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International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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IBEW Construction Membership Reaches All-Time High

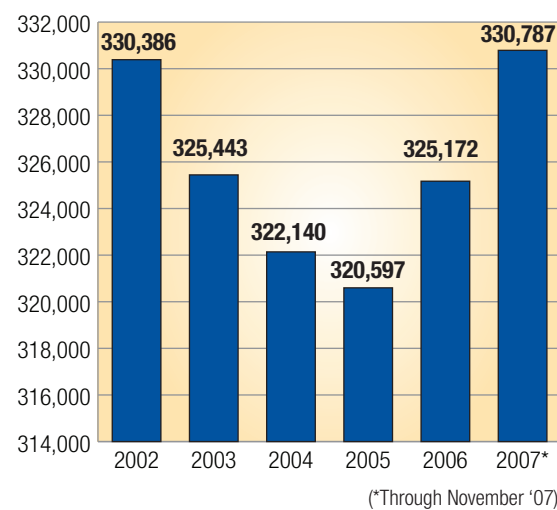
The IBEW's construction membership hit an all-time high of 330,786 in November, surpassing a previous peak in 2002 that was followed by three years of declines.

IBEW leaders attribute the turnaround to a renewed commitment to membership development and a sea change in attitude at every level of the union—from the members and local union leadership to signatory contractors and those who use the services of the contractors.

"Our doors are finally being opened for all levels of the trade," said Buddy Satterfield, Special Assistant to the International President for Organizing, adding that one of the most important changes in the IBEW over the past two years is the addition of two intermediate classifications of wireman: construction electrician and construction wireman. "Different classifications for different levels of skill and pay have allowed our contractors to be much more competitive."

In Florida, the birthplace of the IBEW's modern construction organizing effort, net construction membership is up 13 percent in two years, Satterfield said. Florida is where a new breed of organizer with a new bag of tricks honed skills that are being duplicated around the country, with similarly impressive results. Those tactics include the intermediate classifications which allow for the immediate acceptance of electricians with important skills that do not meet journeyman standards, and a small works agreement that gives contractors more flexibility on smaller jobs. Many of the newer workers are applying for apprenticeship training and journeyman tests.

Turning the Corner: Construction Membership from 2002–2007



The industry night is one of the most successful organizing tactics. They are open houses on neutral ground hosted by the local union and signatory contractors to which nonunion workers are invited to learn about employment opportunities. In city after city, following intensive blitzes of nonunion work-sites, the industry nights are netting new members in record numbers.

In Nashville, Local 429 has picked up 350 new members since January 2007. Membership is up 27 percent and Business Manager Robert Emery Jr. said they are taking in between 75 and 90 new members each month. In Austin, Texas, nonunion employers paid workers overtime and treated them to a barbeque to keep them from attending an industry night. Despite their efforts, 17 new members were hired at the November event.

A 2007 push for the Carolinas has IBEW membership in those states finally increasing. Not only are organizers targeting nonunion workers, they are hitting employers, emphasizing the potential for growth with a skilled IBEW work force behind them. Particularly

appealing to them is the IBEW Code of Excellence, adopted by individual local unions, in which the members agree to high standards of skill and professional performance.

Through his outreach to the Construction Users Round Table (CURT), International President Edwin D. Hill is reaching out to the users of construction services to communicate the advantages of building union.

The IBEW is also enhancing its communications to members and nonmembers with the addition of a new publication, the reader-friendly Electrical Worker newspaper, and its presence on the Internet with IBEW Hour

Power (www.IBEWHourPower.com) and Electric TV (www.ElectricTV.net), which showcase construction members and jobs.

In the other branches of the IBEW, an aggressive new organizing program is underway. Losses in the non-construction branches have finally stopped and are now starting to tick back up again, Satterfield said.

Satterfield said the post-9/11 economic slump hit the construction market especially hard; so did the decline of the domestic manufacturing industry that has accelerated in recent years. That the beginning of the baby boom retirements were hitting the union at the same time.

President Hill said the membership increases could not have been possible without an embrace of new concepts and tactics at the grassroots and local union level.

"The key to the future is to be able to provide the manpower to perform on the projects we know are coming up," Hill said. "If we continue to keep our doors open and seek out the nonunion worker, we're going to be the only game in town." ■

Death Highlights Unsafe Conditions at Verizon

A member of Middleboro, Mass., Local 2322 died on the job on Friday, Oct. 26 while attempting to repair a problem on Verizon lines. Gary Gibbons, 53, a splice service technician, was killed when the elevated bucket he was in came into contact with electrical wires, causing an explosion.

The death—the third Verizon IBEW workplace fatality in the past 18 months (CWA has had two others)—unfortunately epitomizes persistent safety concerns at the telecommunications company, occurring a year after IBEW International President Edwin D. Hill wrote to the CEO to question Verizon's commitment to a safety program.

"There has been a troubling increase in the number of serious accidents on the Verizon property with too many of these accidents resulting in fatalities," President Hill wrote to Ivan Seidenberg. "Our own high-level investigation indicates that most of the recent accidents may have been avoided had the employees been trained and encouraged to work in compliance of safety rules."

Myles Calvey, chairman of System Council T-6, covering Verizon New England, said none of the company's truck buckets are insulated, a safety feature that could have been a factor in saving Gibbons's life. The IBEW's own ability to investigate the fatality

is drastically limited by Verizon's failure to share any accident data with the union, said Calvey, who is also a member of the International Executive Council and business manager of Boston Local 2222.

Workers report that Verizon's management has been stressing productivity over safe work procedures, with new hires dispatched to the field without proper safety training and employees denied safety devices they requested. President Hill proposed a

meeting between IBEW leaders and Verizon executives to reinvigorate stalled talks on ongoing safety issues.

Four days after Gibbons's death, Verizon fired five IBEW FiOS technicians for failing to meet production quotas. The "FiOS Five" are new workers with less than 12 months on the job, just short of the one-year service requirement that would have called for a neutral arbitrator to decide on the merits of their dismissals. The IBEW says Verizon's

push for unattainable production quotas are putting workers and the public at risk. FiOS is a popular new high-bandwidth fiber optic service that carries traditional phone service, Internet and cable.

The IBEW's five-year contract with Verizon, which covers 20,000 people in New England, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania, expires in August. Early bargaining has already started. ■

Toronto Local Helps Turn Failing Factory Into High-Tech Leader

When Electrohome Projection Systems was bought out by a Japanese corporation in 2000, there was fear among the more than 30 employees at the electronics manufacturing plant that this was the end for the company.

"There were a lot of workers with over 30 years of service, and a lot of them were scared," said Cecile Pawlak, Toronto, Ontario, Local 636 unit chairwoman, who had worked as an assembler at the Kitchener-based Electrohome for more than 40 years. "We thought they would pack all the equipment and send it off to Japan," she said.

At its height, Electrohome employed more than 1,000 members of Local 636, but in the 1980's competition from cheap foreign imports cut into the factory's sales and work force, which assembled TV's, stereos and other electronic devices.

But instead of shutting down the plant, Christie Digital Systems, a subsidiary of the Ushio Corp., and Local 636 entered into a partnership to turn the failing company into a leader in the technology triangle of Ontario, a region in the southwest section of the province which has become a center for research.

The revitalized plant now employs more than 120 IBEW members in the growing digital cinema industry: using digital technology to distribute motion pictures. Instead of having to produce and distribute movie reels, which costs millions of dollars, digital cinema allows movie studios to send out their films to theatres through the Internet. Christie is one of two companies that manufacture digital cinema equipment, and while it is still not widely available, the technology will likely be in most theatres across North America within the next 10 years.



Members of Toronto, Ontario, Local 636 assemble equipment for the growing digital cinema industry at the new Christie Digital Systems plant in Kitchener.

Workers at the plant do everything from assembling and shipping digital projectors to performing quality testing and experimenting with new technology.

Ushio, which is a nonunion company, was concerned about working with a union plant, but the local made clear that it wanted to be a partner in reinventing the company on a high-tech basis. "We believe in mutual gains bargaining," Pawlak said. "We told them that we could make it a strong company, and if they worked with the union and its members, together we could make it happen."

"We approached the owners in the spirit of open dialogue and finding common solutions to our problems," said Local 636 Business Representative Tracy O'Meara. After negotiating a strong benefit and pension package, the company—the only unionized company in the triangle—hired more than 100 new workers,

while offering classes and in-house training to the former Electrohome employees, now working under Christie Digital.

One of the most notable changes from the old plant is that Christie requires new employees to have a college degree. "Manufacturing has become so specialized that workers have to bring a certain level of skill and education to the job," Pawlak said.

With nearly 90 percent of employees hired in the last three years, it can be a challenge at times for the local to integrate a new generation of workers who don't have much experience with unions. "At our monthly meetings, we try to explain our history and why it's important so the young workers understand," Pawlak said. "But all they need to do is to compare our benefits with other facilities to see the advantages of being an IBEW member." ■

"There has been a troubling increase in the number of serious accidents on the Verizon property with too many of these accidents resulting in fatalities. Our own high-level investigation indicates that most of the recent accidents may have been avoided had the employees been trained and encouraged to work in compliance of safety rules."

— President Hill wrote to Verizon CEO

Attention Shoppers: Don't Shop at Sears Canada

Members of Vancouver, British Columbia, Local 213 are reminding Sears Canada that union-busting can be bad for business.

Local 213 members and their families spent the holiday shopping season leafleting customers at Sears Canada department stores throughout the province to convince them to shop elsewhere until the company ends its lockout of more than 70 service technicians.

Local 213 has represented the technicians—who repair Sears-bought appliances for customers in southern British Columbia—since 2001. During negotiations for their second contract last September, Sears Canada demanded substantial concessions, said Assistant Business Manager Rave Ghuman. The company's takebacks included no guaranteed wage increase for four years, the right to impose split weekends—which means no consecutive days off—loss of Boxing Day as a paid holiday, and no overtime for the first half hour past quitting time.

The local's negotiating committee told the company its demands were unacceptable. On October 1, Local 213 members who showed up for work found a written notice from the company telling them they were locked out. Sears Canada offered to lift the lockout for any employee who was willing to work under its imposed contract and told them that they would not have to pay union dues.

"This is clearly an attempt by the company to drive out the union," said Local 213 Business Manager Rick Dowling. "If (Sears) succeeds in its agenda, it will be extremely difficult to organize other large companies who employ electrical service technicians throughout Canada."

According to provincial labour law, because the technicians work out of a central warehouse, Local 213 is not allowed to set up "locked out" pickets outside of department stores. But they can hold informational pickets. With the lockout falling during the busiest shopping season of the year, the local knew that a consumer boycott could be an effective tool to encourage the company to play fair. "If we can affect their sales volume now that the Christmas shopping season has started, we can hopefully bring them to their senses," Dowling said.

The boycott is growing into a nationwide movement. IBEW First District Vice President Phillip Flemming has encouraged all Canadian locals to support the boycott and in November, labour federations in both British Columbia and Alberta endorsed the campaign. IBEW leaders said they hope that the expansion of the boycott can put enough pressure on the retailer to return to the bargaining table.

"When facing a giant corporation like Sears Canada, solidarity from the entire labour movement is key to victory," said Flemming. ■



Members of Vancouver, British Columbia, Local 213 and other labour activists protest Sears Canada's lockout of IBEW service technicians.

Photo Credit: Joshua Berson Photographics.

Grand Ole Organizing in Nashville

Nonunion electricians are singing the praises of the IBEW in Nashville, Tenn. Last year, 350 new members joined Nashville Local 429. The road to growth was paved with a commitment to the signatory contractors of Local 429 by Business Manager Robert M. Emery Jr. and the newly expanded IBEW Membership Development Department.

Over 20 organizers from several different locals descended upon Music City last April to participate in Local 429's first electrical industry night, visiting open shop job sites and encouraging electricians to attend the job fair. Their goal was to fill the demanding manpower needs of the growing signatory contractors of Local 429.

The result was an overwhelming response by the electricians in Nashville who are ready to receive the wages and benefits that they deserve.

The local union's market share has nearly doubled while their membership has grown by 30 percent in six months as new members come in at a rate of 75 to 90 a month. Local 429 has also seen its man hours increase by 70 percent since this time last year. The JATC has indentured 127 appren-

tices in that same six-month span with new members taking full advantage of the opportunities provided by the IBEW.

"We often have applicants lined up for jobs before they finish their applications," says Emery.

A retooling of Saturn/GM's plant in Spring Hill, Tenn. has put nearly 200 electricians to work for three signatory contractors. Other Local 429 contractors have taken advantage of the thriving commercial industry in Nashville and are competing in the residential and small commercial projects that have fed the nonunion sector for years.

"There has been an outstanding team effort here in Nashville with full cooperation from the local staff, Local 429's JATC program, our signatory contractors, and the support of our members, who have eased the transition for these newly recruited brothers and sisters," says Emery.

In October, the local signed up 111 new members. Word of mouth in the trade about the benefits of IBEW membership is fueling much of the growth, Emery said.

The local held a second successful industry blitz in November. New member orientation sessions are being held to educate

the new brothers and sisters while the local's Brotherhood Committee has stepped up efforts by meeting once a month to promote trade union understanding and solidarity.

As new members stream into the hall, Local 429's newsletter has also fostered interest in its new contractor development program for members to research establishing their own electrical contracting businesses. Local 429 has also overseen the exploration of piece work plans to stay competitive with nonunion players in the expanding residential construction market.

Tenth District International Vice President Robert Klein, International Representatives Nathan Edgar and Brent Hall, and International Lead Organizer Dave Hogue, put the new organizing plan in motion. John Ledwell and Brian Adams, the local's membership development administrators, field organizers Tony Adams, David Davidson, and Richard DeLaby, as well as outside organizer Arthur "Ozzie" Howard, comprise the new membership development department at Local 429.

To start off 2008, Local 429 is planning its first top-down blitz, visiting nonunion contractors at their business offices to expand its contractor base. ■

California Linemen Repair Fire-Damaged Grid



IBEW members on a crew from Diversified Utility Services set a transmission pole on Mount Miguel, in Chula Vista, with the assistance of a helicopter.

Long before the smoke cleared, IBEW members were on the job repairing the serious damage to the electrical grid from the fires that ravaged Southern California last fall.

At the height of the crisis fueled by fierce Santa Ana winds and dry conditions, up to 14 fires were burning across a broad swath of the southern portion of the state.

Hundreds of utility members employed by Southern California Edison and San Diego Gas & Electric as well as those working for contractors went to work restoring power to millions of residents. The most intense restoration work kept crews on round-the-clock shifts for weeks after the fires were put out. But some were still making critical infrastructure repairs months later, said Diamond Bar, Calif., Local 47 Business Manager Pat Lavin.

As usual in disaster restoration work, conditions were a challenge. "In some of the places where the air quality was so bad, the companies would only allow them to work limited hours," said Lavin, who is an International Executive Council member. Persistent smoke, ash and dust made it hard to see and to breathe, Lavin said.

"A week and a half after the fire was gone, a pall of smoke hung over the Southland," Lavin said. "It was eerie."

Together, the two major utilities lost 4,000 poles, numerous transformers, conduit, cable and above-ground switch facilities. The damage to the grid was about \$30 million.

Four members of San Diego Local 465 lost their homes to the blazes, said Business Manager John C. Hunter. The three employed by San Diego Gas & Electric received \$7,500 each from the utility. "The company stepped

right up to the plate to help them in the interim" before insurance kicked in, he said.

Local 47 journeyman lineman Brian Yetka worked 18- to 20-hour days for Par Electric for four weeks, rewiring new transmission and distribution poles with the assistance of helicopters. Yetka's team was in the hills where the Witch fire burned thousands of acres, forcing a quarter-million people to flee their homes northeast of San Diego.

"The majority of the wood poles in the hilly sections got burned right to the ground," Yetka said.

The first week on the job, Yetka said his crew worked right on the heels of the fire, secure in the knowledge that even though fire is close by, where they're working "everything's burned so it can't come back at you," he said.

A veteran of the aftermath of the Cedar fire that scorched nearly 300,000 acres and wiped out 2,200 homes in 2003, Yetka said he learned to drink plenty of water and wear a mask from that experience.

Hundreds of IBEW travelers arrived before the fires were extinguished. By late October, they were put to work. Lavin commended them and the Local 47 members for their professionalism.

"They performed amazingly, like they always do," Lavin said.

Local 47 provided \$250 apiece for the 17 members evacuated from their homes for three days or more, said Lavin.

Out-of-town crews working on power restoration included those from PG&E, Salt River Project and Nevada Power and Imperial Irrigation District, outside San Diego.

Hunter, who also worked on the Cedar fire, said no one anticipated such massive fires only four years later. "It's a significant, catastrophic event that you just don't think you'll see again in your career," he said. "There's always more to burn, but you just don't expect it so soon." ■

IBEW Launches Comcast Web Site

Dissatisfaction among workers is growing at Comcast. While it spends millions advertising its cable, Internet and phone offerings, the company is striking out with bargaining unit workers concerned about discriminatory pay practices and lack of respect in the workplace, with nonunion workers who want a voice on the job and with consumers who are heated up about poor service.

IBEW members have courageously resisted Comcast's anti-labor assault, but their efforts are undermined by low union density at the company's facilities.

As the IBEW embarks on a campaign to organize Comcast, there is a growing need to share information and experience on what is happening at the company. It will take the combined effort and knowledge of hundreds of committed trade unionists and our allies to bring Comcast into the community of companies who truly respect workers and their own customers.

That is why the IBEW has launched a Comcast campaign Web site to serve as a clearinghouse of information. The site, comcastworkersunited.com, will have up-to-date news on issues surrounding this company and its workers. ■

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North of 49°

One Story at a Time: Toronto Local Celebrates 10 Years of Low-Rise Organizing

Today, Tony Chiappetta serves as a business representative for Toronto Local 353, organizing and servicing members working in the growing residential construction sector. But a decade ago, Chiappetta was ready to leave the industry for good.

As a nonunion electrician, he did not see much of a future for himself.

"I had reached the point where I was ready to bail," Chiappetta said. He was sick of the low wages and scant benefits. He was also fed up with the lack of quality training and enforcement of safety policies. "It was frustrating that a trade as important as this wasn't financially worth it for those doing the work. It wasn't a good career option."

While the other building trades working in the low-rise sector were organized, Local 353 did not even have a foothold.

Local 353 Business Representative Rudy

Lucchesi faced similar frustrations as he compared his small paycheck with his unionized co-workers in the other building trades.

But instead of quitting, Chiappetta and Lucchesi organized. In less than four years they, along with organizers from Local 353 and the Construction Trades Council of Ontario, led one of the most successful organizing drives in the local's history, winning for the IBEW a 90-percent market share in a sector that had been completely nonunion.

Last summer, Local 353 celebrated this historic campaign by marking the 10th anniversary of the signing of its first industry wide low-rise residential agreement with a party and charity fund-raiser. The event brought together more than 500 members who, along with their friends and families, raised more than \$20,000 for the Sick Kids Foundation.

"Residential electricians have nearly tripled their wages since that first contract so

we have a lot to celebrate," said Chiappetta, who helped organize the fund-raiser.

One of the members of the anniversary planning committee was Local 353 President Barry Stevens. In 1996 he was assigned by Local 353 Business Manager Joseph Fashion to be an organizer for the campaign. "It was a dream job," Stevens said. "For too long the local had ignored this sector and let the work drift off."

For Stevens, the key to victory was winning certification elections at all the major contractors around the same time to avoid unionized contractors being priced out by the nonunion ones.

The local targeted the eight largest contractors, handing out leaflets and union cards in a surprise certification blitz.

Word of the campaign inspired Chiappetta and Lucchesi to get in touch with the local and set up volunteer organizing

committees. "When we heard that an IBEW organizer was going around, it gave us a flicker of hope that change was coming," Chiappetta said.

In August 1996, the local won its first successful certification vote, a victory that was repeated at dozens of worksites. In June 1997 the local signed its first agreement, covering more than 600 new members.

Local 353 now represents more than 850 inside wiremen in what is still the fastest growing sector in construction.

"We fought some tough battles but we helped save the industry from the low-wage, low-quality downward spiral," Stevens said.

Ten years since their victory, Chiappetta and Lucchesi have no regrets about their decision to make the IBEW their home. "I always am running into members I helped organize and they always thank me for changing their lives for the better," Lucchesi said. ■

Au nord du 49° parallèle

Une histoire à la fois

La section locale de Toronto célèbre le 10e anniversaire de la syndicalisation du secteur résidentiel léger

Le confrère Tony Chiappetta occupe la fonction de représentant d'affaires pour la section locale 353 de Toronto. Il travaille en tant que recruteur syndical en plus d'offrir le service aux membres travaillant dans le secteur résidentiel léger de la construction qui ne cesse de progresser; pourtant, il y a dix ans, il était sur le point de quitter l'industrie définitivement.

Il travaillait comme électricien, n'était pas syndiqué et l'avenir dans ce métier ne lui semblait pas très prometteur.

"Je voulais tout laisser tomber. J'en avais assez des salaires et des avantages sociaux misérables, de l'absence de formation de qualité et de l'application de règlements de sécurité. En fait, j'étais frustré qu'un métier d'une telle importance ne soit pas rémunéré et reconnu à sa juste valeur; pour moi, ce n'était pas un bon choix de carrière", dit-il.

Les autres métiers de la construction du secteur résidentiel léger étaient tous syndiqués contrairement à la section locale 353 qui n'avait jamais approché ce secteur.

Un représentant de la section locale 353, Rudy Lucchesi, a lui aussi connu les

mêmes frustrations alors qu'il comparait son chèque de paie, bien inférieur à celui de ses compagnons de travail des autres métiers.

Plutôt que de quitter le métier, les confrères Chiappetta et Lucchesi ont décidé de syndiquer les travailleurs. En moins de quatre années, assistés d'autres recruteurs syndicaux de la section locale 353 et du Conseil des métiers de la construction de l'Ontario, ils ont mené une des meilleures campagnes de syndicalisation de l'histoire de la section locale, en gagnant pour la FIOE, 90 pour cent de la part du marché dans un secteur qui ne comptait aucun salarié syndiqué.

La section locale 353 a organisé une fête au mois de juin dernier pour célébrer le dixième anniversaire de cette campagne historique qui s'était conclue par la signature d'une première convention collective dans ce secteur de l'industrie. Une levée de fonds a également été tenue pour la Fondation des enfants malades. Cet événement qui a réuni plus de 500 personnes, incluant les membres de la S.L. ainsi que leurs parents et amis, a permis de recueillir plus de \$20,000.00 pour les enfants malades.

M. Chiappetta, un des organisateurs de la levée de fonds, déclare : "Le salaire des électriciens du secteur résidentiel a presque triplé depuis la signature de cette première convention, il faut que cela se fête".

Le confrère Barry Stevens, Président de la S.L. 353 et membre du Comité d'organisation de la fête, avait été affecté par le Gérant d'affaires de la S.L. 353 Joseph Fashion, à la fonction de recruteur syndical dans la campagne de syndicalisation de 1996 "C'était un emploi rêvé" et selon lui, la section locale avait ignoré trop longtemps ce secteur de l'industrie.

M. Stevens est d'avis que cette victoire est due en grande partie au fait d'avoir obtenu par vote les accréditations pour les employés des principaux entrepreneurs presque en même temps, évitant ainsi que les entrepreneurs syndiqués perdent leur contrat par des soumissions inférieures faites par ceux qui ne l'étaient pas.

La section locale avait ciblé les huit plus gros entrepreneurs et avait distribué les pamphlets d'information et cartes d'affaires dans une campagne-éclair surprise.

Lorsqu'ils ont eu vent de cette campagne, les confrères Chiappetta et Lucchesi ont com-

munié avec la S.L. et ont mis sur pied des comités de syndicalisation bénévoles. Dès qu'ils ont su qu'il y avait un recruteur syndical de la FIOE autour, ils ont commencé à croire que la situation changerait.

C'est au mois d'août 1996 que la section locale obtenait, suite à un vote, sa première accréditation; cette victoire s'est répétée sur une douzaine de chantiers. C'est au mois de juin 1997 que la S.L. 353 signait sa première convention collective régissant plus de 600 nouveaux membres.

La S.L. 353 représente maintenant plus de 850 électriciens d'intérieur dans le secteur qui progresse le plus rapidement dans l'industrie de la construction.

"Nous avons mené des luttes difficiles mais nous avons contribué à sauver l'industrie des faibles salaires et de la spirale descendante de la qualité" concluait le confrère Stevens.

Dix ans plus tard, les confrères Chiappetta et Lucchesi ne regrettent aucunement d'avoir élu domicile au sein de la FIOE. M. Lucchesi rencontre encore des membres qu'il a syndiqués et ils lui sont très reconnaissants d'avoir amélioré leur vie. ■

Organizing Wire

Top-Down Blitz Opens New Ground in Atlanta

An intense 18-month campaign to market the skills of IBEW electricians in the Atlanta area culminated in an exciting top-down blitz in early November.

"I'm fired up," says Atlanta Local 613 Business Manager Gene O'Kelley, well-known in the area from IBEW radio and TV spots, who has been fielding calls from nonunion contractors interested in working with the IBEW.

The campaign, which included business managers from several locals and organizers from the Membership Development Department, kicked off with training on how to approach nonunion contractors. Eight teams were assigned to visit 300 employers in three days. Each route averaged 290 miles. After each day's work, the organizers gathered for a debriefing.

Organizers spoke to individuals at most of the shops. They received positive feedback from 15 open shop contractors, with few negative responses noted.

As they made their rounds, organizers circulated a newsletter from the North Georgia Initiative, a labor-management effort to regain market share in the state. In one story, Rob Ziadie, president of Ranger Mechanical, a 20-year-old firm that signed with Local 613 last year, explains how his business has changed. He has on-demand labor, OSHA-compliant, drug-free workers, competitive rates and composite crews with new intermediate job classifications. He says his company has matured.

"We realize that while competitive bids win jobs, it's professionalism, respect and skill that uphold your reputation and earn the company repeat business," says Ziadie.

Michelle Fallon, Local 613's marketing consultant, remembers speaking with Ziadie before he signed a three-year agreement with Local 613. The contractor recalled a discussion he overheard on a job site where an IBEW electrician was pushing one of Ranger's employees to take more responsibility for completing a job on time. Ziadie, who had been skeptical about the IBEW, "crossed the threshold," says Fallon, seeing the Brotherhood as a potential partner in building his business.

International Organizer Jeff Henderson, who helped coordinate the blitz, praised the planning and work of all team members and sees more contractors like Ziadie crossing the threshold soon.

Tennessee Business Manager Gets Down to Basics

Some business managers get upset when members grumble about their decisions. Others let criticism roll off their backs. Roger Farmer, business manager of Kingsport, Tenn., Local 934 is one of those leaders who gets busy when the troops are restless.

As signatory contractors put more construction electricians and construction wiremen to work in his local's jurisdiction, some journeymen are having trouble accepting the intermediate job classifications, says Farmer.

So he prepared a presentation for his local's next membership meeting to convince members that the new classifications and the small works agreement were helping the local union grow to the benefit of all its members. The small works agreement modifies some main agreement understandings, like changing double-time pay on Sundays to time and one-half, to make signatory contractors more competitive with the open shop sector.

Farmer displayed data showing that hours worked under the inside construction agreement grew by almost 10,000 from 2005 to 2007, while total wages grew by nearly \$500,000. In the third quarter of 2007, man hours increased almost 90 percent from the same period in 2006.

"I think the presentation opened a lot of eyes," says Farmer. When the small works agreement was first presented in 2006, there was a lot of opposition. Farmer explained to the members that he had been pleading with contractors from neighboring jurisdictions to come onto Local 934's turf and bid on projects, but they were hesitant. The small works and new classification agreements, says Farmer, "gave them a tool to come after the work."

While most members now accept the need for the small works agreement, Farmer explained at the meeting that without the new classifications, the agreement wouldn't work.

"A few men who needed to hear the numbers left before my presentation," says Farmer, but he heard no negative comments from those who stayed.

"Journeymen are beginning to understand that—as contractors become more competitive using the new job classifications and apprentices to bring down their composite crew rates—more journeymen are required on the work that they would have not won previously," says International Representative Nathan Edgar, who praised Farmer's efforts. ■

IBEW On Duty



Petty Officer 1st Class and Boston Local 103 member Scott Lennerton helps wire the base at Camp Fallujah in Iraq.

Iraq Veteran Returns for Second Tour

For members who think their job is hard, imagine trying to wire a building or put a power plant on line in the middle of a war zone. Since last September, Boston Local 103 member and Petty Officer 1st Class Scott Lennerton has been doing just that, serving in Iraq as part of the Seabees, the U.S. Navy's construction battalion.

"Our motto is, 'we build and we fight,'" Lennerton wrote in an e-mail from Fallujah. Seabees construct buildings, repair runways, and maintain the decrepit infrastructure inherited from the former Iraqi army and air force. "I also do small wiring jobs on the base. It keeps me busy."

This isn't Lennerton's first tour of duty in Iraq. He spent seven months there more than three years ago where he was stationed in Northern Iraq, wiring Army buildings and building fuel storage facilities.

With frequent power outages and the decayed infrastructure, Iraq is a difficult place to work, but Lennerton says his regiment makes the best of it. "It's not always pretty, but we make it work."

Brother Lennerton hopes to return in April, although his tour could be extended.

"He's been a model member," said Local 103 Business Manager Michael Monahan. "We are all very proud of his service to the nation and his union." ■



Rob Ziadie, president of Ranger Mechanical, became a signatory contractor through the North Georgia Initiative.

Circuits

IBEW/NECA Web Sites, Ads Win Awards

Hour Power and *Electric TV*, two Web sites focusing on the work of IBEW's construction and maintenance members, were winners in the Web Marketing Association's 2007 Web Awards.

Oswego Creative Inc. of Golden, Colo., is the developer of *Hour Power* (www.IBEWHourPower.com) and *Electric TV* (www.ElectricTV.net).

More than 2,400 sites from 40 countries were considered in nearly 100 categories based upon design, copy writing, innovation, content, interactivity, navigation and the use of technology.

The latest awards follow other accolades won by Web productions sponsored by the IBEW and the National Electrical Contractors Association.

IBEW and NECA won a bronze trophy in the 28th Annual Telly Awards honoring excellence in local, regional and cable TV commercials. The award-winning videos, also produced by Oswego Creative, featured a team of industry workers rebuilding a Domino Sugar plant outside New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina and another segment showing the parties at work at Walt Disney World.

In 2006, *Building Design and Construction* designated IBEW-NECA's Electrifying Careers Web site as a Gold Award winner. The site, www.electrifyingcareers.com, developed by Concept Foundry, a Bethesda, Md.-based design and communications firm, is aimed at getting young people charged up about a career in the electrical industry.

ERTS Registration: It's the Right Thing to Do

For every hour construction IBEW members log on the job, employers are required to pay health and pension benefits. But if you work outside your home local jurisdiction, you are at risk of losing benefits for those hours unless you are registered on the Electronic Reciprocal Transfer System (ERTS).

Even if you have no plans to travel or have never traveled, it's still important to register with your home local on ERTS. It is a quick, simple process that takes minutes, said Pension and Reciprocity Director Lynn Fieldman.

"Every member should register on ERTS as soon as possible, even if they are not contemplating travel," Fieldman said, adding that storms and disasters or portability agreements can take people outside their jurisdiction. "You never know what's going to happen in today's world."

Ideally, members should register with their home local union. Once you have signed a blanket authorization form, anytime you leave their jurisdiction for work, you have the assurance your monies will be reciprocated to your home fund. Although other local unions may sign members up for ERTS, primary registration should be through the home local.

There are currently more than 107,000 members registered on the ERTS system.

Washington Update

Department of Homeland Security Drops the Ball on Transit Security

Unions representing workers in the transportation trades, including the IBEW, are outraged that security training for thousands of frontline transit workers across the nation will be delayed again in the wake of another missed deadline by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

The 9/11 Commission Bill passed by Congress set a Nov. 1, 2007, deadline for issuing initial regulations for new training programs to secure the nation's rail and mass transit systems.

"Experts agree that the most effective way to prevent a terrorist transit attack and limit the scope of any tragedy if terrorists were to strike is to have well-trained and prepared transit workers," says Sen. Chris Dodd (D-Conn.), who authored the comprehensive new transit security law.

In the six years since New York's Twin Towers were struck, three major rail and transit systems have been attacked—in Mumbai, India in 2006, in London in 2005, and in Madrid in 2004. "Every hour that [DHS delays] puts our nation's transit riders and those who live and work in our cities and urban areas at greater risk," Dodd said.

The Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO, is working with elected leaders in Congress to hold DHS responsible for its missed deadlines. Visit www.ttd.org. ■

IBEW Member Wins Dream Sailfish Trip on *Escape to the Wild*

New Jersey breeds a lot of fisherman, and Folsom, N.J., Local 351 member Rick DiBruno is one of the most passionate. DiBruno's father taught him to fish when he was six, and he was immediately smitten.

"I crafted myself into a decent back bay fisherman," said DiBruno, who yearned to go sailfishing in the warm waters of Costa Rica. His dream came true when he won a contest through Versus's *Escape to the Wild*, a TV program of the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership that honors hard-working union members with the hunting or fishing trip of a lifetime. DiBruno learned he won at a mock fund-raiser his wife helped arrange.

In 2001, he was working overtime to save for a trip to Disney World for his wife and children. While driving home from an overtime shift, he fell asleep and crashed into a tree, breaking his leg in three places. Out of work for six months, his union brothers and sisters took up a collection for him. It was a rough road to recovery, but DiBruno is working again. Last June, he headed to Costa Rica.

"We fished for wahoo, tuna, rainbow runner, rooster fish and sailfish. The final sailfish was the most exciting," said DiBruno, who learned a "totally different style of fishing" using circle hooks instead of J-hooks.

The new series begins in January on Versus Network. ■



Folsom, N.J., Local 351 member Rick DiBruno, center, won a sailfishing trip to Costa Rica.

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Local Lines

St. Louis Volunteers

L.U. 1 (as,c,ees,ei,em,es,et,fm,i,mt,rts,s,se,spa,st&ws), ST. LOUIS, MO—Happy New Year to all. The 2008 work outlook appears promising and the calendar of events is full. Following are a few of the upcoming events.

February brings the Valentine's Day dance hosted by the Apprentice Social Club. Purchase your tickets now!

"Rebuilding Together St. Louis" is April 19. Over 50 homes are on the list to be repaired by Local 1 volunteers. In May, Habitat for Humanity St. Louis begins construction of 27 homes. The three-phase project is slated for completion in November.



St. Louis Local 1 journeyman wireman and Missouri state representative candidate Jake Hummel, his wife, Dana, and son Tim enjoy 2007 Labor Day festivities.

September brings the Labor Day parade—always fun and a great way for the whole family to show Local 1 pride. October marks the annual Lights Out Program in St. Louis, where Local 1 members donate their time to install lighting for needy families.

Also, phone banks and walkers will be needed for upcoming elections. Many Local 1 members are running for school boards, alderman positions and the state Legislature. Please contact Local 1 to volunteer!

We mourn the deaths of members Joseph Treiber, Walter Peiker, Frank Fritz, Charles Blackey, Stanley Rimkus, John St. Onge Jr., Duvern Thebeau, Craig Weckback, Herbert Albach, Bruce Dearing, William Roberds, William Liescheidt and Norman Fitzler.

Matt Gober, P.S.

Leadership Training

L.U. 11 (i,rts&spa), LOS ANGELES, CA—Local 11 volunteers installed solar panels atop 30 new Habitat for Humanity homes for former Pres. Jimmy Carter's San Pedro and South Los Angeles projects. We congratulate members who donated their superb skills for this historic project.

In Oct. 2007, Local 11 was honored to host the first ever seminar presented by the Breakthrough



Local 11 Habitat for Humanity volunteers are joined by Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa (front row, fourth from left).

Leadership Training Institute. (See *The Electrical Worker*, December 2007, pg. 3.) This dynamic course is taught by Mel Horton, retired Fifth District International Vice President and BLTI training coordinator. BLTI training promotes IBEW leadership skills for a diverse group of members, women and minorities.

Seminar participants included members of IBEW Locals 6, 11, 48, 357, 569, 595 and 1245. BLTI founders are Horton; Robbie Sparks, business manager of Atlanta Local 2127, Electrical Workers Minority Caucus president and AFL-CIO executive council member; and Royetta Sanford, retired IBEW Human Services director. Local 11 Bus. Mgr. Marvin Kropke thanked Sparks and Horton for the privilege of hosting the event.

The Electrical Training Institute continues its commitment to hold classes for members interested in becoming union contractors. Opportunities abound in photovoltaic and other fast-growing industries with a demand for qualified union electrical workers. To receive this high level training, sign up for the course by Matt Kolbinsky of Pro Union Consulting.

Bob Oedy, P.S.

covering wages and working conditions only. Their pension and health benefits will be negotiated in September 2008, along with Local 15 and Exelon's ComEd Energy Delivery and Business Services Company negotiations. Members at Midwest Generation ratified pension and health benefit packages.

In October 2007, Local 15 saw the first graduating class of 23 journeyman linemen head into the ComEd overhead work force. ComEd sponsors overhead, underground and substation construction schools, as its ranks have dwindled since deregulation. It will take years to staff these departments to a proper level.

Our business representatives are now deputy voter registrars; they are registering new voters. Get out the vote!

Ronald V. Welte, P.S.

Wind Turbine Project

L.U. 17 (catv,em,lctt,o&u), DETROIT, MI—Local 17 completed its first wind turbine project in Pigeon, MI. A total of 32 wind turbines were erected. This project was slated to go primarily nonunion until our Local 17 Bus. Mgr. Kevin Shaffer and Organizer Mike Aulseybrook stepped in. They were able to secure all the work that our signatory contractors were equipped to handle.

There is talk in Lansing, our state capital, that "right to work for less" may rear its ugly head in the form of a ballot initiative in the 2008 election. That would require 304,101 people to sign petitions to create or amend existing legislation. We must stop this in its tracks. Talk to your friends and neighbors; tell them this has nothing to do with their right to work but is actually all about union busting.

Congratulations to all the winners of the National Linemen's Rodeo, held in Kansas City. Local 17 sent a total of seven teams.

We mourn the passing of members James A. Sheridan, Peter L. Zahari, Floyd A. Geistler and Kenneth C. Laird.

James Beaubien, P.S.

Chicago Safety Conference

L.U. 15 (u), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—We are saddened to report that first-year apprentice lineman Dan Yost lost his life in August 2007 while transferring secondary wire to a newly installed pole. Local 15 members contributed over \$6,000 for a memorial stone for Bro. Yost.

Asst. Bus. Mgr. Brian Loomis delivered a presentation on "Electric Deregulation; Safety and Reliability in the Era of Downsizing" at the 2007 National Safety Conference in Chicago. Speech topics were: fewer workers, excessive overtime, fatigue, an aging work force, failing infrastructure and rising accident/fatality risks.

Local 15 members at Dominion Energy Kincaid Generating Station ratified a six-year contract agreement and pension and health benefit packages.

Exelon Nuclear workers ratified a contract

Trade Classifications

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



Local 15 delegation to 2007 Women's Conference and Sixth District Progress Meeting, from left: Cris Arellano, Sharon Nuzzo, Rec. Sec. Christine Watkins, Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dean Apple, Organizer Char White, Keli Gonzalez, Carol Anderegg, Vice Pres./Asst. Bus. Mgr. Terry McGoldrick and Colleen Krizek.



Local 21 Bus. Mgr./Pres. Ronald Kastner (right) presents IBEW Lifesaving Award to Local 21 member Jason Golf (holding plaque). From left: Local 21 Executive Board member Larry Schuler, steward Bill Collins, Christine Golf, J. Golf, steward Mike Pala and Bus. Mgr. Kastner.

IBEW Lifesaving Award

L.U. 21 (catv.govt&t), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—On June 19, 2007, Local 21 member Jason Golf, an AT&T customer service technician, was working at a telephone cross box when two vehicles violently crashed at a nearby intersection. A pickup truck landed on its roof, an SUV was on its side in a ditch, gas was leaking and smoke billowed from both vehicles. Bro. Golf yelled to a witness to call 911, broke the truck window to rescue the driver and then climbed through the SUV's broken rear window to rescue a baby girl and her mother. At the October unit meeting, Jason received the IBEW Life Saving Award for his heroic efforts.

Seventy-three members at JULIE Inc. ratified a new five-year contract on Nov. 8, 2007. Highlights of the agreement include a 23 percent across the board wage increase for all job titles, more flexibility in PTO time, increases for evening, night, split, Saturday and floor person differentials, and an additional Christmas Eve holiday.

Training begins in January 2008 for 175 work site activists as we implement an improved member communication structure, designed to increase member involvement and build worker power.

Thomas Hopper, P.S.

Promote Union Way

L.U. 41 (em,es,i,se,govt&spa), BUFFALO, NY—Officers and members extend heartfelt thanks to Bro. James Devany IV and his crew of volunteers for putting together our annual children's Christmas party. Anticipation filled the room when everyone heard that Santa was in the building, and the kids' faces lit up with joy when he arrived. Make your plans for next year's party!

We look forward to the upcoming year and we must all work to make it the most beneficial ever. Take every opportunity you can to promote the interests of union families and to preserve our union way of life.

The work picture for the year ahead looks promising. So, join in organizing efforts and opportunities to build your local union and increase market share. Help make sure more jobs are done union and under a collective bargaining agreement.

Local 41 honors the memory of our members who passed away last year. We appreciate their friendship and their service. They will be missed.

Kenneth C. Zack, V.P./P.S.



The Local 47 Bear Valley Electric Utility Unit in Big Bear, CA, ratified an agreement that provided lineman-related classifications a 13 percent wage increase over three years. Major improvements were also made to Retiree Medical.

California Wildfires

L.U. 47 (lctt,mo,o,u&uow), DIAMOND BAR, CA—Happy New Year! Local 47 wishes the whole IBEW family a safe and prosperous 2008.

The Southern California wildfires caused property damage and disrupted utility service throughout the region. We thank everyone for offers of help. Once again, the IBEW stepped up and utility service was restored wherever possible and in a safe manner.

Local 47 offers financial assistance to our members, or travelers, who were evacuated for three days or more.

Our participation at the International Lineman's Rodeo was limited this year due to the wildfires. We are proud that the team of Robert Stephens, David Aguon and Brit Jackson from Anaheim captured 2nd place municipal division.

We ratified a three-year agreement with the City of Banning's Utility. The health care contribution by the city will increase by 98 percent.

Our fourth annual Brotherhood Motorcycle Run held Oct. 20, 2007, was a success. We also had our second annual Day at the Races at the Santa Ana Racetrack and everyone lost money except John Baca.

We are saddened by the passing of Bros. Steve Reyes and Doug McCormick. Thoughts and prayers are with their families and friends.

Stan Stosel, P.S.

Verizon Plus Store Members

L.U. 51 (catv,lctt,o,rtb,t&u), SPRINGFIELD, IL—On Oct. 30, 2007, seven employees of the Verizon Plus Store in Bloomington, IL, voted unanimously in favor of representation by Local 51. As we proceed to the negotiating table to secure a first contract, we ask our members to patronize the Bloomington store to show support and welcome our new members.

Local 51's annual picnic was Aug. 23, 2007, at Clinton Lake. The weather was great and everyone had a good time. Thanks to all members who helped make the picnic a success, with special thanks to Joe and Mickey Curry and Todd White. Local 51 welcomes all suggestion for this year's picnic.



Local 51 Treas. Julie Brandt (left) and Executive Board member John Powers enjoy 2007 union picnic.

Bro. Steve Redenbaugh returned home following a lengthy stay in the hospital as a result of an electrical contact injury. Steve and his family are remarkable people and his recovery is heartwarming; though he still has much recuperation ahead, his attitude and determination are inspiring.

Work safe, give eight hours' work for eight hours of pay and attend union meetings.

Dan Pridemore, B.R.

Community Service Project

L.U. 99 (govt&i), PROVIDENCE, RI—Bus. Mgr. Al Durand and Organizer John Shalvey attended the IBEW Second District Progress Meeting in Portland, ME. They continue to keep Local 99 informed on local and national issues.

At press time work in our area remained a little slow, although the project at the Dunkin' Donuts Center was running seven days a week to meet a Nov. 14 opening day. The Newport Grand, a project of sister Local 35, Hartford, CT, will gear up soon and also employ Local 99 travelers. Local 35 is also offering preparation classes for the Connecticut license.

The Local 99 Golf League crowned its 2007 "A" Division Champion. Bro. Scott Bromage defeated Bro. Jim Harrington in the finals. For the "B" Division Bro. Jim Mitchell will face off against Bro. Fred Porter.

Under the supervision of Bus. Mgr. Durand and Bro. John DiBiase, the trendsetting Photovoltaic Energy Project was expanded to add more power to our system. The goal is to reduce



IBEW Local 99 in Providence, RI, installed a state-of-the-art scoreboard for the Warwick American Little League.



Local 109 members volunteer for a United Way project at the Fejervary Park Zoo in Davenport, IA. From left: Bros. Rich McCoy, Luc Martel, Jerry Bald, Les Kline and Don Jones. Volunteer Ben Lorenzen snapped the photo.

energy costs by utilizing environmentally responsible alternatives.

Once again Local 99 leads the way with community service. Bros. Tom Paul, Ed Audet, Jim Dooley, Pat Gallion, Bus. Mgr. Durand and others came through for the Warwick American Little League by providing funding, labor and expertise to install a new state-of-the-art scoreboard.

S.P. Callaghan, P.S.

'Industry Night' Speaker

L.U. 103 (cs&i), BOSTON, MA—On Sept. 11, 2007, Peter Cockshaw, construction's leading expert on labor-related issues, addressed more than 800 members at our monthly meeting. Cockshaw is a nationally respected authority and founder/publisher of the industry's most widely read labor relations advisory, *Cockshaw's Construction Labor News+Opinion*.

Peter detailed the state of the unionized sector of the construction industry and laid out a blueprint for its survival. For the unionized sector to survive, gone must be the days of fielding a team on our job sites that is anything less than the most productive, knowledgeable, highly trained, drug free professionals for signatory contractors. The evening was well-received by all the members attending, as well as the many contractors who came to Local 103 for our 1st Annual Industry Night.

John Dumas, Pres./P.S.



Local 103 Bus. Mgr. Michael P. Monahan (right) welcomes guest speaker Peter Cockshaw at September 2007 union meeting.

Quad City Volunteers

L.U. 109 (u), ROCK ISLAND, IL—Six members of Local 109 participated in the 2007 United Way of the Quad Cities Day of Caring project (see photo). These members volunteered to build benches and dig post holes for informational signs at Fejervary Park Zoo in Davenport, IA. This was part of the Borne Learning Trail project. This team was the only all-union member team to participate in the Quad City area.

Lori Smith, R.S.

Scholarships Awarded

L.U. 111 (em,govt,lect,mt,o,rtb,spa&u) DENVER, CO—Five sons and daughters of Local 111 members were honored as 2007 winners of the union's Vinc Perry Ellis Memorial Scholarships. The scholarship was established in honor of Vinc, who was killed in 1993 by an angry customer. Vinc worked as a collector for Public Service Company of Colorado.

The \$1,500 scholarships were presented to Christina Cordova, daughter of Mike Cordova, Unit 2; Laura Newcome and Robin Newcome, daughters of Donald Newcome, Unit 2; Kaley O'Connell, daughter of Don O'Connell, Unit 19; and Travis Theis, son of Tammy Theis, Unit 25. A scholarship committee of Local 111 members selected the five winners. Applicants were required to furnish a copy of their grades and letters of recommendation, and to write an essay on "significant contributions made by organized labor to improve conditions for working America since IBEW Local 111's founding in 1907."

Dennis Z. LeTurgez, P.S.

Bonneville Power Update

L.U. 125 (lect,o&u), PORTLAND, OR—On Sept. 14, 2007, members of the Columbia Power Trades Council rejected the Bonneville Power Administration's offer for a new three-year agreement by a margin of 435-6.

During negotiations, we were unable to reach resolution on "live-line barehand" procedures (which are illegal by state law in Oregon and Washington) being used on BPA's high-voltage transmission lines. The unions were informed that the Administration is not subject to these laws. Thus, impasse was reached, and an arbitrator will be required to render a decision on these issues.

Interest arbitration for the "live-line barehand" issue will occur in February 2008, and benefit offset arbitration is scheduled for April 2008. Our members at BPA are part of the federal sector, which eliminates the option to strike. While these two issues will be decided by an arbitrator, we can only hope that the Administration will reconsider its position on the other issues and make strides in placing the safety and well-being of its employees a priority. For additional information, visit www.ibew125.com.

Thank you to the delegates, who have worked diligently throughout this long process. Your efforts are most appreciated!

Marcy Putman, Organizer

Work Outlook Positive

L.U. 145 (em,i,o,rts,spa&u), ROCK ISLAND, IL—The work outlook is positive at this time. There has been a lot of work in the Clinton, IA, area with a new co-gen powerhouse, a new \$200 million plastics plant and ongoing maintenance at the Archer Daniel Midland plant. The Rock



Three generations of Teichman family Local 145 members enjoy the local's annual golf outing: retired member Bill Teichman (right); his son, Dennis (center), an active member; and grandson Derek. Bill started his IBEW career in 1955. Derek began his apprenticeship in 2007.

Island gambling casino finally started, as well as another casino in Clinton, IA. Big thanks to all those travelers who have helped staff the work. We have 60 to 70 travelers working and things look good for some time.

Our inside and communications contracts were settled along with the addition of the new CE/CW classification. A new organizer, Clay Harksen, was added to the staff. He is filling Mike Ellison's position. Mike went to head up the JATC for Local 145. Please stop by the hall and welcome Clay.

Alan Anderson, P.S.

Madison Holiday Lights

L.U. 159 (i), MADISON, WI—Happy New Year! Our Holiday Fantasy in Lights was again a big success. Over 100,000 cars passed through 35 light displays. This is Local 159's gift to our community and a good way to promote the IBEW.

Work here is steady. If we get a couple of the upcoming projects that we anticipate will go union, we should have almost full employment over the winter, with quite a few travelers getting out. Thanks to our traveling brothers and sisters for helping us staff the work.

Local 159 is sad to announce the passing of former Bus. Mgr. Billy Harrelson on Oct. 5, 2007. Billy was our business manager from 2002 until July 2007, when he stepped down because of health reasons. He was an organizer from 1995-2002.

Local 159 is pleased to participate in a new initiative called Best Value Contracting, recently approved for the City of Madison and Dane County. All city and county jobs will be required to be staffed by contractors participating in an approved apprenticeship program.

Random drug testing starts Jan. 1, 2008, for our local. This is one more reason we have the competitive edge over our nonunion competitors. Work safe!

Joel Kapusta, B.A./P.S.

Candidates for Workers

L.U. 191 (e,i,mo,rtb&st), EVERETT, WA—At this writing, it's election time in Washington state, and Local 191 has put a lot of effort into making sure its members are aware of which candidates and which legislation are in its members' best interest. We are working very hard to make Washington state a labor-friendly state, and wish all other locals much success at getting their local governments to act in the best interests of the American worker and family.

Marcus Abarcus, P.S.

Three Brothers Mourned

L.U. 231 (i,rtb,spa&u), SIOUX CITY, IA—With sadness we report the deaths of three members: Bros. Clifford Falk, Marvin "Barney" Berens and Gordon Gullikson.

Bro. Falk was a member since 1959 and retired in 1995. He worked for Bauer Electric in Yankton, SD, for 25 years and then worked as a traveler around the country. Born in 1932, Bro. Falk passed away Aug. 17, 2007.

Bro. Berens was a member since 1945. He served in the Seabees in the 1940s and was a veteran of World War II. He worked for Casler and Thompson Electric and retired in 1983. Born in 1920, Bro. Berens passed away Aug. 19, 2007.

Bro. Gullikson was a member since 1976 and retired in 1996. Born in 1932, he worked on the Power Plant in Sioux City and Thompson Electric prior to retirement. Bro. Gullikson passed away Sept. 11, 2007.

We extend deepest sympathy to the families of these fine men. They all will be greatly missed.

Debby Spencer, P.S.

'Decide Your Future'

L.U. 245 (govt,lect,rtb&u), TOLEDO, OH—As we reflect on 2007, we note a time of transitions. Last year, the IBEW Fourth District saw the retirements of former Int. Vice Pres. Paul J. Witte as well as former Int. Reps. Nicholas Greco and Thomas M. Curley. Also, following the election of Gov. Ted Strickland (D) in 2006, political efforts are currently under way to re-regulate the utility industry. Now the 2008 presidential elections are fast approaching. All these developments affect how the local conducts day-to-day business. Some change is beyond our control. On the political scene, however, we can bring about positive change for working people with our votes. Who will decide your future? Will it be you?

We hope contract negotiations begun in 2007 will have concluded by the time you read this. At this writing in November, only First Energy and Tri-County negotiations were under way. At Davis Besse our members are gearing up for the plant's 15th refueling outage, which was scheduled to start Dec. 30, 2007. Work in our outside construction branch is in its usual seasonal slowdown.

Local 245 again supported the Salvation Army's Christmas kettle drive. Thanks to all who supported the cause to help many people in need.

Ray Zychowicz, P.S.

65 Years of Service

L.U. 295 (em,i,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), LITTLE ROCK, AR—We enjoyed our local union picnic held in September 2007. We had an excellent turnout and good fellowship among our active and retired members. Bros. Vance Skillern, Lawrence McKellips and Harrison West received 65-year service pins. Bro. West served as Local 295's business manager from 1967-1972. We thank these gentlemen for a lifetime of service to the IBEW.

We have been in negotiations with our contractors in recent months. Hopefully by the time you read this we will be working under a new agreement. Our negotiating committee has worked well with our contractors to try to keep up with the cost of living for our members, and at the same time stay competitive in the marketplace.

David Stephens, A.B.M.

50-Year Members Honored

L.U. 309 (i,lect,mo,mt,o,rts,spa,&u), COLLINSVILLE, IL—Our work picture remains steady for our outside and inside branches, with many IBEW travelers working in our jurisdiction. All our line clearance tree trimmers continue to enjoy full employment, due in part to the utility's commitment to maintain its system to minimize storm outages.

Congratulations to our outside and Cerro Flow Products negotiating committees. Asst. Bus. Mgr. Sott Tweedy, Bros. Lyn Kleeman, Justin Schwigen and Dwight Childerson were successful in bargaining a three-year agreement with American Line Builders. The parties agreed to total package increases of 3 percent, 3.5 percent, and 4 percent. The package was accepted unanimously. Asst. Bus. Mgr. Tim Evans, Bros. Roger DeMond, Kevin Zike, and I successfully bargained a three-year agreement with CFP. The parties agreed to wage increases of 3 percent per year, improvements to the pension plan and a performance pay plan that could give the members up to an additional 3 percent bonus each year.

Local 309 members hosted our annual 50-year members' party at the Sunset Hills Country Club in Edwardsville, IL. The party was well-attended by our retirees, who so richly deserve this recognition. Those pictured received a mantle clock from Local 309 and I.O. service awards. Congratulations to all.

Jim Berger, B.M.



Award recipients attending Local 309's party for 50-plus year members are, from left, seated, Bob Haege, Ozzie Joffray, Charles Votruba, James Murphy, Jack Viner, Erwin Brinkman and Ed Sudduth; standing, Dick Voss, Paul Seibert, Clyde Weible, Robert Verbeck, Francis Halasey, Ray Mullins, Joe Rettig, Raymond Schulte, Cyril Kues, Jerry Kabfleisch, Floyd Hays, Dwight French, Joe Poel, Kenneth Blume and Clarence Deibert.

Anniversary Celebration

L.U. 313 (i&spa), WILMINGTON, DE—On Sept. 29, 2007, Local 313 celebrated its 105th anniversary at the Dover Downs Convention Hall. This event was a celebration of the hard work union members have put forth to make our local a prime example of a strong labor union. Honored guests included U.S. Sen. Thomas Carper, Ltd. Gov. John Carney and many other public officials. Two Local 313 officials, state Sen. Anthony DeLuca and state Rep. Mike Mulrooney, received a big round of applause. A highlight of the evening was the service pin ceremony. Bro. Walter McGonigal received his 70-year pin; Bros. John Koitsch Jr. and Greg Stillwell, 55-year pins; Walter Brumbley, Don George, Fred Nichols and Al Shields Sr., 50-year pins. Thanks to all members who helped make the event a great success.

The local thanks members who volunteered for the many local union events last summer, including the picnic and Labor Day parade.

Local 313 honors the memory of Bro. Stan Klein, a man of great accomplishments who dedicated most of his career to the training of apprentices. He was a Local 313 instructor and training director, and later became National JATC senior director of curriculum development. He will be missed.

Scott A. Lupinek, P.S.

Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 317 (i,o,rts,t&u), HUNTINGTON, WV—A big thanks to the Entertainment Committee and all who helped make the IBEW Local 317 annual picnic a great success. Active members and retirees, along with their families, enjoyed a nice day of fellowship.

We are proud to announce the following members completed the five-year journeyman wireman apprenticeship training program: Charissa Barker, James Collins, Jonathan Daniels, Chad Gilbert, William Gill, Brandon Holley, Christopher Kiley, Lafe Lyons, David McMahon, Troy Minix, Mike Runyon, Jason Steagall, Brandon Sturgill, Glenn Suttles, Timothy Suttles, Gregory White, Steven Williams and Jimmie Wood Jr. Local 317 congratulates these members on their accomplishment.

Charles "Shane" Wolfe, Pres.

Child Haven Holiday Lights

L.U. 357 (c,i,mt&se), LAS VEGAS, NV—Our annual picnic was at Sunset Park on Sept. 29, 2007. The food was excellent and the horseshoe tournament lasted into the night. Members who spent the night at the JATC apprenticeship training facility cooking the food provided an invaluable service and had a good time.

On Oct. 6, 2007, our contractors and members opened their hearts and their wallets for the children at Child Haven. Twenty members donated their time, and five of our contractors donated material, to pipe, pull wire and install



Local 357 journeyman wiremen volunteer to light up Child Haven facility for Christmas holidays.

receptacles for installing Christmas lights at the facility. Our contractors donated over 800 feet of conduit and wire, along with all the material and fittings to install receptacles outside all the buildings at Child Haven. Christmas lights were installed Nov. 3, 2007 and Las Vegas Mayor Oscar Goodman held a press conference and lighting ceremony on Nov. 20. Thanks to all volunteers.

Oct. 20, 2007, was a gorgeous day for our sixth annual brotherhood welfare charity golf tournament. Over 150 people participated and a luncheon followed the event. A lot of money was raised to help our sick and needy members. Thanks to all for the donations.

Timothy W. Bolton, P.S.

Kentucky Voters Speak

L.U. 369 (em,es,i,lctt,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), LOUISVILLE, KY—Voters in the great state of Kentucky have spoken! Democratic candidate Steve Beshear was elected governor by a landslide. Thanks to all volunteers who made this campaign a huge success. Special thanks likewise to our former Republican governor—for uniting the labor movement. His attack on working families was just the fuel we needed to keep the fire burning.

The groundbreaking for Museum Plaza was held Oct. 25, 2007. Museum Plaza will include 300,000 square feet of office space, 165 condominiums, a 250-room Westin Hotel and the University of Louisville's fine arts program. A space on the 24th floor will house a 35,000 square foot contemporary arts center, spa, pool, fitness center, ballroom, restaurants and retail. There will be two towers, the tallest being 62 stories.

The government finally approved construction permits for erecting cranes on the UPS Worldport project. Ironworkers have been working 6-10's with spotty overtime trying to get the project back on schedule—which in turn means more electricians will be needed soon.

John E. Morrison Jr., P.S.

International Lineman's Rodeo

L.U. 387 (em,lctt&u), PHOENIX, AZ—Nine journeyman linemen and seven lineman apprentices from our local competed against more than 900 others at the 24th annual International Lineman's Rodeo. The teams won two events and placed in the top five in four other events. Bros. Joe West, Toby Claude and Tim Poudrier, journeyman linemen, took 1st place in the Speed Climb and 4th place in the Insulator Change Out. Bros. Rod West, Brian Wheeler and Rudy Perez, journeyman linemen, took 5th place in the Hurt Man Rescue. Also, Bros. Jason Houle, Scott Kahrs and Jeff Wright, journeyman linemen, were so consistent in all their events that they took 15th overall.



Local 387 journeyman linemen Jeff Wright (left) and Jason Houle compete at the IBEW International Lineman's Rodeo.



Cheyenne, WY, Local 415 members on Wagner Electric's day shift at the Cheyenne Frontier Refinery. Coker Unit is shown in the background.

Local 387 lineman apprentices also had great showings. Bros. Greg Fish and Chris Babineau placed second and third in the Speed Climb. Bro. Art Garcia Jr. had a 1st place performance in the CPR/AED event. Bros. Brandon Evans, Danny Carver, Scott Marlatt and Drew Schonoff did very well throughout the day.

The teams raised money for the charity "Climb for Kiddos," a nonprofit organization they created. Arizona Public Service Company's Senior Vice Pres. Jan Bennett announced that APS would match the team's donations. Congratulations to all!

Ronny Hockman, P.S.

A Proud Accomplishment

L.U. 415 (c,govt&i), CHEYENNE, WY—Another accomplishment to be proud of. IBEW Local 415 and traveling members put together a major Coker system rework at the Cheyenne Frontier Refinery in 60 days—working 12 to 14 hours a day, seven days a week. The work ethics and superior skills demonstrated at this critical shutdown won Wagner Electric more work at this site and an invite to bid other work across the nation.

The work picture continues to be very strong with no signs of letting up, and the energy sector is leading the way in much of the jurisdiction.

A big thank-you to all those who participated in wiring the Extreme Home Makeover project. It was a great success for some real nice people. Again, the IBEW shines.

Harvey J. Humphrey, B.M./F.S.

A New Facility

L.U. 449 (catv,em,i,o,rtb,rtb,spa&u), POCATELLO, ID—It's an honor to report that the local has relocated to its new facility at 1537 Baldy Avenue in Pocatello. Our open house and dedication was Dec. 1, 2007. It took two years to complete the project, which we performed with all union crafts. Thanks to members who helped move the office to the new hall.

The membership approved changing the regular meeting from the fourth Thursday to the first Thursday of the month starting in January. Meeting time has changed from 8 p.m. to 7 p.m. to encourage greater attendance. The Twin Falls Unit meeting changed from the first Thursday to the second Thursday of the month at the Red Lion in Twin Falls. Meeting time is 8 p.m. Please mark your calendars.

Local 449 thanks the following members for their years of service and wishes them well in their retirement: Ronald Webb, John Wodskow, Loy H. "Woodie" Dickerson, Edward Slaugh and Gordon Scott Hadley.

We extend condolences to the family of retired member Harold Siler, who passed away. Support and participate in your union.

Bob Bodell, B.M.

Solidarity Rally

L.U. 459 (ees,em,so,govt&u), JOHNSTOWN, PA—Local 459 held a rally in downtown Erie, PA, on Saturday, Oct. 20, 2007, to protest for a better relationship with Penelec/First Energy. The weather was nice and the turnout of the membership and their families was terrific. Approximately 100 members and family members showed up in Erie to demonstrate their support. We had members traveling from as far as the Towanda District, over four hours away. Also, members from Johnstown, Clearfield and Dubois drove to the rally. Members from other units the local represents also showed support. We had some of the Young Democrats from Clarion University join us. The local thanks the members and their families who attended. Rally participants had a good time and showed strong solidarity.

Kenneth L. Richards, Pres./A.B.M.



Local 459 members gather for unity rally protest in Erie, PA.

JATC Awards Banquet

L.U. 481 (ees,em,i,mt,rtb,rtb,spa), INDIANAPOLIS, IN—Congratulations to all Local 481 apprentices who graduated in August 2007. At the JATC awards banquet, Matthew Steber was recognized as Apprentice of the Year, and the runner up was Joshua Reader. The Solidarity Award was presented to Benjamin Adair, and the late retired Bro. Thomas Smith was awarded posthumously as honoree. The Solidarity Award acknowledges dedication to Local 481 brotherhood during apprenticeship and throughout a member's local union career.

Bus. Rep. Kevin Marshall recently graduated from National Labor College. Congratulations to



Local 481 Apprentice of the Year Matthew Steber (left), runner-up Joshua Reader (right) and Solidarity Award recipient Benjamin Adair (center) attend JATC awards banquet.

Kevin on all the extra work he did to complete his bachelor's degree in labor studies on top of his daily duties.

Work in the area is going well. We thank all the traveling brothers and sisters who have helped us staff the jobs.

Steven Montgomery, R.S.

Tacoma Award Recipients

L.U. 483 (lctt,o&u), TACOMA, WA—At our October 2007 general meeting, IEC member Patrick Lavin and Int. Rep. Rick Hite presented Bro. Ken Wickstrom with the IBEW Lifesaving Award. Bro. Wickstrom was nominated for the award by his shop steward and co-worker, Byron Allen of Peninsula Light Company. Bro. Wickstrom was returning to his shop when he saw a man lying face down beside the road with a group of bystanders looking on. The man had suffered a heart attack and Bro. Wickstrom, with the help of a bystander, started CPR until the paramedics arrived. Thanks to an IBEW member's quick thinking and CPR training, the man's life was saved.

Local 483 Bus. Mgr. Alice A. Phillips received the 2007 Elsie Schrader Award, for outstanding achievement in labor, at the Washington State Labor Council Convention held in Seattle. This prestigious award is given for the advancement of women in leadership roles and/or for activism on behalf of women within the labor movement. Sister Phillips chairs many committees including the Joint Labor Committee of Tacoma and the Washington Power & Line Clearance Tree Trimming Apprenticeship Program. She also serves on the Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee of the Northwest Line Construction Industry.

Mike Shook, Pres.

2007 Service Awards

L.U. 531 (i), LaPORTE, IN—Our local held its 2007 service awards presentations at Blue Chip Casino, which is a regular supporter of union contractors and a big contributor to the community. Service pins were presented to members with 10 to 65 years of IBEW service.

Congratulations to all award recipients. Although the honorees are too numerous to list here, I wish to acknowledge the 65-year members: Ralph Odle, Leo Conn, Cecil Downing, Theodore Hayes, William Switt, Robert Wheeler, Charles Conn Sr., Harold Kimmel, Richard Lubs, Bill Roberts, Bob Schroeder, Royce Catron, Chester Matuszak, Charles Martin, Donald Deardorff, Howard Kubsch and Marion Strauch. The food was excellent and everyone had a wonderful time.

Local 531 will celebrate its 70th anniversary this year. The local was chartered in 1938.

Thought for the day: "All that a man achieves and all that he fails to achieve is the direct result of his own thoughts."

J.J. Switzer, P.S.

100th Anniversary Celebrated

L.U. 575 (i), PORTSMOUTH, OH—During 2007, several members were presented service awards: Bro. Carroll Hendricks for 60 years of service, Bro. Donald Keyser for 55 years, and Bro. Lou Imes for 50 years. Bro. Imes also accepted a 50-year service award for his late friend, Bro. Thomas Dee Semones.

Local 575 also presented Ohio State Rep. Todd Book with honorary IBEW membership for his continuing service to our industry.

On July 27, 2007, members reunited at the Shawnee State Forest Lodge for our 100th anniversary celebration. The celebration continued on July 28 with a golf outing, a motorcycle trip, and a tour of Bonneyfiddle. IBEW Int. Sec.-Treas. Jon Walters rededicated the Gordon Freeman Memorial Hall. The extravaganza concluded at Shawnee State University with a recorded greeting from Gov. Ted Strickland, a video tribute to Local 575, an exceptional meal, guest speakers, and a command performance of The Return, a premiere Beatles-tribute band.

We now begin our second century of service, reminded of the words of our late local bother, Int. Pres. Emeritus Gordon M. Freeman: "The dream our founders had of bringing dignity and security to Electrical Workers is a staunch reality...but there is no time to rest on our laurels."

Dennis W. Hawkins, P.S.

Work Opportunities Elusive

L.U. 577 (em&i), APPLETON, WI—Work opportunities in this local continue to elude our members on the out-of-work list. Requests from local employers for journeymen to travel to job sites and a few short calls have come in to the hall recently. Bid results from a couple of projects seem to indicate that non-signatory contractors are willing to potentially take a loss just to get some work. Reports from traveling members indicate that jobs are available in this state and in our district.

The local will implement a substance abuse policy that is consistent with other locals in Wisconsin. By using the same testing agency, cost savings will be realized by not testing traveling members who are already in the common database. Using the existing TruPro advertising brand and other marketing tools, we can inform our potential customers that we have a drug-free work force available. Using the annual random testing component, we are proving to the public that we are committed to providing this service to the electrical construction industry.

As the New Year unfolds, make an effort to attend continuing education classes as well as annual safety training. A well-trained, skilled and drug-free work force is the right choice for our customers and employers.

Greg Breaker, B.M.



Attending Local 617's centennial event meeting are, from left, seated, Elyssa Giorgian and Ray Liptak of BMA Media Group, Bus. Mgr. Dominic Nolan, Pres. Marc Leach; standing, Local 617 members Fred Nesbitt, Joe Hogan (retired former business manager), Jessie Stoney (retired former president), Rosa Garcia-Petros, Marc Calvillo Jr, John McDonagh, Frank Cortez and Joseph E. Ameer.

Centennial Year in San Mateo

L.U. 617 (e,i,mo&st), SAN MATEO, CA—This is it! 2008 is the year that marks Local 617's centennial. A gigantic milestone of accomplishments, determination, success and posterity achieved by a progressive association of skilled workers! This is a year for reflection on the past. Studying the successes of yesterday will help assure our vision for tomorrow. In the beginning, our founders met weekly to advance their fledging Brotherhood's growth. Today, we reap the fruits of their sacrifices and must show our appreciation with participation.

So, on Oct. 29, 2007, a special meeting was held at the union hall, with representatives of the renowned BMA Media Group, regarding ways to celebrate the special event.

Beyond the festivities, we know that the strength of this Brotherhood lies with the active participation of its members. So, like the fabulous "San Mateo's eight," who gathered one night in April 1908 at the Fireman's Hall, we too met that night with the future in mind. Look forward for this once in a lifetime event to be held with "fanfare" at the Burlingame Hyatt on Aug. 16, a fitting venue as the City of Burlingame also celebrates its centennial in 2008.

Pierre St-Cyr, P.S.

Welcome to New Members

L.U. 625 (ees,em,i,mar&mt), HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA—Congratulations to Bros. Wayne Hewitt, Dave Waller and Garnet Lake on their retirement. Also re-entering retirement are Bros. Doug Wilson and Bill Oakes. Thank you for your dedicated service to our local.

Congratulations to our new journeymen: Bros. Rod Keough, Bradley Hopkins, Jeff Lewis

and Jonathan Embree. That ticket is a great achievement and you should be proud of your accomplishment.

Local 625's first full-time staff business manager, Bro. Len Dunn, passed away Oct. 18, 2007, at age 79. Bro. Dunn held office from 1969-1976. Active Bro. Andrew Klatt passed away Oct. 8 at age 50. Retired Bro. Don Cluney passed away Sept. 25 at age 61. Retired Bro. Sam MacDonald passed away July 16 at age 57. Our condolences to their families.

Welcome to new members recently sworn in. 2007 saw an increase of approximately 100 members and an increase in man-hours worked. This indicates a positive change and bodes well for the future. The fate of the IBEW is in the hands of the younger members. A message to the older journeymen: Train the younger generation well, share your experience and help make the future of the IBEW strong.

Tom Griffiths, Pres.

25 Year Club Dinner

L.U. 683 (em&i), COLUMBUS, OH—The local hosted its 49th annual "25 Year Club" dinner dance Sept. 29, 2007, at Villa Milano in Columbus. Those in attendance who received pins for 25 years of service are pictured in the accompanying photo. Also receiving service pins were members with 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, and even 60 years of service. Dennis Nicodemis was chosen as the new president of the 25 Year Club.

Service pins for members with 5, 10, 15 and 20 years of service were presented at regular union meetings.

Congratulations to the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (EWMC), which recently celebrated their first anniversary in our local.

Winter and spring quarter journeyman



Local 683 members receive their 25-year service awards at the 25 Year Club dinner dance. From left, front row, Ed Ball, Terri Thayer, Dennis Nicodemis; back row, Lou Devault, Casey Flanagan, Tom Truelove and Paul Grice.

classes will be available at the apprenticeship school for members to further their education.

We extend condolences to the family of recently deceased member Howard "Sonny" O. McNaghten.

Find out what is going on in your local and make your union work for you: Attend meetings. We wish the Brotherhood a happy and prosperous new year.

Rick Deime, VP/P.S.

JATC Graduation Banquet

L.U. 915 (i&mt), TAMPA, FL—Our JATC Banquet and Completion Ceremony was held in September 2007 and was chaired by Asst. Bus. Mgr./Organizer Bro. Jon Dehmel. We had 23 apprentices graduating to become inside journeyman electricians.

Eight graduates had perfect attendance for their last school year: Donald Babuka, Terry Dykes, Myrle Evans, Jarod Glass, Damion Levy, John McClure, James McCutchan and Jorge Noriega.

Three graduates had perfect attendance throughout their entire apprenticeship: Donald Babuka, Damion Levy, Jorge Noriega. Each received a plaque and \$50.

Congratulations to Outstanding Apprentice Award recipient Karen Hill. This award honors a student who excels in the categories that make up our trade. The JATC recognizes the exceptional attitude, skill and knowledge that propel an apprentice to the top of the class. This outstanding graduate received a plaque and \$500 from the JATC, a plaque from Local 915 and a tool set donated by Klein Tools. Power Net Credit Union gave \$500, an increased amount because the honoree was top of the class every year prior. Karen also received our Brad Felker Memorial Award for leadership, volunteerism and academic achievement.

Congratulations to all our newest inside journeyman wiremen. May you all be prosperous.

Theresa King, P.S.



Local 915 JATC graduating apprentice class of September 2007.

A Career of IBEW Service

L.U. 1049 (lctt,o&u), LONG ISLAND, NY—After 37 years of service Bus. Rep. Robert Porfert has decided to retire. Throughout his career Bob has given the membership his all. Bob also served the local as steward, treasurer, vice president and president. He was an integral part of the Main Negotiating Committee for many contracts. Bob will be sorely missed. On behalf of Bus. Mgr. Bob Shand, fellow officers and members, all best wishes to Bob in his retirement.

Congratulations to Bro. James Shand, Local 1049's newest business representative. Jamie has been an active member and steward for 20 years and is a terrific addition to the staff.

Our local faces many new challenges. In order to best meet some of those challenges, a Communications Committee has been established. The committee is charged with finding ways to better communicate, inform and educate the member-

ship. One of our priorities is updating our Web site. Check us out at www.ibew1049.org. A membership educated on the issues is a stronger membership.

We continue to mourn the loss of Executive Board member Bob Erickson. Bob was an extremely active member, steward and officer, who left us suddenly in September 2007. Our thoughts and prayers are with Bob and his family.

Thomas J. Dowling, R.S.

Tribute to a Founder



Local 1245 founder Ronald T. Weakley (1915-2007).

20th century, a 12-year campaign of struggle to gain a voice for workers at Pacific Gas & Electric. When the union emerged triumphant, Weakley transformed from agitator to architect, negotiating innovative labor agreements benefiting workers.

At age 19, Weakley participated in the great San Francisco General Strike of 1934. After hiring on at PG&E in 1940, he rose to a leadership role in efforts to organize a union under the auspices of the Utility Workers Organizing Committee, then affiliated with the CIO. But Weakley became frustrated by conflict between the UWOC and the IBEW, and the resulting inability of either union to organize the whole of PG&E. Weakley switched allegiance in the late 1940s and convinced thousands to come with him into the IBEW, achieving the unity needed to organize the entire PG&E. Under Weakley's leadership in the 1960s, the local also organized many other employers in northern California.

In 2003 Local 1245 named its new headquarters the Ronald T. Weakley Hall. Weakley's true legacy is the union itself and the strength it gives working people.

Eric Wolfe, P.S.

Recent Retirees

L.U. 1307 (u), SALISBURY, MD—Local 1307 mourns the loss of Bro. Alvin Craig III, who passed away July 3, 2007, after an illness. He was 35. Bro. Craig was a Delmarva Power customer care representative in Salisbury. Our condolences to his family.

On a brighter note, Local 1307 congratulates five recent retirees: Isaac Ballard, Cecil Ashby, Charles Webster, Marvin Brown and Gary Esham. Bro. Ballard began work at Delmarva Power in 1991, as a mechanics helper. He retired as a hydraulic equipment technician in May 2007.

Bro. Ashby began as a meter reader at Delmarva Power in 1971. He became a journeyman tree trimmer and later worked on the underground crew. He retired May 1, 2007.

Bro. Webster began at Delmarva Power as an apprentice lineman in 1970. He became a journeyman, lead lineman and retired from a trouble service job May 1, 2007.

Bro. Brown started at Delmarva Power as a laborer in 1967. He moved to Stores, advanced to utilityman and retired as a meter technician June 1, 2007.

L.U. 1245 (catv,em, govt,lctt,o,pet,t&u), VACAVILLE, CA—Ronald T. Weakley, founder of our local and business manager from 1951 to 1971, died Oct. 11, 2007, in Hawaii. He was 92. Weakley's passion and ingenuity fired one of the great union organizing drives of the



Shown at recent meeting, from left: IBEW Local 1501 Bus. Mgr. and Hartford County Councilman Dion F. Guthrie; Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley; Mary Ann Lisanti, Hartford County Council; and Glenn Middleton, Executive Director Council 67, AFSME.

Bro. Esham began at Delmarva Power in 1970 as an engineer's helper. He transferred to Indian River Power Plant, later purchased by NRG Energy. He advanced through the ranks and retired as a power plant controls specialist June 1, 2007.

Edward D. Sparks, F.S.

United Way Award

L.U. 1381 (uow), HICKSVILLE, NY—Since the merger of KeySpan and National Grid, Local 1381 continues to meet with the leadership of the newly merged electric company. These meetings are designed to collaborate on many issues that will arise in the future. Bus. Mgr. Donald J. Daley Jr. has also been meeting with the new CEO of Long Island Power Authority (LIPA). The business manager states the meetings have been productive in laying out the union's concerns of job stability and effective service levels.

The Local 1381 COPE Committee participated in labor walks, phone banks and mailings for endorsed political candidates. Members are sending the message that when it comes to politics, Local 1381 means business.

Local 1381 was named a winner of the United Way's "Best Union Support Award" and was honored at an awards gala in November 2007. Last year, KeySpan employees contributed over \$1 million to various causes across Long Island. Thank you to all our generous members for making a difference in the lives of so many less fortunate people in our community.

Catherine Malinowski, P.S.

'Blue Hat' Safety Program

L.U. 1439 (u), ST. LOUIS, MO—With great sadness we announce the passing of a brother, mentor and friend. Ed Bealler finished his work on earth Aug. 14, 2007, and was called home. We mourn his passing, but also are grateful for the legacy he passed on. Ed always treated people the way he wanted to be treated and, though a leader, he was a servant at heart. Ed was a lineman for many years and a supervisor as well.

Local 1439 reached agreement with Ameren/UE, an investor owned utility, to establish what is known as the "Blue Hat" safety program. Two journeyman linemen travel our jurisdiction, observing work groups to ensure that everyone follows all safety rules and safe work practices. This is a confidential program. No discipline is involved and no fear that a discussion involving a serious near-miss will result in discipline. This program, wherein the bargaining unit takes a serious role in enforcing safety, has been a tremendous success since its inception one year ago. For more information about the program, call the Local 1439 office at (314) 644-6111.

Ken Carroll, P.S.

A Boost for Labor

L.U. 1501 (ees,em,mo,pet,rts&t), BALTIMORE, MD—Shown in the accompanying photo are Local 1501 Bus. Mgr. Dion F. Guthrie, Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley and other officials attending a recent meeting on legislative matters affecting union working people.

Last fall, Gov. O'Malley called a special session of the Legislature to address the state budget shortfall. Heading the agenda was a controversial proposal to legalize slot machine gambling. For our members at Amtote, this issue is of utmost importance; slots at racetracks would give the horse racing industry in Maryland a needed boost, as it would make the purses comparable to those in neighboring states that already have slot gambling. The governor's proposal also called for slot machines in locations outside racetracks. At this writing, the issue was still being debated.

[Editor's Note: In November 2007 the Maryland General Assembly approved slot machine legislation. Consequently, a constitutional amendment allowing slots will go on the ballot this year. Maryland voters will decide in November 2008 whether to allow up to 15,000 slot machines at five locations around the state.]

Congratulations to Bus. Mgr. Guthrie on his appointment as president of the Baltimore Port Council of AFL-CIO Unions.

Thomas Rostkowski, R.S.

Westar Negotiation Time

L.U. 1523 (u), WICHITA, KS—As the new year begins, we will start thinking about proposals for our Westar Energy contract negotiations. The contract expires June 30, 2008. Negotiations will be here sooner than we think. The process is a long one and we want to know what's important to the membership and their departments.

Members may submit proposals for negotiations to their union steward or mail them to the union hall. Proposal writing doesn't have to be in perfect form, just describe your suggestions for contract proposals that would better our union. We as the body need to stay involved and know what is in our contract. Changes are always taking place at Local 1523. You may think these changes won't affect you but they will—because it's your union. At his writing there is discussion of possibly holding a meeting to go over contract proposals.

A Customer Service Rep (CSR) meeting is scheduled for Jan. 25 in Phoenix. We will send two representatives this year. Attendance has been good at our general meetings.

Candy C. Cruz-Dodd, P.S.

LOCAL LINES continued on page 16



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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

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We welcome letters from our readers. The writer should include his or her name, address and, if applicable, IBEW local union number and card number. Family members should include the local union number of the IBEW member to whom *The Electrical Worker* is mailed. Please keep letters as brief as possible. *The Electrical Worker* reserves the right to select letters for publication and edit all submissions for length.

Send letters to:

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FROM THE OFFICERS

Moving Up



Edwin D. Hill
International President

After 116 years of IBEW history, we have reached an all-time high in the number of IBEW members employed in the construction industry. Think about it—this number didn't happen during any of the boom cycles of the 20th century. We achieved it during a difficult period in the history of the Brotherhood and of organized labor.

Everyone who had a hand in our reaching this number should be proud, because we have truly made history. Not even in the glory days of the post-World War II period when we controlled a dominant share of the work in electrical construction did we send as many brothers and sisters out to work as we are doing now. This is a tribute to the hard work, creativity, determination and the unwillingness to accept failure that has marked the behavior of our local union leaders and organizers. Our numbers also reflect the dedication

of rank and file members who have listened to the call to be the best and enhanced their status as the finest electrical construction work force in North America and the world.

There are still some hard realities to face. The size of the market for construction has grown so much over the past two decades that even this number does not translate into market dominance. We still hover around the 40 percent mark—much worse in some areas—which is not acceptable in the long run. And the retirement of the baby boom generation has just begun and threatens to deplete our ranks in the next five to 10 years, which could hamper our ability to capture more work.

Challenges, however, don't detract from achievement. This is proof that we are on the right track and that we can grow even in times when political and social forces are against us. If we keep it up and never let our efforts flag, then we can continue to grow and prosper in all corners of this continent and in all branches of our Brotherhood—because we won't rest until the growth spreads to utilities, telecommunications, manufacturing, railroads, broadcasting and government.

We enter 2008 on the march. And the drumbeat is about to get faster. ■

Time to Take Our Board Back

The National Labor Relations Board was created in 1935 as part of the sweeping reforms championed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in the midst of the Great Depression. Part of a landmark bill spelling out labor rights in the United States, the board was intended to protect the constitutional right of freedom of association in the workplace.

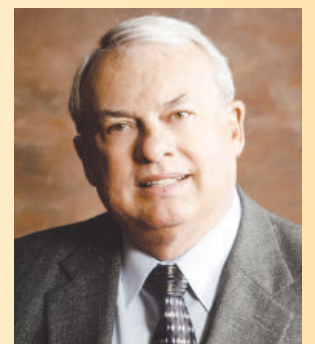
Seventy-two years later, the board has been hijacked by those whose philosophy is directly opposed to that of FDR and the progressive leaders of that era.

Last September alone, in what the labor movement is calling the September massacre, the NLRB issued more than 60 decisions that make it harder to form a union and easier for employers to discriminate against union members.

This isn't the first time the board has issued rulings that are intended to weaken the labor movement. Stacked with Bush appointees, the NLRB has become a mouthpiece for anti-union political forces and a gross mockery of what Roosevelt envisioned when he signed the National Labor Relations Act into law.

Knowing the disproportionate amount of power wielded by corporate America, Roosevelt and the sponsors of the National Labor Relations Act intended the board to safeguard the legal right to organize and collectively bargain to preserve fair and peaceful labor relations. He certainly didn't plan for it to become a legal cover for old-fashioned union-busting.

We have a chance in 2008 to make the board an upholder of the law if we can send a leader to the White House who knows the purpose of the NLRB is to uphold, not undermine, workers' rights. Roosevelt didn't create the NLRB to be another platform for big business; it was meant to represent workers. It's time to restore his vision and take our board back. ■



Jon F. Walters
International Secretary-Treasurer

Letters to the Editor

Buy American

We need to wake up, pull up our bootstraps and take this country back. We have the collective power to accomplish this, yet we just trod along. I went to purchase a Stanley thermos, the one like we all use. On the box, it states "An American tradition," yet it's made in China. I will find an American-made one at a yard sale before I buy one from China.

Now more than ever, we all need to make a concerted effort to BUY AMERICAN. Take time to write these companies, I do it all the time. If we do not bring a manufacturing base back to this country, we will slowly be taken over from the inside. We have allowed crooked politicians and greedy stockholders to sell off our country and livelihood one company at a time. We have all been affected by this, let's all get mad and take it back. BUY AMERICAN!!

*Robert H. Wolfgang
Local 143 member, Harrisburg, Pa.*

Supporting Our President

Though I highly doubt this note will be published, I feel I must express myself as a 30-year member. Each month there is a negative onslaught on our president and his policies. I do not disagree with most of the opinions. I do however disagree with the I.O.'s suggestion we each should adhere to the suggestions it sends to us.

My family, from the earliest member of Local 60, to the present day, where my father, myself, two brothers, a cousin and a brother-in-law participate in the local's ideals and activities, wants a fair and accurate assessment of the current political scene.

The IBEW should put full support behind the decisions made by OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS. How about recognition of the president whose country was attacked, versus continual criticism? I consider myself to be a staunch supporter of the IBEW and what it stands for. I do not, however, allow your opinions to be mine.

*Guy Katz
Local 60 member, San Antonio, Texas*

Trust but Verify

As a retired member of Kansas City, Mo., Local 1832, I commend the union's public support of the SAVE Act. [The Secure America with Verification and Enforcement Act is a proposal that would require every employer in the United States to verify their employees' Social Security numbers.] For too long, unions in general have been viewed as sympathetically supporting and enrolling illegal aliens. There is nothing charitable or honorable when corruption and the greed of expanding membership at any cost take precedence over the welfare of legal workers and the nation. Kudos to the IBEW for its stand. I am truly proud of MY UNION!

*Robert R. Urban
Local 1832 retiree, Kansas City, Mo.*

Health Care Woes

Brother Daniel Capozzi's comments on Bush's veto of health coverage shows how uninformed he is. I can barely afford health coverage for myself. I don't want to pay for a family of four with an income of \$72,000. Republicans and Democrats recognized this was a bad bill.

There is a reason why Congress's approval rating is well below the president's.

*Barbara Dyer
Local 1245 retiree, Vacaville, Calif.*

A Bright Future

I admit I was skeptical for a portion of the year, but through all of our brothers' and sisters' tireless hard work, safe work practices, superior training and workmanship, I see our potential for growth becoming brighter every day, and our relations with our current employers stronger than ever.

*Travis Grime
Local 8 member, Toledo, Ohio*

Who We Are

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

A Day on the Job: Wiring Iowa's Green Skyscrapers

On any given day in rural northern Iowa, teams of inside wiremen drive to remote and blustery cornfields, take to a lonely ladder inside the tallest structures within miles and start climbing. And climbing and climbing.

When they descend from their perches atop the 300-foot industrial turbines, the modern day windmills are set to start spinning to collect their 1.5-megawatts, wired to the grid by the outside linemen working on the ground.

It is not a typical workplace for the inside electricians, but wind and other renewable sources are becoming increasingly important work for the construction branch, said IBEW Construction and Maintenance Department Director Jerry Westerholm. "There is definitely a momentum on Capitol Hill for green technologies," Westerholm said.

"It's an astronomic amount of work," said Des Moines, Iowa, Local 347 Business Manager Gerry Granberg, who has been on the front lines of the wind turbine's transition from an oddity on America's landscape to another day at the office for thousands of IBEW members.

Henkels and McCoy is bidding on wind projects in Texas and Canada and all over the United States, said General Foreman Michael Brummitt, a Decatur, Ill., Local 146 member, who along with approximately 40 wiremen from Des Moines and travelers from across the country, helped finish the Pomeroy Wind Farm in early December. "These are being bid and built everywhere."

Brummitt's crews performed top to bottom electrical wiring for the windmills, from the control wiring at the hub of the turbine to the transformer at the bottom, lugging cable and making connections throughout. Massive structures, each GE 1.5 megawatt model like those at the Pomeroy project weighs a total of 164 tons.

In a day that ranges from six to 12 hours, each electrician has a specific task at different points on the tower. Usually only one has to make the climb all the way to the top of the steel



Des Moines, Iowa, Local 347 members Tyler Knoll, left, Ron Cook and Brian Vinke wire a wind turbine hub in Carroll.

structure, which is anchored on platforms of more than 1,000 tons of cement and steel rebar. The others are stationed at various stages, tying together heavy diesel locomotive cables for electricity and fiber optic cable for communications.

"It's not really technical, it's just what we do as wiremen," Brummitt said.

The wiremen work with a ladder and cable system, climbing a straight ladder with a cable attached to a front harness. In all, the job of hooking up a windmill takes about a day and a half, Brummitt said. Safety is a priority and Brummitt said in two years of wind installation, he has never had an accident or even a close call.

Before the inside wiring can start, outside linemen do the underground and substation work.

For the Pomeroy project, around 40 outside members laid in approximately 60 miles of trench line, equaling 180 miles of 35-kilovolt cable to hook up the towers to the grid. They completed 160 high voltage underground cable splices and 950 high voltage cable terminations. They installed the underground collection system, the tie-in at the substations and connected transformers at each of the 132 towers to the system. They also oversaw the high voltage cable tests and energized the wind farm.

The work is good and steady, albeit unexciting in the rural Midwest, said General Foreman Doug Roche, Toronto Local 353. "It's flat and 90 percent corn," he said. "That's it." ■

Get Connected

If you would like to receive your Electrical Worker via e-mail instead of in your mailbox, contact us at publications@ibew.org. Give us your name, IBEW local union number, card number and e-mail address and we will send you the link to access *The Electrical Worker* electronically.

Spotlight on Safety

Employers Must Pay for Protective Equipment, OSHA Says

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration has ruled that employers must pay for personal protective equipment, finally clarifying a 12-year-old law that said employers must provide such equipment.

Published on Nov. 15, the rule affects occupational safety and health standards in virtually every branch of the IBEW, including construction, utilities, broadcasting, manufacturing and telecommunications, as well as shipyard employment, marine terminals, general industry and longshoring. It will go into effect Feb. 15, and must be implemented within six months.

"This is a long time coming," said IBEW Safety and Health Department Director Jim Tomaseski.

Some labor groups are disappointed that the rule doesn't go far enough to cover prescription eyewear and steel-toe boots, which OSHA decided were "personal in nature."

Employers will now have to pay for work gloves, for instance. Until now, about half of employers did so, Tomaseski said. Fall protection equipment, including pole climbing gear, is specifically mentioned in the rule as equipment that shall be purchased by the employer.

The National Electrical Contractors Association argued that OSHA should exclude items that fall under the National Fire Protection Agency 70E voluntary standard for flame resistant clothing. OSHA decided that protective clothing is not yet required under its standards, but it would be covered under this rule if it were.

In cases where collective bargaining agreements contain provisions that some protective equipment will be paid by the employee, OSHA is allowing a six-month compliance deadline for those issues to be corrected.

When equipment is shared and chances for disease transmission increase, the rule says it must be sanitized before being passed along to another employee. Also, because an employee could expose family members to hazardous substances when taking home protective equipment, the employer must take every effort to limit the spread of chemical contaminants.

Certain types of everyday work clothing and weather-related clothing are also exceptions.

For a link to the Federal Register where the rule is printed, click on the Safety and Health Department section of the IBEW Web site at www.ibew.org.

Local Lines

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Shop Steward Conference

L.U. 1547 (c,em,i,o,t&u), ANCHORAGE, AK—More than 175 shop stewards attended the Local 1547 Shop Steward Conference in Anchorage. Participants received instruction on the duty of fair representation, the nuts and bolts of labor law, job safety, personal finance and the importance of unionism. AFL-CIO Organizing Dir. Stewart Acuff gave a dynamic keynote presentation. The conference concluded with an awards dinner. Honorees included: the Alaska Chapter of NECA - Outstanding Employer Organization of the Year; Matanuska Telephone Association employees - Volunteer Group of the Year; Erika Kelly - Organizing Volunteer of the Year; Anna Wiggins - Volunteer of the Year; Mark Ewing - Political Volunteer of the Year; Bobby Taylor - Rookie Shop Steward of the Year; and Kathy Liegl - Shop Steward of the Year.

Bus. Rep. Jack Beemer is retiring. A power lineman for 36 years, he worked at the hall for more than seven years. Enjoy your retirement, Bro. Beemer, and we will see you on the river.

Bus. Mgr. Larry Bell received a "Top 40 Under 40" award from the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce. The "Top 40 Under 40" program recognizes Alaska's young business leaders who demonstrate professional excellence and a commitment to their community. Congratulations, Bro. Bell.

Melinda Taylor, P.S.



Local 1547 staff members Vicki Van Fleet (left), Ginger Hayter, Dan Repasky and Rose Todd discuss dispatch issues at the 2007 IBEW Shop Steward Training Conference in Anchorage, AK.

Union Celebration

L.U. 1579 (i&o), AUGUSTA, GA—The annual Labor Day barbecue held at the lake property last year was a huge success. Over 600 members and their families turned out for food and fellowship. There is no better way to celebrate Labor Day than with your IBEW family.

Please remember union meetings held the third Monday of each month. Dinner and fellowship starts at 6:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 8 p.m. Attending union meetings gives us all the opportunity to get informed and voice our opinions.

Visit our Web site at www.ibew1579.org. You will see many new announcements and a list of available jobs. Until next time, God bless.

Will Salters, A.B.M.



Local 2325 Executive Board members attend IBEW Second District Progress Meeting.

50th Anniversary

L.U. 1999 (em), MANKATO, MN—In celebration of Local 1999's 50th anniversary of our charter signing, we welcomed back one of the original members who signed the charter, Bro. John Olson, as guest of honor at our September 2007 general membership meeting (see photo). Local 1999 was chartered in October 1957.

Phil Fjeldberg, Exec. Board Mbr.



Local 1999 Pres. Brad Bindig (left) and Vice Pres. Pat Keenan (center) welcome charter member John Olson.

Mobilization Seminar

L.U. 2321 (t), MIDDLETON, MA—Local 2321 held its "Stewards Army Mobilization" seminar and over 75 stewards and front-line members participated. Bus. Mgr. Ed Starr opened the meeting with a stewards update and a call for the assembled "army" to support the stewards and the local in our fight against Verizon. Local 2321 organizer and member Christian Parzych conducted the stewards "army" training. At intermission, Massachusetts AFL-CIO Pres. Robert Haynes stopped by to thank the Local 2321 membership and officers for our strong support as active members of the Massachusetts labor movement. Newly appointed Massachusetts Director of Labor George Noel, former business manager of IBEW's Waltham, MA, Local 1505, also addressed the members. Bro. Noel thanked the local's leadership and many volunteers for being proactive in the Commonwealth's labor and political activities.

In addition, I thank IBEW Local 2321 Pres. John Kelly, who serves as Merrimack Valley CLC COPE chairman, for his mobilization efforts in the

get out the vote drive to elect Nikki Tsongas to the U.S. Congress. Rep. Tsongas won the recent special election to represent the 5th Congressional District.

Ed Starr, B.M./F.S.

2007 Progress Meeting

L.U. 2325 (t), WORCESTER, MA—Bus. Mgr. Dave Keating and the Local 2325 Executive Board attended the IBEW Second District Progress Meeting in Portland, Maine, this past October. The meeting featured updates on activities happening throughout the Second District presented by Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill, Int. Sec.-Treas. Jon F. Walters, Int. Vice Pres. Frank J. Carroll, and IEC member Myles Calvey. Important topics included organizing, COPE and technological changes. The Local 2325 COPE committee proudly presented a \$1,000 check to the International COPE fund.

The second annual Local 2325 Softball Tournament was a great success. Twelve teams from throughout the local competed in the all-day event. Congratulations to the Worcester "C" Team on their tournament championship!

Local 2325 reminds every member to take the time to work safely during the winter season. Exercise caution when driving in winter conditions, avoid prolonged exposure to the cold and be aware of the early onset of darkness. On the job safety is your responsibility, and your family wants you home tonight.

Paul Mark, P.S.

Loss Mourned

SYSTEM COUNCIL U-7, JOHNSON CITY, NY—Scott Fiacco passed away on June 6, 2007, after a battle with cancer. He was president of IBEW Local 1143, Chatham, NY, and a delegate to Utility System Council U-7. Scott was a lineman, a job he loved. He also loved time spent with his family, especially time at Sacandaga Lake, NY, where the entire family has camps. Scott served as union officer with pleasure, representing his union brothers and sisters. Survivors include his wife, April, and children Michael and Tara.

Don Tuttel, P.S.



Local 1579 Bus. Mgr. Ken Ward at the 2007 Labor Day barbecue.