better course of action than following the lead of the Enrons and Wal-Marts of the world.

We can show that resisting workers' efforts to organize creates hostility and discontent, but working with unions creates mutual gain. We can show that the health care crisis in the United States is not just an issue for the balance sheet, but a social problem that demands a united effort by employers, workers and government. We can show those who hire construction firms, or run utility companies, or make products in North America, or oversee telecommunications companies or run railroads or television networks or shipyards that IBEW members are the best and make for solid, trustworthy partners, or tough adversaries, when forced to that.

Unrealistic? Maybe so. But

in Kenneth Lay and Jeffrey Skilling, corporate leaders have poster boys of how not to run a company and how not to treat workers, shareholders and communities. Let's convince them to pay attention.



Handwritten signatures of Edwin D. Hill and Jon F. Walters.





**Local 11 member Mark Cobern monitors the control box next to the photovoltaic system on the rooftop of ETI.**

## Local 11 and NECA Showcase Photovoltaic System

California sunshine never felt better as Los Angeles Local 11 and the Los Angeles County chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association welcomed over 200 local dignitaries and other guests to one of the nation's largest privately owned solar power generating systems during Earth Day Week in April.

Located at the Electrical Training Institute (ETI) of Southern California, the system will produce approximately 80 percent of all power consumed by the 144,000- square-foot institute and adjoining local union and pension plan offices.

"This installation is a real-life working system that not only provides most of the power for our training facility, but also serves as an educational showcase for our apprentices, union contractors and journey-level electricians," said Mar-

vin Kropke, business manager of IBEW Local 11.

After touring the system's control and display room, guests said they were impressed with the potential for solar power to help consumers and government move away from the high costs of fossil fuel-based energy. The new system produces surplus energy that flows out to the utility grid, providing a cost credit for ETI and electrical power for the community.

Ninth District IBEW Vice President

Mike Mowrey, Jim Willson, executive manager of Los Angeles NECA and Don Davis, ETI's director, were among those present.

The showpiece of the event was the interactive control and display room, which features instantaneous real-time data output monitored from the system, a dramatically lit exhibit of AC/DC converter controls, and an informative audio-visual presentation.

"This installation sets high standards for businesses and the construction industry," said Willson, crediting NECA/IBEW signatory contractor Electric Service and Supply Co. and the "skill, training and professionalism of our union contractors and electricians."

The installation consists of two complete electrical systems with 2,160 individual solar panels, each producing 175 DC watts of power, for a system total DC output rating of 456,750 watts. The system is capable of providing close to 900,000 kilowatt hours of electrical usage per year.

The IBEW/NECA partnership will invite private entities interested in constructing a photovoltaic system to view the arrays and display rooms at ETI. "We want to share this system with our community," Davis said.

The open house also provided an opportunity to create community goodwill and highlight the opportunities offered by the unionized electrical construction industry. Many guests, including visiting students and city officials, took the opportunity to tour the ETI facility and view its high-tech labs and classrooms.



**Four-hundred members of St. Louis Local 1 wired the ball park, shown here sporting the IBEW logo on its outfield screen.**

## IBEW Wires New Cardinals Stadium

In a feat that demonstrated the ability of the building trades to accomplish a seemingly impossible task with skill and professionalism, a new Busch Stadium in St. Louis, Missouri, opened on the same site as the old one only a few short months after the old stadium was destroyed.

The new ball park, which replaced a 40-year-old baseball field as home of

the St. Louis Cardinals, debuted on Opening Day April 10. The Cards have been playing to sell-out home crowds ever since.

Construction of the \$365 million project on a site immediately adjacent to the old stadium actually started in 2003. But the final piece, which involved demolishing the old field and rebuilding part of the new one in its

place, started the day after the Cardinals' '05 season ended last fall.

"A lot of people said it couldn't be done," said Local 1 Business Manager Stephen Schoemehl, who is also Fifth District International Executive Council member. "This is a shining example of what the unionized construction trades are capable of."

The project, accomplished under a project labor agreement, employed more than 3,000 workers and 50 contractors. On the electrical side, about 400 members from 19 contractors worked on the project headed by signatory employer Sachs Electric. The new field was built in the old-time ball-yard style, featuring ornate black steel towers and exposed red brick. With the playing field below street level and a wide open layout, practically every seat in the house has a view outside the stadium; people on the street can even get a glimpse of the field.

A few days before the stadium opened to the public, workers and their families were invited back to the stadium for a look at the final product, considered the city's most significant project since completion of the Gateway Arch.

## Joint Chiefs Chairman's Deep Local 3 Roots

The 44 college scholarship recipients of Local 3's labor-management Educational and Cultural Trust Fund's 58th annual awards program found themselves in good company at the April 1 breakfast in New York.

Keynote speaker was Joint Chiefs Chairman Peter Pace, who was awarded a local scholarship years ago. The son of a Local 3 journeyman wireman, today Pace is the principal military advisor to the President.

The scholarships, for children of Local 3 members, are responsible for sending thousands of students on to a life of greater opportunity.

At a gathering that included more than 600 IBEW members and signatory contractors, Pace spoke of the importance of Local 3 to his family's life.

"When the name Harry Van Arsdale, Jr., was spoken in our house, it was always with great reverence," Pace said of the legendary longtime business manager of Local 3 who also served as New York Central Labor Council president and IBEW International Treasurer. "The things that visionary man did for the union, and there-

fore my family, were truly remarkable."

Pace's two brothers and sister also received Educational and Cultural Trust Fund scholarships, but Pace ultimately declined his to attend the U.S. Naval Academy.

"I tell you this because I have great pride in my family but also because this country is amazing," Pace said. "There is not another country on the planet where a father can come from Italy and his children can have the opportunity to reach whatever goal they want."

Pace encouraged the recipients to prepare themselves for a future without limits. "Remember your families have enormous confidence in you," Pace said. "This is about you deciding who you want to be when you grow up and going after that dream in the way you know best suits who you are."

*(Currents continued on next page)*



**Joint Chiefs Chairman Pace, left, with Charles Louis Scharfe, Jr. Memorial Scholarship winner Julianna Eaton, daughter of Local 3 member Robert Eaton, and N.Y. Sen. Charles Schumer.**



## Robotics Competition Draws Students, Seeks IBEW Mentors



**Members of Team WildStang prepare their robot for competition.**

Chicago Local 1220 President Al Skierkiewicz was drawn into the world of youth robotic competitions when his high school-aged son enlisted his help in isolating an electrical glitch in his team's machine. Ten years later, his son is now a mechanical engineer, but Al Skierkiewicz remains a key mentor to the middle and high school teams, helping students in the extracurricular activity

that has earned them national recognition.

Started by Segway inventor Dean Kamen and Massachusetts Institute of Technology Professor Woodie Flowers, who hoped to inspire students in engineering, math and technology, the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition in Science Technology) competitions attract high school students to regional and national events.

In late April, Skierkiewicz's team, called WildStang, returned from national competition in Atlanta with the Chairman's Award, the highest honor a team can achieve. The award recognizes outstanding effort, community service and willingness to help others, including competitors. The event drew 28,000 people and teams from 344 high schools in seven countries.

Team WildStang members come from high schools in Wheeling and Rolling Meadows, outside Chicago. Sponsored and mentored by Motorola, WildStang won first place at the Chicago and Milwaukee regional competitions this year as well as its coveted Chairman's Award.

Most teams have approximately 20 students with a similar number of mentors. Because it costs between \$5,000 and \$6,000 to compete, teams usually have corporate sponsors. For the high school competitions, each team is mailed a box of parts and a new game the first week of January. Teams have six weeks to analyze, design and build a robot. Under the rules, each team must use all the motors, the same batteries and build to the same rough dimensions. On game days, teams meet and compete in an environment of "gracious professionalism."

"If a team comes up and asks your strategy, you have to tell them," Skierkiewicz said. "If they ask for your help, you have to help them."

"Inspiring young people to work together, learn together and compete together is the noble goal of these games," said Local 1220 Business Manager Madeleine Monaco. "Since the kids build the electronic marvels for the competition, IBEW broadcast engineers are uniquely suited to mentor these budding technical geniuses."

WildStang embodies that spirit of cooperation over competition. The team aids others by operating a robot clinic where they help competitors with repairs. This culture of cooperation and communication brings people together, Skierkiewicz said. "You have students from different teams in different states forming friendships and going to each other's proms," he said. "The same thing happens with adults."

WildStang is active in community service activities, with the older students mentoring middle school teams in FIRST Lego League competitions. The team raised money for Hurricane Katrina victims and helped recycle computers sent to schools in Africa.

Another rewarding aspect of participating in the team is watching the students, many of whom do not expect to attend college when they join the team, all go on to some kind of higher education after high school. Some of them even return to the team to mentor new generations of would-be scientists, engineers and physicists.

"We're seeing kids with no direction leaving our team with a future," said



### Mich. Gov. Granholm Visits Saginaw Democrats

Mich. Gov. Jennifer Granholm (D), center, pictured with Saginaw Local 557 executive board member Bill Link and his wife Nancy, recently visited the new Saginaw County Democratic Headquarters. Granholm, who is running for reelection this year, is enthusiastically supported by the IBEW and other unions in Michigan for her efforts to expand manufacturing and new technology in the area, and make health care more widely available. She has clashed with the Republican-dominated state legislature over prevailing wage law and other legislation affecting labor.

## U.S. Court: Nashville Company Must Honor IBEW Contract

You can run, but you can't hide. That is what the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals told the owners of Crossroads Electric Inc., an IBEW signatory contractor which changed its name in 2003 and set up shop as a nonunion contractor. Now the Tennessee firm is obligated to pay hefty back pay and benefit contributions to the entire crew of its 30-worker shop and bargain with the union.

Nashville IBEW Local 429 filed charges at the National Labor Relations Board in 2004 contending that Greer Associates, the new firm, was the "alter ego" of Crossroads Electric, a firm that was signatory since 1997.

Michael Bearden, Local 429, president and Tony Adams,

assistant business manager and chief organizer, pulled permits and followed Greer trucks to research the company's identity.

Thomas Greer, the former owner of Crossroads, was using Crossroads' trucks, ladders and other equipment on his jobs, which included wiring numerous local restaurants. Bearden and Adams called Greer's business office to inquire about the firm. A secretary told them that Greer was the same company as Crossroads, but was using a different name because they wanted to operate without a union.

Greer was represented by King and Ballow, an anti-union law firm that, Bearden says, "has given us a lot of trouble." ■

Skierkiewicz, who in recent years has helped start seven other teams in Peoria and at inner city high schools in Chicago.

Skierkiewicz, who is a 34-year IBEW member, is a broadcast engineer in the maintenance and design department of a public television station in Chicago. His job has taught him a lesson he passes on to the students he works with. "If you get a job doing something you like, you'll never work a day in your life."

Skierkiewicz said he hopes to inspire more IBEW members to mentor teams. Their expertise could help interest students in IBEW careers. "Students like to know they're working alongside a professional," he said. ■

## Judge Orders New Election at Exelon

An administrative law judge has slammed Exelon Generation Co. for engaging in illegal union-busting tactics against the IBEW prior to a May 5, 2005 representation election covering employees at the corporation's Limerick and Peach Bottom nuclear facilities in Pennsylvania.

The decision by Judge Wallace H. Nations orders that the results of the election—which the IBEW lost by three votes—be set aside, with a new election to be scheduled. Exelon has appealed the judge's ruling.

Philadelphia Local 614 filed charges at the National Labor Relations Board in

March 2005 contending that Exelon was in violation of several sections of the National Labor Relations Act.

The union contended that Exelon: threatened union supporters with the loss of their jobs; required employees to use vacation time to attend NLRB hearings because they supported the union, while management witnesses were paid; threatened to change shifts, flex time, work schedules, and overtime if the union became the collective bargaining representative; and implied that the selection of the union would be futile and that the company would not bargain in good faith.

The judge upheld all union charges and ordered the corporation to make employees whole for all monetary losses. The company was also ordered to post a notice to employees that it would cease and desist from further illegal activity.

One of the workers covered by the union's complaint, Robert Schlegel, a Limerick employee, signed an IBEW authorization card in 2003 and began working as an in-plant organizer. Schlegel was later subpoenaed to attend a hearing between the parties to determine the boundaries of the bargaining unit.

Since he was scheduled to work the night shift prior to the hearing, Schlegel asked his supervisor to be given the night off with jury duty pay so that he could safely attend the hearing the next morning. The company allowed

Schlegel, a foster parent, to do this on several prior occasions when he was subpoenaed to appear in court in child custody cases. The employer denied Schlegel's request, but a supervisor, who testified in the hearing for management, was given the night off and paid time and one-half for his testimony the next morning.

The judge ruled that the employer interfered, restrained, coerced and discriminated against employees engaged in union or collective activity and retaliated against them for filing unfair labor practice charges or cooperating with the NLRB.

Exelon Corp. was formed in 2000 as a result of the merger of PECO Energy Company and UniCom Corporation (known as ComEd). The parent company operates power plants across the U.S. The IBEW represents hourly employees at all of the facilities within Exelon Generation, outside of Peach Bottom and Limerick. The Brotherhood also maintains bargaining units at other divisions of Exelon and at former ComEd units.

In the last three years, the IBEW has won elections in three bargaining units of PECO Energy. Local 614 members working at the company's fossil generation facilities ratified a contract in 2004, after organizing in 2003. Negotiations are currently taking place on collective bargaining agreements covering other PECO units, including the company's call center. ■



## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION "HOURS OF SERVICE UPDATE"

The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) became effective August 10, 2005. On April 4, 2006, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) issued to field offices, division and state administrators and others, a memorandum providing guidance for implementing SAFETEA-LU provisions, specifically exemptions to the agency's Hours of Service Rules (HOS). Several industry operations are included in the list of exemptions included in SAFETEA-LU, but this will only focus on the hours of service for "Operators of Utility Service Vehicles."

Section 4132 of SAFETEA-LU clearly exempts all drivers of utility service vehicles from any of the hours of service regulations included in the Code of Federal Regulations, 49 CFR Part 495. Therefore, it has now been determined that the FMCSA will not enforce any of those provisions. Utility service vehicles are defined as follows.

Any commercial motor vehicle:

- Used in the furtherance of repairing, maintaining, or operating any structures or any other physical facilities necessary for the delivery of public utility services, including the furnishing of electric, gas, water, sanitary sewer, telephone, and television cable or community antenna service;
- While engaged in any activity necessarily related to the ultimate delivery of such public utility services to consumers, including travel



or movement to, from, upon, or between activity sites (including occasional travel or movement outside the service area necessitated by any utility emergency as determined by the utility provider); and

- Except for any occasional emergency use, operated primarily within the

service area of a utility's subscribers or consumers, without regard to whether the vehicle is owned, leased, or rented by the utility.

Contractor owned and operated commercial motor vehicles used in any of these circumstances are included in the application of these rules. The SAFETEA-LU also prohibits a state or political subdivision from imposing hours of service requirements on either interstate or intrastate utility service vehicle drivers. If you have any questions, you should contact your state enforcement authorities for clarification.





# THE IBEW ON DUTY

## Marine's Music Salutes Fallen Comrades

Dressed for combat, **Marine Cpl. Matthew E. Bucceri**, an IBEW telecommunications technician, took his place on the roof of the government center in Ramadi, Iraq, to make some noise. The sounds came not from Bucceri's gun, but from his bagpipe as he played the "Marines' Hymn" at an April memorial service for members of his unit who were killed in battle.

Bucceri, 29, turned out of Jersey City, N.J., Local 164's Telecommunication Installer/Technician apprenticeship in 2001, then enlisted in the Marine Corps after the attacks of September 11. He had played the bagpipes in Local 164's "Pipes and Drums" and taught for one year in the local's voice-data-video program. He is the son of retired Local 164 journeyman wireman Edward Bucceri, and the brother of Elissa, an inside apprentice.

"Lots of people want to play the guitar or other musical instruments like the flute growing up," Bucceri told the *Marine Corps News*. "I just always had a passion to play the bagpipes." Bucceri, who had



**Marine Cpl.  
Matthew E.  
Bucceri**

also been deployed to Haiti and the Philippines, is due to be released from duty in September.

During his first tour in Operation Iraqi Freedom, Bucceri's wife, Elizabeth, started

a fund to send him a bagpipe to help relieve the stress of his military service and lift the morale of his fellow Marines. Now on his second Iraq deployment, he started playing at memorial services for fallen troops.

When members of Bucceri's battalion were ordered to gather on the roof of Ramadi's government center by their commanding officer to memorialize the sacrifice of the fallen and to send a mes-

sage to the insurgents, Bucceri brought his bagpipes.

His rendition of the "Marines' Hymn," Bucceri told the *Marine Corps News*, "is to let the insurgents know that they can place as many [bombs] as they want and try to do whatever they wish, however they'll never break our spirits or take away our morale."

"Matt is an action guy, the kind of person who makes things happen," said Dave Milazzo, president of Local 164. Milazzo praised Bucceri's skills, pointing to his promotion to foreman immediately after completing his apprenticeship.

"How many people would give up a good-paying job to volunteer for four deployments to fight for their country?" Milazzo said.

## Tour of Duty Ending for Iowa IBEW Members

Sioux City, Iowa, Local 231 members **Steven Dirks**, **Nathan Johnson** and **Russell Steffen** have been serving in Iraq with the 113th National Guard Cavalry out of LeMars, Iowa. They are due to be released this summer.

Johnson and Steffen, who is on his second tour of duty, will be returning to their journeyman wireman apprenticeships. Dirks, a journeyman wireman, is a former member of the local's apprenticeship committee.

## Indiana Member Recovering from Iraq Injuries

**Staff Sgt. Josh James**, a journeyman wireman member of Evansville, Ind., Local 16, is recovering from shrapnel injuries sustained in Iraq in January.

James was sent to the Veteran's Administration hospital at Fort Gordon, Ga., where doctors determined that he would not need surgery for the shrapnel lodged in his leg. James expects to return to work soon.

## LOCAL 6 SENDS SUPPLIES TO IRAQI SCHOOLCHILDREN

Iraqi schoolchildren will benefit from a donation by San Francisco, Local 6, which was suggested by member **Mike Spencer**, a cable splicer for San Francisco Department of Telecommunications and Information.

Mike Spencer's son, **Lt. Eric Spencer**, Bravo Company, 3/67 Armored Regiment, Unit 41503, initiated a program, named E.R.I.C. (Education Relief for Iraqi Children) and asked his father for help.

After the local's executive board won the membership's approval, several boxes of school supplies were mailed to the Baghdad project.

Lt. Spencer thanked Local 6 in a letter to the membership, accompanied by a picture of his platoon.



# SAFETY POSTER CONTEST WINNERS



1st Place

**Jeff Reider**

Local 595  
Stockton,  
California



# SAFETY



**NOW THAT'S A  
BRIGHT IDEA**

2nd  
Place  
**Andrew  
Schmid**

Local 94  
Pennsville,  
New Jersey

## HONORABLE MENTIONS

**WHICH ONE  
DOESN'T BELONG HERE**

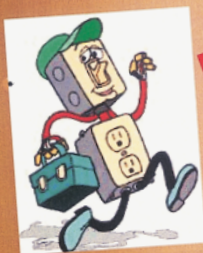


**THE ANSWER IS  
YOU**

**Michael Marti**

Local 343, Winnebago, Minnesota

**Think**



THE **SAFE** WAY  
IS THE BEST WAY



3rd  
Place

**Denis  
Bélanger**

Local 586  
Bourget,  
Ontario,  
Canada

There's **No!**  
Vacation....



from  
**SAFETY!**

**Ken Cislo**

Local 692, Midland, Michigan

# Building IBEW's Diversity and Strength

FOUNDED AT 30TH CONVENTION, ELECTRICAL WORKERS MINORITY CAUCUS HAS 32-YEAR HISTORY OF ACHIEVEMENT

Gus Miller's IBEW electrical career began in 1939, working in cold water flats and human waste up to his ankles. The working conditions were barely tolerable, but he faced even greater challenges. "As a black man, I couldn't get a journeyman's card," says Miller, now 80 years old. After becoming a journeyman in 1948, following seven years as an apprentice in IBEW locals in Washington, D.C. and Chicago, life was still tough for black and minority workers in the electrical trade and within the IBEW, he says.

Miller, a 17-year member of the executive board of Portland, Ore., Local 48, knew that IBEW's minority workers could only make progress by using a time-tested method—organizing internally.

Miller joined several ad hoc efforts, which culminated with the founding of the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (EWMC) in 1974 at the 30th IBEW Convention in Kansas City, Mo. He reserves his highest praise for the caucus. "Working with the EWMC," Miller says, "I became a man."

The EWMC is a leader among minority caucuses in the labor movement. Activists attribute the EWMC's vitality to a mixture of leadership development, political and financial independence, grassroots activism, and aggressive recruitment of younger members and a willingness to embrace diversity.

## *Mentoring New Leaders*

Minority caucus activists express pride in peers who have achieved major positions of influence in the IBEW. They

include Mel Horton, retired Fifth District Vice President; Royetta Sanford, Director of the Human Services Department at the IBEW International Office; Gregory Lucero, business manager of Local 66 in Houston, Texas, who also serves as the Sixth District member of the International Executive Council, and Robbie Sparks, EWMC chairperson, who is the 23-year business manager of Atlanta Local 2127 and was elected to the AFL-CIO executive council last year, after being nominated by International President Edwin D. Hill.

"The EWMC has shaped who I am by educating, inspiring, and exposing me to the mentors who have grabbed my hand and encouraged me to grab someone else's hand along the way," says Diana Limon, compliance officer, Los Angeles, Local 11.

EWMC members are encouraged to know their local union's agreements, bylaws and the IBEW Constitution, to run for local office, volunteer for committees and be politically active in their communities. One of the most popular caucus

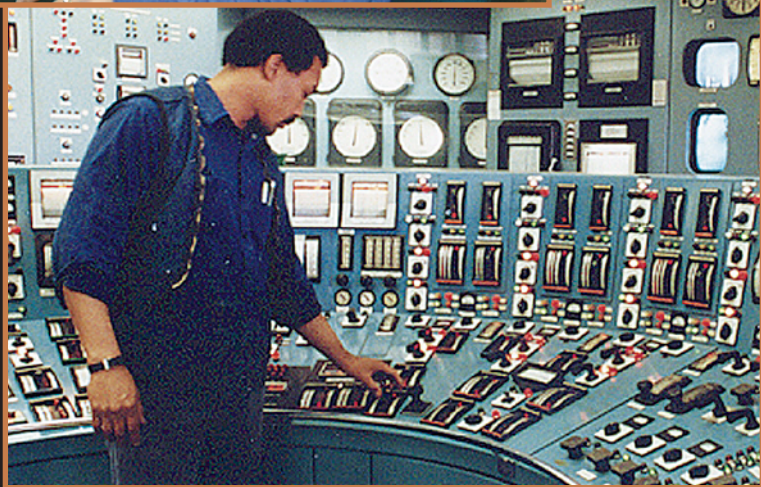


workshops is called "Knowing the Rules of the Game."

"Attending national EWMC conferences in the beginning of the year serves as a battery charge to keep motivated, encourage activism and focus on the contributions necessary to keep our union strong," says Limon, a 12-year journeyman wireman.

As more women and people of color have become active and are taking leadership roles in the IBEW, the EWMC's influence has spread, says Victor Uno, business manager of Dublin, Calif. Local 595, and member of the caucus' national board. "Like thousands of other Japanese-Americans, my parents were interned





The work of the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus has helped open opportunities in all branches.

during World War II. I know that racism and discrimination are a part of our country's history," said Uno, who is also a member of the national board of the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (APALA).

Caucus members have enhanced the IBEW's reputation by working in AFL-CIO constituency groups like APALA, the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, the A. Phillip Randolph Institute and the Coalition of Labor Union Women. Local chapters collect food and clothes for homeless citizens, support literacy programs and volunteer electrical work to spread the face of the "Union of Hearts and Minds" in their communities.

## Roots of the EWMC

After the founding of the IBEW in 1891, the union's leadership endorsed the concept of organizing black workers into segregated local unions. A referendum of the union's membership supported the idea, but local unions failed to organize black workers. A few local unions opened their door to black workers; they were forced to rescind the admissions based upon the referendum supporting segregated units.

Years later, even in the face of the legal and social changes arising out of the New Deal of President Franklin Roosevelt and the civil rights movement, many IBEW locals were unwilling to admit

black and minority members. Some placed obstacles in the path of minority applicants interested in training programs; others frustrated the efforts of minority members who wanted to serve in local office.

African-American and Hispanic members of the IBEW began meeting in the late 1940's and early 1950's to counter such discrimination.

A few locals, notably New York, Local 3, admitted black and Hispanic members, and even encouraged the formation of cultural organizations by minority members. But broad recruitment of minority apprentices didn't take place until the early 1960's, often after protests and legal challenges by the NAACP, the Urban League and other civil rights organizations.

In 1974, minority delegates to the 30th IBEW Convention in Kansas City met to discuss their concern about the lack of movement of minority members into positions of leadership in their local unions and at the International level. They also focused on the hurdles still facing minority apprentices. Establishing themselves as the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus, they openly considered

*(Continued on next page)*





On the podium at the EWMC 16th Annual Leadership Conference in January 2006 are from left, Ninth District International Representative Keith Edwards; retired Sixth District International Representative Susie Barber; retired 5th District International Vice President Mel Horton; IBEW Director of Human Services Royetta Sanford; and Local 48 retiree Gus Miller. In back from left are John Easton Jr., Local 76; Dale Worphan, Harris County Central Labor Council; Russell Ponder, Local 134; Harry Sorrell, Local 1700; Herbert Vo, Texas state representative; Victor Uno, Local 595; Fred Naranjo, Local 66; and Rick Garcia, Local 47.

## Diversity

(Continued from page 13)

organizing a protest inside or outside the convention.

These plans were set aside when IBEW International President Charles Pillard agreed to meet with the group at the convention to review the grievances of minority members. Subsequently, two meetings were held each year with the International President between 1974 and 1985 to discuss issues affecting minority workers, and minority delegates continued to meet every four years at International conventions.

In 1986, the EWMC gathered in Toronto during the 33rd IBEW Convention. As an organization of activists, busy in their home locals and communities, they needed a leader who could coordinate the networking, decision-making and structure to keep the caucus moving forward. Sparks was elected for her vision, communication skills and persuasive advocacy.

A national executive committee was established, consisting of a president, vice

president, secretary/treasurer and eight at-large members. An advisory committee was appointed and rules governing chapter development were ratified. The rules encouraged growth, enabling the chartering of chapters in local unions or areas where at least seven members agree to promote the goals of the caucus.

During that time, it became obvious that more frequent caucus meetings were needed for the EWMC to be effective.

In 1989, Sparks, Sanford, Horton and Susie Barber, retired Sixth District International Representative, sponsored and organized a national EWMC meeting to discuss the future of minorities in the Brotherhood. Meeting at the Renaissance Hotel in Atlanta, conferees discussed their involvement in their local unions and AFL-CIO constituency groups. National leaders from constituency groups spoke, detailing the work of their organizations. The thinking was, says Sanford, that "in order for change to take place, it was important to educate and stimulate EWMC members so they would have the



From left are California EWMC activists LouAnn McCune, president, Dublin, Calif. Local 595; Bridget Hall, JATC chair, Local 595; and Sabrina Hernandez, business representative, Local 6 enjoy a break at conference.

tools to go back into their local unions and communities and work toward improving conditions there. We knew there were other avenues of involvement that we could pursue."

The group resolved to call yearly conferences to coincide with the celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. Conferences would include leadership development training, including communications, organizing, political action and workshops on the IBEW Constitution and *Robert's Rules of Order*.

### EWMC Resolutions Debated on Convention Floor

Strategic planning by EWMC members took shape at the IBEW's Centennial Convention in St. Louis in 1991, the first convention where the EWMC's meeting was officially listed in the convention brochure. Months before the convention, caucus members drafted and circulated a



**Presenting award to EWMC Chairwoman Robbie Sparks are from left, Fred Naranjo, Local 66 ; Royetta Sanford; Harry Sorrell, Local 1700; Russell Ponder, Local 134; Sparks; and Yvette Goods, Local 1, St. Louis.**



resolution that called for the creation of a minority affairs department at the International Office to advance the cause for minority and women members. Knowing the rules of the game paid off when the caucus succeeded in winning support from 24 unions to put the issue on the convention floor.

On the fourth day of proceedings, EWMC delegates circulated supporting documentation for the establishment of a department of minority affairs.

However, the resolutions committee submitted a substitute resolution recommending the "urgency of forming a specific department or restructuring an existing department to address the matters of equal opportunities."

"You could hear a pin drop when the resolution was submitted and delegates lined up at the microphones," Sanford said.

The first speaker opposed the resolution, saying that it would "tend to bring attention to and cause to create division within our own structure, and stifle any minority's position within the IBEW."

David Rollins, New York City Local 3, the next speaker, spoke in favor. "Not creating a department...further threatens the lifeline of our union and organized labor," he said. Since membership was shrinking, said Rollins, "we must have every mechanism we can think of in place to organize the workers of tomorrow."

John Murphy Jr., Local 35, Hartford, Conn., echoed Rollins' support, compar-

ing the treatment of minority workers to the experience of his immigrant family members who were stung by signs which said, "No Irish need apply."

The daily proceedings of the 34th Convention noted that the substitute resolution carried, accompanied by applause.

As a result of that convention action, Sanford was appointed International Representative to head the Human Services Department in June 1992. Among other duties, the former business representative of Los Angeles Local 18 was responsible for the development and implementation of programs and training to encourage diversity and the participation of women and minorities in their local unions. She started doing outreach among the union's diverse population and assisted members who had on-the-job grievances and complaints about their union. Sanford's experiences were instrumental in the demographic expansion and diversification of the EWMC.

Uniting diverse groups under the banner of the EWMC was not always a smooth process. But it has been one of the most rewarding efforts the EWMC has undertaken. Sparks contends that internal solidarity flows from an appreciation of common needs and goals.

### *"People Want the Same Things for Our Families"*

"Members of our caucus understand that all people want the same things for

their families and that—in order to get the same things—we must have the same opportunities," says Sparks.

Caucus members conduct demographic research prior to presentations at district progress meetings, showing delegates in hard numbers the need for and importance of reaching out to minority workers and their communities to build stronger local unions.

Victor Uno attended his first EWMC meeting in New Orleans after his local president asked him to deliver a presentation on the local's political work that helped to oust an anti-union member of Congress. The presentation was part of a larger discussion on building broad-based labor-community efforts to win elections and build political power. "I have seen the EWMC's message spread," says Uno, pointing to LouAnn McCune, Local 595's first woman president and Bridget Hall, the first African-American chair of the local's JATC. The Bay Area chapter of the EWMC has conducted fundraising for women's shelter programs and scholarship programs and encourages members to be active in their locals.

The EWMC, says Sanford, models leadership for the IBEW on what diversity is all about. The executive committee is diverse by every demographic measure—race, gender, sexual orientation and work classification; all pulling together to foster positive change within the IBEW. "The EWMC encourages differences based upon the belief that progress comes through our willingness to understand and work together," she says.

In January, President Hill addressed the yearly meeting of the EWMC in Houston. He reaffirmed the caucus' role in the Brotherhood's effort to organize in growing economic sectors, like residential construction, where large numbers of minority and immigrant workers are employed.

"Active union members who feel ownership of their union are better union members, stronger union members and help create the justice and dignity that we all crave," President Hill said. "That defines the EWMC, and I want it to define all IBEW members as well." He urged the EWMC to continue to be agents of change. ■



# Seven Year Struggle Yields Contract at Comcast in Illinois

Seven years of grassroots strategy and tactics ended with a union victory by members of Downers Grove, Ill. Local 21 at Comcast on April 27. It was one of the longest and hardest-fought victories in the history of the Brotherhood.

"I am certain that the labor historians of the future will look back at this union victory as one of the best examples of how worker unity and participation in their own battles can defeat some of the strongest anti-union corporations of our time," says Ron Kastner, president-business manager of Local 21, praising over 100 members who responded to a contract campaign that included an expanded bargaining committee and house calling on co-workers to involve them in the fight.

Comcast also settled a two-year long contract battle with CWA in Pittsburgh recently. This and the Illinois victory are cracks in what continues to be a solid

wall of opposition by Comcast to the rights of its employees. The settlement with Local 21 came one month before IBEW and CWA members and their supporters in the religious community held a May 17 prayer vigil on the eve of Comcast's annual stockholder's meeting in Philadelphia to protest the company's continued violations of the human rights of their workers.

"Seven years of struggle is not too long when you believe in justice," says Jerry Rankins, a Local 21 business agent, who represents workers at sev-

eral Chicago-area facilities formerly owned by Jones Intercable, which was purchased by Comcast in 2002.

Ratified by a 3 to 1 margin, the contract provides wage increases between 11 percent and 24 percent based upon job classification and former pay grade. Maintenance and head-end technicians will see their standby pay increased from \$84 per week to \$210 per week. Bargaining unit members—including customer service technicians, sales representatives, and warehouse workers—achieved parity with non-represented Comcast workers, gaining a stipend for retiree health care. Local 21 won improved contracting out and successor provisions at the unit, which was owned by Jones Intercable, TCI, and AT&T Broadband before its acquisition by Comcast in 2002.

"TCI, AT&T Broadband and Comcast were all convinced the company would win the battle," says Lisa Hart, who works

**Jerry Rankins, Local 21 business agent, presents the contract to Local 21 members.**

*(Continued on next page)*



in Comcast's Oswego, Ill., warehouse. "Comcast finally figured out that we were strong, united and would do whatever it took to stay in the fight. That's why we won."

Comcast fired some workers and offered "blood money" to others to transfer to nonunion locations, but they remained resilient, says Rankins. A few members of the bargaining unit who went to nonunion locations now wish they had stayed behind for the fight and the fruits of victory, he said.

Local 21 kept workers informed during negotiations with e-mail updates, a telephone hotline, and regular meetings. When supervisors spread the word that Comcast wanted a settlement, but was blocked by Local 21's unreasonable positions, leaders decided that they needed to do better. They rotated shop floor members into negotiating sessions, says Rankins, to "see and hear Comcast's arrogance first-hand." Many workers volunteered to attend sessions on their own time.

When Comcast tried to seed an effort among workers to decertify the IBEW, Local 21 responded quickly, says Tom Hopper, Local 21 business representative. The local tapped its volunteer organizer database and set up visits to workers' homes to answer their questions and concerns and quell rumors.

Members joined in dozens of public events staged to call attention to Comcast's anti-worker stance, including the "Truth Squad," which followed Comcast executives around town to fancy dinners. They exposed company-sponsored "Comcast Cares" days with an inflatable rat and information for bystanders and the news media. (See "Hot Summer at Comcast," IBEW Journal, July/August, 2005).

The bargaining unit was emboldened by a series of victories against their prior employers. Kevin Beallis, chief steward, began working for Jones Intercable in 1998. Less than one year later, when TCI acquired Jones' stake, the new firm terminated 26 bargaining unit members without cause. Local 21 intervened immediately and, three weeks later, they were back on the job. "When the company fired us that day, they did more to strengthen our union than they will ever

**Clockwise from top are Comcast maintenance technician Dave Love, warehouse employee Lisa Hart and area steward Kevin Beallis.**



know," said Jon Rippinger, a system technician, steward, and the most senior member of the bargaining unit.

After AT&T Broadband took over from TCI, Beallis started attending annual shareholder meetings, taking the microphone to highlight company mismanagement and their anti-union actions. "At least people at the top of the company couldn't say they didn't know what was going on," he says.

In 2003, a month after Comcast laid off seven union members, upper managers held a breakfast meeting with the rest of the unit. When managers asked workers to write their names on raffle tickets to win prizes, bargaining unit members wrote in the names of their seven furloughed co-workers. As the tickets were drawn, managers asked why the winners weren't coming forward. The assembled workers replied in unison, "Because you put them on the street."

One year later, in settlement of a Local 21 grievance, the seven workers were reinstated with 85 percent of their back pay and made whole for missed 401(k) contributions.

Several workers, including shop stewards, were terminated, winning their jobs

back upon appeal. Rankins, who began working for Jones Intercable in 1987, was accused of threatening a Comcast human relations manager while representing a Local 21 steward. Comcast barred Rankins from the property and called the police whenever he showed up. The company then refused to arbitrate Local 21's grievance protesting Rankins' exclusion from the property.

Local 21 challenged Comcast's refusal to arbitrate the issue in federal district court. Comcast agreed to arbitrate. The arbitrator upheld the union's right to have access to company grounds.

"Our philosophy is that we will always last one day longer than Comcast," says Beallis, who thanks Local 21's 12,000 members, the AFL-CIO, the CWA and Chicago-area progressive organizations for standing by his bargaining unit. Seventy bargaining unit members, says Beallis, were in the contract battle from beginning to end. "A lot of our people saw the bigger picture," he says, learning that "worker power can move big mountains" even without having huge numbers.

*(Continued on page 28)*



## Indiana Manufacturing Local Organizes Janitorial Workers

When a nonunion janitorial service held captive audience meetings to thwart an organizing drive at Carrier's United Technologies plant in Indiana, members of IBEW Local 983 came to the janitors' support packing a powerful weapon—the truth.

Janitors employed by Diversco Integrated Services first approached Lori Jo Stair, Huntington, Ind., Local 983's master steward and organizer, last year about joining the IBEW. It wasn't enough that they received no medical benefits and only two paid holidays, the company notified them that they would no longer get paid for vacation time that they had accrued.

Stair volunteered most of her time, informing Diversco employees about the benefits and rights available to union

members. Her effective pitch and commitment to the janitors' struggle convinced the company to hire an anti-union Indianapolis law firm to stop the IBEW's momentum.

Company representatives warned the workers that Diversco couldn't afford to stay in business if a union was voted in. They also attempted to scare janitors by exaggerating the cost of union dues.

"The company threw everything they had at the janitors," says Stair, "but I made sure that Local 983 had daily contact with



Linda Downey, center, Local 983 master steward, with janitors Chris Phillips, left, and Henry Adams.

the potential new members." The day after each captive audience meeting, Stair, often joined by Sixth District International Representative Jeff Carter or Local 983's Business Manager Tyler Brown, called on the homes of Diversco's janitors to answer their questions. They asked how a firm that had \$270 million in sales last year could maintain that they couldn't afford a union or paid vacations.

At the May 11 NLRB representation the vote count was 9 to 0—a unanimous victory for the janitors and the IBEW. Two janitors who didn't get to vote in the representation election, but supported the union throughout the campaign, are now part of the bargaining unit.

### MICHIGAN NUCLEAR PLANT UNIT VOTES IBEW

Nearly 70 employees of AEP-owned Cook Nuclear Power Plant voted for IBEW representation on May 24, a sweet victory after three campaigns in recent years. The vote was a decisive 36-22.

"I think the workers realized that the company promised them some things after the two elections that never came to fruition," said IBEW Utility Department International Representative Dave Schimmel.

The chemical and radiation protection workers join the maintenance and material management units at the nuclear plant on Lake Michigan. The election brings the IBEW one step closer to wall-to-wall representation at the plant, said Schimmel, who has been working to organize them for years as former business manager of Fort Wayne, Ind., Local 1392. He is still working closely with Local 1392 Business Manager Brent Lewis and Chief Steward Bill Scally.

Workers in material management and maintenance were particularly vital in the latest effort, playing key roles on the volunteer organizing committee.

This time, at least three things changed that Schimmel

and others said contributed to their ultimate success. First, the Sixth District staff prepared and conducted an extensive volunteer organizing committee training program that instructed the members on talking to potential members about representation. Second, the utility industry is shifting into a consolidation mode, with many companies engaging in mergers and acquisitions—stressful under normal conditions but more so without benefit of an employment contract.

"They realized they need to have some kind of security," Schimmel said.

Last of all, a new top executive at AEP has helped temper what was once a ghastly labor-management relationship. This time, when a plant official at Cook attempted to stall the election by hiring attorneys to challenge the composition of the unit, Local 1392 leaders took the matter directly to CEO Mike Morris, who leaned on plant officials to drop the challenge.

"This time, the company still put on a campaign, but it wasn't as nasty," said Sixth District International Representative Alan Goddard.

## Trade Classifications

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

## ATTENTION PRESS SECRETARIES:

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## Work Picture

L.U. 6 (c,i,st&u), SAN FRANCISCO, CA—There appears to be an improved work picture here, as well as at most locals on the West Coast, according to business managers' reports at the Ninth District Progress Meeting in March. San Francisco just concluded the wettest first quarter on record, which has delayed many of the new construction projects. "T.I." work in existing buildings has been flourishing despite the weather.

*[Editor's Note: Please see "IBEW On Duty" in this issue for more information on Local 6.]*

JEFF SWEENEY, P.S.

## Projects Announced

L.U. 8 (as,em,i,mar,mt,rts,s&spa), TOLEDO, OH—At this writing, an ample supply of work opportunities continues in our jurisdiction. The much-anticipated coking facility, a \$350 million project, is reportedly still in the works, but has been delayed again for several months. We could certainly use a job of this magnitude. But on the positive side, a \$500 million expansion of the G.M. Powertrain facility was recently announced. Powertrain, which manufactures transmissions for rear-wheel drive vehicles, will start producing a 6-speed version for the 2008 model year. Work is to begin this July and will take one year to complete. Other projects still in discussion are the Marina District, a new sports facility, and the rebuilding of the Southwyck Mall. Indications show a strong likelihood of jobs for the next two years.

In the political world, 60-70 Local 8 members will run in their respective precincts for the office of precinct-committeeman for the

Democratic Party here in Lucas County. These brothers and sisters, upon election, will become part of a much larger group, which will determine the direction of the local Democratic Party. Some of these committeemen may also move on to become ward chairmen. Primary Election Day in Ohio is May 2, 2006.

JIM SZCZERBIAK, P.S.

DENNIS C. DUFFEY, B.M.

## Sports Ambassadors

L.U. 16 (i), EVANSVILLE, IN—IBEW Local 16 would like to express our appreciation to America's hard pressed service members and especially to our own Josh James. Josh was recently wounded while stationed in Iraq. He is back in the States and currently awaiting surgery from shrapnel injuries. We hope he will be on his way to a full recovery soon. Josh, the prayers of the Brotherhood as well as our utmost respects are with you.

The local is once again fielding a highly competitive team for this year's softball season. Our traveling sports ambassadors will be covering a lot of ground with one of the highlights being the Midwest Regional in Washington, DC. Good luck, guys!

DONALD P. BEAVIN, P.S.



**Local 18's old union hall will be replaced by a new building at the same location.**

## Building New Hall

L.U. 18 (u), LOS ANGELES, CA—After 58 years, Local 18 is building a new union hall. In April we moved temporarily to offices in the UCLA Labor Center, while construction begins at our old site. We plan to

move into our new home in summer 2007.

Everything happened at the old union hall: around-the-clock operations during certification drives and strike situations, interviews with political candidates and office holders at every level, and countless membership meetings, planning sessions and staff deliberations.

Our union hall was often a "home away from home" for officers, business reps and staff. Here, we had many triumphs and we hold many memories. Our initial fight for representational rights at the L.A. Department of Water and Power began with a grueling, hard-fought (and ultimately successful) effort in the early 1970s. From then, we have grown, prospered and continually gained influence. Today, we are a major "player" in local and regional union activities and politics, representing some 97 percent of the employees at the nation's largest public utility.

Next year, in our new digs, Local 18 will keep representing its members on the job, ensuring their families' futures, and making its mark as a leader in the fight for social equality and political progress.

JENNIFER HADLEY, P.S.

## Annapolis Rally

L.U. 24 (es,i&spa), BALTIMORE, MD—The annual AFL-CIO Rally in Annapolis was a great success. Once again the brothers and sisters from Local 24 made a great showing among all the trade unions gathered for the April 3 lobby night event.

All area building trade and other unions marched on our state Capitol to let elected officials know we are not going to let them take away everything that unions stand for. Since we have had this Republican governor in office, he has attempted to do everything possible to kill organized labor in Maryland. This Republican government would like to see unions become a thing of the past.

We must continue to unite and fight for success, working together to make sure unions thrive and survive into the future.

With sadness we report the death of: Sister Freida J. Nash, Bro. Alan T. Bush and retired Bro. John E. Major.

CARLOS HAMPLETON, P.S.





**New Local 26 Pres. Butch Ramos (left) presents retiring Pres. Franny Olshefski with his well-used gavel.**

### New Headquarters

L.U. 26 (ees,em,es,govt,i&mt), WASHINGTON, DC—At this writing, negotiations are in full swing with NECA and Cherry Lane for the Inside and Residential Wireman agreement. When you receive this article, the parties will have either reached agreement or submitted any unresolved issues to CIR.

Local 26 should be in its new headquarters in June. We are on target to be operating from Lanham, MD, by early June.

We are excited about all the work we have in this area for our members—including, finally, the D.C. baseball stadium victory!

Best wishes to former Local 26 president Franny Olshefski on his recent retirement. Franny served as president for 14 years and is a 42-year member. We thank Bro. Olshefski for his dedication, always keeping the members' best interests at heart and looking after our funds. We wish him a happy retirement.

We mourn the death of: Bros. John Gardner, John Vancil, Raymond Deem, Bruce Looney and Michael Hardesty; and retired Bros. Oscar S. Lang Sr., Donald Price, Kenneth Owens, Richard Wooten and Talmage Carawan.

Recent retirees: David H. Montgomery, David W. Yates, Ronald H. Bostic, Clayton Butler Jr., Robert E. Dunn, Donald C. Hart, Stanley A. Moore, William L. Moore, Richard L. Sparrough Jr. and Gerald E. Marks.

CHARLES E. GRAHAM, B.M.

### Montana Rodeo

L.U. 44 (catv,lctt,o,rtb,s&u), BUTTE, MT—The Montana Line-man's Rodeo will be held in Deer Lodge July 22, 2006. Everyone is welcome! Opening ceremonies begin at 7 a.m.

In addition to the lineman and apprentice events, also featured will be the tree trimmer's rodeo, pro backhoe rodeo, ladies pole climb and novice backhoe events. There will also be games for the children and a greased pig contest.

The rodeo board thanks all the hard working men and women, contractors, utility workers and union members who worked to make this one of the top rodeos in North America. The board also thanks the sponsors, team judges and vendors who come to Deer Lodge to compete. Recognition of sponsorship will appear in the written programs and on the sponsor board.

DON W. HENDRICKSON, B.M.

### NJATC Training Site

L.U. 58 (em,i,rtb&spa), DETROIT, MI—Our Sound and Communications members ratified a new 18-month contract in March. Negotiations gave them \$1.82 to allocate, an increase in their tool



**Local 58 residential wireman Josh Ignash, on a second tour of duty, hoists IBEW banner in Iraq.**

allowance and language for letter foreman. This contract will now expire shortly after the inside contract so the low-voltage field can be better prepared by having the actuarial report in hand before negotiations.

The Safety Committee is publishing the new Safety Handbook in June. Dedicated to Jerry Carney, this is a nice pocket-size or tool-box addition at only \$2.

On April 28, 133 inside and 79 telecommunication apprentice graduates celebrated at a banquet in their honor. The apprentice school is making good progress on its 10-k photovoltaic installation, to be finished in late spring. Stop by and have a look. The school is proud that it was chosen as one of the 2006 NJATC Regional Training Sites. This means specialized skill training will take place at our school in September, offered to Local 58 members as well as neighboring Midwest regions. Check with your local NJATC or online.

Thanks to IBEW locals in San Antonio, Las Vegas, Savannah, Gulfport, Ann Arbor and North Dakota. We appreciate the opportunity to work in your jurisdictions.

KATHY DEVLIN, P.S.

### Scouts Volunteers

L.U. 70 (lctt&o), WASHINGTON, DC—In late January 2006, a group of



**Local 70 volunteers: Brent Gates, Robert Humphries, Nate Smith, Jerry Deinlein, Adam Freshman, Dennis Bush, Jay Queer and Jason Nadzadi.**

linemen and apprentices from the local did some volunteer work at the Broad Creek Boy Scouts Reservation. The volunteers replaced two poles and did some maintenance work, with equipment donated by Riggs Distler & Co. Inc. All the men

can be reached in a timely manner. With the warmer weather finally here work is beginning to pick up. The long stretch of so little work seems to be almost over.

Yale recently announced construction of a new state-of-the-art cancer treatment center. The \$250 million project should last for quite a while and put many of our members to work. Yale University also announced the renovation of several of its older buildings. Over the next few years, that will keep a good-sized core of people working. The projects in New Haven public schools are also continuing. We are optimistic that over the next few months the numbers on our books will be greatly reduced.

At this writing, Local 90 was scheduled to sponsor a blood drive on April 3. We hope to collect enough to help many people in need.

SHANNON COZZA, P.S.

### Retirees Honored

L.U. 94 (lctt,nst&u), CRANBURY, NJ—On April 1 we celebrated the recent retirement of many members at a dinner held in their honor. The latest retirees in attendance included: Dennis Anderson, Mike Astrom, Robert Barber, Donald Caldwell, Woodrow Carnes, Mike Cocking, Edson Culver, Leon Czartoryski, Frank D. Onofrio, Robert Doyle, Donald Hefner, Harold Henningsen, Stephen Hunkele, Emil Lopata, Robert Maretzky, Harold Marquardt, Joe Marroli, Felix Minnich, Ron Panko, Louis Sanislo, Dominick Sassi and Fred White. All who attended had a tremendous time. Congratulations to all, and good luck for a happy, healthy and long retirement.

Scott Bickhart, a nuclear control operator from the Salem Nuclear Station, received the George Meany Award. The award recognizes union members' outstanding service to youth through Boy Scouts of America programs. Congratulations, Scott, and keep up the fine work.

The local held its sixth annual ski trip in March. Eighty-four members, families and guests enjoyed skiing White Face Mountain in Lake Placid, NY, for three fun-filled days.

received a commemorative knife from camp ranger Kevin Griswold.

Local 70 mourns the passing of the following members: Willis W. Taylor, Joseph D. Stockstill, Charles H. Scheidt, Olen E. Underwood Jr., Therrell J. McAllum and Glenn E. Diehl.

CHRIS A. BROWN, PRES.

### Get Involved

L.U. 80 (i&o), NORFOLK, VA—We had a couple of slow months and work is finally picking up. We are currently working to step up our organizing efforts and we are looking to our membership for help and support in winning back our jurisdiction. We will never take back our market share without our members helping with hand-billing jobsites, house calling unorganized workers, organizing non-union jobs and participating in rallies. Now is the time to get involved.

We thank Terry and Maureen McPhillips for their work on the dinner/dance. We also thank Bros. John Jezak, James Bell, Guy Grimsley and David Hord for their help hand-billing UtiliQuest. Their help was needed and appreciated.

DAVE SCHAEFFER, P.S.

### Projects Announced

L.U. 90 (i), NEW HAVEN, CT—At press time negotiations are continuing. Hopefully, an inside agreement



We are making trip plans for next year, so come out and enjoy the fellowship.

CHARLES HASSLER, P.S.

### High-Profile Projects

L.U. 96 (i), WORCESTER, MA—The new year looks to bring full employment, with help from brothers and sisters from neighboring locals.

Organizer Paul Pratt, with Pres. Robert Fields, is working to bring in new members as well as organizing members from our nonunion competition.

Our contractors are getting a number of high-profile jobs in our area including a Hilton hotel, the Worcester County Courthouse and a large-scale biotech project. These jobs are located in the heart of downtown and will provide the community a chance to see the quality of work IBEW members perform. This is significant in an area with so much nonunion competition.

December's monthly meeting has become an annual dinner honoring members for their years of service. Honorees will be announced in coming issues.

Massachusetts is getting ready to elect a new governor. This is our chance to show our strength and turn the government in Massachusetts back to the proud Democratic state we once were.

PAUL WEST, P.S.

### Organizing Continues

L.U. 108 (ees,em,es,lctt,mar,mt,rtb,rs,s,spa,t&u), TAMPA, FL—Special recognition is due to many for their tremendous efforts and dedication to the Lakeland Electric organizing drive: Lakeland Electric employees Rob Upthegrove, Linda Fairbanks, and Mike Inesso; all the organizing volunteers from Tampa Electric; the International; Local 108 officers and administrators; and Int. Rep. Rickie Tira. These individuals are all assets to the labor movement and advocates for the fair treatment of employees and the right for employees to have a voice and vote.

Although the drive was not successful, the vote was extremely close. This should send a message to management, and hopefully things will improve. Thanks to all Lakeland Electric employees who assisted and supported this campaign. If things do not improve within the next 12 months, Local 108 stands ready to again assist Lakeland Electric employees in their efforts.

Special thanks to Charlie Summerrall and AMVET officials for allowing VOC members to use the Lakeland American Veterans facility during the organizing drive.

The contracts for WEDU and Sensor Systems were negotiated and

ratified. SECO and TECO will both be entering negotiations soon. This will be a busy year for our local.

DOUG BOWDEN, P.S.

### 'Doing Their Part'

L.U. 124 (ees,em,i,mar,rs,se&spa), KANSAS CITY, MO—On March 28, some 3,000 union construction trades members attended a labor rally in Jefferson City, MO. The event was hosted by Missouri Building & Construction Trades and the Missouri AFL-CIO. Fifty members from Local 124 traveled from Kansas City to lobby and educate Missouri politicians on the benefits of union labor. The Missouri Legislature has been a war zone concerning project labor agreements, workers' compensation insurance, "right-to-work" and many other anti-labor issues. Local 124 members are doing their part to remain active in the political arena to secure jobs for the future.

The work picture here remains slow. A mild winter brought the completion of some projects earlier than expected. Some good work is coming later this summer with several long-term projects just beginning.



**Local 124 members with Missouri state Rep. Paul LeVota (front row, second from left) and Missouri state Sen. Victor Callahan (front row, third from left).**

Congratulations to Porfirio "Pete" Raya. Pete was appointed as a business agent for Local 124 and delegate to Tri-County Labor Council, serving Wyandotte, Leavenworth and Johnson counties in Kansas. His experience will be a great asset to Local 124.

We remember deceased members Joe E. Cox, John B. Glukowsky and William J. Herrin.

Congratulations to recent retirees: Thomas G. Eidson, William D. Hopson, William F. Matthes, Marvin M. Silvey Jr., James E. Stone Jr. and Derral W. Weber.

FRANK MATHEWS JR., P.S.

### Union Day Tickets

L.U. 134 (catv,em,govt,i,mt,rtb,rs,spa&t), CHICAGO, IL—The work picture in the Cook County area appears to be finally breaking out of the doldrums with new job starts and additional projects on the drawing board.

Hopefully this projected upswing in work will get our members back on the job. Kudos to the Local 134 Blood Drive Committee, who once again coordinated our annual blood drive. Thank you most of all to our brother and sister members who took time out to participate in this most worthwhile program, which helps save lives daily. Local 134 will be part of "Union Day" as the Chicago White Sox do battle with the Cleveland Indians on Sunday Sept. 10 at 1:05 p.m. General admission tickets for the game are \$9, but we only have 500 tickets so it's first come first serve. Send your check or money order to Local 134, ATTN Colleen Benda. Come out and join the local for a day of fun at the old ball game.

MIKE NUGENT, P.S.

### Graduation Banquet

L.U. 146 (ei,i&rts), DECATUR, IL—Congratulations to the new journeyman wiremen in Local 146. They are: Derek Chappellear, Aaron Foraker, Bradley Frantz, Ryan Glosser, Chad Harminson, Anthony Hawkins, Robert Kearney, Richard Lacy, Troy Livesay, James Mandrell,

### 'Voice Your Thoughts'

L.U. 150 (es,i,rs&spa), WAUKEGAN, IL—Local 150 congratulates its 2006 graduating apprentices for a job well done. The banquet for the graduating class was held at Midlane Country Club. The night was a memorable tribute to a group of new wiremen.

Effective April 1, 2006, Local 150 is working under a new drug testing policy. The Electrical Industry Drug-Free Alliance formed between IBEW Local 150 and The Northeastern Illinois Chapter NECA was created to address problems caused by drug and alcohol abuse. The program consists of a 50 percent pool for annual testing and also a 10 percent ongoing pool. This means that everyone in the pool will be tested every two years, and it is possible to be selected at any time from the 10 percent pool. An employer requesting to be drug-free must also submit the names of any of its other non-referred employees who have occasion to access jobsites to the pool (truck drivers, project managers, etc.). Anyone requesting assistance with a problem prior to testing will be given the confidential help they need. The local is confident that this program will benefit the contractor, the workers and their families.

At the June meeting we will allocate the second raise of our three-year contract, so please attend and voice your thoughts.

JON STEWART, P.S.

### Brother Candidates

L.U. 158 (i,it,mar,mt&spa), GREEN BAY, WI—Local 158 is proud to announce that two of our brothers are running for political office. Carl Arnoldi is running for State Assembly and James Neuens is running for county supervisor.

Carl is a 35-year member and has been extremely active in the local, holding several offices. He currently serves the local as vice president. He has served on the Examining Board, the Executive Board and on several committees. He was an instructor for JIW Update classes and COMET classes and served as business agent/organizer. He currently is an elected alderman in the city of Green Bay.

Jim has been an electrician for 33 years. He is a former business manager with our local. He has served on several committees and is a strong union representative in the community. He is currently in his fifth year as a trustee for Northeast Wisconsin Technical College.

We wish both gentlemen all the best in their political future.

JACK G. HEYER, B.M.

SHAD E. ETCHASON, A.B.M.

## Lifesaving Award

L.U. 196 (govt,mt,o,t&u), ROCK-FORD, IL—We presented the IBEW Lifesaving Award at our Feb. 22 meeting to Bro. Chuck Roloff. Bro. Roloff rescued two people from a burning vehicle while working in Texas after the hurricanes. We attribute Chuck's swift reaction to all the training we receive through our local union and the ALBAT apprenticeship program. Such emergencies can happen anywhere, so let's all keep up with the certifications needed and participate in all training offered at your union hall.

At this writing, our outside distribution work is good, both overhead and underground, and we still have a need for journeyman linemen. Transmission work is slow and Telephone has picked up slightly. We recently settled our Utility and Outside Power Agreement for one year with a 5.2 percent increase for all classifications on the check. We also reached a new three-year agreement with the City of Rock Falls on the Utility and the Clerical contracts. This was a long, hard fight as this municipality is broke. We recently organized the Water Department in Dixon, IL, and will start a first contract very soon.

Our condolences to the family of Local 196 former business manager David Lindsay, who passed away March 24, 2006.

EDGAR R. MINGS, B.M./F.S.

## Strong Showing

L.U. 204 (t&u), CEDAR RAPIDS, IA—Our deepest sympathy to the families of: Bro. Andrew Schnobrich, health physics technician at DAEC, who passed away Sept. 26, 2005; Bro. Orval "Babe" Hinz, retiree from Anamosa, who passed away Oct. 18, 2005; and Bro. Donald Brooks, retiree from Spirit Lake, who passed away Nov. 28, 2005.

On Aug. 10, 2005, the company and Local 204 reached a tentative agreement that was rejected by the membership. Most of the company's proposals had to do with what the union Negotiating Committee referred to as the "three C's." More cost savings for the company, more control by the company, and the making of concessions by the union. After meetings were held with the membership, a vote for strike authorization was held and 96 percent of the membership voted for authorization. The committee went back to negotiations with the company with a strike authorization and a second package was reached. The ballots were counted on Jan. 5, 2006, with the membership voting yes for this package.

Everyone stood behind the union Negotiating Committee and a better

contract was reached. Kudos to the membership for their strong showing of solidarity.

RANDY DRUMMER, P.S.

## Several Big Projects

L.U. 280 (c,ees,em,es,i,mo,mt,rt&st), SALEM, OR—Delegates to the Ninth District Progress Meeting in Palm Springs representing Local 280 were Bros. Mike Sliper, Mike Spade and Kevin Keyte, and Bus. Mgr. Dennis Caster. They gave a report on their activities to the membership at the joint meeting in Tangent on April 20. Nominations for officers and delegates to the National Convention were also held during that meeting.

At this writing the work picture continues to improve for Local 280 with several large projects underway. New hospitals are being constructed in Springfield and Salem, and several other medical care facilities and large commercial projects are also being manned. After having so many Local 280 members obtaining work on the road the past few years, we look forward to returning the favor by helping traveling brothers and sisters secure work opportunities with our local contractors this summer.

Oregon Labor Commissioner Dan Gardner, a member of IBEW Local 48 in Portland, ran unopposed in the recent primary election and will continue to serve the citizens of Oregon for four more years. [See feature article in the May 2006 IBEW Journal.] Congratulations, Dan!

DENNIS D. CASTER, B.M./F.S.

## 'We Start Now'

L.U. 294 (ees,em,i,rt,spa&u), HIBBING, MN—Where do we start? You are thinking what does he mean by that? I say it is a good question. We start right now before we go backward anymore. We have mid-term elections this fall at the federal and state level. In Minnesota we have a big governor's race with Senate and House members also up for election. So what's the plan? Get involved politically at the grassroots level and hold your elected officials' feet to the fire. Ask them the tough questions on where they stand so you can make an informed decision when you vote. And we will vote, along with our family members, and take this country and state back. We need people in office who understand working people and our issues. It can be done and we must do it or we will slowly disappear.

Our work situation is very good at this time. We hope to know the status of our larger projects soon. Local 294's summer picnic is Aug. 5

at the Ely Lake Veterans Park, starting at noon. Hope to see you there! Be union, buy union!

SCOTT WEAPPA, B.M./F.S.

## Let's Get Involved!

L.U. 306 (i), AKRON, OH—Akron, once the "rubber capital of the world" where more than 60,000 people built tires three shifts per day, no longer builds tires! Families left farms and coal mines in neighboring states seeking jobs in the "gum mines" (rubber shops) and steel mills of northeast Ohio. If "global economy" means the end of the American middle class and our standard of living, will we migrate back to the farms to feed the rest of the planet and to the coal mines to fuel the furnaces of China?

I don't recall seeing the term "lobbyist" in the Declaration of Independence or the Constitution, yet lobbyists now wield more power than any political party! What's wrong with this picture? C'mon America, let's drop the television remote and get involved. Just maybe we can grab the rudder of our ship of state before she hits the rocks! The job you save maybe your own (or your grandchild's).

We wish a happy retirement to the following brothers who completed distinguished careers in our trade: Bill Brant, Rick Brauser, Mike Greer, Harry Hawkins, Earl Krebs, Don Lengel, Tom Orr, Robert Ray, Tim Ray and Jim Sweitzer.

Work safe. Work smart. Most of all, may you have work!

BOB SALLAZ, V.P./P.S.

great chance for election. Thanks, Jay, for your dedication. We look forward to lobbying you.

The work picture looks good. We have many Project Labor Agreements in place and have many more man-hours than at this time last year. Work should be plentiful across the Bay Area.

Our Organizing Department is busy bringing people in from the nonunion sector. These people work in our industry, will continue working in our industry and might as well work under our tent. We have a great training program to assess where they are and get them up to speed. Some of them become our best members. They know what it's like to be exploited and appreciate everything the IBEW offers.

With overall union membership in decline it's time to change direction. A Chinese proverb says: "If we don't change our direction, we are likely to end up where we are headed."

ALAN L. WIETESKA, P.S.

## Service Award Honorees

L.U. 340 (em,i,rt,spa), SACRAMENTO, CA—On Feb. 25, 2006, our local held a Dinner Dance/Pin Presentation. Years-of-service pins were presented to members by Int. Rep. Francis J. Maio Jr. and Local 340 Asst. Bus. Mgr. Dwight Evans. Old friends and working buddies from years past were reunited and many stories were shared. A few retirees even took over the microphone to speak to the crowd and share their feelings of pride in the



Int. Rep. Francis J. Maio Jr. (back row, third from right) presents service awards to Local 340 retirees with 50-plus years of service. This proud group of retirees, along with Int. Rep. Maio, Asst. Bus. Mgr. Dwight Evans (back row, second from right) and Pres. Frank Albert (next to last row, third from right), represent nearly 1,300 years of service to the IBEW.

## City Council Candidate

L.U. 332 (c,ees,i&st), SAN JOSE, CA—After a career as an active member and advocate, Jay James has retired. Jay formerly served as assistant business manager, organizer and Executive Board member. He was president of our Building Trades Council and a San Jose planning commissioner. Jay is running for San Jose City Council and has a

IBEW. They thanked those journey-men who took the time to teach them and also praised their former apprentices for their continued hard work and dedication to our local and the IBEW. Everyone had a wonderful time.

Local 340 will be working hard this year to elect a governor who will support working families. Please register and vote!



Northern California experienced one of the wettest winters ever, so a lot of work has been put off until the sun comes out again and stays out. This should lead to a busy summer.

I regret to report the passing of active member Bro. Paul McCabe and retired Bros. A.C. Burlingame, Robert E. Carlsen and Gary T. Culver. Rest in peace, brothers.

A.C. STEELMAN, B.M.



**Local 350 Bus. Mgr. William Tate (left) presents retired Bro. Don Hardy his 55-year service award.**

### 55-Year Service Award

L.U. 350 (i), HANNIBAL, MO—Work is slow for this time of year but looks as though it will pick up in the summer. Waiting on a cement plant upgrade and picking up a little school work.

At our April union meeting, Bus. Mgr. William Tate presented retired Bro. Don Hardy with a 55-year service award. During his working days, Don was a well respected wireman for his way of teaching the younger members the trade and he always treated everyone with respect. Congratulations, Don!

We held our local elections in May 2005 and William Tate was re-elected as business manager; Steve Morgan was elected president; Jereme Mastin, vice president; Tom Fletcher, treasurer; and Curt Riley as recording secretary. The new E-Board members are: George Fogle Jr. (chairman), Tim Novel, Niel Nietiedt, Mark Yount and Dave White.

WILLIAM TATE, B.M./F.S.

### New Members Welcome

L.U. 354 (i,mt,rt&spa), SALT LAKE CITY, UT—The work picture looks bright this year. As of this writing in late March, the underground is done on a gas fired cogen, and we are waiting for the rest of the contracts to be let.

We have a large medical center project going on. A motor-sport park being built in Tooele is a 4.5 mile course and will be North Americas' longest.

Micron is once again showing signs of life. One contractor has quite a bit of work there, and we

are awaiting bid results for more.

Our contractors have some powerhouses and refineries, and we have jobs coming up soon at several large food processing facilities. Our long-awaited coal burner is still two years away.

Eighth District Int. Vice Pres. Ted C. Jensen attended February's annual shrimp party.

CEU class attendance has been great. We also have held several Code of Excellence classes.

Our Centennial Committee has started meeting to plan our 100-year celebration for next year.

So far this year we have sworn in 12 techs, 20 journeymen and 29 apprentices. Welcome to our new members. We also have 75 traveling brothers and sisters working.

JOSEPH REILLY, P.S.

### Mentoring Apprentices

L.U. 364 (catv,ees,em,es,i,mt,rt&spa), ROCKFORD, IL—Many Local 364 brothers and sisters got together as part of our Adopt-an-Apprentice mentoring program. On an April evening we held a dinner where journeymen volunteers were paired up with an apprentice. The journeymen are expected to help their apprentices become acclimated with the ways of our union and trade and also help them with their studies. Thanks to Bro. Chad Eckman for coordinating the event.

Members of our local participated with others in our labor community for the Muscular Dystrophy Association all-union Bowl-A-Thon to raise funds to help find a cure for the degenerative disease. This event used to be much larger, but the MDA went through changes and ended up cancelling the event one year. Now that it's back again, we hope it will grow again to become the well attended event it once was.

Recently, 100 of our members were treated to a Rockford Icehogs' game by our Labor Management Cooperation Committee. Food and drinks were also provided. The "Hogs" are Rockford's minor league hockey team. Although the Icehogs lost a close game everyone still had a great time.

RAY PENDZINSKI, P.S.

### 'Lots of Marbles'

L.U. 396 (lctt,o,t&u), LAS VEGAS, NV—Greetings from the greatest city on earth. Thanks to Robert Hanus, the meeting hall has a brand new look with the International logo and the Local 396 logo proudly displayed. It's something we are very proud of!

Davey Tree Surgery Company and Sprint-Nevada clerical units settled their contracts. A special thanks to both of the negotiation

teams for a job well-done.

The report from the Ninth District Progress Meeting is that our organizing efforts are starting to pay off. Keep up the good work, brothers and sisters.

Outside construction is still going strong. The Nevada test site will have a new contractor. We'll have to wait and see what happens there.

Remember: Register to vote. November is just around the corner and there's a lot of marbles in this bag.

Be safe, be union, buy union, and God bless America!

DALE T. WALSH, P.S.

### Union Experience Pays

L.U. 424 (as,ees,em,es,i,mo,o,ptc,rtb,rt&spa&u), EDMONTON, AB, CANADA—Proof that experience and "continuity" are alive and well within Local 424 was illustrated with the recent completion of a "refit" and expansion at the Luscar-Sterco coal mine in Coal Valley, 180 miles west of Edmonton. A peak work force of 43 members, working for Mann Electric, completed the job on budget and on time between April '05 and Feb. '06.

The original mine was built with 424 members in 1978 - 79. Although it was the same "owners" then as now, the contractor at that time was Cana Industrial Ltd., which later was sold to a larger firm. An interesting sidelight with this project is that a few of the same journeymen and apprentices who worked on the original job also worked on the



**Local 456 retired Bro. Dave Kampf.**

### Career of Service

L.U. 456 (i&o), NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ—Bro. Dave Kampf decided to retire from the apprenticeship instructor's position, a post he has held for nearly 30 years. Dave has been a positive influence on hundreds of students. He has not only helped build minds through his lessons, but has also built character in the men and women he has instructed. His students have proven to be knowledgeable, honest and good union electricians. His students wish to thank Bro. Kampf for his leadership and commitment.

The local wishes Dave many wonderful years ahead and thanks him for his dedication.

In other news, classes are continuing for our members in various subjects. OSHA, Code updates, First Aid & CPR, Photovoltaic, Tele-Data and other subjects are available dur-



**Some of the Local 424 Coal Valley crew in front of the "Wash Building." Bus. Asst. Dale Crowe (front row, in light jacket); Bro. Jack Cooley (immediately behind Crowe's right shoulder); Bro. Larry Mitchell (on Crowe's immediate left); and Mann Electric owner Bro. Len Hastman (in green checkered jacket).**

"retrofit" and expansion, providing that invaluable experience and "continuity" mentioned above.

We salute members such as Bro. Jack Cooley, who worked as a young journeyman on the original construction, then as a foreman on the latter job. Bro. Larry Mitchell was an apprentice there in 1978, and was back as a "veteran" journeyman on the second project.

Next edition, some of the staff additions and changes Bus. Mgr. Tim Brower has made to provide better service to the members.

DAVE ANDERSON, P.S.

ing the year. Contact the hall for information.

Make every effort to attend the monthly meetings and become involved. Many events are planned for our members and families. Come out and support these functions and make them a success. Buy Union, Vote Union, Be Union.

WAYNE MARTIAK, P.S.

### Reminiscing With Tony

L.U. 474 (em,i,lctt,o,rtb,rt&spa&u), MEMPHIS, TN—Bro. Derek Mann and I recently met with retired Bro. Tony Galini to further





**Local 474 Bro. Derek Mann (left) talks with retired Bro. Tony Galini.**

research the history of our local.

A 68-year IBEW member, Bro. Galini joined the IBEW in 1938. The union hall was located at Beale & Lauderdale. Apprenticeship classes were held in an old school building at Third and Court streets. Tony worked for Slater Electric and was paid in cash. He completed his training in 1942 and was drafted during WWII.

Bro. Galini served his country well. He entered the Army as an enlisted man and later was accepted into officers training school. He left Normandy, France, at the end of the war as an Army major.

He returned to Memphis and continued his career as a wireman. He was employed by Memphis Light Gas & Water, served as chief county electrical inspector, and later worked for Bobby Davis Electric Co. He retired in 1985.

Tony's advice to the union: Seek out the truth and don't fall prey to propaganda. Despite the Bush administration (the worst he's ever seen), Tony is optimistic about the future. He is wise beyond his 88 years of age. We look forward to seeing Tony and his wife, Lucille, on the dance floor at our 100th anniversary celebration.

SAM LaDART, P.S.

### 'Small Works'

L.U. 508 (i,it&o), SAVANNAH, GA—In April, Local 508 and Georgia Chapter NECA held a meeting on the new small works addendum. I.O. Int. Rep. James W. Rudicil, assigned as a Florida State Initiative coordinator, and IBEW Fifth District Int. Rep. Gerald M. Counihan gave a strong presentation on how the

new small works addendum will improve market share and facilitate organizing new members. To regain market share, the IBEW and NECA need to pull in the same direction. By doing so, we can be unstoppable. When this addendum is signed all members must be educated on how we can improve our market share and change our way of doing business. Sometimes change is a good thing! Thanks to Bros. Rudicil and Counihan for getting the ball rolling for us.

Local 508 extends condolences to the families of recently deceased retired brothers: Charles Hodges, Joel Johns, Wayne Yeo, Ethon Cowart and William Oglesby.

Our Executive Board approved sponsorship of Bro. Joe Walker's son Shane and his late model race car (see photo). Marketing is an area we all need to improve on—to get our union name out with the right message. So when the chance is given, throw in a good word for your local union.

BRIAN HARRISON, P.S.

### 2006 Centennial

L.U. 520 (i&spa), AUSTIN, TX—A Note of Correction: In our January/February 2006 "Local Lines" article, it was reported that we celebrated our 111th anniversary at our annual local union picnic held October 2005. IBEW Local 520 was officially chartered in October of 1906. We are celebrating our centennial this year.

LANE PRICE, R.S./P.S.

### Work Picture Slow

L.U. 538 (i), DANVILLE, IL—At this writing in early April, work in our jurisdiction is slow. We had hoped for the Cinergy project in Cayuga, IN, to pick up; however, the latest guess has an October date for additional manpower.

Prior to demolition of the Sager Campus, personnel from the Medical Center donated work benches, transformers and a transfer switch to the Danville JATC. Many thanks to the hospital for that donation.

IBEW Local 725 has donated the use of its NJATC instrument trainer. It will be used for a journeyman

upgrade class, and the fifth-year apprentice class will spend their last eight weeks learning instrumentation. At press time, an EPRI certification exam was scheduled for May 20. Bros. Kevin Bartlow and Norton Newcomb will assist in training. Both journeyman wiremen have I.S.A. certifications.

Nonunion electrical contractors from outside our area have avoided the city license test by getting nonunion licensed contractors to supply the permits. Local organizer Steve Pratt is addressing this problem with local inspectors.

We are deeply saddened by the passing of retired Bro. Jack McDonald. A heartfelt thanks to the family of Bro. McDonald for the gift of textbooks and materials.

GARY W. POLLARD, P.S.

### A Thriving Club

L.U. 586 (em,i&o), OTTAWA, ON, CANADA—Our local is fortunate to have two items that have created a thriving Retirees Club.

More on those items below, but first a few facts about the club. In the last five years the club has expanded to about 100 members. Retirees enjoy the fellowship of monthly meetings as well as trips

and activities, which include: a

steam train trip to Wakefield, Thousand Island boat cruise, casino day, bus trips to nearby cities, barbecues and holiday meals. Retirees also help with the local's events when possible. They coordinate with other locals' retiree clubs to enjoy events together.

First Item: Bro. Bill Warchow.

Now retired, Bill is a former IBEW International Representative, who started his career with Local 586 and held various offices in the local. He was our business manager when he became an International Representative in 1975. He has been a sparkplug with his organizing and communication skills. We all appre-

ciate his hard work and dedication. Second Item: The kind heart and understanding of the local's members and officers, all of whom have, without hesitation, given both time and money to keep the Retirees Club intact and to share in the pleasure it has provided for so many. Well done.

DOUG PARSONS, PRES./P.S.

### Working Safely Pays

L.U. 606 (em,es,i,rtb,spa&u), ORLANDO, FL—Mass Electric held its quarterly Safety/Quality luncheon March 31. Mass Electric has the Western Beltway SR 429 Toll Plaza and Roadway Lighting projects in central Florida. First quarter Safety Champions were Bro. Bill Vargo and Sister Marjorie Earwood, project manager. First quarter Quality Champions were Bro. Jerome Damron and Bro. Juan Estrada, quality manager. Bros. Bill Vargo and Jerome Damron were recognized for outstanding contributions in safety and quality toward the electrical industry on the Roadway Lighting project. Keep up the good work, brothers and sisters.

We extend sincere condolences to the families and friends of the following members who have



**Local 606 members, from left, back row, Albert Pagan, Bill Vargo and Tim Abberton; middle row, Julien Mertens, Mike Moren, Dru Ross, Jared Mason, Paul Harris and Jerome Damron; front row, Reynaldo Vasquez, T.C. Gourlay, Bruce Bacon, Joe Peckinpugh, Sherry Roberts and Marjorie Earwood.**

passed away: Bros. Ronnie Walker and Allen Carter, and honorary member Doris Latham. Each of these members served our local with dedication for many years and will be truly missed.

JANET D. SKIPPER, P.S.

### Training Classes

L.U. 640 (em,i,rtb,spa,u,govt,mo,mt), PHOENIX, AZ—Congratulations to Clayton Gostola, Local 640 apprentice-of-the-year! Clayton did a great job representing Local 640 at the Seventh District Outstanding Apprentice Competition.

Local 640 members played an active role in helping push through a bond election in Phoenix. Our



**Local 508 Organizer Joe Walker (left) and his son Shane Walker.**

members have also been active in city elections for Buckeye, Chandler, Mesa and Tempe. Thanks to our politically active members for helping to create more jobs for our local contractors and members!

Our Code of Excellence training classes have been going very well. A majority of our working members have finished this class, which is reciprocal throughout the Seventh District. Several contractors have participated in getting their management personnel C.O.E. trained, and have been designated as Code of Excellence Contractors. We are working to get 100 percent of our members and contractors through the program.

Work continues to move steadily in Phoenix. Several larger projects are slated to start or ramp up this spring and summer.

DEAN WINE, P.S.

### Industry Awareness

L.U. 654 (i), CHESTER, PA—We recently held an Industry Awareness Seminar at the hall that was attended by several hundred members. Bus. Mgr. Steve McNally did a great job setting up the event and motivating a large portion of the membership to participate. Much of the information presented demonstrated the importance of working together to present a professional work force and product in order to recapture a position of prominence in the market.

Work continues to improve with the progress at Chester Downs race-track, the refineries, the chocolate factory, the Comcast building and several other projects. The outlook for 2006 remains good.

I am pleased to announce my appointment to the Zoning Hearing Board of London Grove Township, Chester County. It is positions such as these that provide us with valuable information and the ability to help shape our communities. Most often they are posted on your township Web sites. Invest in your family's future and get involved. For a night or two a month, you can make a difference.

JIM RUSSELL, R.S./P.S.

### Service Awards

L.U. 684 (c,i,rt&st), MODESTO, CA—By the beginning of summer, traveling contractors should be in full swing with hospital projects in Oakdale and Turlock. Cupertino Electric should be rolling on the western addition to Merced College in Los Banos.

Service awards were presented at the local picnic on May 6. Receiving 50-year service pins were Frank Anderson, Wayne Bowden, Gurnie Hawkenen, Bill Ladd, James Murrell and Ed Hurley; a 55-year pin,

Ernest Rogers; 60-year pins, Alvin Browder, Harry Brower, Lawrence Dewitt, Lawrence Gehrke, Ken Perry and Earl Stacey; and a 65-year pin, Clarence Cox.

Congratulations to Teresa Kinney and Tina Howard, wives of Local 684 members, on completing four-year college degrees. Their husbands' good union wages helped make tuition payments possible. Teresa is serving as an aide to Rep. Dennis Cardoza, and Tina plans a teaching career.

With sadness Local 684 notes the passing of members Robert Livingston and Vernon Gomes.

TORREY NEWTON, P.S.

### Thanks to Volunteers

L.U. 702 (as,c,catv,cs,em,es,et, govt,i,ltt,mo,mt,o,p,pet,ptc,rtb,rt, se,spa,st,t,u,uow&ws), WEST FRANKFORT, IL—At this writing, we have 84 journeyman wiremen on the Book 1 out-of-work list.

With regret, we report the first work related death in Indiana. Bro. Russell Linxwiler will be truly missed.

The union prevailed in an arbitration involving an attempt by Vectren of southern Indiana to unilaterally change the prescription health care benefit. The union made its case and proved the company would save \$144,000 in the first year.

We thank everyone who volunteered during the primary elections with phone banking, door to door canvassing and placing signs. Given the importance of electing worker friendly candidates to block the Bush administration's attacks on workers, we will be asking for more volunteers this fall.

Register to Vote—Work Safe—Come to your union meetings.

MARSHA STEELE, P.S.

### Code Update Class

L.U. 704 (catv,em&i), DUBUQUE, IA—Attendance at our Code Update class was very good. We had 80 members present. This course fulfills the requirement to renew our city licenses. More classes will be offered in the fall.

Through the work of our Health & Welfare Committee, an optional health insurance plan has been made available to our Zone 2 area members. Our present plan is an HMO with area physicians. The plan will be available in Zone 2 only, and will help provide convenient local health care, which can assist efforts in organizing this area.

At this writing in late March we are experiencing a slow start to 2006. We have nearly 20 percent of the membership on Book I.

We thank Local 22 for providing

work for Local 704 journeyman wiremen. Approximately 10 percent of our membership is working in the Local 22 jurisdiction. We hope someday to be able to repay these employment opportunities.

RON HEITZMAN, P.S.

### Retirees Banquet

L.U. 712 (c&i), BEAVER, PA—On Saturday, May 13, a banquet was held at the Monaca Turners for our newly retired members. They are: Joseph C. Bleicher, Paul W. Buckley, John B. Etheridge, Richard E. Fry, John J. Halaja, Robert J. Holobinko, Charles J. Huber, Ronald L. Jeffers, Peter B. Majocha, William J. Marcella, James W. Perrott, Ronald L. Tooch, Jonathon G. Tretiak, R. Clark Young and Wayne R. Zorn. Over 100 members turned out to honor these men. Everyone had a wonderful time, especially since some of our previously retired members could attend. Seeing everyone enjoying the good meal and sharing stories reminded us all of the great debt we owe to our retirees for what we and our families are able to enjoy today. We wish all the retirees a happy and healthy retirement.

Bro. Steve Telesz was named to the Apprenticeship Committee, replacing Bro. Clark Young. We all thank Bro. Young for his many years of service on the committee.

The steam generator replacement outage at the Beaver Valley Power Station has finished up at this time. This job was a welcome boost to our work picture. We have some school projects starting this summer and ongoing work at NOVA Chemical. See you at the meeting.

LARRY L. NELSON, V.P.

### Member Participation

L.U. 716 (em,i,rt&spa), HOUSTON, TX—As of this writing work in our area is still slow, but appears to have picked up a bit. We appreciate the other local unions across the country putting our brothers and sisters to work during these difficult times.

Congratulations to our recent apprenticeship graduates. Good luck, brothers and sisters, and let's prosper together in our industry.

Thanks to the JATC and rank-and-file volunteers for their efforts to ensure our members have the required continuing education Code Update classes to satisfy the state licensing requirements.

We appreciate the members and their families, and especially the Houston Electrical Workers Minority Caucus, for their participation in our community service opportunities, such as the Houston St. Patrick's Day parade, the Cesar Chavez march and our recent

Habitat for Humanity project.

With November elections quickly approaching, I encourage all members and their families to get involved in their precincts. Let's try our best to ensure Chris Bell and our other labor friendly candidates are elected.

A reminder: Please participate in the local union Death Benefit Fund and the Sick and Accident Fund. And don't forget the importance of our PAC Fund.

JOHN E. EASTON JR., B.M.

### Classes In Session

L.U. 894 (i&o), OSHAWA, ON, CANADA—We mourn the passing of Bro. Dan Kearnes, a Local 894 member since 1975; retired Bro. Ken Johnston, a member since 1956; and retired Bro. Frank Worrall, a member since 1953.

Class is in session at Local 894's new classrooms recently completed on our new hall's mezzanine level. Pres. Lance Knowles and our education committee chairperson, Bro. Graham Brooks, will conduct classes in many aspects of health, safety and techniques of our craft.

Bro. Terry Dorgan will conduct courses in new-member orientation and construction organizing. Terry is looking for volunteers for Local 894's new political action committee. Interested members may contact Terry at [tdorgan@ibew894.org](mailto:tdorgan@ibew894.org) for further information.

Bro. Larry Lytle, Local 894 executive board member, was appointed to our Health and Welfare board of trustees. Larry is taking over the position held by Assistant Bus. Manager Bill Robertson, who served in that post for 28 years.

Congratulations and many thanks to the Local 894 entertainment committee and all the volunteers who helped make the 2006 IBEW-OPC hockey tournament a resounding success.

DARRELL SCOTT, R.S.

### Fired Up

L.U. 1116 (em,ltt&u), TUCSON, AZ—As of this writing, the construction of Unit #3 at the Springerville Generating Station/Springerville, AZ, was expected to be coming on-line as scheduled. Thanks to all who worked on the project labor agreement. Once again organized labor has delivered what it promised. Negotiations continue on the construction of Unit #4, which we hope will be done under a project labor agreement as well. Members of IBEW Local 1116 operate and maintain these units.

Farewell to retirees Felipe Vasquez, Bill Brannon, Steve Nead, Bob Weppeler, Brad Buxton, Mike Bailey, Jim Marchbanks and Pam



Marchbanks. They all take many years of union membership with them. Bro. Brannon, as a former officer and steward, was active on many committees, resulting in better

benefits and working conditions for the membership. Bro. Wepler was actively involved with training and assisting up-and-coming linemen.

RICHARD CAVALETTO, P.S.

Brothers and Sisters, we want you to have your JOURNAL! When you have a change of address, please let us know. Be sure to include your old address and please don't forget to fill in L.U. and Card No. This information will be helpful in checking and keeping our records straight. **If you have changed local unions, we must have numbers of both. U.S. members—**mail this form to IBEW, Address Change Department, 900 Seventh Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. **Canadian members—**mail this form to IBEW First District, 1450 Meyerside Drive, Suite 300, Mississauga, Ontario L5T 2N5.

**All members—**you can change your address on line at [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NEW ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP/POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PRESENT LOCAL UNION NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
(If unknown, check with Local Union)

CURRENTLY ON PENSION ☐ Soc. Sec. No. \_\_\_\_\_

OLD ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please affix mailing label from magazine)

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP/POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_

FORMER LOCAL UNION NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

**Don't forget to register to vote at your new address!**



**IBEW members from Locals 1306, 15 and 51, joined by area senior citizens, volunteer for a spring cleanup day at Friendship Center in Clinton, IL.**

### Community Service

L.U. 1306 (uow), DECATUR, IL— We welcome the office secretaries, Paula Huls and Patty Rudicil, of IBEW Local 601 into our local. A first contract was signed in April. We are currently negotiating a first contract for the office secretaries of OPCMIA Local 143.

On April 26, members of IBEW Locals 15, 51 and 1306 participated in a community cleanup day at the Friendship Center in Clinton, IL. Our brothers and sisters spent their day cleaning and painting and made a positive impact on the community.

We are continuing to battle with Ameren over many issues, primarily at the AmerenIP Customer Contact Center. Rather than bargain in good faith, Ameren forces the majority of grievances to arbitration. Our members show impressive strength to fight for the good of the union and I believe we will prevail.

Plans are being made for an overnight retreat for our members and their families. This event will provide a fun-filled day for members and includes activities for their children.

KARLENE KNISLEY, B.M./F.S.



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IBEW 05/06

# IN MEMORIAM

*In the last issue, the list of claims reflected those approved in March, not May as stated.  
In this issue, we list the remainder of those approved in March as well as those approved in February.*

## PBF Death Claims Approved for Payment in March 2006

Local	Surname	Amount	Local	Surname	Amount	Local	Surname	Amount	Local	Surname	Amount
1319	Cole, J.	2,977.55	I.O. (134)	Cummings, D. L.	6,250.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Favell, J. M.	2,930.00	Pens. (I.O.)	McKay, T. J.	2,915.99
1319	Oeller, R. J.	3,000.00	I.O. (708)	Avramidis, A.	3,200.27	Pens. (I.O.)	Field, C. C.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Mercer, H. R.	3,000.00
1347	Westerbeck, A. C.	3,000.00	I.O. (949)	Parker, T. D.	6,250.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Fitzgerald, W. J.	2,960.19	Pens. (I.O.)	Moles, F. J.	3,000.00
1391	Sample, C. G.	2,706.00	Pens. (88)	Allen, W.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Franklin, H. B.	2,887.98	Pens. (I.O.)	Momsen, T. T.	3,000.00
1393	Baldwin, T.	3,000.00	Pens. (88)	King, B. R.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Garner, J. M.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Murphy, W. I.	3,000.00
1393	Houghton, H. G.	3,000.00	Pens. (323)	Patrick, A. H.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Glenn, J. H.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Musgrave, B.	3,000.00
1439	Ferris, M. O.	3,000.00	Pens. (323)	Spencer, V. C.	1,200.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Harris, W. O.	2,924.78	Pens. (I.O.)	Northrup, A. C.	2,864.78
1439	Pennock, J. M.	2,889.57	Pens. (323)	Wise, B. E.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Hawe, W. I.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	O'Neill, L.	3,000.00
1439	Sanders, O. L.	3,000.00	Pens. (345)	Hughes, R. W.	2,844.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Hoffman, D. N.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Otto, W. W.	3,000.00
1501	Eisman, J. A.	1,200.00	Pens. (637)	Burke, K. E.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Huddle, A.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Patrick, J. L.	3,000.00
1547	Elliott, D. K.	2,963.50	Pens. (686)	McCue, P. B.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Jacque, M. R.	1,500.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Replogle, R. R.	3,000.00
1547	Sherwood, G. M.	3,000.00	Pens. (835)	Vitko, J. J.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Jarvis, H. S.	1,500.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Rittal, R.	3,000.00
1579	Reeves, W. M.	3,000.00	Pens. (1749)	Henshaw, H. W.	1,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Jehl, M. A.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Sauer, H. C.	3,000.00
1687	Farmer, G. W.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Babiak, T. A.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Jones, R. P.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Schneider, A. L.	3,000.00
1687	Potvin, C.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Barrineau, R. R.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Kelly, M. A.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Swanberg, M. L.	3,000.00
1701	Rowland, W. D.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Benzon, F. A.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Kimpel, D. R.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Tate, H. V.	3,000.00
1832	Kasmeier, E. C.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Berger, E.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Koller, J. M.	1,470.40	Pens. (I.O.)	Tinney, R. H.	3,000.00
1837	Story, P. K.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Betts, B. C.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Laffamme, N. H.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Whitehead, D. E.	3,000.00
1984	Bruerton, C. R.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Botting, H. F.	2,903.98	Pens. (I.O.)	Leary, D.	2,940.79	Pens. (I.O.)	Woodward, M. C.	3,000.00
2085	Pondo, S. M.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Bylaska, B. O.	2,940.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Leary, W. J.	3,000.00			
2295	Garcia, E. E.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Carter, B. R.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Lewis, W. M.	2,911.50			
2295	Wines, A.	2,899.46	Pens. (I.O.)	Cooksey, D. W.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Manning, G. T.	3,000.00			
I.O. (130)	Potier, O. C.	2,851.50	Pens. (I.O.)	Emmert, G. W.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Mason, F.	1,500.00			
										Total Amount . . . . .	\$2,128,011.60

## PBF Death Claims Approved for Payment in February 2006

Local	Surname	Amount	Local	Surname	Amount	Local	Surname	Amount	Local	Surname	Amount
1	Crittenden, W. C.	6,250.00	11	Menage, J. K.	3,000.00	58	Stover, F. J.	4,166.67	134	Condon, J. F.	6,250.00
1	Miller, R.	3,000.00	11	Price, H. A.	2,851.17	66	Hermes, G.	3,000.00	134	Davis, D. B.	1,500.00
2	Pace, G. H.	921.06	11	Smith, L. F.	3,000.00	66	Summers, V. C.	3,000.00	134	Jadryev, J. N.	3,000.00
3	Bloom, L.	2,951.99	11	Spiwak, S. R.	3,000.00	68	Martinez, G. A.	2,000.00	134	Jaworski, W.	2,951.99
3	Byrne, M. W.	6,250.00	13	Taylor, S. W.	3,000.00	70	Scheidt, C. H.	3,000.00	134	Kawa, G. G.	3,000.00
3	Canton, B. L.	6,250.00	16	Schultz, G. I.	3,000.00	73	Kunze, M. E.	2,942.39	134	Marek, E. J.	3,000.00
3	Cosentino, F.	3,000.00	17	Polley, R. C.	2,943.99	76	Bitney, W. H.	3,000.00	134	Notides, T.	1,500.00
3	Edmonds, H.	6,250.00	20	Mackey, M. L.	3,000.00	77	Bennett, A. W.	3,000.00	134	Price, H. W.	3,000.00
3	Frangias, S. M.	6,250.00	21	Masciola, M. J.	1,500.00	77	Jepsen, C. M.	3,000.00	134	Skevis, K. A.	12,500.00
3	Landstrom, S. A.	2,916.50	22	Nisley, M. J.	6,250.00	77	Pepper, R. M.	2,884.00	134	Thielke, H. J.	2,942.39
3	Logan, J. W.	2,958.00	25	Evans, F.	3,000.00	77	Scoles, L. H.	3,000.00	134	Tyse, C. P.	2,934.00
3	Maizler, I.	6,250.00	26	Ingram, W. D.	3,000.00	77	Stein, G. H.	3,000.00	136	Ramey, B. J.	3,000.00
3	McPhail, R. F.	6,250.00	26	Lohmeyer, R. C.	3,000.00	98	Kirby, H. J.	2,934.66	136	Wear, W. H.	2,924.00
3	Orber, I. P.	2,938.40	26	Videtto, L. O.	12,500.00	98	Kriechbaum, F.	3,000.00	143	Snow, G. K.	3,000.00
3	Saposnick, L. M.	6,250.00	34	Zaborac, J. F.	3,000.00	98	McCaffery, L. F.	2,968.52	150	Lucente, A. F.	3,000.00
3	Sauer, P. J.	2,971.60	35	Paradis, L. L.	1,000.00	98	Molczan, A. L.	3,000.00	153	Schmucker, I. E.	2,400.00
3	Sinatra, N. J.	3,150.00	38	Hukill, K. L.	6,250.00	99	Dunn, R. J.	6,250.00	153	Steckly, R. L.	3,000.00
3	Swaczyna, A. M.	3,000.00	38	Oldfield, F. C.	2,932.39	102	Hackney, R. M.	3,770.21	175	Case, B. E.	3,000.00
3	Teitler, T.	3,000.00	38	Scanlon, E. C.	3,000.00	102	Quinn, M. F.	2,943.45	175	Hill, R. D.	3,000.00
3	Walker, T.	6,250.00	38	Voll, R. J.	2,929.06	103	Haviland, W. J.	3,000.00	176	Callender, M. F.	2,900.00
3	Wolkin, M.	3,000.00	43	Annorino, B. J.	2,751.95	103	Kirchner, J. R.	3,000.00	177	Albury, A. T.	6,250.00
7	Oconnor, R. E.	2,947.73	46	Widger, D. D.	3,000.00	103	Rosata, J. E.	2,975.64	212	Oatley, O. J.	3,000.00
8	Rusch, L. C.	3,000.00	48	France, E. J.	3,000.00	103	Stewart, L. E.	3,000.00	212	Stefke, E. F.	3,000.00
9	Libal, J. J.	1,500.00	48	Marcy, R. A.	2,942.39	103	Vokes, N. C.	2,905.73	233	Thomas, R. C.	3,000.00
9	Madden, B. W.	6,250.00	48	Marr, R. P.	3,000.00	105	Corbett, W.	3,000.00	234	Thompson, J. A.	3,000.00
9	Marchiori, J. J.	3,000.00	48	Sorger, H. H.	3,000.00	112	Cooper, T. F.	3,000.00	236	Stock, W. W.	3,000.00
11	Benson, R. W.	3,000.00	55	Tiffany, D. W.	3,024.33	112	Hartz, L. R.	1,500.00	237	Jerla, M. B.	2,939.18
11	Buchanan, W. J.	6,250.00	57	Cherry, F. R.	2,943.99	124	Bartkoski, E. L.	3,000.00	237	O'Sullivan, P. A.	3,000.00
11	Debose, R.	6,250.00	57	Teuscher, G. F.	3,000.00	125	Gosney, R. M.	3,000.00	245	Felger, S. J.	3,000.00
11	Frias, A. G.	2,954.00	58	Anttila, D. F.	3,000.00	125	Morgan, L. W.	3,000.00	245	Hengstebeck, J. W.	6,250.00
11	Gomez, E.	3,000.00	58	Bishop, W. D.	5,579.96	125	Redfearn, J. W.	3,000.00	245	Madden, A. J.	3,000.00
11	Handel, L.	3,000.00	58	Herr, K. W.	6,250.00	127	Baclawski, D. J.	3,120.00	245	Vass, J.	3,000.00
11	Juchem, R.	3,000.00	58	Provencher, D. F.	3,000.00	134	Beemsterboer, J. W.	12,500.00	253	Schaefer, R. H.	3,000.00
11	Klingensmith, E. W.	3,000.00	58	Staggs, H. L.	6,250.00	134	Cap, J.	3,000.00	257	Scheuler, R.	3,000.00



Local	Surname	Amount	Local	Surname	Amount	Local	Surname	Amount	Local	Surname	Amount
265	Baldwin, D. A.	6,250.00	483	Dickinson, G. R.	2,956.73	716	Jarosek, F. J.	3,000.00	2131	Cowley, N. A.	3,000.00
271	Huebert, D. F.	2,933.18	488	Donnelly, J.	2,921.58	716	Lannon, W. J.	3,000.00	2131	Sanders, E. T.	3,000.00
280	Silvers, C. E.	3,000.00	494	Barcinski, E. V.	3,000.00	725	Heady, D.	3,000.00	2286	Aucoin, W. J.	3,000.00
292	Anderson, D.	6,250.00	498	Heinrich, C. A.	3,000.00	726	Burns, C. C.	3,000.00	2286	Mitchell, H. L.	2,956.00
292	Kline, R. F.	3,000.00	498	Rusch, K. A.	3,000.00	728	Anastoff, J.	2,770.00	2295	Bachand, V. A.	3,000.00
295	Tyra, K. C.	3,000.00	508	Jones, E.	12,500.00	728	Sherwood, J. L.	2,978.29	I.O. (21)	Margalus, G. J.	4,024.00
300	Manuel, R.	3,000.00	518	Hatfield, R.	3,000.00	756	Phillips, P. R.	3,000.00	I.O. (134)	Candela, F. M.	6,250.00
302	Walker, J. P.	3,000.00	520	Ferrell, M. T.	2,965.33	760	Martin, T. D.	2,948.79	I.O. (1206)	Berry, W. O.	6,250.00
304	Beck, T. L.	3,125.00	558	Grigsby, D. J.	12,500.00	768	Jacobson, W. C.	2,935.86	I.O. (1323)	Newby, W. P.	6,250.00
306	Eberhardt, W. J.	3,000.00	558	Lazenby, C. D.	2,929.58	769	Chandler, M. K.	3,000.00	Pens. (77)	Baird, C. F.	3,000.00
309	Fath, K. L.	3,000.00	558	Peters, J. C.	3,000.00	804	Hibbs, J. J.	6,250.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Blazes, L. J.	3,000.00
313	Adcock, T. L.	986.79	558	Pounders, J. E.	2,950.39	816	Humphreys, B. P.	2,942.39	Pens. (I.O.)	Boehm, R. F.	3,000.00
317	Roush, D. A.	3,000.00	558	Rogers, T. E.	3,000.00	833	Minor, A. O.	5,812.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Bugno, C. T.	3,000.00
322	Nicolen, J. A.	2,918.33	558	Thorne, J.	2,969.31	876	Bowman, R.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Castle, R. J.	3,000.00
326	Arba, B. B.	3,000.00	558	Wilson, B. D.	3,000.00	886	Walter, J. S.	2,896.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Clark, C.	3,000.00
326	Leary, E. J.	3,000.00	567	Harton, L. R.	6,250.00	903	Wilson, R. B.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Crawford, R. M.	600.00
332	Hansen, R. D.	3,000.00	569	Bruton, B. R.	3,000.00	915	Napier, R. E.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Doudna, J. A.	2,937.58
332	Konze, A. E.	2,856.00	569	Moore, P. J.	3,000.00	948	Handyside, N. N.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Ferguson, H. J.	3,000.00
340	Burlingame, A. C.	3,000.00	570	Munoz, O. O.	3,000.00	948	Shearer, J. W.	2,945.16	Pens. (I.O.)	Flater, A. O.	3,000.00
347	Davidson, E. F.	3,553.90	586	Norton, B. J.	6,250.00	949	Bosanko, W. R.	2,950.39	Pens. (I.O.)	Fox, M. H.	3,000.00
349	Aylor, A. E.	3,000.00	602	Sladek, J. L.	4,759.10	949	Hollyfield, W. L.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Gibbs, D. G.	3,000.00
349	Byrd, P. R.	3,000.00	611	Noriega, D. N.	12,500.00	965	Reed, D. N.	609.29	Pens. (I.O.)	Haskett, N. H.	3,000.00
353	Croft, R.	2,767.95	611	Pompeo, A.	3,000.00	971	Sorenson, C. E.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Holdsworth, G. L.	2,924.78
353	Munroe, K. F.	3,000.00	611	Pulice, J. G.	6,250.00	986	McConnell, E. A.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Homer, R. F.	3,000.00
353	Sullivan, R. S.	6,250.00	613	Carroll, C. P.	3,000.00	995	Joiner, J. H.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Jackson, E. W.	3,000.00
353	Tesone, M.	6,250.00	613	Hay, J. E.	3,000.00	1141	Mansker, K.	2,950.74	Pens. (I.O.)	Johnson, D.	3,000.00
354	Jones, W. R.	6,250.00	617	Dingman, D. W.	3,000.00	1186	Auhong, R. W.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Kessler, B. A.	3,000.00
360	Keller, A. W.	2,940.00	636	Waldron, E.	2,942.39	1245	Garcia, N. G.	2,936.29	Pens. (I.O.)	Koller, J. M.	1,470.39
364	Heins, R. G.	2,934.38	640	Hostettler, R. S.	3,000.00	1245	Myers, L. E.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Krauss, D. E.	3,000.00
364	Omberg, D. E.	2,963.19	640	Svoboda, E. A.	3,000.00	1253	Lane, N. W.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Larus, D.	3,000.00
365	Bruce, W.	2,975.66	640	Trombley, R. J.	2,784.00	1253	Lindsey, G. C.	3,860.86	Pens. (I.O.)	Lopez, S. J.	3,000.00
369	Hettinger, S. C.	3,000.00	647	Greene, H. T.	3,000.00	1316	McDonald, R. M.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Macdonald, W. A.	3,000.00
369	Patton, L.	6,250.00	648	Thomas, W. A.	3,000.00	1319	Wright, J. D.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	McFarland, L. C.	3,000.00
369	Pierson, H. L.	3,000.00	654	Beaver, J. J.	6,250.00	1340	Clarke, D. C.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Millikin, A. F.	2,932.78
380	Watkins, W.	2,928.00	659	Barnes, D. D.	2,941.06	1377	Miller, G. L.	2,916.78	Pens. (I.O.)	Nolan, J. L.	3,000.00
405	Hanes, R. E.	3,000.00	661	Groves, H. D.	3,000.00	1466	Brown, G. C.	6,000.28	Pens. (I.O.)	Noll, J. G.	2,719.95
413	Armero, J. C.	1,041.66	665	Dahlke, S. H.	2,744.00	1501	Eisman, J. A.	1,200.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Osterloh, W. K.	2,760.00
424	Brandson, R.	12,500.00	666	Taylor, R. B.	3,000.00	1525	Faust, R. A.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Pessell, D.	3,000.00
429	Parker, J. H.	3,000.00	666	Townley, H. W.	3,000.00	1547	Dannehy, J. P.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Putsch, E. A.	3,000.00
465	Oldham, H. H.	3,000.00	668	Dickson, W. L.	2,894.38	1547	Fullerton, M. J.	4,167.50	Pens. (I.O.)	Roberts, D. W.	3,000.00
474	Anderson, W. L.	6,250.00	673	Cantrell, C. L.	6,250.00	1547	Johnston, J. L.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Sharman, G. F.	3,000.00
477	Hunt, J. R.	3,000.00	676	Hunt, J. D.	2,940.00	1547	Saulsberry, B. W.	6,250.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Singley, J. G.	2,896.00
477	Smith, R. L.	3,000.00	683	Lang, C. F.	3,000.00	1547	Tidwell, G. F.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Taylor, C. D.	2,978.49
479	Holst, D. A.	2,960.67	684	Messer, G. A.	6,250.00	1739	Crompton, J. S.	1,500.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Vinzant, L. H.	2,692.72
480	Ainsworth, K. C.	3,000.00	692	Pawlak, W. A.	3,000.00	1759	Chaney, C. C.	3,000.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Wachter, R. D.	2,966.20
481	Carter, R. E.	3,000.00	701	Russell, E. E.	2,960.00	1852	Macneil, L. A.	2,960.00	Pens. (I.O.)	Whitton, R. W.	3,000.00
481	Mooney, J. S.	6,250.00	702	File, B. D.	6,250.00	1852	Wells, J. E.	6,250.00	<b>Total Amount</b>		<b>\$1,152,143.41</b>

## Contract at Comcast

(Continued from page 17)


"We weren't afraid to try fresh tactics," he says. When workers were called into supervisors' offices, instead of going in alone, they were often accompanied by as many as four co-workers.

Bargaining unit members also reached out to Comcast's customers. They held informational picket lines along busy Highway 38, which borders

one of their shops. After a brainstorming session with the CWA, which has partnered with the IBEW on a strategic campaign to organize Comcast, workers kicked off a "Give Comcast Your Two Cents Worth" campaign. They set up a booth at a county fair and encouraged Comcast consumers to short their checks for Comcast bills by two cents, and tape two pennies to the envelope to protest Comcast's poor customer service and anti-worker policies.

"I'm blessed that I was surrounded by members who wouldn't give up," says Beallis, who is already refocusing his efforts on organizing more members

at other Comcast facilities. He is confident that his co-workers will participate in Local 21's effort. Comcast employees not already in the union need representation because today they have none. Maintenance Technician Dave Love, one of the 26 workers TCI bosses fired in 1999, says "through all my ups and downs over the last seven years, the union has always been there. They were instrumental in getting my job back when I was fired and helped me maintain my job along the way since."

Organizing won't be easy, but "we've certainly shown that we are up to the challenge," says Beallis. 

# All Aboard: Catch the IBEW Cookbook and Apron

After a hard week at the International Office, Railroad Department Director Bill Bohné unwinds at the grill, where he enjoys his favorite recipe for baby back ribs, submitted by Barbara Baker, Lorain, Ohio, Local 129 ("Taste of the IBEW," p. 139). Recipes for all your backyard favorites can be found in the cookbook. And with the stylish denim flame-retardant apron, you'll also be protected from any unforeseen pit fires. Order yours today!



## Baby Back Ribs

4 pounds pork baby back ribs

The rub:

1/4 cup paprika	1 teaspoon garlic salt with parsley
1/8 cup chili powder	1 teaspoon Nature's
1/8 cup ground cumin	Seasons seasoning blend

Combine rub ingredients in a small bowl and mix thoroughly. Pat over ribs. Cover ribs with plastic wrap and refrigerate at least two to four hours, or overnight. Generously coat ribs with barbeque sauce and grill for five minutes in each side, brushing frequently with additional sauce. Let ribs stand for 10 minutes prior to serving.

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Last month's recipe for 480 Volt chili was submitted by San Jose, Calif. Local 332 member Dan Diegan.*

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