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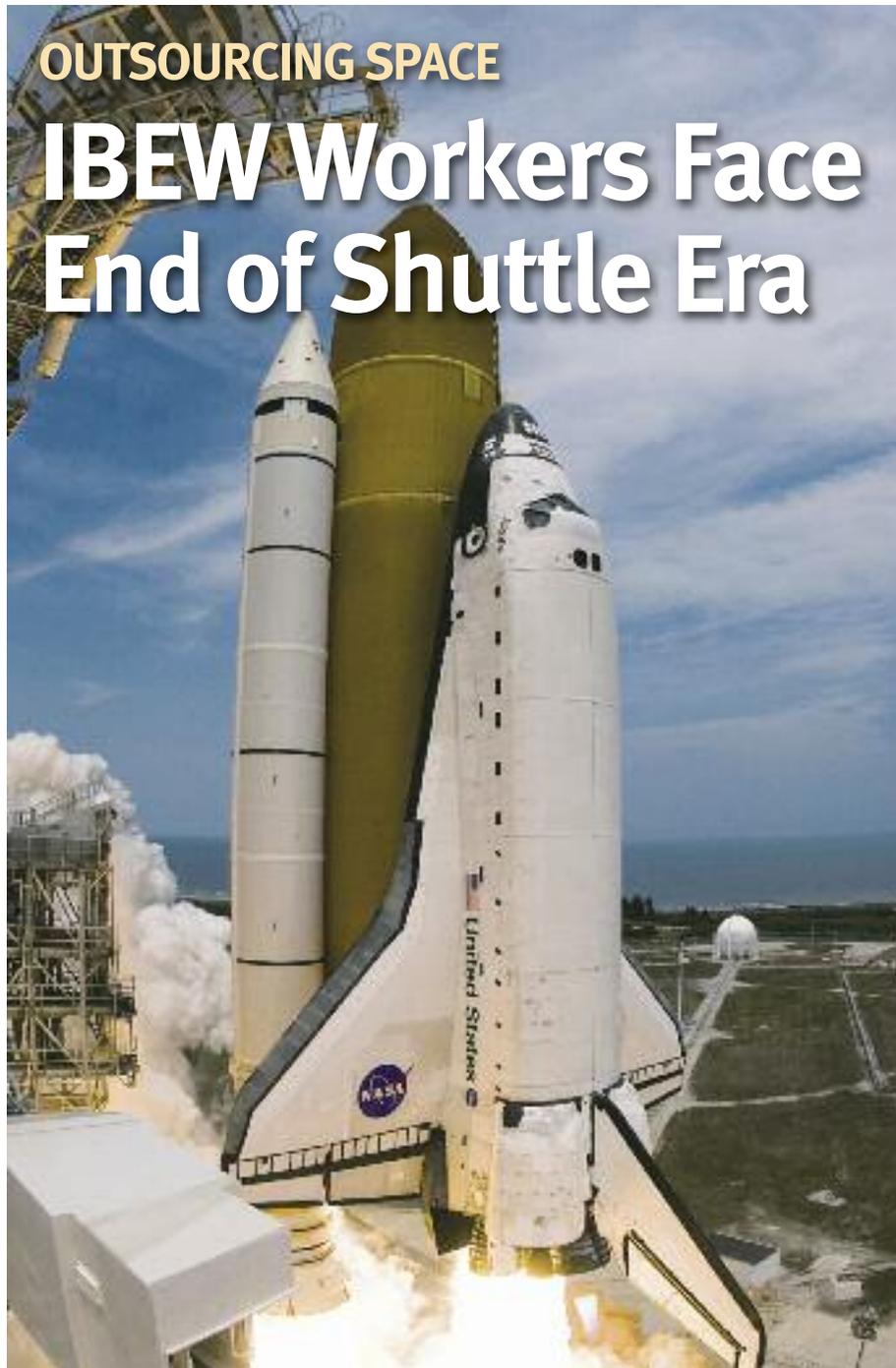
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OUTSOURCING SPACE

IBEW Workers Face End of Shuttle Era



Mary Ann Jackson stands beneath a massive replica of NASA's iconic space shuttle orbiter at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida and fights back tears.

"It's just hard to believe this is all coming to an end," says Jackson, a field systems specialist and member of Cocoa Beach, Fla., Local 2088. "We're not sure what happens now."

It's an uncertain time for Jackson—who spent the last 26 years working on the space center's communications systems—and for the hundreds of other IBEW members who dedicate their lives and careers to getting space shuttles off the ground, into orbit, then back home to Earth again.

"There are so many people's lives affected by all this," she says. Her husband Denis is an IBEW shop steward with 17 years of service at the space center. "It's sad to think we might not have jobs soon, and tough to deal with where our work is going."

NASA is scheduled to retire the shuttle fleet by the end of this year. With just five missions left, human space flight—once one of America's most prestigious home-grown industries—is about to move overseas. By late 2010, U.S. astronauts headed into orbit will have just one surefire way to get there—aboard Russian-made, Russian-launched and Russian-controlled rockets.

"The U.S. manned space program shouldn't be outsourced to a foreign government, even temporarily," says Dan Raymond, business manager of Local 2088, which represents more than 800 space workers. "It's a national treasure, and should be treated like it. We wouldn't just give away the Statue of Liberty or something else so symbolic of our country."

But the end of the shuttle program is about more than symbolism. After the final launch in September, the U.S. will no longer be capable of sending its own astronauts into space or even be able to reach the International Space Station, paid for with \$100 billion in American tax money.

Until a new generation of spacecraft can be built and perfected, U.S. astronauts will only be able to take flight inside Russia's 40-year-old

END OF SHUTTLE ERA *continued on page 2*

Atlantis lifts off from Florida's Kennedy Space Center in November 2009. NASA's final shuttle mission is scheduled for September.

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End of Shuttle Era

Soyuz spacecraft. While the \$50 million per astronaut, per flight price tag is still a fraction of the cost of launching a shuttle, there is a nearly universal fear that America will eventually pay a much higher price.

"We will be largely dependent on the Russians, and that is a terrible place for the United States to be," former NASA Administrator Michael Griffin told the Washington Post. "I'm worried, and many others are worried."

Officials are concerned about a loss of U.S. prestige on the world stage, a sharp drop in the defense capabilities that a manned space program provides and a potentially huge loss of domestic jobs. Some fear NASA and its contractors could shed thousands of high-paying, high-tech union positions as early as this year.

At Kennedy Space Center alone, about 7,000 people—more than half the center's work force—could be laid off on October 1. Workers at 13 other NASA locations might also be affected, as will local unions that provide construction-related labor for the space agency, including Orlando Local 606 and Daytona Beach Local 756.



Russian security officers in Kazakhstan walk alongside a Soyuz rocket headed to the launch pad. The rockets will carry U.S. astronauts into space after NASA retires the space shuttle fleet in September.

munications expertise on the ground, while others offer radar support for spacecraft in Earth orbit and deep space. They also staff NASA TV, the space agency's video arm that provides live coverage of missions to the media and to the world.

"Space flight has always been one of our country's most valuable assets," said IBEW International President Edwin D. Hill. "Our No. 1 priority should be keeping the technology, the know-how and the work here in America."

Russian rockets are supposed to be a stopgap measure for NASA, giving the agency five to seven years to develop and test the next generation of manned spacecraft. But the direction of the entire space program remains unclear. NASA wants to head to the moon, then Mars—ideas formulated under previous White House leadership in 2005. The Obama administration is considering whether to keep those plans in place or to continue NASA's focus on missions within Earth's immediate orbit.

"Five years is a long time,"

Raymond says. "If you dismantle a highly-skilled, highly-educated work force and all those people go somewhere else, you may never get them back."

The potential layoffs also come at a tough time for the U.S. economy, especially in Florida, where home prices have taken a staggering hit and unemployment is higher than the national average. Workers represented by the IBEW, some with advanced college degrees, are not likely to find similar jobs in the state or region.

"We're talking about a huge impact on a local economy, a whole state and a whole country," Raymond says, citing figures that show as many as 120,000 nationwide private sector jobs indirectly connected to the space program may also be lost or scaled back.

The U.S. and Russia have been cooperating in space since a joint space flight in the summer of 1975. The partnership was strengthened in 1995, when shuttles docked repeatedly with the Russian-owned Mir Space Station. NASA also depended on Russian rockets during a two-year grounding of U.S. spacecraft after the 2003 Space Shuttle Columbia disaster.

"Yes, we've had deals in the past, but that's no guarantee of what's to come in the future," says Raymond. "If we lose control of space, we lose the eyes and ears of the U.S."

be replaced. In October, NASA successfully launched a prototype of the Ares I rocket, which, along with the Orion space capsule, could be the next generation of manned space travel. Many question why the shuttle program has to end before that new spacecraft is ready.

"Let's keep this going until we have something else," says IBEW Government Department Director Chico McGill. "America is in the middle of the worst financial crisis in decades. The government should be creating jobs for people right now, not taking them away."

Experts believe an infusion of billions of dollars—in addition to NASA's current \$18 billion budget—could either extend the shuttle program or shorten the gap between the old and new technologies.

"This wonderful machine that we've been proud of for so many years is going away," says Vasquez, the soon-to-be-laid-off technician. "This is not an easy thing to swallow."

For him and hundreds of other IBEW members, a real-life countdown clock is now ticking. The end of the shuttle program gets closer each day, and no one is sure what happens when the time runs out. ■

Shuttle Special Video Report

Through triumph and tragedy, hundreds of IBEW members have been part of NASA's space shuttle program for the past three decades. As NASA prepares to retire the country's only manned space fleet by the end of the year, members of Cocoa Beach, Fla., Local 2088 look back on the missions they helped accomplish and reflect on the shuttle program's success. See the video report at www.ibew.org. ■

Jorge Vasquez, 52, a calibration technician who spent the past 10 years helping to fine-tune instruments onboard shuttle orbiters, is convinced his position will be among those eliminated.

"Even as a boy, working at NASA was my dream," says Vasquez, a member of Local 2088. "But when the shuttle goes, I go. There's no job for me."

IBEW members, who mostly work on the shuttle program as NASA contractors, have jobs in communications, broadcasting and engineering. Some provide telecom-

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Opposition to Verizon-Frontier Deal Mounts

The proposed sale of Verizon's landline system in 14 states to Frontier Communications is running into stiff opposition from union members, consumer advocates and political leaders across the country.

In West Virginia and Washington, state consumer advocates are urging officials to reject the deal, while in Illinois, Attorney General Lisa Madigan is suggesting that the Federal Communications Commission give the transaction a thumbs down.

The sale would affect more than 4,000 IBEW members at Verizon, in addition to the approximately 1,000 members currently working for Frontier. In addition to those already mentioned, the states that would be affected are Minnesota, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, South Carolina, North Carolina and Arkansas.

"People are getting the full story about how the sale is a bad deal for customers and workers," said IBEW Telecommunications Department Director Martha Pultar. "The disasters at FairPoint and Hawaiian Telecom say it all."

Pultar is referring to two transactions that ended badly for the companies that purchased Verizon's assets. Hawaiian Telecom bought more than 700,000 landlines from Verizon in 2005, which saddled the Honolulu-based company with more

than \$1 billion in debt. It declared bankruptcy last year.

And last fall, FairPoint Communications declared bankruptcy after accumulating \$2 billion in debt after acquiring more than 1 million landlines from Verizon in northern New England (See "Damaging Deals Worry More Telecom Workers," September 2009, the Electrical Worker).

"Our members know what happened at FairPoint and with a potential deal with Frontier, we're worried that's it going to be déjà vu all over again," said Norwalk, Ohio, Local 986 Business Manager Fred Sabol.

Local 986 represents nearly 200 Verizon employees—mostly in rural

north-central Ohio—who would go over to Frontier if sale goes through.

"Frontier can't take on this much debt and hope to maintain and expand operations."

—Ray Egelhoff, Seattle Local 89

"I've got nothing against Frontier, but I don't think it is in a strong enough financial position to responsibly take over these lines," Sabol said.

Verizon is hoping to sell off 4.8 million phone lines, mainly in rural parts of the country where the company fears it will be too expensive to

expand its next generation of fiber optic networks, including its bundled high-speed communications package, FiOS.

The IBEW and the Communication Workers of America have been mobilizing their members against the sale, flooding elected officials with letters and e-mails and packing public commission hearings.

"The sale puts the economic future of our region at risk," said Seattle Local 89 Business Manager Ray Egelhoff. Local 89 represents more than 1,500 Verizon employees who would be affected by the sale. "Frontier can't take on this much debt and hope to maintain and

expand operations."

Opponents of the sale are also criticizing Verizon's plan to use an obscure financial loophole to avoid paying taxes on the \$3.3 billion sale. Using what is known as a "Reverse Morris Trust," Verizon plans to shift its spun-off assets to a subsidiary that will then merge with Frontier, all tax-free.

A similar scheme was used by Verizon for its FairPoint deal.

In nine of the states the deal will have to be approved by state regulatory boards. It will also need to be approved by the FCC.

For more information go to www.ibew.org/verizon-frontier/index.html

Give Your Career a Boost With An Online Telecommunications Degree

Looking to accelerate your career in telecommunications? The National Coalition for Telecommunications Education and Learning (NACTEL), in partnership with Pace University, offers online telecom degrees that can be completed from home.

The online classes are meant to fit busy schedules and can be done from anywhere with Internet access. Applications for the spring 2010 semester are now being accepted.

Registration for the late spring semester, which starts in March, opens on January 7.

Courses can range from nine to 15 weeks.

The NACTEL program is designed to help both veteran and new telecom

workers get the training they need to help meet the growing demand for highly-skilled workers—including cable splicing technicians, switching and transport installers and repairers and wireless and broadband experts—in the telecommunications industry.

One of the newest fields is video technology. The increased popularity of combined wireless, cable and phone packages, such as Verizon's FiOS, makes a certificate in video technology essentials vital to opening up new job opportunities.

And greater demand for broadband Internet access across the country makes the introduction to broadband certificate offered by NACTEL timelier than ever.

More advanced degrees are also available. NACTEL offers a bachelor's degree in telecommunications technology, which gives students a firm grounding in every aspect of the industry.

Degrees are fully accredited and sponsored by industry and union leaders, including the IBEW.

"I like the NACTEL program at Pace University," said East Windsor, N.J., Local 827 member David Furey. Furey, a technician with Verizon, received his bachelor's degree through the program. "It seems to be the closest to hands-on work, and it is designed with an eye on what the industry needs."

In addition to class readings and online discussions, students are responsible for a variety of hands-on projects. "They end up doing everything from soldering their own phone to doing at-home chemistry experiments," said Scott Bates, director of marketing for NACTEL.

Degrees and certificates are available in:

- Video technologies
- Wireless networking
- Networking telecommunications
- Telecommunications

Discounted tuition is available to all IBEW members. Financial aid through your employer may also be available. Consult your employer's tuition policy.

For more information and to download an application, go to www.nactel.org

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The Hard Work Ahead: Former IBEW Executive Takes On One of Labor's Top Jobs

In September 2009, delegates to the AFL-CIO's convention in Pittsburgh made history by electing Liz Shuler, then the Executive Assistant to the IBEW's International President, to the second highest post in America's largest labor federation. As the first woman elected Secretary-Treasurer, she is, at 39, the youngest person to hold one of the federation's top offices.

Shuler, along with newly-elected President Rich Trumka and Executive Vice President Arlene Holt Baker, is helping to lead organized labor at a time of great hope and major challenges for the union movement.

In her office, directly overlooking the north lawn of the White House, The Electrical Worker sat down with Shuler (who asks people to call her Liz) to talk about the challenges that lie ahead and the bright future she wants to help build for America's working families.



AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Liz Shuler in her Washington, D.C. office: "This view is a constant reminder of the huge responsibility we have to help the working people of America."

EW: You were the first woman to reach one of the top jobs at the IBEW. How did it prepare you for some of the big challenges labor is facing now?

Liz: I really had the best on-the-job training there was with [International President] Ed Hill as a mentor. When I first took that job, it was somewhat controversial—I was a woman, and I was a relatively young woman as far as labor is concerned, in my mid 30s. But I tried to let my work speak for itself. When someone puts a challenge in front of me, I take it, and I work hard at it. Policy-making and offering advice on high level decisions was a big part of the job there, so it translates well for the job ahead of me here. Plus, the AFL-CIO is very diverse, representing so many different kinds of workers. The IBEW is a very diverse organization too—with manufacturing, telecommunications, maritime trades, transportation trades and more. I was exposed to a lot of different industries and a lot of different issues prior to coming here, so that helped prepare me.

EW: You've reached the top of the labor movement before the age of 40. Now, it's your job to reach out to younger workers. How do you do plan to do that?

Liz: The future of our labor movement is riding on our ability to connect with young workers. I'm considered young in the labor movement. I'm 39, and it seems logical that a top priority of my office is to develop a strategic plan for getting our message to younger people. We are working on an internal component that's meant to nurture and mentor young leaders within the labor movement. We also have the external issues. How do we educate young people—the millennials—people in their 20s who don't really know about the labor movement? This group is suffering disproportionately in our current economic downturn. We have a lot to offer them and now it's our job to figure out the packaging—a way to make all the good things we have to offer attractive to them. We're taking a look at changing the way we do business to encompass this new audience. We'll be trying to marry the social justice issues, class issues, and the serious things in life with a more fun, social component. It's important when trying to reach this group because people—young peo-

ple in particular—just aren't defining themselves as much by their work these days.

EW: There's the promise of big change and bold new ideas with a new AFL-CIO leadership team. How are people reacting so far?

Liz: There's definitely an air of change in the building [AFL-CIO headquarters in Washington].

"The future of our labor movement is riding on our ability to connect with young workers."

Having a new team has injected excitement. People are sensing that we're not doing things like they've normally been done here. That's been fun because we're

getting a lot of feedback and people are really enthusiastic, especially about the youth outreach.

As far as reaction to me, personally? Being out in front of audiences has been a bit of an adjustment because I've always been more of a behind-the-scenes person. It's been surprising to see how much it means to some people to have a woman and a younger woman in a position of leadership. I never thought it would be a big deal. But when I speak at state labor councils and local unions, a lot of labor women say that it gives them motivation. If I can inspire someone to rise in the ranks of leadership at their local union, then it's all worthwhile.

EW: Everywhere you go, union members ask you about jobs—where can they find them and what is the AFL-CIO doing to help curb the nation's record unemployment? What do you tell them?

Liz: These are some of the toughest conversations I have. People are hurting. People come up to me and say things like "I don't have a job," or "I can't find a job." I tell them

we're working hard on the problem. First, we've encouraged the extension of unemployment benefits, just to help people survive. Next, we're urging politicians to invest in infrastructure. That creates jobs almost immediately and, especially for unions like the IBEW, puts members back to work. We're advocating over there [at the White House] for more infrastructure spending and training programs that are pipelines. Thankfully, labor is at the table with this administration. We really have a voice in the process of how our economy is being rebuilt. We don't have all the answers yet, but we have the tools to find them.

EW: That brings us to the biggest piece of pro-labor legislation in decades. How important is passing the Employee Free Choice Act?

Liz: When we're talking about preserving and boosting the middle class, the Employee Free Choice Act is really going to be critical for us. Our ability to raise wages and preserve benefits relies exclusively on how strong the labor movement is. We're close now, and I think a lot of people are talking about when it will happen. It's pretty evident that, when given a level playing field, people want unions. We're already preparing for the day after the EFCA passes. How are we going to educate folks on how to build the unions? An election is one thing and getting the contract is another, but a real union means having some kind of sustained long-term infrastructure. You really have to have a movement going. It has to be organic. It has to be the workers in that particular workplace being invested.

EW: As Secretary-Treasurer, you're also responsible for the checkbook. That's not always easy in tough times like these.

Liz: Managing the finances and keeping them healthy are critical. And the No. 1 question to consider is: are our affiliates getting the most bang for their buck? We want to be transparent and accountable and make sure we're communicating constantly about where we stand and where we need to go.

EW: So where are we going as a movement? And how will the AFL-CIO fit in, in the years ahead?

Liz: Traditionally, we've been more of a service organization. We have 57 affiliates and they have driven labor's agenda based on whatever challenges are affecting their members. Now, we've started to shift a bit—always keeping that mission in mind—but also representing workers, in general, who have no voice. I mean low-income workers, workers of color, women in the workplace, and we're focusing not just on union

membership, but speaking on behalf of all workers. The door is open to so much possibility. The possibility of increasing our numbers, the possibility of building a movement that harnesses different, disparate groups and brings their collective energy together for social change. The youth piece—if we can stem the decline and the negative perceptions that are out there about labor by reaching young people who don't have an opinion yet—we can start the curve going back up. I love my job in the union movement—and

I always have—because I get to speak for people in a venue where they wouldn't normally have a voice.

Thinking back to my local union days, I always wondered if I, as an individual, was making a difference. Now I realize, yes, I was. And together all of us can have that same sort of impact. Together, we're building something stronger and better. It's really important for the movement, for our families and really for our whole country. Being part of something so big, so important is just an amazing feeling. ■

IBEW Staffers Build AFL-CIO Team

When Liz Shuler was elected Secretary-Treasurer of the AFL-CIO last fall, she knew she needed a well-educated team of people ready to tackle the big challenges facing the labor movement. She chose an electrician turned organizer and a former professional educator, both with their roots in the IBEW.

Kirk Brungard, previously director of the IBEW's construction organizing, and Amanda Pacheco, former International Representative in the Education Department, are now serving as Shuler's Executive Assistants.

“We want young people to see labor like we do, as a way of life, a good way of life.”

— Amanda Pacheco, Assistant to the Secretary-Treasurer

“Kirk has great qualifications and the perfect temperament for this job,” Shuler said. “He has a

master's degree in public administration, so he knows how to work in a large organization with all its moving parts. As a strategic advisor, he's a terrific fit.”

Brungard, a 26-year IBEW member, helps Shuler oversee six AFL-CIO departments and assists in the management of the federation's multi-million dollar budget.

“Words don't adequately convey how exciting it is to be here,” Brungard said. “The amount of enthusiasm in this movement is truly palpable.”

Pacheco, a former Spanish teacher and the daughter of two union parents, is helping to coordinate the AFL-CIO's new outreach to young people and will work on a new, high-tech curriculum for the National Labor College.

“We want young people to see labor like we do, as a way of life, a good way of life,” Pacheco said.

“Amanda has a lot of experience with young people and a unique perspective,” Shuler said. “As a Hispanic woman, she brings an important point of view to the table. We've put together a great team, and we're ready to get the job done.” ■



Secretary-Treasurer Liz Shuler, center, works alongside Executive Assistants Kirk Brungard and Amanda Pacheco at AFL-CIO headquarters in Washington.

Top-Down Organizing Veteran Contractor Signs With IBEW

As 22 electricians took their membership oaths at Albany, N.Y., Local 236's training center in September, Membership Development Representative Frank Muia thought about how fortunate he was to have developed a smooth relationship with them and their employer, Kevin Haggerty, owner of Flex Electric.



Twenty-two electricians at Flex Electric are initiated into Albany, N.Y., Local 236.

Haggerty, who had been in business as a nonunion contractor for 30 years before signing with the local, “went against the grain,” says Muia. He had a stable work force, with some electricians who had been with him 27 years. His wages and benefits were in the top tier of the open shop sector.

Discussions between Haggerty and Local 236 go back four years. While talks between membership development representatives and the owner were cordial, serious dialogue about developing a signatory relationship only took shape this year. After four or five meetings, Haggerty told his crew that he was considering signing with IBEW and met with a favorable response.

Mark Donahue, an eight-year Flex electrician who formerly worked as a Teamster at UPS, says, “Kevin could have signed without talking to us, but that's not how he does things.” Donahue, 27, says, “Now I get the best of both worlds, working for Kevin and having IBEW benefits.”

Before the signing, Local 236 asked the owner for time to meet with Flex's electricians and answer any questions about the union. “There were no grumblings from the guys,” says Muia. Haggerty signed soon after.

“Over time, I got a more comfortable feeling that the union wants to be a partner, rather than an adversary,” says Haggerty, who expects his relationship with IBEW to open up larger, more complex jobs. “Time will tell if my decision was right,” says Haggerty, but so far he and Muia agree that “neither one of us is perfect, but we both want to do what is right.”

“We brought in some very talented electricians and we added a great contractor with Flex,” says Muia, who looks back to the 2007 signing of Carey Electric, another long-time nonunion contractor, as a guide to the positive relationship with Flex Electric.

Mike Carey, owner of Carey Electric, a three-man shop, had been in business almost 28 years before he decided to sign with Local 236. “After I signed, I got calls from other contractors asking me why,” says Carey, who told them that it was good for business.

“My business has grown because I can bid on jobs with confidence knowing I have the resources I need,” says Carey, who recently received a letter of commendation from a consulting engineer overseeing the building of Tech Valley High School in Rensselaer.

“The workmanship on this project compares with that of any of the area's ‘big boys’ I've seen on projects over the last 20 years,” states the letter.

Muia stays in close touch with Flex, Carey and other signatory contractors. “I tell Kevin and Mike and the rest of them that signing with the IBEW is like having a marketing director on your staff,” says Muia. “We're constantly marketing all of our contractors to developers, end users and owners.”

A favorable work situation, including a new computer chip manufacturing facility and a major power plant construction project, makes it easier to organize contractors and electricians in the jurisdiction than elsewhere, says Muia. But persistence and follow-up on top-down efforts make all the difference, he says. ■



New Brunswick Local Rallies to Stop Sale of Provincial Utility

The proposed sale of New Brunswick's public power company to Hydro-Quebec is raising concerns among utility workers and consumers across the province.

Under the terms of the deal, Hydro-Quebec, the largest utility in Canada, would acquire NB Power's transmission and distribution system and the majority of its generating stations.

But the \$4.8 billion merger, announced on October 29, could end up leading to higher energy prices for New Brunswick residents, who have some of the lowest in eastern North America.

For Fredericton Local 37 Business Manager Ross Galbraith, the sale places the job security and terms and conditions of employment of more than 2,200 IBEW members at risk. Local 37 represents the majority of workers at the utility.

Under the terms set by an agreement between New Brunswick and Quebec, the Dalhousie thermal generating station—which employs more than 100 Local 37 members—would be closed by late 2010.

Two other generating stations, Belledune and Coleson Cove, are also at risk and could be shut down with as little as 12 months notice. Local 37's lawyer Ron Pink told the Canadian Press that there is nothing in the agreement that would guarantee that existing collective bargaining agreements would be respected.

"Our members should not have to wake up every morning wondering if this is the day the clock starts ticking on the closure of their generating station," Galbraith said.

Liberal Premier Shawn Graham says that NB Power is a financial drain on the province, necessitating the sale.

It is an argument that doesn't hold up against the facts, says Galbraith. "NB Power has turned a profit for the last five years in a row."

The move by Graham to sell off New Brunswick's power system has motivated a firestorm of opposition from across the province. Graham

has said he hopes to have the deal finalized by the end of March.

On November 17, more than 1,000 protestors came to Fredericton to show their displeasure with the deal.

"This government came to power talking about how NB Power was our greatest asset," Galbraith told the crowd. "Overnight they did a 180-degree turn, telling you it's a millstone around our necks."

An anti-sale Facebook page has attracted more than 26,000 supporters.

Galbraith says that the IBEW will continue to fight the sale and demand that the government make a firm commitment to uphold its obligations to NB Power's employees. ■



Fredericton, New Brunswick, Local 37 Business Manager Ross Galbraith spoke to more than 1,000 protestors in the provincial capital on November 17 at a rally against the proposed sale of NB Power to Hydro-Quebec.

Plus de 1,000 personnes ont manifesté le 17 novembre dernier à Frédéricton, au Nouveau-Brunswick, afin de dénoncer la vente d'Énergie NB à Hydro-Québec.

Les membres d'un local du Nouveau-Brunswick se mobilisent afin d'empêcher la vente d'un service public provincial

Le projet de vente de l'entreprise de service public Énergie Nouveau-Brunswick à Hydro Québec a soulevé des inquiétudes parmi les travailleurs de ce service et les consommateurs de toute la province.

Selon les termes de la transaction, Hydro-Québec, la plus importante entreprise de service public au Canada, obtiendrait le monopole du transport et de la distribution d'électricité au Nouveau-Brunswick et la majorité de ses centrales électriques.

Mais cette fusion se chiffrant à 4,8 milliards \$ et qui fut annoncée le 29 octobre dernier, pourrait entraîner des tarifs résidentiels plus élevés pour le Nouveau-Brunswick, la province où les tarifs sont parmi les plus bas dans l'est de l'Amérique du Nord.

Le confrère Ross Galbraith, Gérant d'affaires de la Section locale

37 de Frédéricton, croit que cette transaction mettra en péril les conditions d'emploi, les avantages sociaux de même que la sécurité d'emploi de plus de 2,200 membres de la FIOE. La S.L. 37 représente la majorité des travailleurs de cette entreprise de service public.

Selon les termes de l'entente entre le Nouveau-Brunswick et le Québec, la centrale thermique de Dalhousie, qui emploie plus de 100 membres de la S.L. 37, cesserait progressivement sa production et devrait fermer vers la fin de l'année 2010.

Deux autres centrales thermiques, notamment celles de Belledune et Coleson Cove, risquent de connaître le même sort. La province pourrait fermer ces centrales après un préavis d'un an seulement. L'avocat de la S.L. 37, M. Ron Pink, a déclaré à la Presse canadienne que rien dans cette entente

ne prévoit que les conventions collectives actuellement en vigueur seront respectées.

"Nos membres ne devraient pas avoir à s'inquiéter chaque matin si la course contre la montre va s'amorcer pour la fermeture éventuelle de leur centrale électrique," dit le confrère Galbraith

Le Premier ministre Shawn Graham considère qu'Énergie NB est un gouffre financier pour la province, d'où la nécessité de la transaction. "C'est un argument qui ne tient pas la route devant les faits. Énergie NB a réalisé des bénéfices au cours des dernières cinq années consécutives," ajoute-t-il.

La décision de Graham de liquider le système d'énergie du Nouveau-Brunswick a suscité un tollé à travers la province. Graham espère que la transaction sera conclue d'ici la fin du mois de mars.

Plus de 1,000 manifestants se sont rassemblés le 17 novembre dernier à Frédéricton afin de dénoncer la transaction.

"Ce gouvernement a fait campagne et a été élu après nous avoir assuré qu'Énergie NB était l'actif le plus important de la province. Puis du jour au lendemain, ils font un 180 degrés et viennent nous dire que l'entreprise n'est qu'un boulet qu'on traîne!" s'est écrié le confrère Galbraith en s'adressant à la foule.

Une page sur Facebook *contre la transaction* a attiré plus de 26,000 sympathisants.

Le confrère Galbraith affirme que la FIOE va continuer de s'opposer à cette transaction et demande au gouvernement qu'il prenne l'engagement ferme de respecter ses obligations envers les employés d'Énergie Nouveau-Brunswick. ■

2009 Founders' Scholarship Winners Reflect Heart of the Movement

Hard work. Dedication. A love for your trade. These are just some of the traits that members display on the jobsite every day. Now three exceptional brothers are taking those qualities into the classroom as recipients of the 2009 Founders' Scholarship.

The scholarship was established in 1966 to help IBEW members obtain higher education degrees to bolster their contributions to the trade and the union. For former Grand Forks, N.D., Local 1426 Business Manager Seth Thompson, receiving the honor is both "gratifying and humbling."

"Starting out as an electrician and seeing the



Seth Thompson

struggle employees go through made me interested in pursuing a career as a labor attorney," said Thompson. In December, he finished his first semester at Hamline University Law School in St. Paul, Minn., where he is honing his knowledge of alternative dispute resolution and labor law.

The 29-year-old cut his teeth handling negotiations and winning tough arbitrations for his local—including a case involving a 30-year Local 1426 member who was unjustly terminated. "We got him reinstated and he received all of his back pay," Thompson said. "Moments like that make you feel good to be in the movement." Thompson looks forward to a dynamic career defending



Matthew Wilkinson

the rights of working men and women.

For fellow recipient Matthew Wilkinson, the scholarship will help fund the Madison, Wis., Local 159 member's degree in career and technical education and training at the University of Wisconsin-Stout so he can teach the next generation of apprentices. A full-time journeyman wireman foreman at Westphal & Co., Wilkinson brings his 11 years of electrical expertise to classes at Madison Area Technical College, where he serves as a part-time instructor.



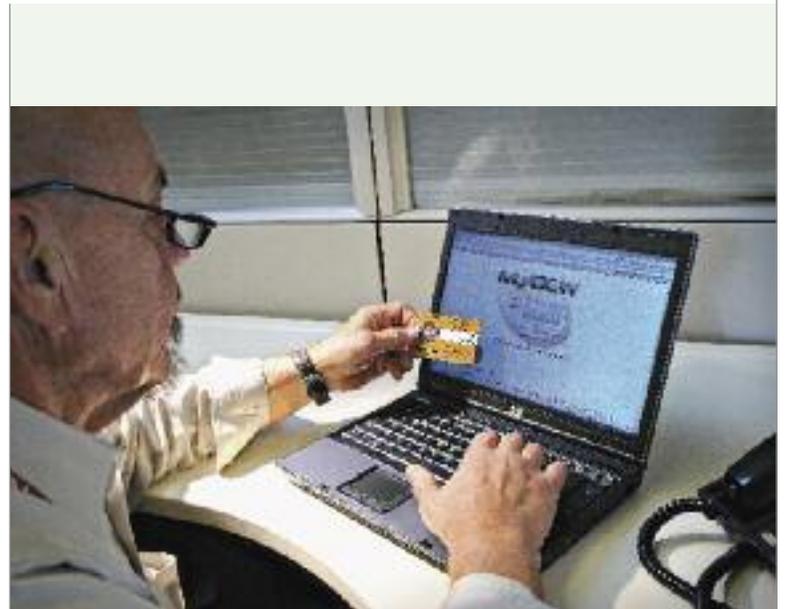
Matthew Von Stein

"I see this as an opportunity to help me give back and educate young people while pushing the trade forward," Wilkinson said. At 29, he is in his fourth year of service as the local's education committee chairman, having coordinated apprenticeship courses while developing instructional curricula. Wilkinson offered gratitude to Local 159 apprentice instructor Matt Parks, who guided him through his fifth year in the apprenticeship and helped inspire his love of teaching.

Hamilton, Ohio, Local 648 President Matthew Von Stein is putting his scholarship money toward a degree in business management from Cincinnati's Xavier University. With experience as chairman of the Butler County Democratic Party, a seat on the county's Board of Elections and as president of the local's COPE committee, the third-generation IBEW member has his eyes on the city council in the coming years.

"Sometimes, the way to advance our cause is not with our tools, but with pen and paper," Von Stein said. "Getting my degree will help me further the purpose of the union through politics."

As scholarship winners, Thompson, Wilkinson and Von Stein have each earned \$200 per semester hour toward their degrees with a maximum amount of \$24,000, not to exceed an eight-year period. ■



Register Your IBEW Membership Card Today

The new year will bring some new developments at my.ibew.org. Since high-tech, "smart" membership cards were mailed to members last summer, more than 20 percent of you have registered at the site. The IBEW is encouraging all members to register to take full advantage of soon-to-come features, including tracking your history of NJATC and Code of Excellence training and more.

Why should I register?

More than 150,000 of your union brothers and sisters are already using the portal to calculate projected I.O. pensions, verify or change beneficiaries and manage personal information. More features will be added this year that will streamline and enhance your experience as a member.

I have my card, but I'm not that familiar with computers. What should I do?

Visit <https://my.ibew.org> to view a short tutorial on how to navigate the page. Follow the prompts and you'll be registered in no time. We can also offer additional phone or e-mail support (see below).

I no longer have my card. Can I get a new one?

Yes. Visit <https://my.ibew.org> and click on the link that says "Having technical issues?" Fill out the online form and someone will either contact you or a new card will be sent to you.

I never received a card. What now?

Your address needs to match the info we have on file. Contact the I.O.'s Per Capita Department at (202) 728-6263 and we will update your information and send you a replacement card.

Any other questions? Call (202) 728-6231 or send an e-mail to myibew@ibew.org. ■

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.

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To speak to an admissions counselor, call us toll free at:
1-888-285-8649



Transitions

DECEASED Jack J. Joyce



The IBEW regrets to report the Nov. 22 death of retired International Representative Jack J. Joyce, who was 85.

Brother Joyce worked for 12 years in the International Office in the Grievance Appeals, Bylaws, Agreement Approval and Construction and Maintenance departments. He retired in 1989 to his native Kansas City, Mo.

In 1951, Brother Joyce was initiated into Kansas City Local 124, where he served as business manager from 1969 to 1976. He also served on the joint apprenticeship training, pension, and health and welfare committees. Joyce was vice president of the Missouri State Electrical Workers Association.

He graduated from Kansas City Junior College and attended classes at the University of Kansas. An Air Force veteran of World War II and the Korean conflict, he was a longtime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

At the I.O., Joyce was respected for his commitment to the labor

movement, said Dmytro Halkyn, who is now Director of the Per Capita Membership Department. "He was a labor leader that believed in the cause and always strived to do the right thing for working people."

Brother Joyce's twin sons, Jack and Paul, are Kansas City Local 124 members.

His wife, Jo Ann, died in 2003. They were married for 54 years, spending their retirement years traveling extensively. The IBEW officers, staff and members extend our deepest condolences to Brother Joyce's children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren as well as his many friends. ■

Circuits

Unemployed Members Rescue Shelter

Unemployed after 33 years in the electrical trade, Milo Ziemer couldn't be faulted for putting his own needs first. But when Jason Drake, director of Decatur, Ill., Local 146's apprenticeship program, asked Ziemer to supervise volunteers

upgrading electrical service in a men's homeless shelter in a 100-year-old building, he didn't hesitate.

"How could I not volunteer to help those who are less fortunate? It's the Christian thing to do," says Ziemer, who is looking to travel for work. "I can go to other places and get a job. For whatever reason, the men in the shelter can't. I need to help my fellow man."

Ziemer's crew of 12 unemployed journeymen and apprentices is on its way to completing \$15,000 of electrical work on the shelter run by Decatur

Cares Rescue Ministries and has been widely recognized in the local press.

Like its 16 nightly tenants, the shelter had fallen on hard times. Mike McCammack, who took over its direction three years ago, had a plan to expand living quarters on the second floor of the building, which doubles

The crew of unemployed journeymen and apprentices is on its way to completing \$15,000 of electrical work on the shelter run by Decatur Cares Rescue Ministries.

as a community kitchen for families in need. He wanted to provide bigger sleeping rooms, a larger chapel and more kitchen space. But after working hard to solicit money from the local community, McCammack did not have enough to complete the project in line with local construction code.

Randy Hendrix, the mission's project manager, contacted Local 146's apprenticeship for help. The local invited him to address its executive board and said he would get their response within two weeks.

"[Before the meeting,] we were dead in the water," says Hendrix. But the day after the executive board meeting, Ziemer and his crew arrived.

"Local 146 sent super people," says Hendrix, "doing what they do—knocking out quality work quickly to code."

"I would love to get on the big national news shows and talk about how local union members volunteered their time to save this shelter," says Hendrix. Work on the men's mission follows a long tradition of Local 146 and other AFL-CIO affiliates volunteering in the community, says Local 146 Business Manager Shad Etchason. Decatur's annual Labor Day parade is a rallying point for unions in the city. Decatur drew national attention in 1993 when locked-out workers at A.E. Staley's corn-processing plant joined workers on strike at the now-shuttered Bridgestone/Firestone plant and others on strike at Caterpillar to challenge corporate greed. ■



Decatur, Ill., Local 146 apprentice Jeff Taylor, part of a crew of unemployed IBEW volunteers, installs a receptacle at a men's shelter.

IBEW On Duty



Tacoma, Wash., Local 76 member Omar Trujillo, center, spread the message of the brotherhood while in Iraq. Also pictured is Business Manager Gary Youngmans, left, and training director Tony Lewis.

"I made a point to talk with everyone about being a union electrician. Being in the Guard is a good place to promote the IBEW. When reservists come back from their tours, they go back to the lives they left."

Recession Colors Member's War Experience

For redeployed National Guardsman Omar Trujillo, serving in Iraq over the last year was a "feast or famine" affair. The Tacoma, Wash., Local 76 fifth-year apprentice helped lead infantry platoons guarding supply trucks on midnight runs from base to base in the country's northern region.

It was highly dangerous work that allowed for a lot of down time.

"The job was tense at first," said Trujillo, 29. "Then after a while, it became just like driving down the road anywhere else." But long stretches of caravanning were punctuated with occasional IED blasts, reminding troops of the constant, unpredictable threat.

Still, Trujillo said the main sources of stress and anxiety among his fellow soldiers were thousands of miles away, where family members and loved ones were weathering the worst economic blizzard since the Great Depression.

"In Iraq, the biggest topic of conversation was jobs," Trujillo said. "When we left last August, the economy was down, but things got progressively worse. It felt like everything was going to hell. It was on people's minds constantly. When you're doing the same missions over and over, it was all you could think about."

So Trujillo gave himself an additional mission: to spread the word of the trade to his fellow troops who would need jobs when they went home.

"I made a point to talk with everyone about being a union electrician," he said. "Being in the Guard is a good place to promote the IBEW. When reservists come back from their tours, they go back to the lives they left. If you had no work before, you've got no work when you come back. The Guard is doing its damndest to make sure that people get jobs when they redeploy, and I think my advocating for the union adds to that. I want other reservists and guardsmen to know that there is help out there."

A year after hitting the sands in Iraq, Trujillo is back in Washington tackling his final year of apprenticeship and working for Carl T. Madsen, Inc. He said he's grateful for the chance to serve his country and is pleased he's been able to steer at least one fellow soldier into the trade: platoon member Manuel Magdaleno was accepted into the first class of the IBEW's Veterans In Construction Electrical program and now makes a good wage as an apprentice wireman in the Puget Sound area.

The local and his instructors are happy to have Trujillo back. "Words can't describe what it means to be a business manager of a membership that includes this caliber of an individual," said Local 76 Business Manager Gary L. Youngmans. ■

In Memoriam

Members for Whom PBF Death Claims were Approved in November 2009

Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death
1	Behlmann, J. J.	9/12/2009	58	Schiete, L. E.	9/22/2009	191	Folkes, H. W.	9/11/2009	480	Upton, T. L.	7/16/2009	816	Poe, J. R.	9/8/2009
1	Boelloeni, R.	9/25/2009	58	Vorgitch, M. T.	10/1/2009	193	Fifer, W. C.	10/8/2009	481	Davis, E. E.	6/9/2009	816	Webb, G. D.	8/25/2009
1	Brooks, K. R.	9/24/2009	60	Young, E. S.	8/4/2009	193	Latonis, C. R.	10/1/2009	483	Stephens, R. L.	8/28/2009	816	Wyatt, G. M.	9/5/2009
1	Knight, A. H.	9/28/2009	64	Bates, R. S.	7/31/2009	194	Carey, F. H.	9/18/2009	486	Mulvaney, J. R.	9/24/2009	852	Kent, K. C.	9/4/2009
1	McCutchen, J. L.	10/4/2009	64	Pfund, A. C.	9/16/2009	212	Clemons, D. A.	10/2/2009	486	Tomasini, J. L.	9/11/2009	852	Reese, A. J.	9/11/2009
2	Kunz, P. B.	8/8/2009	66	Hollins, J. E.	7/9/2009	212	Decker, J. E.	7/6/2009	488	Schmidheini, J. A.	2/26/2009	855	McIntire, I.	8/26/2009
3	Ackerman, N. N.	10/8/2009	68	Flynn, J. R.	8/8/2009	212	Dreyer, C. E.	9/22/2009	490	Courteau, E. F.	9/9/2009	890	Grace, M. J.	8/27/2009
3	Baccaglioni, J. J.	8/25/2009	73	Earley, P. M.	10/2/2009	213	Gray, C. W.	6/30/2009	494	Kashishian, J.	9/14/2009	890	Tolley, H. T.	10/18/2009
3	Catalano, J. J.	8/27/2009	73	Sisk, A. E.	10/7/2009	219	Ojala, D. J.	8/19/2009	494	Smith, J. A.	6/13/2009	894	Orton, A. A.	9/27/2009
3	Colon, J. F.	10/15/2009	76	Thomas, M. W.	9/12/2009	223	Ribeiro, F.	9/30/2009	494	Stanoch, M. R.	7/23/2009	903	Bridges, W. H.	11/12/2007
3	Fay, T. J.	9/13/2009	77	Rasberry, N. J.	2/6/2009	233	Bersanti, A. L.	9/26/2009	494	Verhalen, J. A.	6/26/2009	903	Lizana, L. C.	10/12/2009
3	Gasbarro, F.	4/30/2009	77	Smith, P.	5/18/2009	233	Bonnes, G. W.	8/24/2009	499	Wagner, C. E.	9/27/2009	903	McManus, I. T.	9/30/2009
3	Kocaj, V. P.	8/30/2009	77	Wacker, D.	9/22/2009	233	Denny, H. A.	9/17/2009	518	Evans, R. E.	10/10/2009	915	Campbell, M. A.	9/30/2009
3	Kostadinovic, M.	8/10/2009	77	Woolley, W. W.	7/26/2009	236	Broadhurst, J. L.	7/10/2009	527	Gold, J. E.	9/24/2009	915	Hickman, L.	9/4/2009
3	McIntosh, C. A.	9/25/2009	81	Yarnchak, W. P.	9/9/2009	236	Thorpe, G. H.	9/23/2009	527	Turner, D. C.	10/2/2009	917	Caldwell, J. L.	7/13/2009
3	Napoli, A.	3/12/2009	82	Shade, D. L.	10/22/2009	237	Mariano, A.	8/13/2009	531	Phillips, J. P.	6/9/2009	917	Pearce, N. D.	8/10/2009
3	Neary, T. A.	9/18/2009	82	Sibery, R. A.	10/14/2009	242	Bye, C. R.	9/19/2009	538	Shaw, R. W.	9/16/2009	932	Bayles, S. H.	9/9/2009
3	Ohm, A. E.	7/6/2009	83	Gilbert, F. O.	9/2/2009	252	Kobert, C. B.	9/10/2009	553	Cockman, G. B.	7/16/2009	932	Boutilier, C. S.	7/11/2009
3	Orlando, S. J.	9/19/2009	84	Boyd, H. L.	9/16/2009	254	Lang, R.	10/21/2009	557	Schmerheim, D. J.	6/10/2009	932	Langlais, K. C.	10/18/2009
3	Papa, C.	9/25/2009	84	Scott, M. C.	9/23/2009	257	Creath, R. E.	9/26/2009	569	Newsham, K. L.	9/18/2009	934	Dickenson, P. R.	10/3/2009
3	Pitzer, J.	9/26/2009	97	DiBello, L. P.	9/9/2009	258	Callihoo, G.	6/1/2009	570	Johnson, L.	9/25/2009	968	Nulter, R. F.	8/21/2009
3	Stratford, R. T.	10/3/2009	98	Heeneke, G. R.	9/17/2009	258	Stedman, C. H.	5/4/2009	575	Hendricks, C. S.	8/7/2009	970	Morang, M. W.	9/5/2009
5	Gloekler, W. C.	7/18/2009	98	Queroli, J. D.	7/27/2009	258	Wills, C. G.	7/28/2009	575	Jordan, H. A.	8/9/2009	1055	Engram, J. M.	9/22/2009
5	Huesdash, J. J.	9/25/2009	99	Gavek, B. T.	8/12/2009	269	Foy, J. D.	7/5/2009	576	Derbonne, D.	9/26/2009	1141	Gaston, W. L.	9/1/2009
6	Debisschop, W. H.	8/4/2009	102	Adosci, G. J.	8/9/2009	271	Moeder, R. J.	9/21/2009	583	Peer, G. R.	9/11/2009	1186	Hanohano, S. K.	9/19/2009
6	McCoskrie, A. B.	7/31/2009	102	Dumont, C. W.	9/16/2009	275	Anderson, H. A.	9/16/2009	584	Ervin, W. W.	7/31/2009	1186	Kido, H.	8/16/2009
6	Ruble, J. G.	8/25/2009	102	Novak, E.	6/27/2009	280	Clontz, J. A.	7/6/2009	586	Tomlinson, G. C.	1/9/2009	1200	Banfer, K. P.	9/8/2009
7	Potkai, F. J.	12/23/2007	103	Badger, F. O.	6/27/2009	280	Petsch, R.	9/9/2009	595	Crouse, R. R.	7/31/2009	1205	DeBarr, J. M.	7/16/2009
8	Hester, C. C.	10/8/2009	103	Conlan, P. V.	8/11/2009	292	Seekon, L. A.	10/6/2009	602	Gollighugh, D. P.	8/30/2009	1220	Bobera, J. A.	9/19/2009
8	Ingle, H.	7/17/2009	103	Deegan, J. R.	2/15/2009	294	Bowen, T. M.	9/6/2009	611	Lopez, P. I.	4/29/2009	1245	Ables, D. R.	7/11/2009
9	Faulk, C. G.	10/24/2009	103	Keough, E. M.	10/4/2009	295	Cochran, G. E.	10/4/2009	611	Quintana, M. L.	10/4/2009	1245	Schmitz, J. T.	8/28/2009
11	Bastain, H. D.	9/15/2009	103	Orsini, L. G.	8/25/2009	302	Schieberl, R. R.	8/30/2009	611	Salway, M. A.	3/29/2009	1245	Updegraff, K. A.	10/8/2009
11	Dorton, F. J.	9/15/2009	103	Taylor, F. H.	12/6/2008	303	Pollack, J. I.	9/23/2009	613	Bartlett, C. J.	8/6/2009	1316	Palmer, J. C.	9/10/2009
11	Ende, A.	9/30/2009	104	O'Donnell, M. J.	9/23/2009	304	Barker, G. P.	8/18/2009	613	Gloss, C. C.	9/27/2009	1319	Vangorden, R. K.	9/28/2009
11	Ganster, V. H.	9/15/2009	104	Young, J. E.	5/6/2009	304	Brabander, K. F.	10/4/2009	613	Winslette, J. B.	7/24/2009	1340	Gibson, J. F.	10/5/2009
11	Herrera, A.	9/16/2009	105	Hunt, W. G.	9/16/2009	306	Vaughan, D. T.	8/20/2009	613	Worthy, W. D.	6/29/2009	1393	Cline, N. E.	4/20/2009
11	Ransom, A. T.	8/21/2009	105	Killeleagh, D. A.	9/18/2009	313	Clothier, J.	9/26/2009	617	Reents, H. L.	9/27/2009	1393	Evans, W. T.	5/8/2009
11	Roy, F. S.	10/11/2009	105	Koo, W.	10/9/2009	322	Goodchild, A. K.	9/16/2009	625	Coyle, W. D.	9/4/2009	1426	Naumann, G. J.	8/31/2009
15	Schwartz, R. P.	8/14/2009	105	Ottenbacher, R.	9/24/2009	326	Galeski, B. T.	9/19/2009	632	Drummond, T. W.	9/28/2009	1547	Waldrop, I. M.	8/1/2009
16	Bolden, F. E.	9/23/2009	110	Brinatte, A. F.	8/5/2009	332	Demele, E. F.	8/5/2009	640	Baker, C. D.	10/6/2009	1579	Hebbard, M. F.	9/11/2009
17	Caig, L. D.	9/22/2009	110	McNamara, P. L.	9/9/2009	332	Gordon, E. I.	6/2/2009	640	Correa, A. S.	9/4/2009	1837	Bowen, D. F.	10/8/2009
17	Demanski, W. J.	10/28/2009	115	Moffatt, G. M.	10/3/2009	340	Anderson, F. C.	9/24/2009	659	Saunders, R. E.	9/28/2009	1924	Parrish, W. L.	7/11/2009
17	McCleery, R. L.	8/29/2009	117	Hubka, R. E.	8/27/2009	340	Muck, J. C.	4/22/2009	659	Yocom, T. B.	8/26/2009	1984	Hutto, F. A.	9/28/2009
17	Renner, T. D.	7/6/2009	124	Dalton, J. F.	10/12/2009	340	Tichenor, J. C.	8/19/2009	661	Schnurr, J. J.	8/9/2009	2330	Connors, M. F.	9/18/2009
20	Sexton, B. J.	10/1/2009	125	Baxter, F. O.	9/22/2009	347	Hager, K. B.	10/5/2009	666	Jones, M. E.	9/17/2009	I.O. (3)	Wishart, R. G.	9/18/2009
20	Westbrook, B. W.	1/12/2009	125	Brooks, J. J.	9/14/2009	349	Karssen, J. K.	8/7/2009	682	Thrift, B. H.	4/7/2009	I.O. (5)	Mench, H. H.	7/30/2009
22	Cerveney, J. J.	9/25/2009	130	Duplantis, W. A.	9/3/2009	351	Blumberg, L.	6/11/2009	683	Brown, L. R.	7/24/2009	Pens. (323)	Patterson, W. F.	8/8/2009
22	Johnson, C. A.	9/22/2009	130	Ehrensing, D. J.	10/1/2009	353	Gountaras, J.	9/25/2009	683	Levison, M. B.	10/8/2009	Pens. (1251)	Vert, W.	9/21/2009
24	Bancroft, G. L.	9/25/2009	130	Ferguson, T. P.	10/16/2009	353	Hesse, S. J.	5/23/2008	688	Saunier, J. D.	9/18/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Bartsch, J. D.	10/8/2009
26	Barbarito, J. C.	10/2/2009	130	Whitney, J. J.	9/14/2009	353	Matson, R. W.	6/12/2008	697	Blossom, J. J.	10/24/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Bro, E. W.	10/21/2009
26	Crosby, E. F.	10/1/2009	131	Bothwell, E. P.	4/4/2009	354	Harrington, R. R.	10/7/2009	697	Woodke, D. C.	10/15/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Carroll, W. E.	9/12/2009
26	McConkey, P. A.	6/26/2009	134	Chisholm, W. J.	9/26/2009	357	Moore, D. A.	9/12/2009	700	Martin, J.	10/7/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Chase, J. W.	5/8/2009
32	Alkire, I.	9/1/2009	134	Chisholm, K. R.	7/22/2009	357	Tomsik, E. H.	9/23/2009	702	Colclasure, L. J.	7/31/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Church, R. L.	9/24/2009
32	Bullock, E. M.	4/25/2009	134	De Fina, J.	9/4/2009	364	Cummins, L.	8/2/2009	702	Ryan, L. D.	10/8/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Coan, A.	7/18/2009
34	Harvey, R. L.	8/22/2009	134	Krispin, J. J.	9/16/2009	369	Baker, K.	5/19/2009	706	Thorson, A. G.	10/3/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Coon, E. F.	4/15/2009
35	Burgess, D. H.	8/12/2009	134	Lockwood, H. A.	8/25/2009	369	Cordle, D.	10/16/2009	712	Beck, R. A.	10/24/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Frantz, J. C.	9/18/2008
38	Knotts, G. D.	9/13/2009	134	Nessler, J. W.	8/31/2009	369	Dearmond, H. W.	9/7/2009	712	Namadani, R. M.	9/28/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Hangleitner, R. R.	9/14/2009
38	LaCava, F. G.	9/27/2009	134	Remafedi, D.	9/19/2009	369	Jones, J. R.	9/5/2009	712	Trenschel, R. H.	9/17/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Hartman, W. J.	8/31/2009
38	Ols, E. W.	9/16/2009	134	Rubin, L.	8/29/2009	369	Matthews, C. R.	9/19/2009	714	Domsten, M. K.	9/29/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Hayes, L. D.	9/13/2009
38	Rockford, R. J.	9/27/2009	134	Scanlan, R. J.	9/1/2009	369	Yocom, J. R.	10/25/2009	714	Kuntz, L. G.	9/1/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Hintze, E. O.	7/29/2009
40	Bonadie, E. D.	2/6/2009	134	Szewczynski, E. J.	8/1/2009	379	Brandon, F. W.	9/12/2009	716	Anderson, B. J.	8/9/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Hughes, L. C.	10/15/2009
41	Kress, E. A.	12/28/2008	136	Craft, G. W.	6/25/2009	379	Twitty, L. G.	9/24/2009	716	Jordan, R. W.	9/30/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Johnson, V. A.	10/18/2008
41	O'Connor, D. J.	4/16/2009	136	Dugger, F. T.	10/3/2009	379	Woodle, M.	10/5/2009	716	Lawson, L. D.	9/1/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Kopala, C.	8/9/2009
43	DeFrancis, R. J.	9/17/2009	136	Howard, R. M.	9/22/2009	380	Coccia, S.	10/24/2009	716	Long, B. D.	8/5/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Kuper, D. D.	9/2/2009
46	Newson, J. F.	9/3/2009	136	Winters, J. R.	9/3/2009	387	Armstrong, J. I.	9/17/2009	725	McNabb, G. L.	9/16/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Lance, J. F.	10/19/2009
47	Cutshaw, M. L.	7/3/2009	139	Ambuski, S. R.	8/22/2009	387	Clark, J. A.	9/1/2009	728	Joubert, M. J.	8/28/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Langley, J. A.	2/10/2009
47	McCord, P. M.	8/16/2009	141	Fankhauser, R. E.	9/24/2009	405	Buck, K. B.	3/14/2009	728	Maier, H. H.	8/17/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Linkenbach, W.	10/8/2009
48	Jensen, O. W.	9/26/2009	146	Barnes, R. M.	9/1/2009	424	Miller, R. B.	8/8/2009	728	Urson, F. D.	8/28/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Marino, P.	7/1/2009
48	Kozlowski, E. J.	9/22/2009	150	Humer, F.	8/23/2009	429	Williams, T. E.	9/12/2009	760	Kitts, E. L.	9/19/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Maslo, R. W.	10/10/2008
48	Lucht, W. C.	10/23/2009	153	Watts, R. L.	9/2/2009	441	Hudson, J. M.	9/1/2009	763	Foltz, N. S.	8/12/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Nelson, W.	9/19/2009
48	Peters, V. W.	9/17/2009	159	Stull, W. C.	8/11/2009	449	Nugent, R. L.	10/3/2009	767	Hebert, V.	4/3/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Vokal, E. L.	8/27/2003
51	Miller, B. D.	9/16/2009	160	Lien, G. P.	5/1/2009	456	Stevens, R. L.	9/24/2009	768	Benefiel, F. E.	10/12/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Wick, H. S.	9/22/2009
58	Burankas, V.													

Local Lines

Community Service Volunteers

L.U. 1 (as,c,ees,ei,em,es,et,fm,i,mt,rts,s,se,spa, st&ws), ST. LOUIS, MO—Happy new year to all. The good news about 2009 is that it's over! It would be easy to dwell on all the negatives in today's economy and area work situation. However, there is some good news out there.

Local 1 continues to work tirelessly in the St. Louis community, volunteering a helping hand to charities, organizations and families in need. Annual opportunities to volunteer abound, such as with Habitat for Humanity projects, the "Lights Out" program, etc. The volunteer work donated by Local 1 is remarkable, and every member should be proud of our local's commitment. Additionally, volunteers are always needed to help elect labor-friendly candidates to office.

The upcoming annual Valentine's Day Dance in February is always a great way to catch up with old friends and enjoy a wonderful evening.

Local 1 wishes all a happy, and hopefully prosperous, new year.

We mourn the following members' deaths: Louis Kornhardt, John Behlmann, Alex Gibson, Eugene Jones, Kenneth Brooks, Arthur Knight, James McCutchen, James Wheeler Jr., Kenneth Mauer, Michael Stuckel, William Germer, Arthur Moran, Robert Spence, William Forshee, Joseph Thiemet, Bernard Walker, Morgan Trigg, Neal Moenigmann, Robert Boelloeni, Giuseppe "Joe" DiMaggio, Thomas Roling and James Reinheimer.

Matt Gober, P.S.

Proposed NFL Stadium Project

L.U. 11 (i,rts&spa), LOS ANGELES, CA—Republican Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, bowing to pressure from labor, signed a bill allowing development of an all-union NFL stadium project in the City of Industry.

The proposed 75,000-seat Los Angeles area stadium will meet the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) green building standards and incorporate sustainable energy features. Approximately 60 local union members attended the bill-signing ceremony. Touting green careers and quality union apprenticeship programs, the governor promised hundreds of construction jobs to California residents. Thank you to all our members who attended the event. Members wishing to stay informed, to volunteer, or participate in future events should sign up at the local's Web site www.ibew11.org to receive e-mails.

The 11th Annual Local Wide Picnic was great. Thank you to the contractors who generously



Model of a proposed Los Angeles area NFL stadium development.

donated prizes and to dozens of volunteers who helped make the picnic a success. Local 11 members and their families enjoyed a fine barbecue, music, prizes, games, rock climbing and more.

The Electrical Workers Minority Caucus L.A. Chapter purchased needed school supplies and backpacks as part of an ongoing community outreach project. Barrett Elementary School was chosen to receive support. EWMC is also participating in a winter clothes drive for the Los Angeles Mission. Congratulations to the EWMC for their dedication and support for worthy causes.

Bob Oedy, P.S.

Hope for a Turnaround

L.U. 15 (u), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—We hope everyone had a happy holiday season—and may 2010 be the year of an economic turnaround. It's time!

As is the case for many IBEW locals, Local 15 has experienced a slowdown in work associated with housing starts. Consequently many of our members were declared excess by the ComEd Company. Fortunately, through discussions with the company, we were successful in placing members in other positions.

We recently reached a three-year agreement for our ComEd System Services group members that will include a 3 percent annual wage increase, improved sick leave pay and other benefit improvements, including future employment opportunities.

Our local continues to work toward finalizing an Overhead Transmission Agreement as well as a final resolution to the Pole Hauling Arbitration Award with ComEd.

In addition, we have agreed to allow the coal plant operators to vote on whether they want a paid lunch period.

At this writing, all of our members employed by Dominion Energy, Exelon Corporation and Midwest Generation are currently making their benefit selections for 2010.

Our local mourns the untimely death of two fellow union members, Bro. Mike Infelise and Sister Tasha Wells Lee.

May 2010 be a prosperous year for all our IBEW brothers and sisters.

Ronald V. Welte, P.S.

Code of Excellence

L.U. 17 (catv,em,lctt,o&u), DETROIT, MI—Bro. Bob Sigouin was honored at the November 2009 general membership meeting with a 45-year service pin. Bob has served the local in many capacities over the years including as business manager/financial secretary.

Work is still quite lean for our contractor work force, despite the October 2009 hiring of 17 crews. However, our Line Clearance Tree Trimming agreement is going strong with 640 tree trimmers currently working. Our Regional Utility Training Center began training its first class of lineman apprentices for employment at Detroit Edison in late 2009.

Local 17 started training and implementation of the IBEW Code of Excellence. We as IBEW members have always demanded fair and equal treatment and that management live up to our agreements. We also made the commitment to workplace excellence and must live up to it every day. Our skills, knowledge and safety record are what we bring to the bargaining table, and nothing less than the best will sustain the future of our livelihood.

We are saddened by the passing of Bros. Ray Williams, Lyn Caig, Clifford Shortridge, Carl Snyder and James Casey. We also wish to pay our respects to the family of Bro. Robert Kress, a pole haul driver and 44-year member, who passed away in August 2008. These brothers are missed.

Dean Bradley, P.S.

2009 Line Worker Class

L.U. 29 (u), PITTSBURGH, PA—Congratulations to the Duquesne Light Company line worker class of October 2009. [See photo, below.] The 13 men graduated from pole climbing and ground school training. They are now qualified to work with and learn from their Local 29 union brothers as they continue toward their goal of becoming journey line workers.

Joe Meyers Jr., Ed Scherer and Chris Goring are on their way to becoming second-generation linemen. Their fathers are longtime IBEW Local 29 linemen. Congratulations and good luck, brothers.

Other news around the local: Negotiations with Reliant Energy are complete and the contract was ratified. The company and the union agreed to a contract on Oct. 30, 2009.

Our community services team is out and about. They served a Christmas dinner to disadvantaged children at the Holy Family Institute.

Remember safety both in the home and the workplace. Be safe, not sorry.



IBEW Local 29 congratulates the Duquesne Light Company line worker class of October 2009. On pole at left, from top to bottom, are Steve Kahle, Joe Meyers Jr., Todd Covell, Chad Buczinski, Kris Anderson, Chris Goring; and on pole at right, Scott Brimmer, Ed Scherer Jr., Drew Brown, Lonnie Rotondo, Ryan Brown, Scott Hutton and Chris Bruder.

Trade Classifications

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

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

Thanks to senior hot stick worker Joe Meyer for contributions to this article. Joe is currently serving as a subject matter expert (SME), providing training in hot stick line work for the Safety and Workforce Development Department.

Kim Washburn, R.S.

Dragon Boat Fundraiser Success

L.U. 37 (em,o&u), FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA—Local 37 members have a growing history of getting involved with community events. Just this past September IBEW Local 37 sponsored two teams in the 5th Annual Saint John Dragon Boat Festival: Point Lepreau's "Positive Energy" and Coleson Cove's "Generate-oars." The IBEW/Lepreau team was the event's top fundraiser, raising over \$25,000! Together the two teams raised close to \$30,000 for the St. Joseph's Hospital foundation.

The very first Point Lepreau Dragon Boat entry occurred three years ago, when a Local 37 member, who had recently returned to work after an illness, organized and registered an IBEW/Lepreau Dragon Boat team as a way to give back to the hospital that had treated him so well. The generosity and hard work of this team turned out to be such a great success that Local 37 developed a pilot project that provides financial support to teams of IBEW members wishing to participate in community-based, charitable fundraising events.

This program has been, and continues to be, incredibly successful, and to date, Local 37 has sponsored a variety of teams that have raised thousands of dollars for New Brunswick communities!

Ross Galbraith, B.M.

Mohawk Valley Career Day

L.U. 43 (em,i&rts), SYRACUSE, NY—Local 43 participated in the 6th Annual Mohawk Valley Industry Career Day, held Oct. 15, 2009. More than 450 area high school juniors and seniors participated in this year's event.

Local 43 members who participated in the event included: JATC Training Dir. Pete Dulcich, Bernie Coffay, Ken Caldwell, Conrad Dorn and Mike Smith. These brothers showed the students various



Syracuse, NY, Local 43 members staff Mohawk Valley Industry Career Day. From left: members Bernie Coffay, Ken Caldwell, JATC Training Dir. Pete Dulcich, Conrad Dorn and Mike Smith.

displays on branch circuitry and conduit bending. Our members explained to the students that there is a significant advantage to learning the electrical trade in a union-run JATC program. Thank you to all members who donated their time and expertise for this day-long event.

Jim Corbett, P.S.

Transmission Line Projects

L.U. 47 (lctt,mo,o,u&uow), DIAMOND BAR, CA—Happy new year. We certainly hope 2010 is better than 2009. The entire nation has been hit hard. In California, unemployment is 12.5 percent, and even higher in construction trades. Local 47 has some minor setbacks, but has fared well.

Outside Construction has been helped by several large transmission projects that will bring renewable power to SoCal, including a 170-mile line from Blythe to the Palm Springs area.

Congratulations to our members who competed at the International Lineman's Rodeo—including Local 47 Bus. Mgr. Pat Lavin's team, which included Joel Bell, business manager of IBEW Local 769, as well as Rod Peterson, Local 47 member working for Henkels & McCoy. Award winners included: Jeff Hinojos, Alex Ramirez, Ted Durnerin, John Satterfield, Lorenzo Deliso, Clayton Loback, Enoch Verdin Jr., Josh Regalado, Raudel Ruiz and James Booth.

Our 6th Annual Brotherhood Motorcycle Run was held Oct. 24, 2009. The ride was followed by a barbecue and live music.

Mike Asam, a Riverside lineman, his wife and son were tragically killed in a traffic accident. Aaron Dineen, a Local 1245 apprentice lineman who worked in our jurisdiction, was killed in a work-related incident. We deeply mourn these losses. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the deceased.

Live safe, live well, work union!

Stan Stosel, P.S.



Recently retired Havana Power Station union steward Charlie James (far left) is joined by fellow Local 51 members Al Riley, Bus. Mgr. Jim Bates, Davey Sayers and Asst. Bus. Mgr. John Johnson.

'Strength and Solidarity'

L.U. 51 (catv,lctt,o,rtb,t&u), SPRINGFIELD, IL—Local 51 wishes all IBEW members and their families a safe, prosperous new year. As we begin 2010 the work picture for our outside construction and LCTT membership is good. Fortunately, our local has not experienced the work slowdown that other locals across the country have and we are thankful for that. Hopefully, as the economy continues to improve, the work outlook across the nation will improve also.

Our line clearance members at Spoon River Electric Co-op recently ratified a new labor agreement, while negotiations continue with American Line Builders (NECA), Henkels & McCoy, Asplundh Power, Nelson Tree, Wright Tree and the L.E. Myers shop mechanics. As always, the key to success lies in our

strength and solidarity. If we remain strong and unified we will succeed through the negotiation process.

I encourage members to get involved with not only our local but also in the communities where we live—and remember to work safe, give a full days work for a good days pay and attend your union meetings.

Dan Pridemore, Pres.

A Career of Service



Local 57 former Senior Asst. Bus. Mgr. Ronald May retired in June 2009.

Blaine A. Newman hired Ron as a business representative in 1992. Ron was initiated into the IBEW in 1968 and served as a steward, a negotiator, and on several committees. In 1983 he was elected treasurer and served on the Local 57 Executive Board. Prior to going to work on the Local 57 staff, Ron worked as a journeyman lineman/troubleshooter for Utah Power. He and his wife, Priscilla, look forward to travel and spending time with their family.

Local 57 officers and members thank Ron for his hard work and dedication to the union. We all will miss Ron, and we extend heartfelt congratulations on his well-deserved retirement.

L.U. 57 (lctt,mo,o,t&u), SALT LAKE CITY, UT—On June 26, 2009, Local 57 Senior Asst. Bus. Mgr. Ronald May retired after a long-time IBEW career of service. Ron served for 17 years as assistant business manager and was a 41-year member.

Former business manager

Roberta Wilson, P.S.

50-Year Service Awards

L.U. 111 (em,govt,lctt,mt,o,rtb,spa&u), DENVER, CO—Congratulations to Don Shaputis and Claude Chapman, who each recently received their 50-year IBEW service award pins.

Shaputis, former assistant business manager, joined the IBEW in 1957. He was appointed as an agent in 1976, and was tapped to join the International Eighth District staff as an International Representative in 1987, servicing all the Eighth District states at one time or another. He retired in July 2003.

Claude Chapman, former lineman, joined the IBEW in 1959. He remembers being a top apprentice in the five-state lineman competition and receiving the first gold watch given out for the achievement. He



Local 111 Bus. Mgr. Mike Byrd (right) and Pres. Duane Lawlor (left) congratulate 50-year service award recipients Claude Chapman (second from left) and Don Shaputis.

served on the Executive Board, attended two International Conventions, served as the Unit 1 chairman and as recording secretary, participated on several negotiating committees, and was chairman of the Lineman's Test Committee for the five-state region, before retiring in January 2009, from Sturgeon Electric.

We wish both brothers the best on their future endeavors. We are proud to acknowledge all their many achievements, and we sincerely thank them for their longtime service to the Brotherhood and the local union.

Dennis Z. LeTurgez, P.S.

Jobs & Apprenticeships

L.U. 125 (lctt,o,t&u), PORTLAND, OR—The 2009 IBEW Political/Legislative Conference was held recently. With topics like health care reform, climate change, and the Employee Free Choice Act dominating discussion, workers' primary concern—jobs—was a continuous theme.

Throughout this nation, more discussion has been focused on restoring vocational and technical education in secondary schools; however, students may be sorely disappointed. Why? Community colleges have taken a proactive and leading role in technical training which is challenging apprenticeships. In today's times many employers want apprentices or pre-apprentices to have college degrees, which affects our ability to maintain and enhance existing, or create new, apprenticeships.

For more information, read Local 125's section of the Northwest Labor Press in December issue.

Marcy Putman, P.S.

'Stuff-A-Bus' Food Drive

L.U. 153 (em,i,rtb,rts,se,spa&st), SOUTH BEND, IN—The South Bend JATC held the banquet for the graduating apprentices on Oct. 10. All the apprentices were recognized for their dedication and achievements. William Grubbs, VDV technician, was recognized for the highest GPA and Kennen Schafer as apprentice of the year. Congratulations to all the apprentices; you will find that just because you have topped out in no way means your education is done.

On Halloween the local helped with the 14th annual Stuff-A-Bus food drive for the South Bend Center for the Homeless. IBEW Local 153 manned four of the 23 local Martins stores; also involved in the event are WRBR radio station and numerous



Some of IBEW Local 153's top-notch volunteers collect food for the South Bend Center for the Homeless.

Local Lines

student and church groups. Last year's Stuff-A-Bus drive collected nine months worth of food for the shelter. Due to the economy, if we collected the same amount of food this year it would only last six months. We are reminded to thank God for our blessings and remember those who have not been so fortunate. Work in the area is slow and it will be a hard winter, not only for many IBEW members but also for a great many in our communities.

Troy D. Warner, B.R./P.S.

Strong Spirit of Brotherhood

L.U. 159 (i), MADISON, WI—Work in our area has remained slow. As the holidays approached, our members continued to exhibit the true meaning of brotherhood by volunteering for our annual Holiday Fantasy in Lights display. This season marks our 21st year of providing this free lighting display to our community. It is always a bright spot during the holidays and especially now, during these difficult economic times. In addition to providing these displays, money is also raised and donated to local charities.

Like many IBEW locals across the country, we expect to see our work picture gradually improve as we get closer to spring. We do have some good-sized projects coming up and more still in the bidding process. With triple digits on both book I and II, it will be a while before we see the bottom of either book.

These past few years have been a difficult time for many of our brothers and sisters. May the new year bring better times for all members and their families.

Joel Kapusta, B.A.

Work Picture Slow

L.U. 177 (bo,ees,i,mo,o&pet), JACKSONVILLE, FL—Thanks to many volunteers, Local 177 had another successful Labor Day picnic. There was good barbecue and brotherhood for all.

Local 177's Membership Development Volunteer Committee has been meeting on the first Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. for the last six months. Bus. Mgr. Russell Harper and our MVDC members have been attending city council meetings and monitoring the city courthouse project, which is being wired nonunion. The work picture in the Jacksonville area is currently worse than anyone around here can remember. There isn't much on the horizon presently for northeast Florida. Thanks to all the locals that are working our traveling members.

Alan Jones, Pres.



At the Local 177 Labor Day picnic, Bus. Mgr. Russell Harper takes a dip in the dunking booth.

Class of 2009

L.U. 191 (c,i,mo,rtb&st), EVERETT, WA—We are extremely proud of our 46 graduating apprentices. They all did an outstanding job. The graduation ceremony was held at the Tulalip Resort Hotel. It was an exciting evening, which began with speeches from: IBEW Local 191 Bus. Mgr. Dave Howson, Cascade Chapter NECA Exec. Mgr. Cindy Austin, and NWJATC Instructor Joe Peters. The graduates received wonderful gifts for their outstanding performances.

The top three apprentices in the class of 2009: are Philip Honeycutt, inside wireman; Dominic D'Agostini, residential wireman; and Zachary Thomas, Sound & Communications technician.

Class of 2009 graduates are as follows. Inside wireman graduates: Todd Albachten-Degolier, Ted Button, Shawn Curtis, Jordan Dovich, Justin Dugger, Whitney Gonzalez, Jack Grove, Paul Hanko, Austin Howrey, Tracy Jenks, Jeremy Knabe, Beau Hannafious, David Hansen, Brent Hockman, Philip Honeycutt, Dale Laing, Russell Lautensleger, Monte Maestas, D. Brian Magnuson, Joseph Mamac, Diana Marchel, Christopher Norde, James Odegaard, Johnathan Ohlund, Brian Pence, Jorge Perez, Ruben Perez, Jason Porter, Trevor Quallsund, Lucas Raymond, Travis Rosencrans, Dan Schmidt, Joshua Schoener, Robert Sesko, Ray Tanner, Michael Thorpe, Aleksandr Verovoy, David Vezzani, Brian Wall, Dorian Webster and Paul Weiland. Residential wireman graduates: Joshua Armstrong, Dominic D'Agostini and Kevin Kiper. Sound and Communications graduates: Zachary Thomas and Adam Townsend.

Congratulations to all the graduates. You are our future.

Rob De Velder, P.S.



Local 241 class of 2009 apprentice graduates, from left: David Swearingen, Joshua Cooley, Kathryn Boucakis and Sean Rooker. Not pictured: John Pensyl.

Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 241 (i), ITHICA, NY—Congratulations to our class of 2009 apprentice graduates, who have become Local 241's newest journeyman wiremen. All successfully completed the inside wireman apprenticeship program. The graduates are: Kathryn Boucakis, Joshua Cooley, John Pensyl, Sean Rooker and David Swearingen.

We thank the travelers who came to work in our local over the summer months. Your help in getting jobs done was appreciated by all.

Work productively and safely.

Michael A. Creasy, P.S.

Food Collection Drive

L.U. 245 (govt,lctt,o,rtb&u), TOLEDO, OH—As we reported last fall, Local 245 won an NLRB election in 2009 with the Darlington Nursing & Rehabilitation Center. This unit represents approximately 24

licensed practical nurses. At press time, we are in ongoing negotiations for a first-time contract and things are going pretty well. We should reach a settlement very soon. Congratulations to the Darlington nurses for taking the first step to secure their future wages and conditions and gain a voice in the workplace.

It was a personal privilege to witness the changing of the guard at the 2009 AFL-CIO Convention. What a historic convention! During his tenure former president John Sweeney helped pave the way for labor's continued progress under newly elected AFL-CIO Pres. Richard Trumka and AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Liz Shuler, former executive assistant to IBEW Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill.

As with many areas, we are in a severe economic downturn. The economy has affected every branch of our local union. Our major utility employer, First Energy, has downsized its work force. Recently we did hear that some work should pick up soon.

Local 245's food collection drive helped brighten the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays for area families. Thanks to all members for their contributions.

We are fortunate that we have not had any work related accidents. Please continue to work safely!

Philip LaCourse, Pres.

2009 Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 257 (em,i,rtb,rts,spa&t), JEFFERSON CITY, MO—Local 257's annual picnic was held Sept. 19, 2009. It was a good time for all ages. Years-of-service pins were awarded. We thank all members who received pins for their great years of service to the local. A special thanks to all second-year apprentices who helped out at the picnic, with guidance from Don Bruemmer and Jim Winemiller.

On Sept. 12 last year we had our Labor Day parade. It was a beautiful day. Thanks to all who turned out to support Local 257 and all who helped with the float—it was great.

Shown in the photo below are the 2009 graduating apprentices. The photo was taken at the local's graduation ceremony/dinner in their honor. Congratulations to the new journeymen.

The work picture and the economy are still slow in our central Missouri area. We definitely hope for a big turnaround in 2010. We hope everybody had a safe and happy holiday season and that the new year will bring us a much brighter work picture.

Support your local unions, so we can keep our union strong.

Ryan Buschjost, P.S.



Local 257 congratulates 2009 apprentice graduates. From left, front row, are: Justin LaValley, Kelly Baker, John Hickman, Curt Libbert, Sean Chapman, Robbie Hart; back row, Chris Vinson, Beau Cook, Matt Henning, Thomas Ballew, Daniel Murphy and Justin Crane.

Service Award Recipients

L.U. 291 (i,o,rts&rts), BOISE, ID—We hope all had a happy holiday season.

Congratulations to all service pin recipients honored at Local 291's annual picnic last summer. Special congratulations to 60-year members Bill Stith and Albert Siron Jr., and to 50-year members Arthur Castagnola, Theodore Marrone, Del Ray and Phil Stewart. Irene McMillin, now deceased, received a 55-year pin. Work is still very slow here in southwest Idaho with 248 Book 1 hands out of work. A few larger projects—Sorrento Lactalis, Boise State University Science Building, Portico, and Middleton High School—recently started staffing up, helping the situation along.

Thanks to Bro. Mark Zaleski and all the volunteers for their time donated to three Habitat for Humanity projects and the ANSER Charter School project currently underway.

We regret the passing of Bros. Ken Hubbard, Cecil Dean and Thomas Rowley. Our condolences go out to their families. We also regret the passing of the wives of Mike Wagner and Aaron, as well as the passing of Irene McMillin, who worked as secretary of our local for 37 years.

Even though many of our members are on the road, let's do the best we can to maintain contact with our local and attend our monthly meetings. Here's wishing all a successful 2010.

Ron Ely, P.S.

Mountain Ridge High Scoreboard

L.U. 307 (ees,es,i,o&u), CUMBERLAND, MD—In October 2005 Gill-Simpson began work on the new Mountain Ridge High School project in Frostburg, MD. The school was fully funded except for approximately \$3 million needed to complete visitor side bleachers, scoreboards, a concession stand and rest room building, field house and other items not included in the price of the school. Various events were planned to raise money for the stadium.

On Jan. 3, 2008, IBEW Local 307 and Western Maryland Chapter of NECA donated \$73,000 for purchase of the video scoreboard at Mountain Ridge Stadium. [See photo, pg. 13.] In addition they committed to the installation of the scoreboard at no additional cost to the school system. Gill-Simpson, Consolidated Electric and S&S Electric donated material and labor. Bros. Ed Crowe, George Koontz, Mike Lehman, Robert Duncan, Mark Fost and Todd Sheally volunteered to make this project a huge success.

Local 307 congratulates our new apprentices who were sworn into membership: Dustin Clayton,



Mountain Ridge High School scoreboard donated by IBEW Local 307 and Western Maryland Chapter of NECA.

Travis Bradley, Shawn Miller, Stephen DeShong, William Weisenmiller, Joseph Taylor, Robert Dellone, William Carlisle and Jeremy Metz.

Jon "Rosey" Rosenberger, R.S.

Ballpark Stadium

L.U. 349 (em,i,mps,rtb,spa&u), MIAMI, FL—Some of the electrical temporary installation work for the Florida Marlin's new ballpark stadium trailer compound was awarded to one of our employers, Outlook International. As of this writing, Outlook International also was awarded the twelve 135-foot reinforced super columns that supply power and will support the new Marlin stadium's 8,300-ton retractable roof. We hope that by this publication date, the majority of the stadium work will have been awarded to our contractors.

Our annual picnic was held in October. Nice weather, lots of fun for members and kids. Some 920 members and their families showed up for the fun, food and refreshments. The Entertainment Committee outdid themselves, again. Lots of effort and planning goes into the picnic and other events during the year. The committee did a great job and we thank them.

Retired Bro. Leo Flynt, a 55-year IBEW member, passed away in October 2009. Bro. Leo served on the Local 349 Executive Board and Entertainment Committee for many years. He served in the U.S. Marine Corp, Marine Amphibious Reconnaissance, participating in campaigns on Saipan and Okinawa in the South Pacific during World War II. Bro. Leo will be missed.

Remember: Support our troops here and overseas.

Attend your union meetings. Help make your union strong. Work smart and work safe.

Frank Albury, Exec. Bd./P.S.

Apprentice Graduation Dinner

L.U. 351 (c,cs,i,it,lctt,mt,o,se,spa&t), FOLSOM, NJ—On Oct. 24, 2009, Local 351 held its 15th annual graduation dinner. Congratulations to the graduates: Donald Cosner, Bruce Crowe Jr., James D'Alessandris, John Davis, Michael DiMarco, Michael Fitzgerald, Robert Foster, Daniel Gonzalez Jr., Matthew Griffith, Timothy Ichinaga, Eric Konczyk, Frank Laspada, Michael Magilton, Steven McAleer, Christopher McFarland, Adam Meany, Matthew Moore, Matthew Neborak, Brian Olsen, Jason Olsen, Eric Ore, Anthony Pacana, David Pangia, Brandon Parkin, Travis Pearson, Scott Pezzato, Christopher



Local 351 congratulates 2009 apprentice graduating class.

Powell, Marc Principato, John Quinn Jr., Marc Raffa, Joseph Roberson, Eric Scannapieco, Daniel Scarle, Philip Smith, Robert Sneathen, Richard Thomas, Justin Toscano, Sean Unitis, Nicholas Vitola, Ryan White, Brian Wilson and Jeffrey Kosden.

Outstanding Apprentice Awards went to Michael DiMarco and Nicholas Vitola. Awards for perfect attendance went to Robert Foster, Timothy Ichinaga, Anthony Pacana and Marc Principato.

Congratulations to all the apprentices on their achievements.

Please remember to stay involved in the local and participate in our many functions throughout your career.

Daniel Cosner, P.S.

Local Union Clambake

L.U. 363 (catv,em,govt,i,t,u&ws), NEW CITY, NY—On Sept. 19, 2009, we had our annual clambake at the German Masonic Lodge grounds in Tappan, NY. The local provided bus transportation to and from various areas of our jurisdiction. We had a lot of good food and of course clams on the half-shell. It was good to see retirees and brothers and sisters at the bake. It was a beautiful sunny, warm day and everybody had a great time. The local thanks the clambake committee, our training director and apprentices, contractors and supply houses, and Local 363 Bus. Mgr. John Maraiia.

Timothy Poulin, P.S.



IBEW Local 369 members are starting work on the University of Louisville's new sports arena construction project getting under way.

Work On the Horizon

L.U. 369 (em,es,i,lctt,o,rtb,rt,spa&u), LOUISVILLE, KY—The work picture in our jurisdiction is somewhat bleak at this juncture. With several jobs on the horizon it should improve in the near future.

The University of Louisville has several projects in the works that will result in some much needed work for our members. The university is building a new \$230 million basketball arena in downtown Louisville with an opening date scheduled for next fall. There is an expansion to the existing Papa

Johns football stadium that hopefully will be completed in time for the next football season. The university also is in the process of a \$40 million renovation to its dental school that should take approximately two years to complete.

The Blue Grass Army Depot, a U.S. Army facility in Richmond, KY, is starting to gear up. This project will

take years to complete and at its peak should employ hundreds of our members. This project has also been designated as a Code of Excellence site.

I wish everyone a safe and happy new year; hopefully 2010 will be a prosperous year for all.

John E. Morrison Jr., P.S.

Union Members Rally

L.U. 375 (catv,ees&i), ALLENTOWN, PA—Last September a busload of IBEW Local 375 members attended a union-wide rally at Harrisburg, PA, to protest a proposed change to Pennsylvania's project labor agreement law. We outnumbered supporters of this bill by a margin of about 10 to 1! We must remain vigilant regarding this and other labor issues. Many thanks to all members who stepped up when called, especially on such short notice!

Last summer we hosted a breakfast honoring our retired members with the presentation of service pins for the year. Everyone had a wonderful time reminiscing together. [See photo, below.]

In October 2009 we hosted a friendly competition between IBEW Locals 375 and 743 at a clay pigeon shoot at Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays. The friendly, competitive spirit shared between the two sister locals was great fun. All who attended after the meet enjoyed a pig roast and refreshments.

Please remember that we are still supporting our active duty soldiers, our fellow members deployed in the Middle East, by contributing to "Brother Boxes." Currently, Bro. Bruce Snyder is on active duty in the Middle East. We wish him well and extend our heartfelt thanks for his service to our country.

Roger D. Gaydos, P.S.

Donation to 'Coats for Kids'

L.U. 385 (as,catv,ees,em,es,et,fm,govt,ptc,rtb,rt,s,se&ws), PITTSBURGH, PA—At a company cookout on Sept. 25, 2009, IBEW Local 385 members in the bargaining unit at Cooper Crouse-Hinds Outlet

Boxes in Meadow Lands, PA, celebrated an important safety milestone.

Their plant was among only three out of 134 Cooper plants worldwide (and the only U.S. plant) to earn the Cooper \$1,500 Bi-Star Award for Safety. They earned this award not for having the best safety record in Cooper but rather to recognize the plant's outstanding achievements in improving the health and safety of employees through actions, programs and innovative solutions.

The plant's Labor-Management Safety Committee decided to reach out to families less fortunate, especially during this difficult economic period, and donate the \$1,500 check on behalf of the employees of Crouse-Hinds Outlet Boxes and Cooper Industries to provide winter coats to kids this season. The \$1,500 check was presented during the cookout to Major Gene Foster, of the Salvation Army, for the area "Coats for Kids" Foundation.

Special thanks to all bargaining unit members for helping to make this happen. Together we can make a difference.

Scott C. Baker Sr., Pres. & B.M./F.S.



Local 413 members donated LED lighting system and decorated the holiday Tree of Light in Santa Barbara, CA.

Eco-Friendly 'Tree of Light'

L.U. 413 (em&i), SANTA BARBARA, CA—Local 413 members decorate the 100-foot tall "Tree of Light" in Santa Barbara, CA. This latest effort marks the 85th consecutive holiday season that the members of the IBEW have lit the community Christmas tree. That's a truly remarkable service record by any stretch of the imagination.

It is said that the Tree of Light can be seen from La Cumbre Peak, to ships 30 miles out at sea. But, of course, there is an associated cost for such a display. The traditional lighting design, though very bright and powerful, did not consider protecting the environment or controlling energy related costs. The traditional lighting utilized 500 40-watt incandescent lights, consuming approximately 20,000 watts



Local 375 hosts a service award breakfast for retired members.

Local Lines



At the NEJATC graduation banquet, some of the Local 429 apprentice graduates gather for a photo.

of power. At today's electricity rates, that equated to approximately \$29 per night to operate.

In August 2009, the members of IBEW Local 413 donated an entirely new energy efficient lighting system for the city's tree. The previous light design was replaced this season with over 3,300 eco-friendly LED lights. This new system will consume less than 200 watts and will cost about 29 cents per night to operate. That's 99 percent more energy efficient!

John Hughes, B.R.

Apprentice Graduation Banquet

L.U. 429 (em,i,lctt,o,ptc,rtb&u), NASHVILLE, TN—The Nashville Electrical Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee held a banquet and graduation ceremony in August 2009 for the recent class of 13 apprentice graduates, who completed the five-year NEJATC training program. [See photo, above.] Congratulations to the new IBEW inside journeyman wiremen: Henry Perez, Matthew Visocky, John Wooten, Robert Huffer, James Tucker, Robert York, Shane Ferrell, Ryan Engdahl, Jason Nesbitt, Scotty West, David Day, Matthew Brown and Nicholas Prebonick.

Our work picture is still very slow but looks good for next year. Remember that TVA and other projects now require OSHA 10. We are offering a number of journeyman classes, so check Local 429's Web page www.ibew429.org.

Remember our deceased members and soldiers; honor our retirees; support our troops; and help the returning soldiers adjust.

During these hard times, remember to help each other and support your local union. Our union meetings are the first and third Monday of each month.

Gerald A. Grant, P.S.

'Delegate of the Year'

L.U. 441 (as,i&rts), SANTA ANA, CA—On Sept. 26, 2009, Bus. Rep./Political Coordinator Doug Mangione was honored as "Delegate of the Year" by the Orange County Labor Federation at the Costa Mesa Hilton. Doug has spent tireless hours at city council meetings, board hearings, community events and political functions to help spread the voice of working families in Orange County. Among those in attendance for the September event were AFL-CIO then-president John J. Sweeney, U.S. Rep. Loretta Sanchez, area politicians, families and friends of labor. Local 441 is extremely proud and honored to have Doug as a spokesman for our local and the union affiliates in our county.

Local 441 then-president Ken Bock and then-president Howard Autrey recently retired. We thank them for their dedicated service to the local and wish them both a happy retirement.

Richard Vasquez, B.R.

Health Care Debate

L.U. 449 (catv,em,i,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), POCATELLO, ID—Best wishes to Gordon "Scott" Hadley and Donald Patterson for good health in their retirements.

The health care debate continues, as of this writing in November, and hopefully the working people's needs are not completely overshadowed by insurance and pharmaceutical lobbies. What impact would we see if we didn't have to base our retirement decisions on the ability to maintain necessary health coverage? Would we see a change in our ability to compete if the playing field was leveled regarding health care costs? Unfortunately, many people are swayed by media that is not reporting news or factual information upon which to base decisions, but rather carrying out a specific agenda that has been paid for to mold opinion to a pre-conceived outcome rather than generate thoughtful debate. These very words are political in that I am trying to influence the reader to look beyond the hype and look at what goes on with the money. "Follow the money and learn the truth," as it has been said. I expect that the health care debate continues and I hope you actively participate by contacting your representatives with your priorities.

In closing, we are saddened by the passing of Ron Nugent.

Don Watters, Pres.

Circle of Lights

L.U. 481 (ees,em,i,mt,rt,s&spa), INDIANAPOLIS, IN—We thank recently retired business manager Tom O'Donnell for his hard work and dedicated service throughout his career. We wish Bro. O'Donnell all the best in retirement and the best of luck in his new endeavors. Jason Haltom was appointed business manager to fill the unexpired term and is ready to lead and serve our members. Kevin Marshall was appointed treasurer to fill the post vacated by Jason.

The annual Labor Day parade was Sat., Sept. 5, 2009. Members and their families marched together with all the trades in central Indiana to show their solidarity. We had a good turnout and want it to continue to grow.

Local 481 is in its 47th year of volunteering for the Circle of Lights. What a great way to be seen in our community and help give back. This Thanksgiving weekend tradition is a special way to kick off the holiday season for Indianapolis. Thank you to all the volunteers and retirees, who always make it look so easy.

As the New Year is upon us, we hope 2010 is a prosperous year for all.

Jonathon Hooker, R.S.

Kudos for Excellence

L.U. 483 (catv,lctt,o&u), TACOMA, WA—Congratulations to IBEW Local 483 member Amy Middleton, who is this year's recipient of the Dan Ross Award. Amy is not only an active member of IBEW Local 483, but also a founding member of our Relay for Life team, a shop steward, bargaining team member and Brotherhood Fund board member. Cheers to Amy!

Big congratulations also to IBEW Local 483 members Kevin Kelley and Ray Leske, who are the 2009 Washington State Pole Top Rescue champs! Kevin and Ray have competed in this competition for years and have finally achieved a well-deserved first place finish this year at the Governor's Safety Conference, beating out seven other teams from across the state for the coveted title.

Alice Phillips, B.M.



Local 483 Bus. Mgr. Alice Phillips (left) and Pres. Mike Shook (right) congratulate award recipient Amy Middleton.

Tribute to Service

L.U. 503 (t&u), MONROE, NY—Happy new year, brothers and sisters! I'll start this year off with good news about one of our injured members. First-class lineman Steve Altieri is finally home from the hospital! He's doing well and happy to be home.

On a bittersweet note, a fond farewell goes out to Local 503's treasurer and longtime shop steward, Joe Hosking. After 37 years of service, Joe is throwing his hat into the retirement ring!

Joe started his career in 1972 as a third-class lineman and progressed through the ranks until Underground Line was formed in 1974, where he remained until his retirement. He served as steward for nearly 30 years and as treasurer for almost 10 years. Joe says his retirement will be enjoyed with his wife, Nancy, and their family. He will continue running his family farm and will also continue to serve as Town Justice of Otisville and Mount Hope, NY, as he has for the past 24 years.

We all thank Joe for his hard work and dedication to Local 503. All the best of health and happiness in your retirement, Joe!

Mary M. Casey, P.S.

ITT Industries Contract Ratified

L.U. 543 (mo&t), SAN BERNARDINO, CA—I wish to personally thank Local 543's negotiating team members who dedicated many hours to ensuring that we properly represented our members at NASA's Deep Space Network facility located on the U.S. Army's National Training Center at Ft. Irwin, CA. Congratulations for a job well-done to members

Scott Heck, Geoff Hewitt, Sandi Irby, Mike Lucero, Mark Chen, Dave Clark, Jeff LaGrange, Frank King, Larry Schrader and Seymour Unpingco. The negotiating team developed a survey and instructed our members to prioritize our mission to be accomplished during negotiations.

We separated our non-economic changes from our economic issues and presented them separately to the company, ITT Industries. This team was prepared with financial spreadsheets, data, and the justifications that supported our requests and presented them to the company via a formal presentation using a projector and screen. We controlled the negotiating process by focusing on our non-economic tentative agreement, which was signed and set aside, and then we proceeded with our economic proposal.

We negotiated a five-year collective bargaining agreement with a 13 percent raise, a 5 percent reduction of monthly medical premiums, the IBEW/NECA medical insurance, emergency response team bonus, and mid-shift and maintenance & operation differential increases.

Jerry Koger, B.M.



Photo by Lorraine Koger.

Local 543 members maintain NASA's 70-meter deep space communications antenna.

Sonoma Village Project

L.U. 551 (c,i&st), SANTA ROSA, CA—After more than two years of negotiations with many groups in the North Bay, Coddling Enterprises agreed to comply with living wage ordinances and "union neutrality" on hiring, at the Sonoma Mountain Village.

This community being developed by Coddling Enterprises on more than 200 acres in Rohnert Park will be the first in North America and the fourth in the world to be endorsed by One Planet Communities, which enables the entire community to live within a sensitive ecological footprint. The \$1 billion sustainable, mixed-use community calls for 1,900 homes and will be the largest development in Sonoma County. Local 551 Bus. Mgr. Jack Buckhorn was a big part in making this "Community Benefits Agreement" a reality.

Check out IBEW Local 551's Web site www.ibewlocal551.org, where the business manager sends out daily happenings on Twitter.

We are training our journeyman wiremen in state-of-the-art solar technology. Photovoltaic design and installation classes are now being offered. Participants who complete the 48-hour course receive credit toward state certification requirements. Check out the Local 551 Web site for details.

We hope everyone had a happy holiday.

Denise D. Soza, BR./P.S.

Rally at State Capitol

L.U. 557 (i,mt,rts&spa), SAGINAW, MI—The message was loud and clear on the steps of the state Capitol in Lansing, MI, on Oct. 6, 2009. Put us to work! For more than two years the state legislature has held up what would be two outstanding projects for this area. The projects in question: two clean coal-burning power plants, totaling over \$3 billion worth of construction. Approximately 3,000 construction workers, from all across the state, came together to show their support for the two projects. The projects have bipartisan support from both the House and Senate in Michigan, but have one last obstacle: the governor. With Saginaw and the state of Michigan seeing the highest unemployment rates ever, it would be a huge boost to surrounding communities to have these projects get underway, and soon.

Members attending the rally were treated to speeches from many friends of labor. With so much support for the projects and so much turmoil in Michigan's economy, it is a wonder how things are not moving forward. The clock is ticking. Soon some of the permits that are in place for these jobs will expire and the approval process will have to start over again. The rally was necessary in order to put pressure on our local governments before it is too late.

Evan Allardyce, P.S.

Project Stabilization Agreement

L.U. 569 (i,mar,mt,rts&spa), SAN DIEGO, CA—On May 27, 2009, the San Diego Unified School District Board of Education agreed to a Project Stabilization Agreement with the \$2.1 billion Prop S Construction Bond. The PSA went into effect on Oct. 27, 2009.

IBEW Local 569 members led the fight and eventual victory of the PSA. Our members showed up by the hundreds at these board meetings, some participating with heartfelt speeches about the superior training and many benefits of having a union construction career.

I had the pleasure of being on hand to hear Board of Education Chair Shelia Jackson—through the exterior loudspeakers at the capacity-filled auditorium—announce that the PSA had passed.

The celebratory atmosphere, with hundreds of union members cheering, was fantastic. Thanks go to SDUSD Pres. Shelia Jackson, Richard Barrera and Dr. John Lee Evans for enduring the massive campaign for and against the PSA, and for doing the right thing for thousands of union workers. Congratulations to all the community, environmental and faith groups; elected officials; and our local members who came out in support of this historic agreement.

Nicholas J. Segura Jr., P.S.



Some 300 IBEW electricians turned out to support the San Diego School Board's vote to enter into a Project Stabilization Agreement.



Among those gathered for signing of the Berkeley Lab apprenticeship training agreement are, front row, from left: Byron Benton, JATC training facility director; Don Campbell, executive director, Northern California Chapter of NECA; IBEW Local 595 Bus. Mgr. Victor Uno; and Jennifer Ridgeway, Lawrence Berkeley National Lab's facilities division director.

Training Agreement with DOE Lab

L.U. 595 (c,govt,i&st), DUBLIN, CA—An exciting new training partnership was launched Oct. 27, 2009, with the signing of a training agreement between Local 595, NECA, our JATC, and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

With this agreement, Local 595 apprentices will be dispatched to the U.S. Department of Energy Berkeley Lab for training and work experience. "The idea of a partnership between Berkeley Lab and the JATC emerged from the recognition of the growing importance of green technology and science, and the need to train the future work force to contribute to the local community with employment," said Bus. Mgr. Victor Uno, announcing the partnership at a press conference.

At a recent membership meeting Local 595 recognized 18 recipients of our annual Thomas J. Sweeney Scholarship grants, named in honor of our past business manager. Apprentice and College Grant winners were: Suzanne Anderson, Joshua Edwards, Megan Farro, Anthony Guerrero, Christina Lau, Eric Murray, Amanda Owyong and Alexandra Sheffield. Graduating High School Student Scholarship recipients were: Andrew Guilford, Karlie Hayes, Alanah Joseph, Gabrielle Koizumi, Torrie Lewis, Maiyah Matsumura, Julious Orejudos, Sophia Real, Benjamin Stoakes and Chantel Wiederholt.

We mourn the passing of a great electrician and union advocate, Ingrid Harder. Ingrid was a graduate of our apprenticeship, a well-respected wireman, a steward, a teacher and a JATC committee member, who was taken from us way too young. Our hearts go out to her family at this difficult time.

Tom Mullarkey, B.R.

JATC Training Director

L.U. 611 (catv,es,govt,i,lctt,o,spa,t&u), ALBUQUERQUE, NM—Congratulations to Local 611's newest journeyman wiremen. The recent apprentice graduates are: Eliberto Calderon, Ray Cantrell Jr., Brian Chavez, Levi Cortez, Christopher Darley, Phillip Dillard, Ronald Ferguson, Martin Garcia, Joseph Garcia Jr., Raul Gonzalez, James Granger, Jared Hanes, Adam Jaramillo, Alex Jaureguiberry, Sherry Mouton, Ryan Phillips, Mario Saavedra, Steven Solis, Christopher Sweeney, Nathan Tinker, Alexander

Ukestine and Aaron Yatsattie. This year's outstanding apprentice was Aaron Yatsattie. The C.S. Mitchell Award went to William Rigo. Congratulations to all.

After several years of serving as our JATC training director, Dean Dopson has decided to retire. Thanks, Dean, for all your years of service to the local. Taking over for Dean will be Charles "Hank" Humiston. Hank has been involved with JATC for many years and will do an outstanding job as the new training director.

The local recently elected two new E-Board members: Alan Shepherd and Pete Trujillo. Congratulations, guys, and good luck.

Local 611 extends condolences to the families of members who recently passed away: Max L. Quintana, Lawrence F. Reyos, Martin J. Petersen and Kyle A. Spreacker.

Darrell Blair, P.S.

Advanced Lighting Controls Training

L.U. 617 (c,i,mo&st), SAN MATEO, CA—In recent city and county elections, 37 of our 49 endorsed candidates were elected and will soon join incumbents in voting on issues important to working families. New housing developments, hospitals, and project labor agreements are in San Mateo County's future. Thanks to all the Local 617 members who participated in the extensive phone banking and precinct walks. You've made the difference once again!

The San Mateo JATC leads the Bay Area as one of only two training centers in the state of California to offer training in Advanced Lighting Controls. Thanks to the untiring efforts of Training Dir. Kathleen Barber and Instructor Rane Davall, trainees are provided with a detailed examination of a multitude of lighting control devices and state-of-the-art labs for hands-on instruction. This program is designed to prepare journeymen and

apprentices to secure the work that will be generated by the state Public Utilities Commission mandated reduction in energy consumption in California by 1 billion kilowatts by 2020.

Bro. Wayne K. Thomas passed away Nov. 2, 2009. Bro. Thomas served as Local 617's business manager from 1971 until 1986, when he retired. We appreciate his years of distinguished service, and keep his family in our thoughts and prayers.

Dan Pasini, V.P.



Local 617's inaugural Advanced Lighting Controls journeyman upgrade class gathers for a photo.

Update at Year's End

L.U. 625 (ees,em,i,mar&mt), HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA—2009 was a slow year work wise, both locally and across the country. At this writing, we have 450 members unemployed and only 30 members travelling for work with other Canadian locals. Thank you to Locals 586, Ottawa; 1687, Sudbury; 529, Saskatoon; and 424, Edmonton for the calls for manpower.

As of this writing, we have only four retirements to report so far in 2009: Bros. John Doyle, James Williams, James Wentzell and Phil Wallace.

With great sadness I report the passing of several members: Bros. Robert Blackadar, Kevin Challenger, Wayne Coyle, Claude Langley and Harold Davis. Our condolences to their families.

As of press time, 28 members had achieved their Red Seal Journeyman status in 2009. Two more classes will have concluded before the end of 2009. Congratulations to Morgan Hodder and William Pashkoski for becoming journeymen in August 2009, and Joseph McCarthy in November 2009.

Another four units are just being completed for Habitat for Humanity. Special thanks to our Membership Development representative, Bro. Barnaby McHarg, for his time and effort coordinating volunteers and materials to see this project through to completion. Also thank you to members who gave their time and skills to make this happen for four more families just in time for winter.

Tom Griffiths, Pres.



Local 611 congratulates JATC apprentice graduating class.

Local Lines

Ohio State Conference

L.U. 683 (em&i), COLUMBUS, OH—The 51st Annual 25-Year Club Dinner-Dance was held Oct. 2, 2009, at Villa Milano. The newest club members are: Mario Balzano, Edward Cutler, Larry Cutler, Chris Daubitz, Shelley Fravel, Larry Jones, Ted Manos, Norman Mucci, Tim Novotni, Tom Rathbun, John Sapp Jr., Bob Stansberry, Tim Strawn and Robert Truelove. Congratulations to all pin recipients and especially the 60-year members: Ralph Bickel, Joe Donovan, Bill Harris, Jack Maurey, Dale Metcalf, Emmitt Stephenson and Robert Trowbridge.

Local 683 hosted the Ohio State Conference of the IBEW on Oct. 9, 2009, at the Crowne Plaza North. Speakers were: Joe Rugola, Ohio AFL-CIO president; Ohio Attorney Gen. Richard Cordray; Ohio state Rep. Vernon Sykes (44th Dist.); IBEW Utility Dept. Dir. Jim Hunter; Jennifer Garrison, candidate for Ohio Secretary of State; and IBEW 4th District Int. Vice Pres. Salvatore "Sam" Chilia. All Ohio locals were well-represented at the meeting.

Thanks to all who participated in the blood drive held Oct. 22, 2009, at the Apprentice Training Center. Job well-done by "Chief" Dan George and Dave Swackhamer.

We extend condolences to the families of our recently deceased members James Gallagher, James Binkley and Marc Levison.

Rick Deime, V.P./P.S.



Ohio Attorney General Richard Cordray addresses the Ohio State Conference of the IBEW.

A Union Career of Service

L.U. 773 (as,em,i,mo&o), WINDSOR, ONTARIO, CANADA—Greetings from Local 773. I'd like to dedicate a portion of this article to former business manager, Bro. Neil McLean, who passed away last year. Neil served in World War II and saw active duty in Italy and France. He was initiated into IBEW Local 773 in 1947. He served as business manager/financial secretary from 1974-1980. Neil was a great guy who headed up the local through some very difficult times. You could always talk to Neil; he was a passionate man and had a great demeanor about him. Neil retired in May 1987 and passed away Sept. 19, 2009. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family.

The work picture in Local 773 is very slow presently; however, some wind farm projects that we have in our jurisdiction will staff up in the spring. We thank the locals that put Local 773 members to work last year. The calls for manpower were very much appreciated. Thank you.

We wish everyone a successful and healthy 2010.

David Spencer, P.S.



Tampa, FL, Local 915 volunteers assist IBEW organizing effort.

From left, back row, are: Local 915 Pres. Randall King, Mike Buhr, Jeff Davis, Bob Adams, Eugene Swisher, Theresa King, Lindsey Wooten, Tyler Morrow, Organizer Jon Dehmel; front row, kneeling, Michael Dearden, Louis Matos, Jennifer Warbar, Karen Hill and Harry Platt.

Volunteers Assist Organizers

L.U. 915 (i&mt), TAMPA, FL—Local 915 rallied the membership to help volunteer with the Fifth District international organizers as well as the field organizers of Florida and local unions to reach out to workers who once showed an interest in our union. These were people who either attended one of our industry nights or were contacted on jobsites. Our goal was to contact them to remind them that the IBEW is still here and we are still interested in having them joining our ranks.

We had 22 volunteers help with the phone banking and home visits. These volunteers helped the locals' organizers contact a large list of people in our area. Lindsey Wooten received special recognition for volunteering all four days. Harry Platt, Jennifer Warbar, Karen Hill and Louis Matos donated two days.

Additional volunteers included: Bart Gilkes, Bob Adams, Caleb Bretbach, Demetrius Green, Donald Dever, Eugene Swisher, Graham Hadley, Gregg Roberson, Jeff Davis, Larry Johnson, Mark Teague, Michael Dearden, Mike Buhr, Pete Dorizas, Rob Ray, Theresa King and Tyler Morrow.

Local 915 thanks these members for going the extra mile to help grow our membership for the future.

Theresa King, P.S.

COPE Drive

L.U. 1049 (lctt,o,u&uow), LONG ISLAND, NY—We recently welcomed Long Island Power Authority's senior vice president of operations, Mike Hervee, to our October 2009 general meeting. Mike expressed his gratitude and praised the Local 1049 work force for their hard work and dedication in maintaining the transmission and distribution system. Mike also discussed LIPA's recent decision not to exercise its right to purchase the Barrett Generating Station, the renewal of and the bidding process of the Maintenance Services Agreement, which expires in 2013. Going forward he made a commitment to keep our leadership involved and to strongly consider our interests as LIPA continues its self-evaluation process.

Several months ago our Governmental Affairs Committee started a COPE drive. More than 700 members are now participating in COPE. Bus. Mgr. Robert Shand and the Governmental Affairs Committee thank the 200 members who either registered for the first time or increased their contributions.

As of this writing, we are beginning negotiations for our members who work in the Line Clearance Tree Trim Division. Prior to commencement of negotiations, the main Negotiating Committee met, surveys were sent out, and a

membership information meeting was held.

Bus. Mg. Shand and the main committee are cautiously optimistic that they will bring to the members a new contract which will be ratified by the members.

Thomas J. Dowling, R.S.

Stetson II Wind Farm

L.U. 1253 (i), AUGUSTA, ME—Our local held its annual family picnic in Canaan, ME, on Sept. 12, 2009, with a large turnout in attendance. There were raffles and prizes, miscellaneous IBEW items for sale, music by a DJ and fun for all. The food served was outstanding—thanks to the cooks and the fourth-year JATC class! Also, a wellness clinic offered free blood pressure and cholesterol screening. Some service pins were presented as well.

We are pleased to welcome Northline Utilities as a signatory contractor. We've begun work at the Stetson II Wind Farm and are looking forward to many years of working together.

The Maine AFL-CIO Convention was held in Bangor on Oct. 22-23, 2009. State AFL-CIO Pres. Ed Gorham announced his retirement and will be greatly missed for his many years of service. Congratulations to our sister Local 567's Allan Shepard, who was elected as Maine AFL-CIO secretary-treasurer.

Maria Duffy of the U.S. Department of Labor's Philadelphia Wage and Hour Division presented a Davis Bacon Wage Survey seminar in



Local 1307 members from Indian River Power Plant volunteer to make improvements at a town park in Millsboro, DE.



Local 1253 retirees gather for a photo at the local's 2009 family picnic. From left, front row, are: Earl Wallace, Dick Neville; center row, Harold Casey, Ray Ayer; and back row, Reggie Dumont, Dave Hinckley, Don Dupont, Sid Dupont, Bill Gifford, Gary Bellefleur, Mike Dumont and Norm Rodrigue.

Augusta on Nov. 4, 2009, sponsored by the Building and Construction Trades Council.

William Gifford, P.S.

Kudos to Retirees & Volunteers

L.U. 1307 (u), SALISBURY, MD—We congratulate Local 1307 retirees Larry Fisher, Eugene McNair and Jo Anne Lank.

Bro. Fisher started at Delmarva Power in 1968 and worked at the Vienna and Indian River Power Plants. His posts included power plant machinist, qualified electrician and maintenance operator. Larry retired in March 2009 from NRG, which now owns the power plants. He was a Local 1307 E-Board member, steward and negotiating committee member.

Bro. McNair began at Delmarva Power at Indian River Power Plant in 1974. His positions included plant equipment operator, control room operator and power plant machinist. He retired from NRG as a qualified machinist in February 2009.

Sister Lank started at Delmarva Power as a cashier in 1977. She held clerical positions in the Salisbury District, at Indian River Power Plant and in Harrington District. She retired from NRG as a senior clerical associate in April 2009.

Recently, IBEW members at NRG Indian River Power Plant contacted the town of Millsboro, DE, and volunteered to perform a community service. The Cupola Park needed mulch around the playground area, so our members accepted the challenge. NRG provided the mulch and 10 members of Local 1307 volunteered for the work. Union volunteers were: Jimmy Andrie, Jim Ricci, Desiree Moore, James Hummer, Kevin Parson, Andrew Steen, Michael Moore, Andy Genga, Toni James and Deanna Frazier.

E.D. Sparks, F.S.



Assembled at the 2009 Lineman's Rodeo in Bonner Springs, KS, are, from left: IBEW Int. Reps. Richard Michel and Mark Hagar; Local 1439 member David Kearns; Eleventh District Int. Vice Pres. Curtis E. Henke; Local 1439 member Mike Myers; Apprentice Advisor Marty Politte; Trainer Ted Howle; Local 1439 Pres. Billy Howle; Local 1439 members John Farris, Ted Walsh, Jeff Fleming, Kris Covert and Jorden Drummond.

Annual Lineman's Rodeo

L.U. 1439 (u), ST. LOUIS, MO—The 26th Annual Lineman's Rodeo in Bonner Springs, KS, was the place to be on Oct. 17, 2009, when the Local 1439 Construction Team took first place. On the team were: journeymen Jorden Drummond, Ted Walsh, Jeff Fleming and alternate Kris Covert. Also, Local 1439 then-apprentices David Kearns and Mike Myers (both of whom are now journeymen) took second and third place, respectively. Big thanks to the union hall, the stewards and apprentice advisors and trainers for being such great teachers and mentors to those up and coming.

Don't forget your out-of-work brothers and sisters in IBEW locals. Contact your union office for details on how you can help.

Ken Carroll, P.S.

Team Analex Contract

L.U. 1501 (ees,em,mo,pet,rts&t), BALTIMORE, MD—We negotiated a new five-year contract with Team Analex (Qinetiq North America and Jackson & Tull).

We thank the negotiating committee of Bob Denhardt, Fred Richards, Robert Taminelli, Neil Becker, Jason Strawhorn, Delany Burkhart, John Phillips and Bus. Mgr. Dion Guthrie.

The negotiated agreement provides a 4 percent wage increase for each year of the contract. The agreement also features a number of new language changes on seniority, transfers and job bidding. Additionally, it includes improvements in health benefits. With the fact that the average increase nationwide is 2.8 percent and the cost of living increase this year is 0.09 percent, this is an outstanding settlement. We appreciate all the work of the negotiating committee and the long hours they put in; it has paid off in a job well-done.

Thomas Rostkowski, R.S.



Local 1501 members working at Goddard Space Flight Center for Team Analex wear their Local 1501-2 "We Are a Team" shirts to show their unity.

Safety Record Strong

L.U. 1523 (u), WICHITA, KS—We had a safe year. Our safety record is going strong. Westar Energy saw a 37 percent reduction in employee injuries from 2007 to 2008. Additionally, as of this writing, another 48 percent reduction in injuries was realized from 2008 to 2009. These gains are based on total company employees, including members from two different IBEW locals.

We had nine major off property storms, in Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, Iowa and Missouri and several major storms in the Westar Energy service area. Through all of this, Local 523 members had no injuries.

Labor and management are involved in several joint committees working together on safety, job hazards and training to improve the work environment. With cooperation and collaboration between Local 1523 and Westar Energy, we will have a safe work culture.

The second lineman-apprentice school class started in October 2009. Kyle Hazelwood, a Network journeyman, was from the first class and was selected to fill one of the apprentice lineman vacancies in the line department. The school is going well and is successful in bringing out the attributes needed to become a lineman apprentice. Congratulations, Kyle.

Our Pres. Russ Whitley and Vice Pres. Darrel Wilson attended the Negotiation Training Institute in Dallas last November. Thank you, guys, for your service to our union.

Candy C. Cruz-Dodd, P.S.

Jobs for IBEW

L.U. 1579 (i&o), AUGUSTA, GA—The accompanying photo was taken just outside a major project near Augusta. There are many projects in Georgia that are going to out-of-state, nonunion contractors. Local 1579's jurisdiction covers 12 counties in Georgia and five counties in South Carolina.

The current unemployment rate in Georgia is 10.1 percent and the South Carolina rate is even worse at 11.6 percent. This number could be reduced if this work went to local contractors that hire local people.

In order for this work to go to IBEW members, we all have to take the time to do work that does not pay. This work involves writing letters to politicians, participating in demonstrations and electing working family friendly candidates.

When you see your local union business manager, assistant business manager, president and organizer standing on the side of the road with a sign in their hands, stop and help them out. The rewards will be great.

Local 1579 recently held a pinning ceremony. We presented service award pins to 154 members eligible for 65-year pins to 5-year pins. Congratulations and thank-you to all awardees for their many years of IBEW service.

Until next time, God bless.

Will Salters, A.B.M.



Augusta, GA, Local 1579 Bus. Mgr. Ken Ward (left), Asst. Bus. Mgr. Will Salters and Pres. Raymond Hawkinberry display signs at a union demonstration on jobs.

'Extreme Home Makeover'

L.U. 1701 (catv,ees,i,o&u), OWENSBORO, KY—The Executive Board appointed the following to the Examining Board: Joe Fulkerson, Joe Brown, Tom Brown and Tim Howard. Their terms will run until the next local union election. The board gave the JW exam in October 2009 to Shane Booker, and Chmn. Joe Fulkerson reports he passed the exam.

Local 1701 performed electrical work for an Extreme Home Makeover project, aired on ABC-TV on Nov. 1, 2009. Bro. Travis Thompson oversaw the project for the IBEW and the following members also volunteered: Mike Buskill, David Carrico, Andy Daniel, Brent Ebelhar, Brett Hermann, Ashley Payne, Robert Pillow, Tim Therber and Jim Weakley. Retired Bros. John Bethel, Mike Buskill and Jim Weakley also volunteer their time for Habitat for Humanity. Thanks, brothers, for a job well-done.

Bus. Mgr. Gary Osborne reports that Downs Electric will team with Beltline Electric from Owensboro on a new hospital in Owensboro. This project should be under way by the second quarter of 2010.

Local 1701 had a good turnout at the Labor Day picnic. We thank all who attended.

The JATC purchased a training center building on Ewing Road in Owensboro, and renovations will begin soon. We thank Asst. Bus. Agent/JATC Sec. Larry Boswell and the committee, who worked diligently to accomplish this task.



Local 1701 members volunteer for ABC-TV's Extreme Home Makeover project in Maceo, KY. From left are: Ashley Payne, Mike Buskill, Brent Ebelhar and David Carrico.

Remember union meetings held the third Monday of each month.

Tim Blandford, P.S.

Service to Country



Barrie, Ontario, Local 1739 recognizes apprentice Grant Kemster, serving in the military.

L.U. 1739 (i&o), BARRIE, ONTARIO, CANADA—Fourth-term apprentice Grant Kemster has taken a temporary leave from his electrical apprenticeship. Grant is a reservist with the Canadian Armed Forces and is currently training for his first tour of duty in Afghanistan next spring. Our local is very proud of Grant and his service to our country. From all of your brothers and sisters in Local 1739—we say thank you, Grant.

Frank Kastle, P.S.

IBEW Lifesaving Award

L.U. 2273 (r), ALTOONA, PA—On May 26, 2009, at the Norfolk Southern Juniata Locomotive Shop, a near-fatal accident was curtailed.

Local 2273 Bro. Kevin Hanlin, an electrician of 33 years, received an electrical shock while performing his work. He fell to the floor with burns on both hands and the electrical shock stopping his heart. Machinist Robert Stoltz (IAM Local 1639) came to the rescue.

Local 2273 electrician Eric Cover and Stoltz performed CPR until Local 2273 electrician Jess Hall arrived with an automated external defibrillator. Local 2273 electrician Jim Little called 911 for EMS. Stoltz and Cover began the process to shock Hanlin with the AED. Hanlin responded and began breathing on his own. A life was saved.

Bro. Hanlin is recovering from this ordeal and was on hand with other members of his local for an awards presentation dinner for Stoltz and Cover. IBEW Lifesaving Awards signed by Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill and Int. Sec. Treas. Lindell K. Lee were presented Oct. 17. Local 2273 thanks Int. Pres. Hill and Int. Sec. Treas. Lee, as well as Third District Int. Vice Pres. Donald C. Siegel, for his efforts to secure the award.

Local 2273 also thanks state Rep. Rick Geist and the Pennsylvania General Assembly for Citation Awards presented to Stoltz and Cover.

Don A. Rabenstein, V.P.



Attending IBEW Local 2273 Lifesaving Awards presentation dinner are, from left: Local 2273 Vice Pres. Don Rabenstein, Local 2273 members Eric Cover and Kevin Hanlin, IAM Local 1639 member Robert Stoltz and Local 2273 Pres. Ken Kumpf.



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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

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Edwin D. Hill
International President

Lindell K. Lee
International Secretary-Treasurer

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Joseph P. Calabro

Second District
Myles J. Calvey

Third District
John R. Clarke

Fourth District
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Fifth District
Stephen Schoemehl

Sixth District
Gregory A. Lucero

Seventh District
Patrick Lavin

Eighth District
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**HOW TO REACH US**

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

Send letters to:

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**FROM THE OFFICERS****What I Saw at the Jobs Summit**

Edwin D. Hill
International President

It was an honor to be one of the more than 100 labor, community and business leaders invited to the White House earlier this month to take part in President Obama's jobs summit.

I knew that we wouldn't come up with a quick-fix solution to the greatest jobs crisis in a quarter-century in just one day, but some innovative ideas were raised and were subject to serious discussion.

President Obama's new jobs program contains some important first steps to help revive the economy, including using TARP money to help small businesses grow and increasing capital investments.

Here are some of the suggestions I offered at the summit:

- **Rebuild Domestic Manufacturing:** We need to make sure stimulus money ends up creating jobs where they are needed the most—right here at home. Rebuilding our roads, bridges and schools, not to mention greening our economy through wind, solar and biodiesels, could lead to a rebirth of manufacturing. We can't afford any more incidents like when developers of a massive Texas wind-farm project tried to use stimulus money to off-shore jobs to China.

- **Learn from the innovators:** The IBEW hasn't let the recession stop us from continuing to take the high road, upholding the wages and benefits that guarantee our members a place in the middle class, while upgrading our training programs and commitment to on-the-job excellence—the antithesis of the Wal-Mart economic model. In the Bay Area, Local 595 is partnering with the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory to help green our work force, while to the south, in Los Angeles, Local 11 just signed a deal to build the city's new "green" NFL stadium, creating hundreds of good jobs.

And in Minnesota, our locals are partnering with a new start-up company—LVX System—that has developed a revolutionary wireless Internet system that connects to the Web using energy-efficient LED lights.

President Obama and Congress now have the opportunity to reverse more than 30 years of economic stagnation. The IBEW, our industry partners and the labor movement stand as ready leaders in this effort.

To read a longer version of this column, check out my blog on the Huffington Post at www.huffingtonpost.com/edwin-d-hill. ■

A Step Forward in Copenhagen

Consider the gigantic challenge that faced 100 heads of state and representatives of thousands of non-governmental organizations, including 400 trade unionists, who gathered last month in Copenhagen, Denmark, for the United Nations Climate Change Conference.

All delegates shared an intellectual understanding of the need to reduce the overheating of our planet's atmosphere. But they were all over the map on how to do it.

Developing nations said they need financial help from wealthier nations—like the U.S.—to limit their use of fossil fuels. Developed nations hung tough, insisting that if such help is given, nations like China and India must not gain a competitive advantage in global trade by escaping pollution goals.

IBEW Utility Department Director Jim Hunter was part of an International Trade Union Confederation delegation that promoted a "just transition" to a green economy. They pushed for public investment, innovation, skill development, and labor protections, arguing against those who would leave the green economy to the free market. Such an approach, they said, would mostly benefit the global corporate elite.

For a time, it looked like the conferees would end up without an agreement. Then President Barack Obama arrived and negotiated a deal with China, India and other developing and wealthy nations. It is a start at addressing one of our most solemn obligations to future generations.

Developed nations will contribute over \$100 billion to help developing nations. In return, China, India and other major developing nations agree to accurately report on and verify their emissions goals.

I respect the passion of environmentalists who say that this agreement is too weak. But, like a first contract in a newly-organized shop, Copenhagen is a work in progress, a first step.

Congress will soon be debating climate change legislation. The IBEW will follow up Brother Hunter's significant participation in Copenhagen by insisting upon a realistic transition to cleaner energies that will require a mix of sources, including nuclear, coal, natural gas and renewable technologies. We will need the support of members in contacting your senators and representatives.

Next year, another world climate change conference will be held in Mexico. The IBEW will be back at the table carrying the voices of our members to the world's decision makers. ■



Lindell K. Lee
International Secretary-Treasurer

Letters to the Editor

A League of Their Own

I am the safety officer for the Fulton Little League and have been an Syracuse Local 97 member for 28 years. Although our Little League has been noted as one of the top in the nation by Little League headquarters, we had old wooden bleachers. Through fundraising and a grant we finally had enough money to get new bleachers—but had no one to assemble them before our upcoming opening day. Four of my union brothers stepped up and came out on a cold, rainy day and worked through the pouring rain and built all of them. I would love to see them recognized for their great effort.

A big thank-you goes out to Local 97 security officers Jess Lamb, Matt Stone, Jeff Bristol and Greg Steiner from Entergy's James A. FitzPatrick nuclear power plant for volunteering their time and tools to assemble all the new aluminum bleachers. It is kind, caring members like these that keep our communities and youth organizations growing strong!

Jodi Lynn Larkin
Local 97 member, Syracuse, N.Y.

Reaping IBEW's Benefits

Just want to say thanks for keeping us informed with the Electrical Worker newspaper. I am retired from Local Union 11, and a 49-year member. There were two letters in the December issue that got my attention. First, a very disturbing one from a member of Richmond, Va., Local 50 titled, "The Road to Socialism?" This member, after saying he does not support the present administration, goes on to say he can no longer support the IBEW.

It is sad that one of our members who has reaped the benefits that the IBEW has fought so hard for the past 100-plus years has such an attitude. There is not enough space to respond to such a negative attitude as this, so I will respond to the other more positive letter titled, "Don't Just Carry a Ticket," from a member of Kansas City, Mo., Local 124. He sounds like a proud IBEW member but warns that just carrying a union ticket is not enough to contribute to the betterment of our brotherhood. His ending statement says it all. "The sacrifices and hard labors of the generations that preceded you were vital to what you have now. ..." To help the labor movement from dying, we need to educate ourselves and strive to be the best and most productive in our fields.

Jack Pine
Local 11 retiree, Los Angeles

Universal Health Care Works

I just received my latest edition of the Electrical Worker, something I look forward to each month, and read the letter from Brother Fenton Wyatt Jr. of Local 50, Richmond, Va., with sadness. I always read the letters to the editor with great interest but don't usually feel the need to reply. In this case I feel I must.

As a retired IBEW member and a Canadian, I would like to take this opportunity to attempt to explain some of the issues Brother Wyatt raises. Contrary to what has been said in the U.S.A., most Canadians are satisfied with their health care system, and it is working. I cannot speak to the system in Britain because I don't live there.

One defining feature of our system is its universality. It does not matter who you are, or your circumstance, or where you live, your medical care is assured, and it is without cost to the individual, except through taxes. That means if you are injured, or ill, your health care is covered no matter if you are unemployed or have pre-existing conditions. Even with these features the annual cost of healthcare is less per capita in Canada than in the U.S.A., and let me assure you that the care is of a high quality.

As a retired person I have my share of medical misfortune, but one thing I don't have to worry about is if I can afford it. My provincial health care plan looks after me and my family in an efficient and timely manner. No system is perfect, but the Canadian system provides peace of mind for anyone with health care concerns.

Evert van Maanen
Local 120 retiree, London, Ontario

Who We Are

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

Member's 'China Journey' Wins Accolades

A baby boy lies motionless on an operating table. Tubes protruding from his nose and mouth provide life-giving fluids. White medical tape covers his eyes. Around him, a team of American and Chinese doctors at the new Children's Hospital of Fudan University in Shanghai carefully begin the grueling operation that will stave off his congenital heart disease and give him a chance at life.

Hovering close to the scene, news photographer and Manchester, Maine, Local 1837 member Jason Nelson's video camera captures the drama.

Hours later, success. The boy rests in a recovery room filled with groggy babies and overjoyed family members. The child's parents weep—at other hospitals, they were told the boy would not survive. The mother strokes her son's hair and respectfully bows to the nurses between sobs. For Nelson, this is a life-changing moment.

Brother Nelson accompanied a team of about a dozen surgeons, doctors and nurses from the Maine Foundation for Cardiac Surgery who flew to Shanghai in late 2008 to volunteer at the hospital. Fudan is one of only three facilities in the dense, smog-choked city of 20 million that struggles to help the 150,000 babies who are born with heart problems each year. The Americans' mission: to take on the most challenging cases while teaching new techniques to their Chinese counterparts. Along with reporter Kim Block, Nelson spent 10 hectic days documenting the action for CBS affiliate WGME-TV Channel 13 in Portland, bringing "The China Journey" to viewers in southern Maine and northern New Hampshire.

For his unflinching honesty and technical precision, Nelson was honored with an Emmy from the National Academy of Arts and Sciences. Even more impressively, he netted what's considered the highest accolade in TV reporting—an Edward R. Murrow Award from the Radio-Television News Directors

Association. The awards confirm the eight-year brother as one of the best news photographers in the New England area, as he beat out tough competition from much larger cities like Boston and Providence, R.I.

"I'd never done a project of this magnitude," Nelson said. "It was an intense experience." At 32, he has already nabbed regional awards and was twice named National Press Photographer of the Year for his area. A graduate of Worcester State College in his native Massachusetts, Nelson worked for two years as

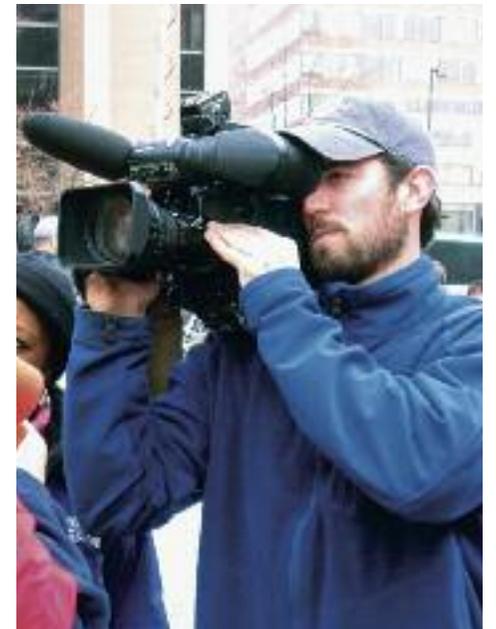
a photographer at a nonunion station before moving to Portland and joining the IBEW in 2001. Since then, he has shot video of border patrol agents in Arizona and covered two Super Bowls and two World Series—but nothing compares to Shanghai.

"All the families had been told by other hospitals that there was nothing they could do," Nelson said. "So to see a kid go from being sick to the operating room to the recovery room the next morning blew me away. Before surgery, some looked really blue, tired and unhealthy. But three days later, they were smiling and high fiving."

While the concise scripting sharply traces the arc of the doctors' efforts to save 17 young lives, it's Nelson's camerawork that breathes life into the five-part series.

"I wanted to relay the amount of emotion that I saw with my own eyes—to bring that over on the television," he said. "I tried to capture natural moments, like people waiting up all night or visiting their kids in recovery. I've talked with many who watched the series and said the feelings of the people came through."

Those images and sounds—a rolling tear here, a crying baby



Manchester, Maine, Local 1837 member Jason Nelson earned an Emmy and an Edward R. Murrow Award for his coverage of Maine doctors saving children's lives in Shanghai, China.

there—spontaneously show the emotional spectrum of the experience of children, families and health care workers. In one, a Maine nurse talks about how the patients are sedated but not given adequate pain medication, resulting in a four-hour-long process to give a child Tylenol. In another, a close-up of Block pulls out into a long shot, framing the hundreds of families inside the gaping maw of the hospital's main hallway. Brows furrow and eyes squint as surgeons carefully attach a valve to a beating heart. And families erupt into laughter and playfulness as their children heal.

The segments ran in November 2008 and were repackaged into a 30-minute special that aired during last year's holiday season.

Local 1837 Business Manager Cynthia Phinney said Nelson is well-deserving of all the kudos for "The China Journey."

"We were very excited when Jason got the award," Phinney said. "He's a great guy and he approaches everything with enthusiasm and a helpful attitude. We're pleased and proud that one of our members is doing such quality work and is being recognized for it." ■

September International Executive Council Meeting

Minutes and Report of The International Executive Council's Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the International Executive Council was called to order at 8:30 a.m., by Secretary Lavin, on Tuesday, September 15, 2009, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Other members of the Council in attendance were Dowling, Riley, Calvey, Clarke, Calabro, Lucero, and Schoemehl. Chairman Pierson was hospitalized with pneumonia and was unable to attend this session.

International President Hill

International President Edwin D. Hill met with the members of the International Executive Council a number of times to discuss a variety of matters affecting all branches of the Brotherhood.

International Secretary-Treasurer Lee

International Secretary-Treasurer Lindell Lee presented financial reports covering the IBEW Pension Fund and the Investment Portfolio of the Brotherhood—both in Canada and in the United States.

Legal Defense

Payments for legal defense made from the General Fund were examined and approved in accordance with the requirements of Article X, Section 1, of the IBEW Constitution.

Financial Reports

The International Secretary-Treasurer's reports for the various funds of the Brotherhood were presented to the International Executive Council, examined and filed.

Local Union Under International Office Supervision

International President Hill advised the Council that there are no local unions, as of this meeting, under the supervision of the International Office.

Retirement of International Representatives

Michael Nugent
Effective August 1, 2009
International Office

James Rudicil
Effective August 1, 2009
International Office

Charles McKenzie
Effective August 1, 2009
First District

Richard Panagrossi
Effective August 1, 2009
Second District

Michael Flanagan
Effective August 1, 2009
Third District

Gerald Counihan
Effective August 1, 2009
Fifth District

Duane Nordick
Effective August 1, 2009
Sixth District

Michael Blanchard
Effective August 1, 2009
Seventh District

Retirement of Office Employees

Thelma Spriggs
Effective January 1, 2010
International Office

Patricia Gursky
Effective July 1, 2009
International Office

Appeals of Tim Mitchinson

The International Executive Council has conducted a thorough review of the facts pertaining to the appeals of Tim Mitchinson, Card No. D636007, a member of Local Union 303, IBEW, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada, and it is the unanimous opinion of the International Executive Council that the determination of the International President, Edwin D. Hill, of March 27, 2009, was proper and within the scope of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers' Constitution and the articles governing local union officers and their duties.

Therefore, the appeals are hereby denied.

Appeal of William Leone

The International Executive Council has conducted a thorough review of the facts pertaining to an appeal of William Leone, Card No. D191199, and it is the decision of the International Executive Council to uphold the decision rendered by International President Edwin D. Hill, on June 1, 2009.

Therefore the appeal is denied.

Article XX and XXI Cases

There are currently no ongoing Article XX or XXI cases involving the IBEW. However, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers continues to struggle with the aftermath of the Yellowpages.com Article XXI case.

Voting Results—Proposed Amendment of Article III, Section 8, of the IBEW Constitution

At its May meeting, the International Executive Council instructed the International Secretary-Treasurer to submit an amendment to the IBEW Constitution to all IBEW local unions modifying the manner in which pay increases for International Officers, Assistants and Representatives are to be calculated over the next three years. The purpose of the amendment was to divert some of the increases that would be due to bolster the funding of the pension plan for international officers and staff.

Local unions voted during the period from June 1 to August 15, 2009. Each local cast one vote. The amendments passed with 374 locals voting in favor and 93 against.

Per Capita Objection Plan

The International Executive Council discussed the IBEW Reporting Form for the Per Capita Objection Plan.

Elizabeth "Liz" H. Shuler

The members of the International Executive Council wish to extend their best wishes to Sister Elizabeth "Liz" H. Shuler on her recent election as the first elected female Secretary-Treasurer of the AFL-CIO. Congratulations to Sister Shuler as she accepts her new position.

Special Dispensation for the Payment of the IBEW Death Payment for Katharina E. Engnell

After having reviewed the details concerning Sister Katharina Engnell's arrearage, it has been determined that it was through no fault of her own that her dues became delinquent and that the denial of the IBEW Death Benefit, due to the erroneous delinquency, be overturned and that her beneficiary(ies) receive the IBEW Death Benefit payment.

Sister Engnell's death was due to an accidental electrocution and the members of the International Executive Council wish to extend their condolences to the family of Sister Katharina Engnell.

The Next Regular International Council Meeting

This regular meeting of the International Executive Council was originally scheduled to be held in the International Office, in Washington, D.C. However, in order to accommodate those attending the AFL-CIO Convention, this meeting was held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and was adjourned on Thursday, September 17, 2009.

The next regular meeting of the International Executive Council will commence at 8:30 a.m., on Monday, December 14, 2009, in Washington, D.C.

For the International Executive Council Patrick Lavin, Secretary September 2009

The IEC acted on numerous applications under the IBEW Pension Benefit Fund. For a complete listing, consult www.ibew.org, clicking on the International Executive Council link on the "About Us" page. ■

IBEW Locals Approve Constitutional Changes on Staff Compensation

In a referendum vote conducted between October 2 and December 1, 2009, IBEW locals approved a revised amendment to the Brotherhood's constitution that alters the compensation formula for International officers, assistants, directors and representatives so that they will now resume making contributions to the pension plan.

Members who wish to review the text of the language should contact their local union.

The International Secretary-Treasurer received responses from 415 locals out of 894 eligible to vote, and the final tally was 357 locals in favor and 58 against. All locals had one vote in the process in accordance with Article XXVII, Section 1(a) of the IBEW Constitution.

For a complete listing of voting results, see www.ibew.org. ■

IBEW MEDIA WORLD

In addition to your monthly issue of The Electrical Worker, check out the wealth of IBEW-related information in cyberspace.

www.ibew.org

From breaking news to video stories, our updated Web site has information not available anywhere else. Visit us to connect with the IBEW on **Facebook** and to follow International President Edwin D. Hill on **Twitter!**

IBEW on the Huffington Post

President Hill has a new blog championing green jobs and more. Read it at www.huffingtonpost.com.

YouTube

The IBEW has its own channel on YouTube, devoted exclusively to videos about the union and its members. Watch online at www.youtube.com/user/theelectricalworker.

**HourPower**

Right now on www.IBEWHourPower.com, President Hill talks about social networking—and how, as the world is getting smaller, the IBEW is getting bigger and better by leveraging these Web sites.

ElectricTV

On electricTV.net, we visit Ann Arbor, Mich., new site of the National Training Institute. The work instructors do there is changing the IBEW—and we let you know how they're staying ahead of the curve.

