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Who We Are

IBEW, Utility Industry Meet in the Middle

A new national alliance between the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and an association of investor-owned and public utilities is bringing labor and management together to confront industry challenges.

More than 200 union and industry leaders came to Washington, D.C., June 27 to found the National Labor Management and Public Affairs Committee. There have been regional LAMPACs for years—the first was formed in 1959—but this is the first effort to establish a nationwide labor-management committee in the utility industry.

“The time is right for a new, cooperative relationship between labor and management in the utility industry,” International President Edwin D. Hill said at the meeting. “We have much more to gain by working in partnership than we do by getting mired in adversarial battles that benefit no one in the long term.” The IBEW represents approximately 220,000 utility workers.

One of the group’s top priorities is to help craft new environmentally friendly energy policies that can create new jobs. “It’s in both sides’ interest to come together on the legislative level to confront the issue,” said Utility Department Director Jim Hunter.

In 2007, the IBEW and an IBEW-represented utility, American Electric Power,



Utility members will benefit from a new national labor-management committee, National LAMPAC, founded in June.

teamed up to promote an idea that uses trade as an incentive for newly industrialized countries to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, a plan that could serve as a model for future green legislation.

“With concern over energy prices and their impact on the environment at an all-time high, we must speak with a strong voice—and one that is united as possible—on national affairs,” Hill said.

Edison Electric Institute President Thomas R. Kuhn also addressed the June gathering. “When people look back 30 years from now, they can say the change we needed started today,” he said. EEI is an association of shareholder-owned electric companies.

Another issue the group will address is the skilled labor shortage. “Training and recruitment was ignored for too long thanks to deregulation and we need to play catch-up,” Hunter said.

The IBEW has already entered into agreements with local utilities from Seattle to Detroit to establish regional training centers. In May, a nationwide program to build training centers was solidified with the creation of a Taft-Hartley trust, jointly administered by the IBEW and signatory utility companies.

The lead the IBEW has taken on training and recruitment and its adoption of a utility code of excellence has shown that it is in the industry’s best interest to build a relationship, Hunter said.

Also addressing the meeting was Rep. Rick Boucher (D-Va.), chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Energy and Air Quality Subcommittee, which is writing the nation’s first mandatory greenhouse gas control measure.

“We are determined to get our energy policy right, but we need your help so we are not stuck with the false choice of jobs or the environment,” Boucher said.

One of the meeting’s highlights was the presentation of three American flags that were flown over the Capitol building in honor of LAMPAC’s founding to President Hill, Kuhn and Mark Crisson, president and chief executive officer of the American Public Power Association.

The national group will be governed by a steering committee made up of one appointee from the EEI, two from investor-owned utilities and three from the IBEW. ■

Renewed Organizing Push Increases IBEW Membership

The last eight years have been tough on the labor movement. A weak economy, an unfriendly president, a National Labor Relations Board in the hands of a hostile majority and an aggressively anti-union spirit among many employers have not made organizing easy.

But despite the many obstacles, the IBEW has reversed the trend in declining membership to see steady growth in nearly every branch of the Brotherhood since it launched its ambitious membership development plan in 2006.

"A" membership, largely in construction, broke new records in November 2007 and has continued to increase each month since (See "Standout Locals Organize Record Number of Members," *Electrical Worker*, July 2008). Additionally, "BA" membership reversed a declining trend, creating increases in overall membership. After dipping below 700,000 total active members only one year ago, the IBEW has increased its number to nearly 710,000, with total membership rising for 15 of the previous 17 months.

"The combined efforts of local and district officers, organizers from the International Office and the commitment of rank-and-file members to organizing have really turned things around," said Buddy Satterfield, Special Assistant to the International President for Membership Development. "Thanks to the strong backing of International President Edwin D. Hill and the International Vice Presidents, our long efforts are finally beginning to bear fruit."

Philadelphia Local 614, one of the fastest growing locals in the union, picked up more than 1,000 new members in the last year thanks to an aggressive organizing effort at the utility PECO. The campaign finally came to fruition last spring with the ratification of the first contracts in May 2007 for the call center and energy delivery units.

What's the local's recipe for success? Consistency and patience, Local 614 Business Manager John Brown said. "It took 25 months of negotiating to get our first contracts and we wouldn't have achieved that if the negotiating committee didn't give 100 percent to the effort and if we didn't have the support of all of our employees the entire time," Brown said.

A strong internal organizing drive by Laurel, Miss., Local 1317 has netted more than 200 members in the last year. The local, which represents manufacturing workers at Howard Industries, Inc., operates in the right-to-work South, meaning they have to continually recruit new members from the shop floor.

But by educating employees about their rights and illustrating the benefits that come from being a union member, the local has been recruiting on a regular basis, said Local 1317 Business Manager Clarence Larkin. "It's



Newly organized TXU members hammer out a first contract.

a constant process to keep the union alive and growing," he said. Organizer Maria Gonzales has also helped the local in reaching out to the increasing number of Latino workers at the plant.

Dallas Local 69 recruited 380 new members after a successful organizing drive at TXU—Texas' largest utility—was solidified with the signing of its first contract this spring, nearly two years after employees voted for union representation.

The campaign started when the company threatened to subcontract more than 500 jobs and reduce their benefits. "It was a wake-up call that got the employees moving," said Local 69 President Scott Smith.

A joint team of local, district and International representatives led the intensive grassroots mobilization that covered nearly the entire state. "Timing is everything in organizing and this was one of those opportunities to go for it," Smith said.

Troops Endangered by Shoddy Electrical Work

Following 13 deaths of Americans due to electrocution, the Pentagon in June ordered electrical inspections of all military facilities in Iraq maintained by KBR, Inc., a contractor that has received billions from the government to house and feed American troops there and in Afghanistan.

Several of the deaths and other electrical accidents occurred in showers and swimming pools at U.S. barracks maintained by KBR, angering many who say duty in a war zone is dangerous enough.

"Whoever is responsible for this needs to be held accountable," said Kansas City, Mo., Local 53 member Marijane Green, whose two sons are active duty Marines. "I'm very concerned that we are sending troops over there under these circumstances."

Green, a clerk at the Kansas City Board of Public Utilities, said one son recently returned from Iraq and the other will be likely be deployed there in early 2009. She said she has written to local lawmakers and members of Congress.

"Our troops have to deal with IEDs and rifle fire," Green said. "They shouldn't have to also worry about taking a shower or going swimming. It's unbelievable."

One of the most recent accidents caused the death of Green Beret and Staff Sgt. Ryan Maseth. The 24-year-old Pittsburgh native was electrocuted in January while taking a shower at his base, a former palace compound near



Kansas City, Mo., Local 53 member Marijane Green has two sons who are active duty Marines.

the Baghdad airport. He died due to faulty grounding, though his family was initially told that Maseth brought an electrical appliance with him into the showers. Maseth's family has since filed a wrongful death suit against KBR.

The New York Times reported in May that American electricians working for KBR consistently stressed to management that poorly trained and underpaid employees were producing unsafe work. One KBR worker said in his

Only a half an hour away from the Local 69 union hall is one of the IBEW's newest and fastest-growing locals. Arlington Local 220 was chartered in January to represent more than 580 manufacturing and utility workers and outside linemen.

Already more than 300 workers are ready to join Local 220, thanks to a targeted internal organizing drive at different work sites. The new local's strategy for growth is "carefully identifying the issues that are important to the workers you are trying to organize," said Seventh District International Representative George Crawford. "Don't make pie in the sky promises, but do talk about how the union will stick by you through thick and thin."

Other standout locals that have contributed to the IBEW's growth include East Windsor, N.J., Local 827, which organized nearly 600 new members; Downers Grove, Ill., Local 21, which organized more than 400 members; and Honolulu Local 1186, which organized more than 300 new workers. ■

2005 resignation letter that the electrical infrastructure was "a disaster waiting to happen."

St. Louis Local 1 member Joe Clarkson, serving with the 245th Army Maintenance Support Company, was stationed in Iraq in 2005. KBR electricians installed the wiring in his barracks without the use of wire nuts to hold the cables together. Instead, they twisted the wires and put tape on them.

"There was no quality control, and the workers were completely exploited," he said. "It's no wonder there have been accidents and fatalities."

U.S. Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Calif.) began pressing Defense Secretary Robert Gates in March for details regarding the accidental electrocution of U.S. troops over the last five years in Iraq. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee also heard testimony in April from Gen. David Petraeus, the American commander in Iraq, about conditions at many U.S. bases. But inspections of KBR-run facilities only began after Petraeus supplied Congress with additional information in late June about the most recent casualty.

Formerly named Kellogg, Brown & Root, KBR is an anti-union corporation that is among a few companies awarded no-bid contracts by the Bush administration immediately following the Iraq invasion. The former subsidiary of Halliburton (of which Vice President Dick Cheney was once CEO) is one of many corporations tasked with rebuilding in Iraq. ■

High Ratings for IBEW at Nielsen Media in New York

Managers at Nielsen Media in the New York metropolitan area and New Jersey had already defeated two union campaigns by technicians who install the devices that track television viewer preferences for the renowned Nielsen ratings. When IBEW organizers began a third campaign in February, the company looked for some new tactics.

Managers at the highly-profitable global enterprise set up an outing for their crews to attend a Mets game. But the bosses found out that it's not so easy to duck the union. Members of New York Local 3 posted a scoreboard message reading, "The Mets Welcome Nielsen Techs and Local 164 IBEW," the local union organizing the technicians. The company managers were fuming, but their workers were getting a taste of the widespread influence of the IBEW.

In June, the Nielsen work force voted 14 to 6 in favor of union representation by Jersey City, N.J., Local 164. Lead Organizer Marc Aisen worked with Region 1 Coordinator Steve Rockafellow and Local 164 Organizer Steve Clay on the campaign.

Wage rates for the trained electronic technicians are dependent upon the number of reports received from the TV units they install. They were upset with stagnating pay due to conditions out of their control, like malfunc-



Technicians at Nielsen Media meet after voting for representation by Jersey City, N.J., Local 164.

tioning equipment or participants who are paid by Nielsen, but don't use the devices properly.

Despite the workers' concerns, the organizing campaign stalled after a majority of workers had signed cards.

Aisen told leaders of the committee that he was thinking of closing down the campaign. "They stepped up and rose to the occasion."

E-mail communications among the technicians were a key to the organizing win.

One technician wrote, "I believe our team in N.Y. is by far some of the best, most professional people I've ever worked with. We look out for each other. And as a union

we will be even tighter than we are now."

Nielsen tried several tactics in its effort to defeat the campaign, including bringing some previously-transferred technicians back to New York to vote against the union.

Organizers said that the company also tried to divide the workers along racial and ethnic lines. Both tactics failed, but Nielsen has nevertheless challenged the union's win at the National Labor Relations Board.

Organizers are confident that the union is in Nielsen's New York jurisdiction to stay. And the word is out that technicians at other Nielsen locations are paying close attention. ■

Outside Line Safety Partnership Having Impact

Outside linemen, the men and women who set poles, string line and repair transmission and distribution equipment, have traditionally held one of the most dangerous jobs in the country. The hazards that come from working in the industry are many: fatal electrocutions, burns and high falls, just to name a few. More than 600 line workers have been killed or injured on the job in the last decade alone.

While danger is nothing new for linemen, both the IBEW—which represents nearly 20,000 outside line workers—and many employers found the number of fatalities and injuries in the industry too high.

"A lot of members said they didn't want have to go to another funeral and neither did their managers," said IBEW Safety Department Director Jim Tomaseski.

So four years ago the IBEW, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and some of the leading power line contractors, along with NECA and the Edison Electric Institute, an association of utilities, formed a unique alliance to reduce the number of deaths and injuries plaguing the industry.

The OSHA Transmission and Distribution Partnership, thanks to its emphasis on joint labor-management collaboration and safety education, has reduced accidents at the participating companies by nearly half, with 2008 expected to see the largest drop yet.

By studying industry fatality and injury data to discover the most common causes of accidents, a team of partnership representatives recommends new work rules and procedures. The practices—which in many cases go above OSHA-mandated safety rules—are adopted by each of the companies as official policy.

"We weren't interested in making changes in just our part of the industry, we wanted see it go nationwide—union and nonunion," Tomaseski said. Already utilities that aren't partner to the alliance have started adopting some of its recommendations.

The partnership has also developed two OSHA-accredited training courses of 10 and 20 hours in length that have been widely given in the participating companies and are available to anyone in the industry.

The alliance will be renewed this September. "We've made a lot of progress, but we're still not done yet," Tomaseski said.

For more information, visit www.powerlinesafety.org. ■

IBEW Launches New Web Site

The IBEW's new Web site at www.ibew.org represents a quantum leap forward in the way the union makes its presence known in cyberspace.

Launched July 3, the enhanced site—complete with next-generation graphics and video news stories—gives members easier access to information about political activities, organizing information and more thorough coverage via the IBEW Now News Blog.

"As technologies change, our upgraded site ensures that the IBEW stays at the forefront of delivering timely, important information to our members, while giving a comprehensive overview of our union to those who potentially are looking to join us," said IBEW International President Edwin D. Hill.

The new Web site will provide a launch pad for other interactive cyberspace events like last spring's State of Our Union message for the



utility branch, which was broadcast live from Hollywood on www.ibew.org. That webcast is still available for viewing on the new site, accessed through the utility branch section.

Visitors may also stay current on union news with The Electrical Worker and The IBEW Journal. Links to the construction branch's video sites Hour Power and Electric TV may be reached from the home page. The

drop-down menus at the top of the home page lead to other helpful links, such as International Office departments, the Council on Industrial Relations, IBEW pension plans and related labor sites.

For grassroots mobilizing, the Membership Development Library is an ever-evolving, one-stop shop for organizers. Found in the Local Connections section, the library provides members with the tools for efficient activism, including general campaign materials, ready-to-print handbills and material from last year's Membership Development Conference.

The refined design yields easy access to tools like the local union directory and a searchable database for available jobs in the U.S. and Canada. Travelers can change their addresses online; future site upgrades will allow members to process pension applications and change beneficiary forms online.

The site's ramped-up video content will feature at least three stories at a time showcasing IBEW members and activists, projects and events, union history and organizing highlights. ■



North of 49°

Right-Wing Provincial Governments Target Unions

Right-wing governments in Canada's western provinces are intensifying legislative assaults on organized labour, and there is concern that the anti-labour agenda could migrate east.

"Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia are setting up a model that will end up pushing working standards to their lowest common denominator for all of Canada if labour doesn't stop it," said First District Vice President Phil Flemming.

Alberta Premier Edward Stelmach didn't wait long after his re-election to do a favor for his friends in the nonunion construction industry. In June, his Progressive Conservative government passed Bill 26, known as the Labour Relations Amendment Act, whose provisions are aimed directly at the building trades.

The bill effectively bans salting by making it illegal for anyone to take part in a union election who hasn't been employed for at least 30 days before the vote. The new rules also give employers a 90-day window to pressure workers into giving up their union after a vote.

Gerry Donnelly from the Alberta Building Trades Council of Unions said "they've pretty much shut down organizing in the trade by this."

A second section of the bill prevents Market Enhancement Recovery Funds,

which are union-run funds that help signatory contractors compete with nonunion ones, from using employer contributions.

This isn't the first time Alberta's government has clashed with the labour movement. In 2007 it was widely criticized for entering into a free trade agreement—the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement—with British Columbia without a vote in the legislature or consultation with voters. TILMA gives corporations and individuals the right to sue provincial governments and their official agencies over any regulation, public policy or law deemed harmful to investment.

Next door in Saskatchewan, the right-wing government of Premier Brad Wall—elected in November 2007—introduced two anti-union pieces of legislation, Bills 5 and 6, in May as part of its effort to weaken the voice of organized labour.

Bill 5 takes away the right to strike for thousands of public sector workers while Bill 6 amends the provincial Trade Union Act to give more power to employers to interfere in union activities and hold up union organizing drives.

In British Columbia, the government of Gordon Campbell has undermined workers' rights since it came into power in 2001.

Now Campbell is trying to push Bill 42—the Election Amendment Act—through the



Credit: Joshua Berson

Trade unionists in British Columbia protest Premier Gordon Campbell's anti-labour policies.

legislature, which would tie the hands of organized labour in the next election. The law would place spending limits on advertising by public advocacy groups, while increasing spending allowed to political parties—a move that will greatly enhance the power of the ruling Liberals.

At the First District's progress meeting in late August, building a grassroots political mobilization of IBEW members will be one of the top priorities. "What's going on out West is a wake up call for us," Flemming said.

To read a longer version of this article, visit www.ibew1st.org.



Au nord du 49° parallèle

Les gouvernements provinciaux de la droite ciblent les syndicats

Les gouvernements de la droite des provinces de l'Ouest du Canada intensifient attaques législatives contre le mouvement syndical, semant l'inquiétude à travers le pays, alors qu'on craint que l'agenda anti-syndicaliste qui pourrait éventuellement se répandre à l'est du pays.

"L'Alberta, la Saskatchewan et la Colombie-Britannique veulent dresser un modèle qui viserait à réduire les normes de travail au plus bas dénominateur commun pour l'ensemble du Canada; il faut donc que les syndicats y mettent un terme" déclare Phil Flemming, Vice-président international du Premier District.

Aussitôt réélu, le Premier Ministre de l'Alberta, M. Edward Stelmach, s'est empressé de faire plaisir à ses amis de l'industrie de la construction non-syndiquée. Le gouvernement progressiste conservateur a adopté au mois de juin, le Projet de loi 126, Loi modifiant la loi sur les relations de travail dont les dispositions visent directement les métiers de la construction.

En fait, le projet de loi rend inefficace

le placement de syndicaliste à l'interne car il rend illégal à quiconque n'ayant pas été à l'emploi de la compagnie pour une période minimale de 30 jours précédant la tenue du vote, de prendre part audit vote pour le choix d'un syndicat. Le nouveau règlement accorde également à l'employeur une période de 90 jours pour tenter de convaincre les travailleurs de laisser tomber leur syndicat après le vote.

"Ils peuvent ainsi empêcher toute syndicalisation dans le métier" souligne Gerry Donnelly du Conseil des métiers de la construction de l'Alberta.

Une deuxième section de cette loi empêche l'utilisation des contributions de l'employeur dans les fonds syndicaux d'amélioration de la part du marché, fonds qui sont administrés par le syndicat et qui servent aux entrepreneurs signataires pour faire concurrence aux entrepreneurs non-syndiqués.

Ce n'est pas la première fois que le gouvernement de l'Alberta défie le mouvement syndical. Il avait beaucoup été critiqué en 2007 après avoir signé l'Accord sur le com-

merce, l'investissement et la mobilité de la main-d'œuvre (ECIMMO) avec la Colombie-Britannique, en contournant la procédure législative normale et sans consultation publique. Cet accord autorise les entreprises et les particuliers à intenter des poursuites contre les gouvernements provinciaux et leurs organismes officiels pour toute réglementation, politique publique ou loi qu'ils considèrent défavorable à l'investissement.

De son côté, le Premier Ministre Brad Wall, du gouvernement de la droite de la Saskatchewan, élu au mois de novembre 2007, a déposé deux projets de loi anti-syndicaux au mois de mai (Projets de loi 5 et 6) afin d'affaiblir le mouvement syndical.

Le projet de loi 5 enlève le droit de grève à des milliers de travailleurs du secteur public tandis que le projet de loi 6 amende la Loi sur les relations de travail de la province en accordant plus de pouvoir aux employeurs pouvant s'ingérer dans les activités du syndicat et arrêter les campagnes de syndicalisation.

Gordon Campbell du gouvernement

libéral en Colombie-Britannique a, pour sa part, continué de miner les droits des travailleurs depuis son entrée au pouvoir en 2001.

Maintenant, Campbell essaie de faire adopter le projet de loi 42—Loi modifiant la loi sur les élections; les syndicats se retrouveraient donc les mains liées lors des prochaines élections. La loi devrait prévoir une limite dans les dépenses pour la publicité diffusée par les groupes de pression publics tout en accordant une augmentation des dépenses pour les partis politiques, une mesure qui augmenterait considérablement le pouvoir contrôlant des libéraux.

Lors de la prochaine Conférence canadienne du Premier District qui se tiendra à la fin du mois d'août, une de nos principales priorités sera d'organiser une action au niveau local pour une mobilisation politique des membres de la FIOE. "Ce qui se passe dans l'Ouest du pays devrait sonner l'alarme chez nous" poursuit M. Flemming.

Pour lire une plus longue version de cet article, visitez www.ibew1st.org.

Circuits

Alaska Local Hosts Wellstone Grassroots Campaign School

Members of Anchorage, Alaska, Local 1547, are gearing up for the 2008 elections with some powerful lessons learned in May, when the local sponsored a grassroots campaign school conducted by Wellstone Action, a non-profit organization set up to honor the memory of former Minnesota Sen. Paul Wellstone, who was killed with his wife and daughter in a 2002 plane crash.

"Our local has quite a bit of experience in political campaigns, but it always helps to learn something new," says Melinda Taylor, communications director. The two-day school, attended by several Local 1547 members, included sessions on developing effective messages and improving persuasive skills, conducting member-to-member efforts and dealing with the press.

Bill Wielechowski, Local 1547's associate general counsel and a state senator, attended the campaign school. He says that he appreciated the chance to "meet with other labor people, learn new techniques and get excited about political change."

The training, delivered by accomplished activists, was down-to-earth, says Taylor, in the tradition of Wellstone, who was "plain-spoken and didn't run away from who he was."

In addition to its labor program, Wellstone Action, founded by Wellstone's sons David and Mark, sponsors schools for college campus activists and Native American leaders, and an effort named after the senator's wife, Sheila, to combat domestic violence against women.

More information is available at www.wellstone.org. ■

Legislative Update

Congress Defies Bush to Support Amtrak

With millions of travelers and daily commuters parking their cars and climbing onto passenger trains, the House passed an unprecedented \$15 billion funding bill for Amtrak in early June. The 311-104 vote in favor of the bill is enough to override a threatened veto by President Bush, who claims the bill does not hold Amtrak "accountable to taxpayers for its spending decisions."

Even longtime critics of Amtrak parted company with Bush. Rep. John Mica (R-Fla.) said upon the bill's passage, "Nothing could be more fitting to bring before the Congress today, on a day when gasoline has reached \$4.05 a gallon across the United States on average."

Last year, a record 25.8 million passengers took Amtrak. The railroad expects ridership to grow to 28 million in 2008. May's income from ticket sales was up over 16 percent from 2007. That month was the busiest in Amtrak's 37-year history. Amtrak experts estimate that half of the passenger growth is attributable to high gas prices.

The Bush administration has always deprived Amtrak of funds "under the erroneous assumption that private interests could do a better job providing passenger service," says Railroad Department Director Bill Bohné. Democrats and Republicans in Congress, he says, have "finally rejected ideological arguments" and studied the experience of other nations where public funding has created clean and efficient alternatives to automobile travel.

The bill includes a program of federal matching grants to help states initiate or expand rail service. A controversial compromise in the legislation requires the Department of Transportation to request proposals from private enterprises to establish a high-speed rail service that would reduce travel time between Washington and New York City to two hours or less.

Many of Amtrak's supporters in Congress are concerned that the remaining bulk of the carrier's spurs would suffer if the Northeast Corridor, its most profitable asset, was privatized. ■

Organizing Wire

IBEW Helps Pennsylvania Contractor Get the Job Done Right



Pro Electric owners Deborah and Bradley Rineheart, center and right, signed up with York, Pa., Local 229 in February thanks to the work of Business Manager Matt Paules, left.

It was an ongoing problem. Deborah and Bradley Rineheart, owners of the southeast Pennsylvania electrical contractor Pro Electric, would take out a help wanted ad in the local newspaper. Each ad would bring around 30 applicants, but after giving potential employees a basic code reading and math test, there would only be one or two left still worth interviewing.

"We would get applicants who would put on their resume years of experience only to find out they haven't had a day of training," Deborah Rineheart said.

As a small, four-man contractor looking to expand, the Rinehearts didn't have the time or money to waste doing shoddy work over, so the skilled manpower shortage was putting a real squeeze on their business. "We're quality oriented," Deborah Rineheart said. "We have to get the job done right the first time." Then one day last September she got a call from York, Pa., Local 229 organizer Matt Paules.

Paules, newly elected business manager of Local 229, saw the same newspaper ad. He told her that Local 229 could help the company with its staffing needs and requested a meeting. It ended up being the right message at the right time.

Still, they were apprehensive at first. "Initially, there were some negative connotations about organized labor that we needed to clear up," Paules said.

What was really attractive for the Rinehearts was the IBEW and NECA's training program. Paules gave them training books and curriculums to look over. They were impressed. Also attractive were the Pennsylvania Initiative's new job classifications and flexible crew ratios, which would allow Pro Electric to remain competitive.

"It gave me a level of comfort knowing that when someone tells me they are a journeyman or a construction wireman, I know exactly what their ability level is," Deborah Rineheart said.

After nearly six months of weekly meetings, Pro Electric signed with Local 229 in February. Since then, the company has expanded its operations, winning contracts for jobs throughout southern and central Pennsylvania and all the way into Maryland. Having a steady supply of IBEW electricians has been key to its growth. ■

Spotlight on Safety

Is Your Sunscreen Burning You?

It's summer and the beach beckons. But before you dig into the sand, remember that spending too much time under the sun unprotected can have severe consequences. Overexposure to the sun—or sunburn—is not only painful but can also lead to skin cancer, the most prevalent form of cancer.

The most deadly form of skin cancer is melanoma, which forms in the skin cells that make the pigment melanin—often as a mole. The U.S. National Cancer Institute estimates there will be 62,480 new cases of melanoma in the United States alone in 2008, and about

8,420 deaths caused by the disease.

Most people expect sunscreen to protect them from any harmful affects of the sun. But new research indicates that many of the sunscreen products on the market do not protect against harmful Ultraviolet A (UVA) rays, which doctors now know can cause long-term damage and skin cancer. The SPF—sun protection factor—rating placed on all sunscreens only reflects the lotion's effectiveness in blocking UVB rays, long linked to sunburn.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is developing regulations that would set standards for testing and labeling sunscreens for UVA protection as well as for UVB. Strong rec-

ommendations for the new regulations would assign a star rating system—from one to four stars—to gauge the lotions' effectiveness in blocking UVA rays. Ratings for UVA would be based on two tests, one to measure the sunscreen's ability to reduce the amount of UVA radiation passing through it, and a second to measure the product's ability to prevent tanning and potential long-term skin damage.

Any new labeling featuring the UVA ratings won't appear on products until 2009. Early detection is important in the treatment of skin cancer, and limited exposure is critical to prevention. Use common sense, don't overdo it and find a sunscreen that really works. ■

Transitions

Retired James F. Combs



James F. Combs, Senior Executive Assistant to IBEW Secretary-Treasurer Lindell Lee, retired August 1, ending a 38-year Brotherhood career that included pioneering efforts in tracking pension fund

investment performance, promoting shareholder activism and moving the union into electronic record keeping.

"When I notified President Hill of my retirement, I told him that I had hope that I left the IBEW a better place. I'm gratified that he told me that I did," says Combs, thanking the members of Cumberland, Md., Local 307 for getting him started on his union career.

Combs joined Local 307 in 1969 after active-duty service in the U.S. Navy Seabees as a construction electrician in Iceland and Vietnam. After being licensed as a journeyman wireman in Maryland and neighboring West Virginia, Combs was elected to the local's executive board in 1974, winning office as business manager in 1980.

The son of an electrician, Brother Combs has two brothers who also became IBEW members. Roy, now deceased, was a member of Trenton, N.J., Local 269. John retired as a member of Luke, Md., Local 1653.

During 11 years of service as Local 307 business manager, Combs became a familiar name in labor and community life in Western Maryland. He served as president of the Cumberland-Hagerstown Building and Construction Trades Council and as a civil service commissioner for the city of Cumberland. He attended Allegany Community College. In 1984—at the age of 39—Brother Combs was named the David J. Lewis Memorial Outstanding Labor Leader by the Western Maryland Central Labor Council. He was the youngest individual to receive the award.

Combs, who twice served as a delegate to Democratic national conventions, is currently campaigning for a seat on the Cumberland City Council.

Appointed as an International Representative in 1991, Combs worked in the Investments Department on employee benefit issues. In 1998, he was appointed director of the newly-created Employee Benefits Department.

Soon after his appointment, Combs spearheaded the IBEW Investment Tracking System, tracking the International's and local unions' pension investments to establish the union's percentage of ownership in hundreds of companies.

Brother Combs was an early proponent of using the union's shares as leverage over company policy, attending shareholder meetings and meeting with other activists to formulate resolutions.

Combs' proudest accomplishment is the creation of a Web-based Electronic Reciprocal Transfer System, or "ERTS," as it is known, which allows traveling electricians to transfer their pension and health and welfare benefits to their home local union funds.

In 2002, Combs was appointed executive assistant to Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus Jerry O'Connor, and in 2005, Senior Executive Assistant to Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus Jon Walters.

"My latest project is not completed, but it is one of the best I've worked on," says Combs, describing the Brotherhood's new national 401(k) plan, which will be available to all branches of the union.

"There is a huge demand for manpower in many of the IBEW branches," says Combs. "I believe that our current leadership has put us on the right path to meet those demands."

He and his wife, Carol Jean, plan to build a new house in his retirement. Running between the new construction, his campaign for city council and his grandson's baseball games will leave little time for travel, but Combs, a father of four and grandfather to seven, says, "I hope to get to some places I've never been."

The officers and members of the Brotherhood wish Brother Combs and his family health and happiness in his retirement and thank him for his lifelong service to the IBEW and to the labor movement. ■

Deceased Douglas Cloud Sr.



The IBEW regrets to report that former Fourth District International Representative Douglas Cloud Sr. died on July 2 at the age of 69.

Brother Cloud was initiated into Hamilton, Ohio, Local 648 in 1959. An inside wireman, he worked for various companies throughout the area, eventually rising through the ranks of the local to become recording secretary, president and business manager.

Cloud became a Fourth District International Representative in 1988, where he serviced more than 35 locals in the construction industry. Cloud set up trainings for new officers and business managers and oversaw organizing trainings across the Fourth District's five states and the District of Columbia.

"In our area, he was looked at as being

the leading mind of construction projects," said former Fourth District Vice President Paul Witte, who emphasized Cloud's attention to detail, efficiency and creative thinking. Cloud worked closely as Witte's right-hand man, offering leadership and guidance while dealing with issues concerning contract negotiations and grievances.

"He helped us navigate through some tough waters and always ensured we followed policies," said Buddy Satterfield, Special Assistant to the International President for Membership Development, who served as business manager of Washington, D.C., Local 26 while Cloud represented the Fourth District. "He was a straight shooter, but he always used humor to get his point across."

Cloud moved to D.C. in 1999 to work out of the Construction and Maintenance Department at the International Office, retiring in 2001.

IBEW history runs deep in the Cloud family. Brother Cloud's son Frank is an inside wireman now serving as business manager of the same local his father once led. Cloud's other

son, Doug Jr., is a journeyman lineman also with Local 648, and grandson Doug Cloud III is a journeyman wireman with the same local.

Frank noted the high standards his father set for both the family and the movement at Local 648.

"Our father was the type of man who, if you met him once, you never forgot him," Frank said. "He is known around this area for being a great labor leader and for striving to be the best at whatever he did. His passion for the Brotherhood was unmatched."

Cloud graduated from Fairfield High School and completed specialized labor courses at Ohio State University. Brother Cloud will be remembered for his various activities in the Hamilton area, including honorary membership in the VFW and the Fairfield Optimist Club, as well as coaching sports for his children and others in the community.

The officers, staff, and membership of the IBEW convey our deep condolences to Brother Cloud's wife, Peggy, children, and to his many grandchildren. ■

ATTENTION DEMOCRATIC DELEGATES!

If you are attending the 45th Democratic National Convention Aug. 25-28 in Denver, the IBEW Political Department would like to know. Please e-mail the following information to ibewpoliticaldept@ibew.org:

Name

Local union number

Mailing address

Telephone number (office)

Telephone number (cell)

Shirt size

Local Lines

Motorcycle Charity Run

L.U. 6 (c,i,st&u), SAN FRANCISCO, CA—The ninth annual Summer Motorcycle Charity Run, benefiting St. Anthony Foundation, was a great success. We exceeded our goal of raising \$25,000 for this very worthwhile charity, which meets the needs of the hungry and homeless in San Francisco 365 days a year. This year, members enjoyed a scenic ride to Yosemite National Park.

Local 6 Pres. Terry McKenna, Vice Pres. Henry Hinds and Treas. Frank O'Rourke announced that they will not seek reelection to our Executive Board. We thank them for their dedicated service to our local union and wish them well in the future.

Plans are under way for our upcoming Charter Anniversary Celebration, to be held Sat., Feb. 21, 2009. We are excited about commemorating this momentous occasion, and we look forward to seeing many of our friends from throughout the IBEW in attendance.

Local 6 will be represented at the second annual IBEW Solidarity Ride hosted by Local 1250 in Rapid City, SD. This event will coincide with the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally. This is a wonderful way to experience the beauty of our nation, while enjoying the company of brothers and sisters from throughout the IBEW.

*Emily S. O'Rourke
Unit 1 Chair/P.S.*

Service Awards Ceremony

L.U. 8 (as,em,i,mar,mt,rts,s&spa), TOLEDO, OH—Our service awards ceremony held May 1 was a great success, with approximately 350 members in attendance. Local 8 members and retirees with 25 years or more of service represent a total of 36,216 years! These are men and women to whom the IBEW owes its gratitude. Without their determination and endurance through the struggles, we would not be enjoying the benefits we have today. It was wonderful to hear all of the fond memories of old. I heard more than once: "He was my first journeyman." Many thanks to those who attended and to our staff who organized the event.

Work has been slower than we want, but calls are coming in. We look forward to the summer projects/shutdowns. Kudos to our business office and the area building trades for turning the Kroger project around. Keep up the good work.

It is not too early to start studying for the presidential race. We need to support those politicians who support working men and women. Thanks to our members who are active in the precincts—your work is making a difference. Let us pull together to support the best candidate for the job in November!

*Ben "Red" Tackett, P.S.
Jim Kozlowski, B.M.*

Advancing Labor's Cause

L.U. 16 (i), EVANSVILLE, IN—Over Memorial Day weekend in May, Local 16 sponsored a retreat for the express purposes of uniting the membership, clarifying the goals and aspirations of labor, and equipping new leaders to pass on information and labor's vision to future generations. Leadership Evansville served as the facilitator for this event. This organization has been actively involved with bringing groups of individuals together, primarily in the business community, for common civic objectives. A diverse array of brothers and sisters, from first-year apprentices to members with over 30 years of service attended the retreat. For many of those present, this was their first opportunity to feel included in setting the direction for their local.

The Health and Welfare Fund that provides medical, dental and vision insurance for Local 16 recently presented its financial report. It was good to see that its reserves continue to grow, even in a difficult and challenging market. With the continued close scrutiny of its resources by the trustees, and a stable employment environment, it is hoped that cost increases will not need to be enacted for some time.

Donald P. Beavin, P.S.

Scholarships Awarded

L.U. 26 (ees,em,es,govt,i&mt), WASHINGTON, DC—Local 26 is pleased to announce the winners of this year's scholarship awards: Meaghan Conlon and Tyler Shymansky. Meaghan is the daughter of Bro. Michael Conlon and resides in Eldersburg, MD. She will be attending Mount St. Mary's College. Tyler is the son of Bro. John Shymansky III and resides in LaPlata, MD. He has completed his freshman year at the University of South Carolina. Our best wishes to these exceptional individuals.

Our golf outing in May was a huge success and the largest to date. We thank everyone who participated, sponsored and volunteered!

With regret we report that the following members passed away since our last article: Charles Q. Connell, Carl J. Catlett, John W. Hancock, Edward T. Howerton, William M. Reedy, William T. Hughes, Fred R. Reh, Jerry L. Griffin and Michael A. Ross.

Congratulations to the brothers who retired since our last article: Ross D. Catlett, Larry S. Hairfield, Frederick P. Mace, Willis Martin, Dale L. Moye, Harry E. Clegg, Jean P. Delort, Raymond Harbin, Clarence W. Harris, Jasper Johnson, Kenneth Ratliff, Richard S. Roberts, Bruce Ronkette, Robert L. Smith and David L. Williams.

Charles E. Graham, B.M.

Coast Guard Vessel Project

L.U. 38 (i), CLEVELAND, OH—Local 38 members are working for Herbst Electric on a U.S. Coast Guard ice breaker, the Neah Bay. Work on the vessel

is being done on the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland. Our members, pictured in the accompanying photo in the craft's pilot house, have been working on a propulsion system upgrade by changing out the old pneumatic system to digital controls.

Lake Erie Electric has begun work on the new juvenile detention center and court house at 93rd and Quincy and should start staffing up this summer.

Herbst Electric continues to hire members for several of its bigger projects, including the Brookpark Ford plant and Ben Venue Laboratories.

Please remember to check out Local 38's new Web site www.ibew38.org for information on all events and functions.

Dennis Meaney, A.B.M.



Local 38 members working for Herbst Electric on a U.S. Coast Guard ice breaker, the Neah Bay, are shown in the vessel's power house. From left: Bob Greller, Steve Bohm, Mark Maroon and Brian Koons.

Graduation Celebration

L.U. 42 (catv,em,govt,lctt&o), HARTFORD, CT—On Sat., April 26, IBEW Local 42 held our second annual dinner dance and apprentice graduation at the Goodwin Hotel in Hartford. Distinguished guests included IBEW Second District Int. Vice Pres. Frank J. Carroll; IBEW Int. Rep. Richard Panagrossi; John Baker, former training director of Northeastern Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NEAT); current NEAT Training Dir. Jason Iannelli; and NEAT Asst. Training Dir. Jack Skilton.

Local 42 Bus. Mgr. Peter Abrahamsen expressed gratitude to John Baker, who recently retired after 22 years of service to NEAT. John was presented with several lineman plaques from Local 42 members and NEAT staff. A warm thanks to John, who administered training of the majority of linemen who work or have worked throughout the Northeast.

Local 42 also celebrated the graduation of 19 journeyman linemen. These linemen graduated after approximately 3½ years of training through the NEAT Apprenticeship. Congratulations to Bros. Marc Belhumeur, Joseph Bramanti, Samuel Encarnacion Jr., Francis Flanagan, Steven Foster, Joseph Frederick, Robert Garabedian, Daniel Hartley, Peter



Local 42 Bus. Mgr. Peter Abrahamsen (center) displays lineman plaque presented to retired NEAT Training Dir. John Baker (left). At far right is current NEAT Training Dir. Jason Iannelli.

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
(lpt) Lightning Protection Technicians	(u) Utility
(mt) Maintenance	(uow) Utility Office Workers
(mo) Maintenance and Operation	(ws) Warehouse and Supply
(mow) Manufacturing Office Workers	

Lapa Jr., Jonathan Lavallee, Christopher Ming, Edward Peck, Evan Pelaccia, Jeffrey Rago, Timothy Rubino, Brian Skorupski, Jeffrey Sylvester, Jon Paul Thompson and Luke Tuleja.

John Biehn, P.S.

Election Year Activities

L.U. 58 (em,i,rtb&spa), DETROIT, MI—As usual, Local 58 is a frequent gathering place for election year activities. Already, we have hosted candidate endorsement screenings, various Democratic district meetings, and Labor Day parade planning sessions. It's "time for a change" for Michigan and in Washington. This is not a year to sit on the fence, or we'll end up trying to survive four more years of the failed policies that have seriously damaged our country. McCain may be a war hero, but that doesn't make him our friend.

Work is still very slow in our area. We are looking forward to some industrial jobs breaking later in the year, but there are no hard and fast predictions. We would certainly like to see our brothers and sisters come home.

The Local 58 Community Services Committee recently donated labor for a successful ramp-build for pensioner Charlie Stewart, a 55-year member. Local 58 volunteers worked under the able leadership of Bill Helwig, ramp coordinator for United Way. What a great feeling to be able to help one of our own retain his independence.

Elaine Crawford, Pres.



Local 58 Bus. Rep. Rep Bill Green (left) and Treas. Mike Conflitti are among the Local 58 volunteers who helped build an access ramp for retiree Charlie Stewart, a 55-year member.

Legislative Effort

L.U. 68 (i), DENVER, CO—June 5 was an eventful day for Local 68. Colorado's Gov. Bill Ritter chose the unfortunate action of vetoing House Bill 08-1170, commonly referred to as the "Electricians' Bill."

House Bill 08-1170 would have:

- Required all apprentice electricians to be continuously enrolled in a federally-certified training program throughout the duration of their apprenticeship.
- Established continuing competency standards for master and journeyman electricians.
- Established new education standards regarding alternative energy technologies, and new training requirements for electrical apprentices. This would have helped to establish (and maintain) minimum safety standards, and to prepare electrical apprentices for their careers.



Attendees gather at a Local 68 retiree luncheon held in May. Service pins awarded at the luncheon represented a combined total of 2,250 years of collective IBEW service.



Local 86 members volunteer at United Way Day of Caring community garden project. From left are IBEW volunteers Mike Young, Paul Yatteau, Steve Ginovsky, David Johnson, David Young Sr., Tamie Goodale, Bill Young and Bob Denoto. Behind the camera were members Michelle Miller and Art Salvione.

- Required Colorado electrical contractors who employ apprentices to meet certain federal employment standards.

Unfortunately, Gov. Ritter didn't see the advantages of this proposed legislation.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the families of our lost brothers: John G. Martinez, John Armentrout, Charles L. Hinkle, Gilbert Martinez, Donald Forsberg and Carl D. Peterson. They will be missed.

Ed Knox, Pres.

JATC Facilities Expanded

L.U. 76 (c,i,rt&st), TACOMA, WA—Apprentices are the future of our industry. To insure they have productive and dynamic careers, we are obligated to make sure they have all the skills and training needed for success. The Southwest Washington JATC committed itself to this task by remodeling and expanding the current facilities from 6,000 square feet to 11,400 square feet. The expanded space includes: LON works, conduit bending, computer and motor control labs, four basic classrooms, a conference room and a teacher workroom. The process, from plan development to completion of the remodel, has taken only 18 months. We thank the members of the JATC Committee, Dir. Tony Lewis, teachers and staff for their tireless efforts during this transition period. When apprentices enter the field as journeymen, the most important tool we give them for their toolbox is knowledge.

Mac McClellan, P.S.

Habitat Project

L.U. 80 (i&o), NORFOLK, VA—Work has been steady and looks to stay that way through the fall.

In June our local held its election of officers. Congratulations to: Bus. Mgr. Matt Yonka, Press. Kenny Bunting, Vice Pres. Charlie Sawyer, Rec. Sec. R. Warren Kilgore, Treas. Carey Rumpf; Executive Board members Terry McPhillips, Lee Norton, Paul Guerra, Dave Schaeffer, Tim Campbell, James Hughes; and Examine Board members Dave Boudloche, Alan Lamb, Jeremy Martin, Nick Lopes and Woody Gregory.

Also in June, Local 80 members took part in a Habitat for Humanity house building blitz. We thank Bryant Ritter Hewitt Electric for supplying manpower for work on the project. The local thanks the following members for their help in making the project a success: Bros. Elvin Whitley, Dave Clarke, James Burke, Scott Tucker, Dave Schaeffer and Guy Grimsley.

Dave Schaeffer, P.S.

United Way 'Day of Caring'

L.U. 86 (ees,em,es,i,rt&spa), ROCHESTER, NY—At the 2008 United Way Day of Caring, IBEW Local 86 active and retired members worked hard as volunteers at The Vineyard, a Rochester community farm, along with members of Laborers Local 435. The Vineyard is a 3-acre working farm and community garden located in the northeast side of the city at 126 Sander Street.

College students volunteer there through the summer working with neighborhood kids showing them how to grow fruits and vegetables. Our job was to clean up and prepare the grounds so the gardeners could get started.

Ron Freida, A.B.M.

Dedication & Service

L.U. 102 (c,catv,i,it,o&t), PATERSON, NJ—Our local elections were held June 3 for the offices of president and business manager. Congratulations go out to Pres. Alan Schell and Bus. Mgr. Lou Baram for retaining their positions for another three-year term. The "E" team is looking forward to the new term in a progressive manner. Their combined experience and leadership will benefit our local by protecting our interests and promoting our values. The president and business manager would like to thank the entire membership for their support. They also wish to congratulate and recognize all the officers and agents for their dedication and past service for a job well-done.

A new committee was established and is chaired by Bro. Jason Marrion, an Iraq War veteran. Jason was deployed in Iraq for over two years. While doing his tour of duty, he put his electrical skills to good use. This new committee will help the families of our local brothers and sisters who are serving in the military to cope with their financial burdens while the members are actively deployed. The committee sponsored a successful fund-raiser, a beef steak dinner with another scheduled for late October.

Ed Fredericks, P.S.

Apprentice Graduation

L.U. 146 (ei,i&rts), DECATUR, IL—Hope all are enjoying the summer and that work has been prosperous. We still await word on the Future Gen project, but we have learned that the state has released funding for the Secure Energy coal gasification project. Work on that project is expected to begin in 2010.

Local 146 members had a great time at the eighth annual golf outing and the annual poker run. Members also volunteer at the Macon County Fair and the Decatur Celebration.

The apprenticeship graduation banquet was held May 17 at the Eagle Creek Resort. New journeyman wiremen are: Kelsey Ashcraft, Kelly Blakey, Wayne O'Dell, Brian Schultz, Nicholas Perry, Shannon Perry, Earl Taylor, Nathan Vaughn, Darin Yantis and Rob Reynolds. Graduating telecommunication installers are: Nick Goeckner, Harry Harden and Nicholas King. Congratulations to co-apprentices of the year Kelly Blakey and Shannon Perry, and telecommunication apprentice of the year Harry Hardin.

We are saddened to report the passing of Local 146 retired members Roger Mills, Oral Deichmann, Paul Daley and Robert Skelton. Our condolences to their families.

Rich Underwood, R.S.



Local 146 apprentice graduating class of 2008. Front row, from left, Nick Goeckner, Darrin Yantis, Nathan Vaughn, Kelly Blakey, Kelsey Ashcraft, Brian Schultz; middle row, Harry Harden, Shannon Perry, Robert Reynolds, Earl Taylor; and back row, Nicholas King, Wayne O'Dell and Nicholas Perry.

August 30 Golf Outing

L.U. 150 (es,i,rts&spa), WAUKEGAN, IL—It surely comes as no surprise to anyone reading this that our work situation continues to look bleak. The book is still climbing and at least 15 percent of the local is out of work. The best thing to do to keep your benefits and continue your contributions to your pension is to go on the road.

The JATC has accepted eight inside wireman apprentices and two communications technicians. The application process will be open again shortly.

The golf outing date is set for Aug. 30. Please call or stop by the hall to sign your foursome up and pay your fees. It will be a good time for all.

Brite Lite Sign Co. was organized after many years of attempts to do so. Kudos to Bill Holst for all his hard work on this effort. Mike Sodaro was also involved in bringing this success to fruition.

Bro. Ron Azzone, who now lives in Florida, donated a banner to the local. The banner was created at his graphic arts business.

We recently lost retired Bro. Robert Heisler. Bro. Heisler was a gentleman and a fine electrician. He enjoyed a long retirement.

Wendy J. Cordts, P.S.

Thanks to Travelers

L.U. 158 (i,it,mar,mt&spa), GREEN BAY, WI—Work in Local 158 has slowed down a little bit after a very busy and hectic spring. We had full employment as well as employing about 100 traveling brothers and sisters. Our thanks to all who helped us staff these jobs through some trying times. Negotiations have been ongoing, with our NECA Inside and Residential agreements complete. We have many more agreements yet to settle.

Local 158 held its 88th annual banquet in March, which was well-attended despite all the work going on at the time. Everyone enjoyed good food, refreshments and conversation.

Donald C. Allen, B.M.

2008 JATC Graduates

L.U. 194 (i,o,spa&u), SHREVEPORT, LA—The 2008 graduates of the Shreveport Area Electrical Joint Apprenticeship and Training school were honored at a banquet on May 30. Those graduating included: Jason Allums, Ryan Brown, Danny Call, Chris Cypher, Tim Johnson, Michael Kelley, Tammy McCall, Michael Smith, Keith Taylor, Jeremy Traylor, Thomas Wilkerson and Jason Young. The Outstanding Apprentice is Robert Fowler Jr., who is also the JATC 2008 Louisiana State Outstanding Apprentice. Robert's late father, Robert Fowler Sr., was the 1968 JATC Outstanding Apprentice. Awards for five years of perfect attendance went to Robert Fowler, Tammy McCall and Tim Johnson. Bro. Fowler also received the Frank Leadaman Award of an IBEW watch for attending the most union meetings as an apprentice.

Local elections were held June 3. Officers

elected were: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. William Terry Reynolds, Pres. William Neil Dixon, Vice Pres. Charles E. Collins, Rec. Sec. David L. Rawls, Treas. Thomas H. Ashworth; Executive Board members James Andrew Cory (chairman), Charles C. Arehart, Robby L. Wilson, Tony M. Lafisca, Chad E. Lux; and Examining Board members Steven A. Bogues, Anthony G. Prestidge and Jason D. Dampier.

Terry Reynolds, B.M./F.S.

Three Scholarships Awarded

L.U. 234 (i,rtb,rts&spa), CASTROVILLE, CA—Our E-Board, with the approval of our membership, was pleased to initiate and sponsor an IBEW Local 234 scholarship for graduating high school seniors in each of the three counties that make up our local.

Three students will each receive a \$500 scholarship payable on their behalf to the college they will attend in the fall. Each student submitted a 500-word essay on one of the following topics: "What is the IBEW and what has it done to enhance organized labor"; "Why the organized labor movement is important in the United States today"; or "How the union movement played a key role in the life and well-being of my family."

We are delighted to award scholarships to: Amalia Slovacek, San Benito County, attending the University of California at Santa Cruz; Sarah Kulich, Santa Cruz County, attending California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo; and Sarah DeMateo, Monterey County, attending San Jose State University. Amalia is the daughter of Local 234 member Stephen Slovacek; Sarah Kulich is the sister of Local 234 members Matthew Kulich and Michael Kulich; and Sarah DeMateo is the daughter of Local 234 member Ron DeMateo. We congratulate all the scholarship recipients.

Stephen Slovacek, P.S.

Governor's Mansion Solar Job

L.U. 236 (catv,ees,govt,i,mo,rtb&t), ALBANY, NY—The New York State Governor's Mansion, in the first phase of what is being called "Greening the Mansion," received solar panels installed by IBEW Local 236 members. The new photovoltaic panels were installed over the pool house and will produce 3.5 kilowatts of energy. This fall a



Local 236 members installed solar installation project at the New York State Governor's Mansion. From left: Fred Warden, Mark Fahd, Charles Hyde Jr. and Edwin Knot.

larger installation of solar panels on the roof of the carport will provide 46.5 additional kilowatts of energy to the mansion.

The "Greening the Mansion" project is a model for New York homeowners to follow to make their homes more environmentally friendly. This is an ongoing project to reduce energy usage needed to run the everyday activity at the mansion.

The leader of the crew that completed the work was our own Local 236 member Edwin Knott. Ed is a longtime proponent of alternative energy sources. He has installed many projects of both wind generation and solar panels for over 20 years. Ed has also instructed courses on photovoltaic power installations right at our training center. Great job, guys.

Mark Lajeunesse, Pres./P.S.

Apprentice Graduation Dinner

L.U. 246 (ees,i,rts&spa), STEUBENVILLE, OH—Nine inside wireman apprentices recently completed their five-year apprenticeship program. IBEW Local 246 and the Steubenville Division of NECA celebrated the apprentices' graduation with a dinner ceremony at Timber Crest Inn, Burgettstown, PA.

The nine graduates advanced to journeyman status; eight of them also earned enough college credits to be awarded associate degrees in Technical Studies from Jefferson Community College.

This is the second group to complete the training and to also receive college degrees. NECA Division President and Steubenville Apprenticeship Director Anthony Shreve praised the journeymen for their dedication and professionalism. Shreve also acknowledged their family members who supported the men as they worked, attended training and took college classes. "This class maintained a 92.4 percent grade point average during the five years of training," said Shreve. The graduating apprentices received certificates of completion from the U.S. Department of Labor and NJATC. Additionally, they were awarded IBEW/NECA class insignia rings.

Congratulations to the new journeymen: Scott Anthony, Michael Badgley, Jason Beebe, Patrick J. Berkey, Tad Daily, Jesse Harvey, Brian Myers, Greg Serafini and Robert Simms.

Phil Diserio, Pres.

Stewards Training Session

L.U. 266 (u), PHOENIX, AZ—Our annual Valley Union picnic was held May 3 at the Pera Club. We more than doubled attendance from last year and everyone enjoyed the fellowship.

We held a stewards training session at our hall on Sat., April 12. Attendees came from here in the Valley (Phoenix vicinity), Coronado Generating Station in St. Johns and from Navajo Generating Station in Page, AZ.

The training session was facilitated by Ron Collotta, Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service. We really appreciate the great job he did. Topics included stewards' rights and duties, Weingarten rights, past practice, and what is/isn't a grievance.

Our attorney Stan Lubin presented information on note taking methods and responsibilities. He stressed the importance of making note of time, place, witnesses and statements at the time of occurrences. Stan reminded everyone to always have a notebook & pen or pencil handy. We thank Stan for all his time and information.

Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Pam Cornelissens reviewed various work situations and led a discussion as to how they should be handled. She

explained why various situations should or should not be grieved, depending on how the contract covers those situations.

It was a great day and everyone enjoyed the fellowship and information provided.

Wanda Waldo, A.B.A.

Training Dir. Campbell Retires

L.U. 280 (c,ees,em,e,i,mo,mt,rts&st), SALEM, OR—Summer is upon us and we have ended another year of apprenticeship classes in our local. This year is different than most because we are saying goodbye to Bro. Dan Campbell, who has been our training director for almost 20 years. Dan took over our program when we were renting space for our classrooms. Now we have a state-of-the-art facility that is the pride of any program. With his knowledge and guidance, our JATC is the model for the state of Oregon because Bro. Dan always "did it right" in the eyes of the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training.

The job of training director is very difficult, but Dan made it look easy. As a staunch trade unionist, he was always on the side of labor when making presentations to the state governor or labor commissioner to promote our IBEW skills. Above all, he is and will always be a good union brother. We wish him and his wife, Elise, a happy retirement and hope to see him and his family at the Local 280 picnic on Sat., Sept. 13, at Timber-Linn Park in Albany!

With sadness the local mourns Paul Myler, Ken Meredith, George Chapman, Daniel Castillo and Harold Mulkey.

Jerry Fletcher, Pres.



Among his other duties, Local 280 Bro. Dan Campbell (right) serves hamburgers and hot dogs to apprentices on the last day of school. Bro. Campbell recently retired as the local's longtime JATC training director.

'Day on the Hill 2008'

L.U. 292 (em,govt,i,rtb,rts&spa), MINNEAPOLIS, MN—Local 292 had its second annual "Day on the Hill" on April 22, in part to drum up support for the Mall of America Phase II Expansion. Roughly 200 members of the local union collaborated at the state Capitol in St. Paul in an effort to fight for nearly 7,000 construction jobs and another 7,000 badly needed permanent jobs that the expansion would provide. The state is in a period of economic downturn and the project would help to jumpstart the construction market once again.

The super-regional mall located in the Twin Cities suburb of Bloomington has over 40 million visitors annually, 10 times the state's second most popular tourist destination, and exceeds all other state tourist destinations combined. The expansion project would account for approximately \$120 million in state sales taxes during the construction



Local 194 honors the Shreveport, LA, Electrical JATC 2008 graduating class.



IBEW members of Locals 294, 160 and 242 are working on a project at Minnesota Power's Taconite Ridge Wind Farm in Mt. Iron, MN.

phase alone. A project of this magnitude is needed to help put back to work the estimated 20 percent of unemployed craftsmen across the state. IBEW Local 292 members have become a brand at the Capitol in their signature red shirts showing support and political action at the state level.

Brandon Romann, B.R./P.S.



Local 292 members Andrew Melander (right) and Todd Folta, with their children, attend rally at the Minnesota State Capitol to show support for the Mall of America expansion.

Industrial Projects

L.U. 294 (ees,em,i,rts,spa&u), HIBBING, MN—Our work picture is starting to improve, with a couple of our larger industrial projects on the horizon. We ratified a new three-year contract for the Hibbing Agreement with raises and other improvements to the contract. We have project labor agreements for our larger industrial work and have had success with them on many of our commercial projects.

When you have elected officials who are supportive of prevailing wages and unions in general, a lot of good can happen. The November presidential election will have a major impact on whether we as a union movement are to survive. Eight years of Bush have just about wiped out the lower and middle class. There is a huge mess to

clean up and we know that John McCain wants to stay the course set by Bush. Shame on him!

As of this writing, the local was scheduled to hold an election of officers in June.

Scott Weappa, B.M./F.S.

'Green Up Day' Volunteers

L.U. 300 (govt,i,mt&u), MONTPELIER, VT—Members of IBEW Local 300 recently participated in Green Up Day in the city of South Burlington, VT.

The Local 300 contingent, which included Jean Watkins, Matt Lash and electrical apprentices Willie Kasongo and Jared Titus, braved steady rain to pick up garbage along South Burlington's Gregory Drive, Kimball Avenue, Shunpike Road and Williston Road on May 3. Kasongo and Titus received credit toward the yearly community service quota that all IBEW Local 300 apprentices are required to meet.

"Our members work just as passionately for the community as they do for their employers," said Watkins, IBEW Local 300's training director. "Giving back is part of the fabric of this union. Despite demanding job and classroom schedules, IBEW apprentices volunteer hundreds of hours each year."

Always the first Saturday in May, Green Up Day is a statewide initiative that promotes responsible environmental stewardship and litter-free communities. The event is coordinated by Green Up Vermont.

Matt Lash, P.S.

Wyoming JATC Graduates

L.U. 322 (govt,i,it,lctt,o&u), CASPER, WY—On May 31, the Wyoming Electrical JATC turned out 21 new journeyman wiremen, 16 from Casper Local 322 and five from Cheyenne Local 415.

Congratulations to all the new brothers and sisters! These young men and women are fine examples of what the JATC does to bring new



Local 340 congratulates the 2008 apprentice graduating class.

craftsmen into our industry. The 16 graduates from Local 322 are: John Washburn, Chad Peterson, Dennis Robertson, Alex Dickinson, Robert Price, Robert Hicks, Angela Bare, Zach Walsh, Adam Oestreich, Chris Linton, Andy Curtis, Brandon Johnson, Dominic Guterrez, Josh Clark, Brandon Farris and Scott Paustian. The five graduates from Local 415 are: Scott Bremer, Jason McMillian, Jason Russell, Jarrod Gose and Morgan Becker.

The graduation ceremony was held in Casper with over 200 people in attendance, including family and friends of the new wiremen, IBEW officers, NECA representatives, contractors, state of Wyoming officials, and Karen Swindells, director of the Wyoming State Office of Apprenticeship, U.S. Department of Labor.

At the ceremony Wyoming Electrical JATC Training Dir. Rocky Anderson received a certificate from the Department of Labor for "meritorious service" in recognition of outstanding service to the national apprentice system. Rocky is only the second person in Wyoming ever to receive this prestigious award!

Chris Morgan, P.S.

76 Apprentices Graduate

L.U. 332 (c,ees,i&st), SAN JOSE, CA—Local 332 had its 2008 apprenticeship graduation ceremony at the Fairmont Hotel on June 6.

Inside wireman graduates were: Dianna Bowman, Raul Campos Jr., Mark Cosentino, Santiago DeVera, Jared Farwell, Carlo Garcia, Eduardo Garcia, Jerrimia Garcia, Stefan Garlick, Adam Gaspar, William Hawthorne, Aaron Kiner, Kristopher Lara, Erik Matteroli, Casey Milheim, Mario Moncada, Erik Nelson, Luis Perez, Zackery Perry, Jason Ratliff, Jeff Rudd, Alfredo Santa, Antonio Solis, Allen Springer, Paul Sudano, Craig Tomasello, Sergio Torres, Nam Trinh, Jeffrey Turner, Vincent Viramontes, Mitchell Williams, Kurtis Young, Christopher Zoccoli and Donald Zoccoli.

Sound and Communication graduates: David Boggs, John Bruce, Antonio Cervantes, Jesus Flores, Anthony Gonzalez, Gilberto Hernandez, Patricio Lomas, Justin Leavitt, Adan Martinez, Raul Martinez, Magdaleno Mendez, Siegmund Nogaj, James Parish, Michael Rios, Gabriel Rodriguez, Jose Rodriguez, Clark Santamaria and Steve Silva.

Residential graduates: Mike Charnoski, James Corvi, John Dang, Ralph Diaz, Michael Fontes, Sidronio Gonzales, Felipe Jarero, Matthew Jones, Gustavo Lopez, Salvador Mendoza, Valentin Mendoza, Frederick Mock, Nikki Nisby, Joanne O'Sullivan, Michael Obeso, Keoki Pamintuan, Adolfo Ramirez, Ismael Reyes, Noe Romero, Michael Sadlowski, Gregory Sorci, Kevin Windham, Michael Worth and Joseph Ybarra.

Congratulations to the new Local 332 journeymen. The local is proud of all the graduates and wishes them the best of luck.

Gerald Pfeiffer, Pres.

Celebrating Success

L.U. 340 (em,i,rts&spa), SACRAMENTO, CA—Due to the excellent tutelage of our apprenticeship instructors, 23 new journeyman inside wiremen, 14 sound & communications installers, and two residential wiremen received journeyman certificates and other awards at a graduation celebration in May.

The next day, we hosted an informational seminar attended by nearly 100 members and spouses on how to prepare for retirement. Presentations were given by representatives of the local pension trust, the NEBF, the International and Social Security. Members agreed the seminar will help them when it is time to put away the tools. It was like going full circle—from a new journeyman graduation ceremony one night, to a retirees workshop the next day where we see how members reap rewards for their IBEW service.

Many travelers are working in our jurisdiction on several of our large projects; it appears we will stay busy for quite some time. Travelers have had no problem obtaining California State Certification, due to the help of our JATC. Please note, however, state certification is not reciprocal. If you plan to work anywhere in California, you must be California state certified.

We mourn the passing of active member Kenneth E. Warner and retired members James S. Hostetter, Russell S. Poppleton, Richard Kraft, Jack E. Surritt and Robert W. Terry.

A.C. Steelman, B.M.

VOTE Committee

L.U. 354 (i,mt,rts&spa), SALT LAKE CITY, UT—Local 354 members are getting involved with the upcoming elections. We established a V.O.T.E. Committee (Voice of the Electricians), which researches labor friendly candidates and gets this important information to our members so they may make an informed decision on Nov. 4. IBEW members can make a difference by making their voices heard.

Local 354 welcomes the following new contractors to the IBEW: NAVA Electric, Kendal Electric, Ace Electric, Red Mountain Electric, and Wasatch Dairy Services. We look forward to long and prosperous relationships together.

The Northern Unit held a steak fry on May 9. The party was well-received with over 90 members in attendance. It was good to see some of the retired members from former Local 217. We thank Chmn. Lance Howerton and his unit members for the food and prizes.

Work in Utah has been good for the last few years and we look forward to many more good years with the great members and contractors who are willing to provide quality electrical installations on time, under budget and in a safe and workman like manner.

Manya Blackburn, R.S.



Wyoming Electrical JATC 2008 apprentice graduates from IBEW Locals 322 and 415. From left, front row, Scott Bremer (415), Jason McMillan (415), John Washburn (322), Chad Peterson (322), Dennis Robertson (322), Jason Russell (415), Alex Dickinson (322); back row, Robert Price (322), Jarrod Gose (415), Robert Hicks (322), Angela Bare (322), Morgan Becker (415); and from 322, Zach Walsh, Adam Oestreich, Chris Linton, Andy Curtis, Brandon Johnson, Dominic Guterrez, Josh Clark, Brandon Farris and Scott Paustian.

LMCC Leadership Dinner

L.U. 364 (catv,ees,em,es,i,mt,rts&spa), ROCKFORD, IL—Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill was the keynote speaker at our local's annual LMCC Leadership Dinner held May 20.

The program began with Local 364 Bus. Mgr. Darrin Golden introducing Int. Pres. Hill. Speaking in front of a nearly overflow crowd, Pres. Hill congratulated Local 364 members for the work we have done in our jurisdiction, achieving and sustaining a high percentage of market share and high union density. He also warned us to guard against becoming complacent with what we have accomplished, as some locals and some unions have done to their detriment.

Int. Pres. Hill spoke about the Code of Excellence and outlined the benefits of the program, stressing to our membership that each of us is responsible for doing our part as professionals to satisfy our customers. He also emphasized the importance of organizing, which is the backbone of every union including the IBEW.

On behalf of Local 364 members, we again thank Int. Pres. Hill for attending and speaking. It was a great honor to have him here.

Ray Pendzinski, P.S.



At Local 364's annual Leadership Series Dinner at Giovanni's Restaurant, IBEW Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill spoke about the IBEW Code of Excellence and organizing and took questions from the membership.

Youth in Construction Day

L.U. 380 (ei,es,i&it), NORRISTOWN, PA—Local 380 recently hosted two nationally respected authorities on today's electrical industry. In the audience were Local 380 apprentices and journeymen, NECA contractors and local clients. NJATC Exec. Dir. Michael Callanan outlined what he envisions for IBEW apprentice and journeyman training classes in the future. Callanan encouraged the future journeymen to continue their education through journeyman training. He also discussed certification.

Peter Cockshaw, construction industry analyst and founder of Cockshaw's Labor News and Opinion newsletter, spoke about the construction industry and how unions can increase their market share.

Local 380 participated in the OSHA Youth in Construction Day at the Plymouth Meeting Mall construction site. Attending were OSHA representatives, public officials, construction industry leaders, and high school students from a technical school. Interactive construction safety stations were set up on-site. A station run by IBEW electrical contractor Carr & Duff showed proper confined space entry and rescue. An Iron Workers station showed crane safety techniques. An Operating Engineers station featured a crane simulator.

Local 380 was featured in a recent Construction Users Roundtable magazine article that reported our local's success in implementing the Code of Excellence program on many projects, and how that has helped build a great relationship with our end users.

Scott R. Sheldon, P.S.

Three-Generation IBEW Family

L.U. 424 (as,ees,em,es,i,mo,o,ptc,rtb,rts,spa&u), EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA—Eighty years ago in June, Local 424 was founded by a group of 11 railway electricians, who were granted our charter in 1928.

Our local is pleased to recognize three members of the Leffler family, each from a different generation, who are Local 424 members. Family "patriarch," Bro. Jay Leffler, became a member in 1956. Many journeymen around here today, when still apprentices, worked with Jay as their journeyman. Before he retired in 1985, Bro. Jay brought his son Kurtiss in to join the union.

Bro. Kurtiss was initiated as an apprentice in 1980 and became a journeyman, always working through the IBEW including a nine-year period with Edmonton Local 1007. Working in the commercial and industrial sectors, he has served as a foreman and general foreman. Bro. Kurtiss is actively working at his craft, currently on the Petro-Canada Refinery project.

Bro. Jay's grandson, McKerry Dobbins, joined Local 424 as an apprentice in 2001. Now a journeyman, he works primarily industrial construction. When talking with any one of these three family members, their belief in the ideals of the IBEW is obvious. What also comes across is the respect and admiration that the son and grandson have for the family patriarch, referring to him as "mentor" and "teacher." The local is strengthened by having such committed members as these.

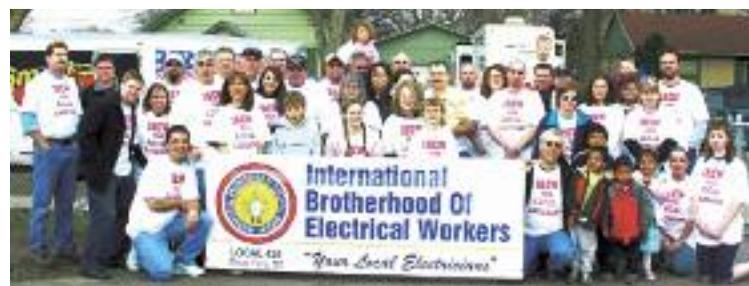
Dave Anderson, P.S.



Local 424 Bus. Mgr. Tim Brower (seated, left) congratulates three generations of the Leffler family, all IBEW Local 424 members: retired Bro. Jay Leffler (seated, right), Bro. McKerry Dobbins (standing, left) and Bro. Kurtiss Leffler.

'Oprah's Big Give' Volunteers

L.U. 426 (i,lctt,o,spa,t&u), SIOUX FALLS, SD—On April 18, IBEW Local 426 was proud to be a part of an "Oprah's Big Give" community service project. A Sioux Falls elementary school, the Laura B. Anderson school, was chosen as beneficiary as it is located in one of Sioux Falls' poorest neighborhoods. The project contributed \$5,000 from an advancement fund to buy 35 bicycles and helmets for the grade-school children. Local 426 thanks all who participated and helped make this a successful event.



IBEW Local 426 members assist on an "Oprah's Big Give" community service project to benefit children attending a Sioux Falls, SD, elementary school.

Congratulations to former IBEW Eleventh District Int. Rep. David Feller on his April 1 retirement. Dave has been a Local 426 member for 42 years and was the local union business manager from 1974-1975 and again from 1977-1998. He had served as International Representative since 1998.

Work at this time is very good, with Book 1 clear and several travelers working. We thank all the travelers who helped out last year on the ethanol plants in Aberdeen and Watertown.

Jon Olson, P.S.

Picnic & Service Pins

L.U. 428 (govt,i,rts&spa), BAKERSFIELD, CA—What a picnic! With members and families we had close to 1,000 adults and kids. There were loads of great prizes donated by our generous contractors and sponsors, entertainment for the kids, and a horseshoes tournament for adults. We congratulate and thank the cooks and servers for a job well-done. The food was outstanding.

We had one 70-year member, Ben Billington, who couldn't make it to the picnic. Ben is admired by all who know him. Our 55-year members are Richard Arambula, Fred Driscoll, Jack Hensley, Donald Lane, Buryl Vance, Charles Whalen; 50-year members—Thomas Alexander, Clarence Clerico, Homer Shaul, Robert Ulrich; 45-year members—James Barry, Arthur Gray, Dell Hemingway, William Hoffman, John Johnson, Lester Johnson; 40-year members—Kenneth Floyd, Frank Kramer, Jimmie Mahan, Richard Traynor, Richard Weatherford; 35-year members—Donald Braun, Michael Dewitt, Carl Jarrett, Jerome Stroud, John Wilkins; 30-year members—James Baker, Sammy Barr, Casey Baxter, Les Bragg, Louis Cemo, Anecito Damo, Robert Dator, Denton Hamilton, Dana Howard, Daniel Keeter, Duane Moore; 25-year members—William Moore, David Reed; 20-year members—Jim Bias, Bill Cleveland, Michael Coleman, Richard Curtis, Timothy Embry, Darren McKinsey, Dirk Obenshain, Rick Oxford, Thomas Ryan, Bryan Taylor and James Vickers.

Ivan Beavan Jr., P.S.

Turtle Creek Casino Project

L.U. 498 (c,catv,em,i&spa), TRAVERSE CITY, MI—At this writing our local is nearing the end of the Turtle Creek Casino Resort project, located in Williamsburg, MI. This project has provided work for many of our members over the past year. The



Local 498 member Tom Jezak stands near the emergency generator at the Turtle Creek Casino Resort.

Cold Springs Compressor Station near Kalkaska, MI, is getting under way and should help put some members to work through the summer and fall. Our members recently ratified a three-year Inside contract. We welcome all new Inside, Residential, and CW/CE members.

Our local recently lost retired member James Dippre. Our condolences go out to Bro. Dippre's family on his passing.

Timothy R. Babcock, P.S.

Bill 76 Closes Loophole

L.U. 502 (c.em,i,rt&t), ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA—On Friday, May 30, the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly gave final reading to Bill 76—an Act to amend the Industrial Relations Act, prohibiting the practice of "double breasting." This hopefully brings to an end a two-year battle waged by the IBEW and New Brunswick Building Trades unions to end this anti-worker practice.

Our strategy of stripping key nonunion tradesmen has caused nonunion rates to rise by as much as 10 percent in our jurisdiction and has left some contractors with few or no journeymen.

Local 502 is proud to welcome new members Dan Seely, Norm Dechenes, Jason Blanchard, Norm Costello, Mike Cosman, Jeff Leblanc, Dale Kilpatrick, Bill Conway, Craig Miller, Troy Crossman, Mike McNamee, Bill Jeffers, Darren McGinnis, Joe Cormier, Joe Henderson, Dave Walker and Pat Carlson.

At this writing, the local union election is in full swing with a full slate of candidates to choose from. Good luck to all.

Local 502 recently sponsored training courses in Arc Flash Safety.

Thanks to brothers from Locals 2166 and 1555 for their help on local projects.

Dave Stephen, P.S.

Capt. Cruz Donates Flag

L.U. 518 (i,rts&spa), GLOBE, AZ—Air Force Capt. Daniel Cruz, son of Local 518 member Eloy Cruz and Eileen Cruz, flew his A-10 "Warthog" fighter jet into the war zone of Afghanistan, carrying an American flag on the mission. Capt. Cruz sent the flag back to Local 518 to be displayed at the union hall. [See "IBEW on Duty" article and photo in *The Electrical Worker*, July 2008.] We support the troops serving in combat zones and hope for their safe return home.

The work picture is still good in our local area. We are working on five copper mines in the local's jurisdiction and have some work at three power plants in our northern district. We are looking at new technology to help us use alternative energy sources to power our hall into the 21st century.

George Mesa, E-Brd./P.S.

Celebrate Labor in September

L.U. 538 (i), DANVILLE, IL—Mark your calendars! September offers several opportunities to celebrate labor. Monday, Sept. 1, is Labor Day. The Danville parade begins at 10 a.m., followed by the Westville parade. The 2007 Local 538 float, designed by Juan Chavira, took first place in both parades. Stop by the hall and look at the pictures and awards, if you missed the parade.

The Local 538 picnic will be held Saturday, Sept. 13, at Forrest Glen Preserve; information will be arriving in the mail.

Tuesday, Sept. 16, is the local union meeting; meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. Please help us congratulate Scott Grubbs and Rick Omundson on their successful completion of the apprenticeship program. The JATC has selected the following new apprentices: Scott Callahan, Jacob Campbell, Brock Deffenbaugh, Josh Ferguson, Josh Howard, Travis Hutchings, Tyler Thurman and Troy Walton.

Kathie Porter, Training Dir.



IBEW Local 538 Asst. Bus. Mgr. and JATC member Rex Modglin (left) presents Rick Omundson with the 2008 Outstanding Apprentice Award.

100th Birthday Celebration

L.U. 584 (ees,em,es,i,rt,spa&u), TULSA, OK—In September 1907, IBEW Local 584 opened its doors in what was then still Indian Territory, USA. Less than two months later, this territory became Oklahoma, the 46th state. A short time later, Charles Bertalot was born in this new state, and all three of these events have been tied together virtually since that time.

Bro. Charles Bertalot recently celebrated his 100th birthday, surrounded by friends and family, most of whom were members or retirees of Local 584. Union members attending included Local 584 Bus. Mgr. Mike Burton, Debbie Bagby, Roger Clark, Bob Anderson, Zeke Secrist, Bruce Gass, Jack Anderson, Mike Markham, Sam Robinson, Bob Bryan, Max Leaverton and Charles Bertalot Jr., who is also a retired member of our local.

The senior Bro. Bertalot, born March 20, 1907, was initiated into the IBEW on Jan. 7, 1942. He remains bright-eyed and active, and was able to attend the Local 584 centennial celebration in September 2007, where he received a plaque, presented by Int. Vice Pres. Jonathan B. Gardner, commemorating his 65 years of service to IBEW Local 584.

Johnny Patterson, A.B.M.



Local 584 retired Bro. Charles Bertalot Sr., a 65-year member, recently celebrated his 100th birthday with Local 584 officers and members.

Graduation Ceremony

L.U. 606 (em,es,i,rtb,spa&u), ORLANDO, FL—The graduating class of 2008 had their ceremony at the Florida Hotel. Guest speakers were Rachel Hutter, representing Walt Disney World; Local 606 Bus.



Local 606 honors apprentice graduating class of 2008. From left, front row, Aaron Hoover, Dennis Misorek, Adam Champion, Jorge Camacho, Luis Benejam, Michael Stines and Christopher Stump; back row, Michael Nesbit, Rajeev Mann, Michael Miller, Mark Baldrige, Andres Salazar, Anthony Stines, Saymon Attalla, Brett Erwin, Nathan Feinberg, Lemuellee Quinones, Wayne Wright, Robert Merriam and Jean-Richard Fisher.

Mgr. Harry Brown; and Robert Coppersmith, NECA. Congratulations for all your hard work, graduates. Christopher Stump received an engraved watch for achieving perfect attendance. Outstanding apprentices were Wayne Wright, Michael Nesbit, Nathan Feinberg and Andres Salazar.

“Every American citizen has the right to vote. Hundreds of thousands of armed forces members have died to preserve our government and our right to vote. The citizens of this country who are eligible to vote—but do not—commit a grave disservice to those who died in wars defending the United States.” The above was written years ago by author David Manier, and it conveys an important message for this election year.

With deepest regret we report the deaths of Bros. Clarence Lewis, Ron Kennedy, Ray Bonner and Charlie Jones. Our thoughts and prayers go to their families.

Janet D. Skipper, P.S.

Hockey Tournament Champs

L.U. 636 (as,catv,em,spa&u), TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA—On June 21-22 Kim Carmichael, from Enersource Hydro Mississauga, participated in a 200-km bike “Ride to Conquer Cancer” from Toronto to Niagara Falls to benefit The Princess Margaret Hospital. We invited members to show support to Kim and this great cause. We’re proud of you, sister! For more info please visit www.conquercancer.ca.

The 2008 Ontario Electric Utilities Hockey Tournament was held March 28-30. The event amassed many teams from many utilities and unions. Great thanks to the host utility PowerStream Inc. for a job well-done and congratulations to the victorious IBEW Local 636, Enersource Team that won the tournament. Congratulations, guys!

Congratulations to our members at PowerStream, Veridian and Simcoe Community Services, who recently ratified their contracts. Good luck to the members at Horizon Utilities, Wasaga Beach Hydro and Orillia Public Works, who are currently in or preparing for upcoming contract negotiations.

Robert Mogus, P.S.



IBEW Local 636 Enersource Team D-Division hockey tournament champs.

Thank you to our neighboring locals for helping our members through this hard time.

Torrey Newton, P.S.

Karn/Weadock Power Plant

L.U. 692 (i,mt&spa), BAY CITY, MI—We have 80 members on Book 1. We just can’t seem to clear the book. Summer is here with many jobs scheduled to start, and some going nonunion.

We just finished the new 241-foot conveyor with telescopic chute at Consumers Energy’s Karn/Weadock power plant. A lot of the work was done in outdoor Michigan winter weather.

It all starts with coal, eastern and western U.S. coal. The plant uses 3 million tons a year, further helping other parts of our country. Karn/Weadock is Consumers Energy’s largest power plant site, capable of producing over 2,500 megawatts of power to fill the needs of over 1.3 million consumers, and paying more than \$10 million a year in property taxes, further helping the local government. The fly ash and transfer building projects are almost complete, with bag houses coming early next year (projects to meet EPA criteria), and the new power plant coming (waiting on Michigan PA 141). It’s good the plant is working with our union. Coal is a U.S. resource that we don’t have to depend on other countries for! Thanks to Karn/Weadock for continued support using Local 692 and for keeping the site a 100 percent union work force.

Our condolences go to the family of Local 692 member Jerome “Jerry” Fortin, who passed away in March.

Tom Bartosek, P.S.



IBEW Local 692 members recently completed work on a new conveyor with telescopic chute at Consumers Energy’s Karn/Weadock power plant located near Bay City, MI.

50-Year Members

L.U. 654 (i), CHESTER, PA—In 1958, a total of 32 employees of the C&W Electrical contractor were organized into Local 654. Now, there are nine of us retired former C&W employees who are celebrating 50 years as IBEW members, and I recently spoke with several of them.

As for myself, I enjoyed working out of the local and meeting interesting people. Now retired, I am proud to have a son who is a member of Local 654.

Bro. Lou Papili said the pension plan paid off and it’s great to have a comfortable retirement. Bobby Hart, who set up the Health and Welfare and Pension Plans, said the local offered many opportunities. Lou McCauley says he’s happy as a clam and enjoys time with his wife, kids and grandkids.

Herbie Osborne, who was a steward, discussed how well we were treated by the local. John Papili sounded great on the phone; he is enjoying retirement and thankful to the local. Al Simeone said our local should be proud for being one of the early locals to open its door to minorities. Lou Filippone praised the local and enjoys retirement. Lou is playing golf, going to Stone Harbor and enjoying his family. I was unable to contact Jimmy Smith.

T. Francis “Jeep” Hanley, P.S.

Meeting Challenges

L.U. 684 (c,i,rt,sts), MODESTO, CA—Since the birth of our union during the wiring of America in the late 19th century, a time when workers faced appalling working conditions and deaths by falls and electric shock, challenge has made us. And now, in this new millennium, with a recession of jobs and opportunity and the weakening value of our dollars, we are headed for a rough ride ahead.

With new IBEW organizing techniques such as those shown in Florida and elsewhere, along with PLAs based on our code of excellence and new technologies in solar power generation, we will start to turn this thing around and not fade away.

Service Award Recipients

L.U. 700 (em,i,o&spa), FT. SMITH, AR—Service pins were awarded in May to members with years of service ranging from 10 to 55 years. At a reception held prior to the regular monthly meeting, 19 members received pins.

Pin recipients were as follows: for 10 years of service—Tim Carte, Leonard Davis, Charles McKinney, Gary Rankin, David Reiss, James Ricketts; for 15 years—Mike Lovell; 20 years—Russell Thomas; 25 years—Steve Strunk, Curtis Walbe; 30 years—Burl Carter, Tom Martin; 35 years—James Horton, Kenneth Phillips; 40 years—Eyul Smith; 45 years—Danny Layne; 50 years—Jack Fraley; 55 years—William Cooper and Donald McAlister. We congratulate all our members who received pins.

The IBEW “American Time” watch was presented to Bro. Burl Carter in honor of his having

served for 20 years as president of Local 700. He was recently re-elected (no opposition) to another three-year term.

Congratulations to apprentices Brandon Croom, Jerry Carter and Matt Foster on completing their apprenticeship.

Debbie Carter, P.S.



Local 700 service award recipients, from left: Jack Fraley, a 50-year member, and 55-year members Donald McAlister and William Cooper.

Projects to Gear Up

L.U. 702 (as,c,catv,cs,em,es,et,govt,i,it,lctt,mo,mt,o,p,pet,ptc,rtb,rts,se,spa,st,t,u,uow&ws), WEST FRANKFORT, IL—The work picture continues to improve this year. The Prairie State Energy Campus project is slowly coming out of the ground. August is scheduled for setting the steel. We currently have 59 journeyman wiremen on the project.

The Dynegy-Baldwin Energy Complex scrubber project and the LeFarge Cement Plant project will gear up in the fall.

At this writing, we have 33 journeyman wiremen on the Out of Work Book 1 list, with all apprentices working.

Outside construction and line clearance work continues to be strong. Local 702 is continuing its organizing efforts in our Missouri jurisdiction.

Brothers and sisters, please work safe, attend your union meetings—and in November vote your job.

Marsha Steele, P.S.

Work Picture Update

L.U. 704 (catv,em&i), DUBUQUE, IA—As of this writing at the approach of spring, our work situation was improving with everyone on Book 1 working. At press time, work looks good for the summer. Existing projects are scheduled to peak in the coming months.

Local 704 and local contractors are also working hard to secure the work at a proposed Hormel plant to be constructed in the industrial park of Dubuque.

With regret we report the passing of two retired members, Bros. Joe Willenborg and Marvin Dalsing. Bro. Willenborg was initiated in 1963. Joe started his career with Tri-State Electric Co.

Bro. Dalsing died from complications of asbestosis. Marv was a 50-year member of Local 704, where he held many offices including that of president. Prior to his retirement, Marv was the manager of Morse Electric Co. in Dubuque. We extend our condolences to the families of these men.

Ron Heitzman, P.S.



Attending Local 712's April retirees banquet are, from left, back row, Rodger D. Iben, John R. Troutman, Bernard N. "Bud" Gamble, Third District Int. Rep. John E. Malagise, Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill, Kurt V. Neff, Donald Smarsh, Local 712 Bus. Mgr. Frank E. Telesz Jr., Local 712 Pres. John A. Kochanowski; front row, Michael L. McBurney, Burton A. "Butch" Wilson, Robert E. Nixon, Thomas Ross and Louis Zicarelli. Not pictured is retiree Rich Stockunas.

Annual Retirees Banquet

L.U. 712 (c&i), BEAVER, PA—Local 712 held its annual retirees banquet on April 19 at the Monaca Turners facility. We honored all Local 712 members who retired from the IBEW in 2007. We were privileged to have in attendance at this year's banquet IBEW Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill and Third District Int. Rep. John E. Malagise, both of whom are Local 712 members.

This year's honorees were: Bros. Roger Iben, John Troutman, Bud Gamble, Kurt Neff, Don Smarsh, Mike McBurney, Butch Wilson, Bob Nixon, Tom Ross, Louis Zicarelli and Rich Stockunas. A wonderful evening of fellowship was enjoyed by all, as stories were exchanged among friends about years of experiences on and off the job.

Work remains slow in our local and we thank our sister locals for the employment they are currently providing our out-of-work members.

See you at the meeting!

Larry Nelson, P.S.

'Successful Activities'

L.U. 716 (em,i,lctt,rts&spa), HOUSTON, TX—I hope this finds all gainfully employed with work in your jurisdiction. We appreciate other local unions putting our members to work. Hopefully we can return the courtesy. Houston has plenty of work at this time with more coming.

We have had numerous successful activities since our last article, namely our Local 716 Golf Tournament, our Brotherhood Bash Picnic, and the MS 150 bike ride. Check our



Local 816 members at West Kentucky Rural Telephone gather as they start to work.



IBEW Local 716 maintenance group members (in blue) alongside Texan Electric brothers, shown at the Agrifos Plant in Houston, are helping the union take back the ship channel work.

Uranium Disposition Service (UDS) project is keeping members busy at the United States Enrichment Corp. (USEC) plant. Upcoming negotiations include West Kentucky Rural Telephone, Hickman-Fulton Rural Electric Cooperative Corp. and West Kentucky Rural Electric Cooperative.

The fall golf tournament is scheduled for Sept. 13 at Drake Creek. The annual retiree meeting is scheduled for Oct. 4 at the Cherry Civic Center.

Greg Hobgood, B.M./F.S.

Tribute for Service

L.U. 876 (as,catv,govt,lctt,o,t&u), GRAND RAPIDS, MI—Bro. Rex DeVree recently received a plaque in tribute for his 25-plus years as a dedicated American Line Builders Apprenticeship Training (ALBAT) instructor for our apprentice linemen. Local 876 Bus. Mgr. presented the plaque.

Rex was initiated into the IBEW in 1971 and worked under the 876-A construction agreement for eight years during his own apprenticeship training and after becoming a journeyman lineman. He then went to work for Tri-County Electric and was employed there for 21 years.

In addition to his duties as an instructor for ALBAT, Rex served as a former president of the local union and as assistant business manager. In fact, he recently was appointed once again as a Local 876 assistant business manager. Rex is a proven asset to the local union and we all welcome him back to the staff.

Robert W. Edmonds, P.S.



Local 876 Bus. Mgr. Keith Sarns (right) presents plaque to Asst. Bus. Mgr. Rex DeVree.

Numbers Growing in Tucson

L.U. 1116 (em,lctt&u), TUCSON, AZ—In these days of people losing jobs, we have been fortunate to build up our work force with our apprenticeship program. Recently 14 TEP pre-apprentices completed their year-long training and now step into their apprentice safety boots for some intense training.

Our union members in Cottonwood, Prescott, Lake Havasu, Kingman, Flagstaff, Show Low, Springerville and Tucson have all done an outstanding job throughout the summer to keep the work force accident free, a safety record we are proud of. Thanks to all of you for keeping those power services going throughout the hot Arizona summer monsoons.

By now, we are well into various contract negotiations in both Tucson and Springerville; with the cost of everything from health insurance to

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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**HOW TO REACH US**

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

Send letters to:

Letters to the Editor, *The Electrical Worker*, 900 Seventh Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001

Or send by e-mail to: media@ibew.org

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FROM THE OFFICERS

Getting Our Message Out



Edwin D. Hill
International President

On page three of this issue, there's a story about the IBEW's redesigned Web site, www.ibew.org. This is more than just another new look for the site; it's also symbolic of a movement toward a greater use of Web technology to further the goals of the Brotherhood.

With this new site, we are making a commitment to keep our members, and the public, informed on a more regular basis, with news on the activities of the IBEW coming on a daily basis. The new graphics make the site easier to read and to navigate, and we will make greater use of video to tell our story to the world as well.

This isn't just about putting out a better looking Web site. As our union addresses issues like organizing, growth, recruitment of new workers into our industries, expanding our expertise in alternate energy installation and maintenance, legislative action and numerous other activities, our members need to be better and more quickly informed. So too, our allies in the community and political world will be looking to us for information. This site is a major way in which we will provide that.

The print medium will continue to be a core part of the IBEW's media operation, as it has been since the beginning of our Brotherhood, but an increasingly wired world demands that we increase our presence in cyberspace. Like the Internet itself, our site is always a work in progress. We look forward to hearing your comments about how to make it the best Web site in the labor movement.

The *Electrical Worker's* first editor, James T. Kelly, could have never predicted the world of video news, blogs and online job databases when he took the job more than 100 years ago. But his objectives—to inform our members on what's going on the shop floor, Capitol Hill and everything in between and create a unified, public voice for trade unionism in the electrical industry—are still important goals of the IBEW. ■

A National Disgrace

As thousands of U.S. service members risk life and limb every day in the heat of desert combat, recent headlines herald a disturbing and inexcusable danger lurking far from the firefights.

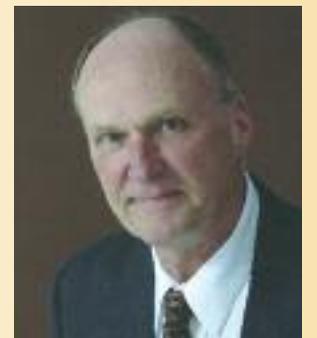
Since the start of the war in 2003, 13 troops died in Iraq not as a result of hostile fire, but by inefficient and sloppy electrical work provided by military contractor KBR, a former subsidiary of Halliburton and the former Brown and Root—one of the most vehemently anti-union contracting firms ever. Such work has electrocuted troops in showers and swimming pools and killed soldiers in fires resulting from faulty wiring.

A front-page July *New York Times* article trumpeted the bad news. In 2007, "electrical problems were the most urgent noncombat safety hazard for soldiers in Iraq," the paper wrote, citing an official Army statement. Hundreds more troops have received nonlethal shocks—sometimes daily—from the poor electrical work performed by KBR electricians. In a recent six-month period, nearly 300 electrical fires damaged or destroyed American facilities in the country.

Since the dawning of our Brotherhood, the IBEW has taken an occupation that had a 50 percent fatality rate and helped to create a strong and effective safety ethic. Our graduates from the National Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee program are the finest in the nation, demonstrating precision and sound decision-making on the job and always searching for improvements in safety.

Remember, this is an administration that has repeatedly put our sons and daughters in harm's way without the tools needed to safely get the job done. I am talking about Humvees without adequate armor and troops without enough helmets and flak jackets. The same lack of thoroughness and follow-through is now widely known to be present at KBR-run bases.

As a union, we strive to ensure our members have everything they need to get the job done professionally, efficiently, and—most importantly—*safely*. Our leaders owe the same to our troops. ■



Lindell K. Lee
International Secretary-Treasurer

Letters to the Editor

Proud Member Remembered

Our father, Anthony J. Zafarino Sr., died on October 16, 2007. He was a proud member of the IBEW. Back in the 1970s, he encouraged us to participate in an IBEW talent contest, which we won. He loved music, his country, and was a World War II veteran of the Navy. Our older brother Anthony J. Zafarino Jr. is also a member of the IBEW today because of our dad. Our Dad was the chief of maintenance for the Health & Hospital Corp. for the City of New York. He was very proud to be a union member and had a picture of Harry Van Arsdale Jr. hanging on his office wall for years. He was born in Manhattan in 1918, the son of Italian immigrants. Married for 66 years, his wife Agnes Valenski Zafarino of Polish descent died four years before him. A Perry Como look-alike, Anthony was a man of great integrity, loved by many for his singing, his laughter and his humility. He is survived by identical twin daughters Maria and Michele, son Anthony J. Zafarino Jr., grandsons Anthony J. Zafarino III and Frankie; granddaughters Carolyn, Jennifer and Anne Marie and great granddaughters Selena and Angelina.

Maria Mulligan & Michele Nicholson
Daughters of Anthony J. Zafarino Sr., Local 3 member, New York, N.Y.

A Grateful Union Daughter

I wish I could shake the hand of the IBEW organizer who helped linemen in Maine organize into Local 1837 many years ago. Just one of those union jobs has made such a big difference in the opportunities in my life that I want to buy that organizer a cup of coffee and say, "Let me tell you a little story." My dad, Larry Sargent, had grown up so hungry that he actually loved Army food when he was drafted to fight in Vietnam. After returning and starting a family, he showed up at Central Maine Power every week for a year until they hired him. He worked as a union lineman through 14 Maine winters and, later, as a hot sticker through 16 Arizona summers.

Many, many people over the years have told me that he was the hardest worker they'd ever known. I'm deeply thankful for the big things (college education) as well as the small things (Christmas presents, braces) that were made possible because of the IBEW. It seems like daily I was reminded that the union was the reason that my sister and I got a decent start in life. I try to pass on this precious legacy to others by working for the union movement, alongside many great member activists. I feel like I am working with my heroes. My dad was diagnosed eight years ago with a terminal Agent Orange-related illness. He cried the day they told him he couldn't work anymore, and died 18 months later. More than 100 linemen from Arizona Public Service took the day off to attend his funeral. The IBEW made a better life possible for him and his family—with plenty of food for everybody—and for that I am thankful beyond words.

Jennifer Sargent
Daughter of Local 1837 member Larry Sargent, Manchester, Maine

IBEW PHOTO & VIDEO CONTEST

Attention Photo & Video Buffs!

Photographs have the power to inspire and motivate. With improved technology and the rise of video on the Web, the ability to make moving pictures is accessible to many. We have expanded our photo contest this year to include video productions.

Also new with this year's contest is that the IBEW membership will pick the winners on www.ibew.org.

Keep an eye on future issues of the Electrical Worker and the Web site for the announcement of when the judging will begin.

See www.ibew.org/special/08PhotoContest.pdf for complete contest rules and entry forms.

Who We Are

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

Former NFL Player Blocks for Chicago Apprenticeships

Young folks better not tell Nate Turner, a Chicago Local 134 inside wireman and executive director of the Chicago Labor Management Cooperation Committee, that they won't consider taking a temporary loss in wages to enter an apprenticeship program that will lead them to a lifetime of job security and high earnings.

"I went from \$525,000 a year as an NFL player to a \$20,000 per year apprenticeship," says Turner, who was drafted by the Buffalo Bills in 1991 and played in two Super Bowls after a celebrated career at the University of Nebraska that included major bowl games each year.

Today, Turner, the son of a 38-year Local 134 journeyman wireman, visits high schools and community organizations to recruit minority applicants to apprenticeship programs.

"It's fulfilling work that can change lives and give hope to families for years to come," says Turner, a graduate of Chicago's Mt. Carmel High School, a football powerhouse that produced Philadelphia Eagle's quarterback Donovan McNabb and former Tampa Bay Buccaneer Simeon Rice.

Turner was signed by the Carolina Panthers after four years with the Bills. "I hurt my knee and that was that," for his NFL career, says Turner, who went on to play professional rugby in Australia before returning home to care for his father, Nate Sr., when he suffered a stroke. His father died in 2001.

After an unsuccessful tryout with the St. Louis Rams, Turner was out of professional sports options. He looked around and decided to follow in his father's footsteps and enter the electrical trade. "I saw how well my father was taken care of by his union benefit plans," says Turner. He first entered Local 134's residential apprenticeship, then transferred to the commercial program.

After topping out of his apprenticeship, Turner, a married father of two, served as a steward on the five-year, 93-story, Trump Towers construction project.

"I took the same effort and work ethic that I put into becoming a professional athlete—blocking for great players like Thurman Thomas—and put it into the trade," says Turner, who was appointed Labor Management Cooperation Committee director in 2006. "I try to get the message out about what a blessing the trades are, how one can see the product of his/her skills exhibited in buildings all over town."

And he revisits the all-important benefits that led to his own career choice. "I tell young people that being a tradesman can be the difference between being able to take a sick child to the county



Credit: Ed Meher

Turner, a former pro football player, is executive director of the Chicago LMCC.

hospital or to the Center for Advanced Medicine."

"Every high school is full of students who think that they are going to play professional football or basketball. I tell them that there are only 56 players on an NFL team and 15 on an NBA team," says Turner. "They have a better chance to be a doctor or a lawyer. They need a Plan B and the trades are one of the best."

Douglas Garcia met Turner when he came to address a pre-apprenticeship training class. "While I'm Latino and he's African-American, it intrigued me that, despite all his trials and tribulations, Turner really enjoyed being an electrician," he says.

Garcia, 37, who joined the pre-apprenticeship class after being released from incarceration, is working as a roofer apprentice. At Turner's urging, he has placed his name on the waiting list for the electrical apprenticeship. ■

Get Connected

If you would like to receive your Electrical Worker via e-mail instead of in your mailbox, contact us at media@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.

Local Lines

continued from page 13



Among the Local 2324 members who recently received diplomas from Springfield, MA, Technical Community College are, from left: Mark Charles McCormack, Mark Olson, Brian Moran, Stanley McCoy, Lisa Russell, Eric Delaney, John Yarasavych and Joseph O'Brien.

gasoline being what it is, we really need to stick together for the benefit of all. Remember to attend your union meeting and keep informed.

Congratulations to our newly elected local union officers.

R. Cavaletto, P.S.

1220 Members Win SPJ Awards

L.U. 1220 (rtb), CHICAGO, IL—The Chicago Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists gave their Peter Lisagor Awards to IBEW Local 1220 members for excellence in the line of duty.

Nathan Delack, CBS camera operator, was the videography winner for his "Winter Solstice" piece. "It was really a special night because I grew up in the Chicago suburbs and always wanted to work for a Chicago TV station and now I was even recognized for my hard work," Delack said.

Tim Boyd, camera operator, PBSWTTW, was a finalist in the same category for "The Foods of Chicago: A Delicious History."

Also, at CBS Mike Klingele, Alif Muhammad, and Bond Li took second place for the best investigative series, "Out of Order."

Mike D'Angelo, WGN-TV, was a finalist in the soft news category for shooting "Façade Project."

The Lisagor awards are named for Peter Lisagor, former Washington bureau chief of the Chicago Daily News. Lisagor was one of the nation's most respected and best-known journalists at his death in 1976.

The Chicago office of Bexel Broadcast Services hosted a two-day DUET training class for union members. "Continuing education is a vital component to keep our jurisdiction," said Local 1220 Bus. Mgr. Madeleine Monaco.

Jim Sterne, B.R./P.S.

Degree in Telecom Technology

L.U. 2324 (t), SPRINGFIELD, MA—On May 29, 17 members of IBEW Local 2324 received diplomas from Springfield Technical Community College. All had participated in the college's Next Step Program. The program allows contract qualified Verizon associates who are members of the IBEW to earn an Associate in Applied Science degree in telecommunications technology from a

participating college.

Congratulations and best wishes for continued success to these Local 2324 graduates. They are: Kathleen Adamczyk, James J. Armstrong, Christopher Cote, Eric Delaney, Jesse Kovalsick, Mark Charles McCormack, Stanley L. McCoy, Brian J. Moran, Joseph J. O'Brien, Mark A. Olson, Paul Pharmer, William T. Pritchard, Ryan P. Quinto, Scott Rogers, Lisa J. Russell, James Anderson Todd and John J. Yarasavych.

Joe Floyd, P.S.

Council Member Retires

UTILITY SYSTEM COUNCIL U-7—System Council U-7 wishes Bro. Brian Beakman and wife Sharon, daughter Jennifer and son-in-law Jason all the best in Brian's retirement. In addition to his service as SCU-7 delegate, Brian also served Lancaster, NY, Local 966 as business manager/president. An IBEW member for 31 years, he previously served his local as union steward, E-Board member, E-Board chairman and vice president.

Bro. Mike Lutz replaces Bro. Beakman as the Local 966 business manager/president. Lutz also serves as SCU-7 secretary-treasurer. Bro. Bob Smith is a new SCU-7 delegate for Chatham, NY, Local 1143. Smith is business manager/president of Local 1143.

Don S. Tuttel, P.S.



System Council U-7 officers and delegates congratulate Bro. Brian Beakman (fifth from left), former council delegate and Local 966 business manager/president, on his retirement. From left are SCU-7 delegates Larry Townley, Local 249 vice president; Tom Addy, Local 83 business agent; Bob Smith, Local 1143 business manager/president; Gary Bonker, Local 83 vice president; Bro. Beakman; SCU-7 Pres. Dan Addy, Local 83 business manager/president; SCU-7 Sec.-Treas. Mike Lutz, Local 966 business manager/president; and Mark Valerio, Local 249 business manager/president.

Career: Up. Tuition: Down.

IBEW has partnered with Excelsior College to give IBEW members access to college degrees and significant savings on tuition and fees.

College is more affordable than ever for all IBEW members.

The new partnership between Excelsior College and IBEW now allows members to transfer in credits already earned at other colleges and universities, credit for evaluated industry training, such as NJATC, and receive discounts on fees and tuition.

Start today.

Visit us on the web at:
ibew.excelsior.edu

OR

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