

THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

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INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

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IBEW Wins More Than \$20 Million in Green Jobs Training Grants

Thousands of IBEW members from the Midwest to the West Coast will receive training in the latest renewable energy technologies thanks to the \$100 million green-training grant issued by the Labor Department.

IBEW members throughout the United States are among those who will benefit from the announcement on Jan. 6 by Labor Secretary Hilda Solis of the release of nearly \$100 million in renewable energy training grants.

"These grants will allow the IBEW and our industry partners to continue to lead the way in high-quality green training programs in areas like solar, wind and building automation," said International President Edwin D. Hill.

For Montana Electrical Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee Training Director Gary Pemble, supporting existing labor-management partnerships, which are already

training new workers in renewable energy, makes a lot of sense on the part of federal officials. "Union apprenticeship programs have been proven time and time again to be more cost effective, have better instructors and a stronger curriculum and unlike many colleges, we get our students out on the job site starting on the first day of training."

The Montana JATC, along with a wide array of union-training centers, including bricklayers, electricians and sheet metal workers, won a \$5 million grant to boost training in wind, solar and hydro power to help green the Big Sky Country and put residents back to work. The JATC represents Helena Local 233, Billings Local 532 and Kalispell Local 768.

"Renewable energy is changing the trades really fast," Pemble said. "This will help us meet the needs of a newly developing energy economy."

More than 1,000 IBEW members in Montana—both journey-

men and apprentices—will benefit from the green training programs funded by the grant. "It allows us to retool our existing work force while opening up new opportunities for those new to the trade," said Pemble.

The grants are part of the \$787 billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act passed last year to help stimulate the economy.

The announcement came as exciting news for the diverse range of green energy advocates, training programs, labor unions, and community organizations that were among the 25 recipients of the grants.

The Austin Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee—representing Local 520—was awarded \$4.8 million to train electrical workers throughout the state in solar technology.

"Electricians are hungry for new skills and this grant will make it possible," said Austin JATC Training Director Gilbert Ferrales.

The Austin JATC has been training workers to install and maintain solar panels since 2008, but this new grant will allow the center to train

TRAINING GRANTS *continued on page 2*

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Training Grants

more than 1,000 workers—both experienced journeymen and workers new to the trade—by next year.

The grant money will fund the establishment of a train-the-trainer program for IBEW members from throughout the southwest to come to Austin to learn how to instruct their own members in the basics of solar installation.

The IBEW in California has taken the lead in green energy training for years, so it's no surprise that the state's Labor Management Cooperation Committee—a joint partnership between the IBEW and union contractors—won a \$5 million grant to train workers in building automation and advanced lighting controls.

"Lighting controls are the biggest single opportunity to save energy," said Bernie Kotlier, director of green energy solutions for the LMCC.

More than 2,000 IBEW members in the Golden State are expected to be trained in setting up everything from motion detectors to automatic dimmable lights that react to natural daylight to help commercial buildings cut down on wasted energy.

The IBEW had been working with major utilities throughout California in training workers in these technologies for more than a year now, so the grant is a natural fit, said Kotlier. "The Labor Department was looking to support existing broad-based partnerships that brought together labor and employers, so the LMCC is a perfect choice."

Other union training partnerships that received grants include:

- **SER Metro-Detroit**, Jobs for Progress Inc., a Michigan partnership that includes green activists, the IBEW, the Laborers and local work force development boards, was awarded more than \$4 million to increase job training opportunities in alternative energy.
- **The Ohio Electrical Labor Management Cooperative Committee**, a partnership of the IBEW, NECA and local community colleges, was awarded nearly \$5 million to put those affected by layoffs in the auto industry back to work in green jobs.
- **Labor's Community Action, Inc.**, a Colorado partnership of Denver Local 68, NECA and the Denver Office of Economic Development was awarded more than \$3 million to help state residents find work in the green energy industry. ■

13th IBEW Photo Contest Winners

The Best of the Best



By capturing an iconic image of the Brotherhood, Huntington, W.Va., Local 317 member **Danny Doss** is the winner of the 2009 IBEW Photo Contest. His shot of an apprentice climbing a pole—against a backdrop of velvet sky and radiant sunshine—wowed members who participated in the second annual online voting contest.

From an initial crop of more than 300 submissions, nearly 4,000 votes were cast for the 15 finalists whose work appeared at www.ibew.org near the end of last year.

Minneapolis Local 160 member **Dave Gable** nabbed second place with his colorful shot of windmills at sunrise on the Minnesota-South Dakota border.

Voters awarded third place to Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245 member **Don Porter** for his photo of the Fort Churchill power plant at dusk.

more than 300 submissions

1 First Place Winner (\$200)

Danny Doss,
Huntington, W.Va., Local 317

Facing dizzying heights is part of the job for linemen, and Doss' image of Louisville, Ky., Local 369 member Sam Simms earning his OSHA wood pole qualification proves it. "I was in the right place at the right time," said Doss, who trains new workers through the American Line Builders Apprenticeship and quickly captured the moment with his iPhone camera. Co-workers praised the image, and Doss' director urged him to submit the photo to the contest. "I never expected to win," Doss added. "I'm in awe."

2 Second Place Winner (\$150)

Dave Gable,
Minneapolis, Local 160

Modern wind turbines are a sign of the dawning age of clean energy production, as Gable's early morning photo perfectly shows. Taken just after sunrise near Minnesota's Buffalo Ridge, the shot is one of many that Gable has collected while on the job as a lineman for Xcel Energy. "I take a lot of photos at work for the company," he said. "Having a digital camera on hand is a tool of the trade."





3 Third Place Winner (\$100)

Don Porter,
Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245

Porter captured this shot of the switchyard at the Fort Churchill power plant in Mason Valley, Nev., one evening at sunset. The image is a composite of five separate shots, but Porter emphasizes the authenticity of the sky's coloring. "The red wasn't exaggerated," he said. "That's what you see out here for a few minutes. I wanted to capture the feeling of being on something of an alien world." The 15-year photographer is an employee of NV Energy.

Honorable Mentions (\$50 each)



Tyrone Daum,
Diamond Bar, Calif., Local 47

Daum documented four fellow members of the local waiting atop poles for a helicopter crossarm delivery after fires roared through the Los Angeles National Forest last year.



Jonathan Pytka,
Billings, Mont., Local 532

Clever use of composition is on display in Pytka's arty shot of members ascending a 150-foot wind turbine. ■

Organizing Push Spurs Local Union Growth in Texas

With more than two decades in on the job as a field service representative for Oncor—the largest utility in Texas—Don Gray gave eight for eight. He was conscientious about representing his company well. And if fellow workers were overloaded, Gray helped them out. He figured they'd do the same for him.

So when supervisors started clamping down on the work force in 2007 by raising health insurance premiums and then nearly tripling employees' duties, Gray stepped up to help lead the campaign for union representation with Dallas Local 69.

"The company had all the power," said Gray. "They felt like they could do whatever they wanted. I knew that it was going to continue unless we did something about it."

Field service representatives—the employees who do meter turn-ons and turn-offs—usually filled between 30 to 50 orders a day. But changes in company protocol last year sent orders as high as 120 per day for a single worker. That, combined with a new Texas law that puts stiffer fines on utilities if orders go uncompleted, created havoc for the employees.

So Gray started doing his homework. After talking with IBEW Lead Organizer Larry Hayes, Gray began meeting with representatives at the hall to see what the IBEW could do for him and his co-workers. Soon, talk of organizing spread around the workplace, and other employees came into the fold.

Years of campaigning and continuously trying to gin up support in a shop that was experiencing high turnover paid off last December when the field service representatives voted IBEW. By bringing 342 new members into the union, the Oncor campaign led to one of the IBEW's biggest organizing wins of 2009.

The win at Oncor was the latest in what is turning into a streak of victories for workers at the nation's sixth largest electricity transmission and distribution company. In December 2006, nearly 500 distribution line personnel voted for representation with Local 69. The unrepresented field service representatives—who received less pay than the distribution workers—took stock of the union workers' new arrangement and liked what they saw after the line workers won their first contract.

"After going union, the distribution guys got a raise, and we figured we could get something too," said Kay Ream, a 12-year employee whose husband and son both work for the company. "I do a lot of overtime, which helps boost my pay. Without it I'd be at the bottom of the totem pole. It's been years and years since we got a cost-of-living raise, and you need that when prices for everything are going up and you're trying to make it." Ream says that she's optimistic about upcoming contract negotiations. "People I work with say they're really happy with the union."

That attitude is welcomed in Texas, where trade union membership hovers around 4.5 percent (the national average is above 12 percent). And with unemployment in the state at its highest peak in decades, the need for unionization is even greater.

"Many workers said during the campaign that a major concern is possible loss of their jobs," said Hayes, the lead organizer. "Some people have 30 years in and nowhere else to go if they get laid off. So we're trying to incorporate language into the contract stating that they should be the first people trained for other available positions in the company, all of which we're looking to organize down the line."

After winning representation with the company (formerly TXU) in late 2006, hundreds of Local 69 workers became worried when the utility was taken over by private equity firms with plans to outsource highly skilled transmission and distribution work. Union activism across the board helped nix the outsourcing plan, saving the members' jobs. In return, the IBEW agreed to support the buyout in front of the public utility commission. This helped contribute to a more amicable relationship between labor and the new management.

Following the 2006 and 2009 campaigns, Local 69's bargaining strength has risen from 175 to more than 1,000 members. ■

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

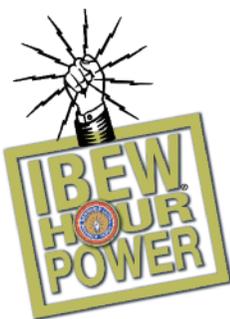
From breaking news to video stories, our updated Web site has information not available anywhere else. Visit us to connect with the IBEW on **Facebook** and to follow International President Edwin D. Hill on **Twitter!**

IBEW on the Huffington Post

President Hill has a new blog championing green jobs and more. Read it at www.huffingtonpost.com/edwin-d-hill.

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, we're taking you to Vancouver, site of this year's Winter Olympic Games. IBEW journeymen and apprentices worked on some of the venues, and built them with 100 percent pride.

ElectricTV

On electricTV.net, we show you how IBEW locals and NECA contractors in Nebraska are teaming up to train their electricians on the newest green technology—all centered around a wind training silo.



Circuits

Casino Project Promises Full Employment for New Brunswick Local

The job market has traditionally been tough in Atlantic Canada, but for Moncton, New Brunswick, Local 1555, the last few months have brought near full employment.

Construction is underway on a new \$90 million (Canadian) casino and hotel, which includes a 60,000-square-foot gaming and entertainment complex: the first of its kind in New Brunswick. It is expected to create more than 700 construction jobs, including more than 100 electrician positions.

Crews broke ground in early summer and are expected to be done by May 2010.

"We expect our books to be cleared shortly," said Local 1555 Business Manager Peter Gesner.

For a small local, it's big news.

The casino's general contractor has traditionally not been friendly to unions, but Gesner attributes the local's success in getting the work to the IBEW's training program and its commitment to on-the-job excellence. "We were able to provide skilled workers who were ready to start working immediately."



Workers on a new hotel and casino project in Moncton, New Brunswick, celebrated their hard work with a "brotherhood barbecue."

To celebrate everyone's hard work, workers on the job site sponsored a "brotherhood barbecue" earlier this month, bringing employees and contractors together.

Al's Electric, G.J. Cahill Electric and S.C.R. Electric also pitched in to help make the event happen. More than 200 tradesmen attended.

"It was a very positive success for our membership," said Local 1555 member Bernie Blakney, who organized the event. "It not only made our local newspaper but it also convinced one of Atlantic Canada's most experienced construction firms to start accepting union electrical tradesmen."

"It got the IBEW's name out in

the work force and in the broader community," Gesner said. ■

Local 5 Member Makes River Rescue

On a crisp fall day along the bank of Pittsburgh's Allegheny River, Chris Bradley, 35, took a lifesaving leap.

"It's a day I'll never forget," said Bradley, a journeyman wireman from Local 5.

It was just about lunchtime on November 17. Bradley was doing wiring work in a newly-built park dedicated to famed children's TV icon "Mr. Rogers." He was working right next to the river when he heard

IBEW On Duty



Barrie, Ontario, Local 1739 member Grant Kempster

"From all the brothers and sisters in Local 1739, we say thank you."

— Business Manager Tom Leduc

Ontario Member Prepares for Afghanistan Deployment

Nearly 3,000 Canadian troops serve in Afghanistan, and Barrie, Ontario, Local 1739 member Grant Kempster will soon be joining them for an expected six-month tour of duty. Kempster, a fourth-year inside apprentice, is a reservist with the Canadian Armed Forces and will be deploying overseas for the first time in early spring.

Twenty-five-year-old Kempster, originally from St. Catharines, has been a member of the Canadian reserves since 2006. He is currently undergoing training for his deployment.

"Our local is very proud of Grant for wanting to serve his country," said Local 1739 Business Manager Tom Leduc. "From all the brothers and sisters in Local 1739, we say thank you." ■

a woman scream. He looked at the water just in time to see a man and a bike sinking beneath the surface. A cyclist riding the riverfront trail had hit a bump in the path and careened into the water.

"He was on the bottom and I could see bubbles coming out of his mouth," Bradley said. "I could also see a bike helmet, so I went for it."

With temperatures in the 40s, Bradley whipped off his coat and boots and dove into the chilly river. He swam to the bottom, grabbed the man, and pulled him to the surface. The dazed bicyclist was conscious, but silent.

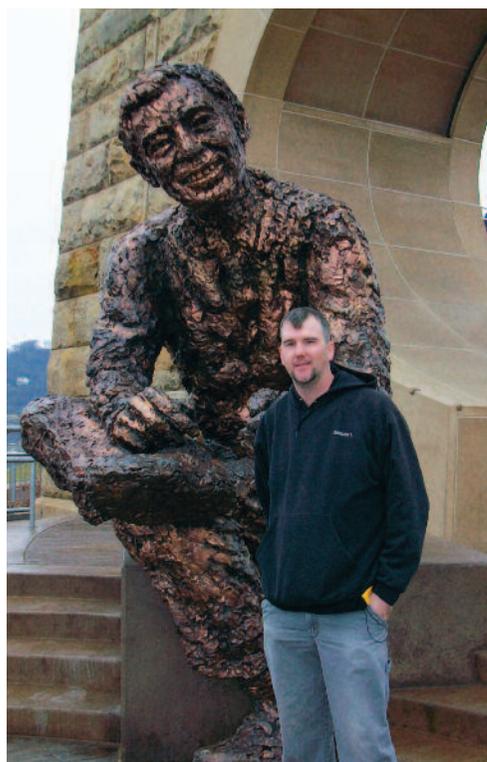
With the man balanced on his shoulder, Bradley treaded water for several minutes until his co-workers threw a rope. They pulled the victim to safety, and then lifted his rescuer out of the water.

Bradley would later find out that the man he saved didn't know how to swim.

"He said 'I owe you my life,'" Bradley said. The pair shared a meal together several weeks after the incident.

"Chris did a brave thing for this man. We're proud of him," said Local 5 Business Manager Mike Dunleavy.

The rescue happened just a few feet from the Pittsburgh park dedi-



Pittsburgh Local 5's Chris Bradley saved a man's life near this statue of TV icon "Mr. Rogers."

cated to the late Fred Rogers, the TV host and minister who grew up in a small town nearby. Rogers became one of the city's favorite sons with the success of his PBS show offering educational and inspirational messages to pre-schoolers.

"We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility," Rogers once said. "It's easy to say 'it's not my child, not my community, not my world, not my problem.' Then there are those who see the need and respond. I consider those people my heroes."

While Chris Bradley doesn't call himself a hero, he is glad he was there to help.

"I didn't think about it, I just did it," Bradley said. "It's was just really nice to be there for someone in need." ■

Oregon Local Helps Add Wind Power to High School's Curriculum

Crane Union High School—located in a remote and windy corner of south-western Oregon—has provided a top-notch education to generations of rural students.

The public boarding school serves a 7,500-square-mile radius, which is one of the largest in the state, but low population density means that student enrollment usually doesn't crack 100. It is a region of the Pacific Northwest that isn't known for being on the cutting edge of technology.

But soon future Crane Union students will get the opportunity to add wind power training to their course load, thanks to a \$10,000 donation from Portland Local 48 that will combine classroom instruction with hands-on training.

"We used to have wood and metal shop in high school," said Local 48 Business Agent Dave

Johnston. "These students will now have wind training, which is preparing them for the jobs of the future."

The donation is the result of a partnership between Local 48 and Columbia Energy Partners, a developer of wind energy technology, which has plans for several large projects in the region. Local 48 partnered with Columbia Energy Partners last year to install a 78 kilowatt solar array at the local's office.

The Crane school donation was in recognition of Columbia Energy Partners' assistance in financing the photovoltaic system. The company's president, Chris Crowley, says he hopes the wind training program will help create a local green work force.

"This is a great chance to build a better understanding of what



Portland Local 48 presents a \$10,000 check to Crane Union High School to develop a wind power curriculum. Pictured from left are Marl Kane, Columbia Energy Partners; Business Representative Dave Johnston, Local 48; Pat Sharp, Crane Schools superintendent and Crane Elementary School Board Members Todd Titus, Linda Miller, Jim Kelly, David Mims and Erin Maupin.

renewable energy can do for the local community and the environment," Crowley said. "We'd love to have local people helping to build

and maintain our projects." Columbia Energy Partners plans to continue its alliance with the IBEW for its future wind developments. ■

Transitions

DECEASED Marvin D. Cook



Retired Ninth District International Representative Marvin D. Cook died on Dec. 29 at the age of 76.

Initiated into Santa Barbara, Calif., Local 413 in 1957, Cook served as business manager from 1968 to 1974, when he was appointed International Representative.

Brother Cook, who served in the Army Reserves in Korea, began his work life in the oil fields of California. As International Representative, he participated in the IBEW General President's Offshore Committee, dealing with offshore oil platforms and the IBEW/Carpenter's Jurisdictional Disputes Committee.

A commissioner of the Santa Barbara County Housing Authority, Cook also served as president of the county's building trades council from 1969 to 1974. He actively promoted careers in the trades through talks and film showings at local high schools.

Ninth District International Vice President Michael Mowrey first met

Cook as his servicing representative during Mowrey's tenure as business manager of San Luis Obispo, Calif., Local 639. He recalls Cook and International Representative Kenny Johnson traveling the district and meeting with all business managers and executive board members in support of construction organizing. Cook retired in 1995.

"Marvin bled IBEW," says Mowrey, crediting Cook with "unmatched institutional knowledge and a great ability to resolve jurisdictional disputes."

On behalf of our entire membership, the officers and staff send our condolences to Brother Cook's wife, Marie Papulias-Cook, and his family. ■

DECEASED Russell Z. Mundorf



Retired Eleventh District International Representative Russell Z. Mundorf died on Dec. 27. He was 91.

Initiated into Lincoln, Neb., Local 265 in 1947, Brother Mundorf, an Air Force veteran of World War II,

served as business manager for 14 years. "He was an impressive leader," said Local 265 Business Manager Clinton Burge. During his tenure, says Burge, Mundorf expanded the reach of Local 265 beyond its original area to cover much of western Nebraska.

Mundorf, who served as president of the Lincoln County Building and Construction Trades Council, was also a member of the Nebraska Appeals Tribunal that considered unemployment benefits cases.

A recipient of the John F. Kennedy Presidential Award during the 1960s, Mundorf also received a letter from the president's Missile Site Commission for his negotiations to provide manpower for the project. He was recognized by the R.C.A. Corp. for his work on developing a national collective bargaining agreement.

In 1966, Mundorf was assigned to the Eleventh District staff, serving until his retirement in 1983. A hunter, fisherman and camper, Mundorf enjoyed restoring antique clocks and building clocks for his friends.

The officers, staff and members of the IBEW send our sincere condolences to Brother Mundorf's family and many friends. ■

Local Lines

Motorcycle Toy Run Benefit

L.U. 6 (c,i,st&u), SAN FRANCISCO, CA—The electrical industry in San Francisco really got into the swing of things during our annual golf tournament. This labor and management cooperative event held at the Presidio Golf Course is good fun for a good cause. Dan McAtee, Tom O'Rourke and Jason McLean worked especially hard to make sure it was a great time for all.

Members who were looking for a non-competitive and more casual day on the green came out in force for the "Hack Attack" at the Lincoln Park Golf Course. Bill Cullinen, Jerry Sullivan and Tim Green did a fantastic job organizing an event focused on camaraderie, fun, and benefitting a member in need.

Our 11th Annual Motorcycle Toy Run was a great success. Members brought their motor bikes and classic cars of all types along with a toy for the San Francisco Firefighters Toy Program.

Work is still slow. I wish everyone a prosperous new year.

Phil A. Farrelly, Pres.

'A New Climbing Silo'

L.U. 8 (as,em,i,mar,mt,rts,s&spa), TOLEDO, OH—We are cautiously optimistic about getting a few more job opportunities in coming months. Many thanks to those locals that put our members to work in their jurisdictions. We hope to have the opportunity to return the favor in the future.

The City of Toledo has a new mayor. Mike Bell was elected to office with the help and participation of Local 8 members and their families. Thanks to all who voted and helped with the campaign.

By the time this article is printed, there should be a new climbing silo installed back at the JATC. We will be one of four locals to have such a climbing silo. It will be an asset to our future in the electrical industry to have this new equipment and training. Bros. Nate Eaton and Jason Szymanski are certified as instructors to teach the Competent Climbing/Rescue Class, which will be scheduled soon. Please consider taking this new class. As this technology becomes more popular, we should be able to sell our knowledge and training to local businesses and communities, providing us with more work possibilities. Thanks to the JATC Committee for providing us with this opportunity, and for keeping our training program ahead of the curve.

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

Celebrating Labor

L.U. 16 (i), EVANSVILLE, IN—Our local was privileged to participate in Southern Indiana's 123rd annual Labor Day celebration last year. Approximately 140 Local 16 members and their families joined in the parade and afterward were served a great dinner by IBEW Local 702.

On Sept. 13, Local 16 held its annual family picnic. Attendance was up substantially and everyone enjoyed the fabulous barbecue, bingo, door prizes, drawings, children's activities and fellowship. The guys on the grill crew once again turned out a superb meal. Thanks to all who made this day possible.

The union wishes to thank William A. Diehl, field agent, for joining the excellent staff that Bus. Mgr. Paul Green has assembled. Billy Diehl has demonstrated his selfless devotion to the IBEW and Local 16 for nearly 40 years. He has served as an active volunteer, assistant agent, steward, contract negotiator, 30-year Executive Board member, JATC instructor, pension trustee, convention delegate and unsurpassed role model. His dedication to the membership is a joy to all. God bless you, brother!

Donald P. Beavin, P.S.

North Texas JATC Graduates

L.U. 20 (em,i,mt,spa,t&u), DALLAS-FORT WORTH, TX—The North Texas Electrical JATC held its annual completion dinner at the Sheraton Grand Hotel on June 5, 2009.

IBEW Local 20 and the North Texas Chapter of NECA both gave an Outstanding Apprentice Award to graduating apprentice Jason Allen for outstanding performance for the entire five-years of training.

Local 20 presented an award to an outstanding apprentice in each class year. The 2009 Gold Pliers Award recipients were: Jason Raburn (1st year), Kenneth Branson (2nd year), Agustin Montoya (3rd year) and David Thetford (4th year).

NECA presented Achievement Awards to an outstanding apprentice in each class year: Jason Raburn (1st year), Kenneth Branson (2nd year), Agustin Montoya (3rd year) and James Flowers (4th year).

The Local 20 Federal Credit Union in Dallas presented the Frank Wilson Award to a deserving apprentice from each class year: Charles Towb (1st year), John Moncevais (2nd year), James Irvin (3rd year), Taylor Parish (4th year) and Barry Sargent (5th year). The Ft. Worth 116 Federal Credit Union presented awards to graduating apprentices Jason Allen and Barry Sargent.

Perfect Attendance Awards for all five years



Class of 2009 graduates attends the Local 20 North Texas JATC apprentice completion dinner. From left, first row, Ryan McGreevey, Ernest Holmes; second row, Chad Turner, Steven Yates, Robert Dolashewich, Miguel Martinez, Fabian Martinez, Lance Barabino; third row, Aaron Lindsey, Brandon Caldwell, David Spangler, Ian Kidd, Blake Harrod, Justin Hayes; fourth row, Moustapha Soumare, Barry Sargent, Darwin Guthrie, Beau Coonrod, Matthew Beckett and Jason Allen.

went to: Jason Allen, Ernest Holmes Jr., Robert Dolashewich, Barry Sargent, Ian Kidd, Aaron Lindsey, Chad Turner and Sherrod Yates.

A.C. McAfee, B.M./F.S.

Years-of-Service Awards

L.U. 24 (es,i&spa), BALTIMORE, MD—Local 24 members were presented their years-of-service awards and pins by Pres. Pete Demchuk and Bus. Mgr. Gary Griffin at the November 2009 union meeting.

Members in attendance receiving awards were: For five years of service—John Bacon Jr., Richard Ford Jr., William Hughes Sr., Jason Jefferson, Earl Payne Jr., Kimberly Zepp; for 10 years—Chet Brown, Igor Feldman, Richard Thompson; 15 years—Marcel Lawrence, Jesse Wyatt; 20 years—Timothy Brennan, Michael McHale, James Sell, Douglas Stickler, Eugene Wendler, Neil Wilford Jr., Matthew DiFonzo; 25 years—Michael Fraley, Timothy Medford, Dennis Mitchell, Francis Shea, Kevin Wiggins; 30 years—Thomas Bethke, Harry Godlove, George Linton; 35 years—Ivan Anderson, David Bateman, David Bridgham, Richard Christmas; 40 years—Richard Morsberger, Charles Painter, Thomas Smith; and for 45 years—James Brannan, Richard Colon, Richard Strempek and Robert Tombaugh.

Present to receive their awards were active members, retired members and contractors. On behalf of the officers and members, I congratulate and thank the recipients for their service to Local 24 and the IBEW. In order to prosper and move forward, Local 24 and the IBEW need the support of every member doing their part. Stay safe and have a good year ahead.

Gary R. Griffin, B.M.

Scholarship Application Time

L.U. 26 (ees,em,es,govt,i&mt), WASHINGTON, DC—As we get through this month, we can look forward to spring and, hopefully, prospects of our work picture blooming as well.

Scholarship time! Visit the local's Web site www.ibewlocal26.org for information and to download application forms for this year's Local 26 scholarship. The award is \$2,500 per year, for up to four years of college. Applications may also be obtained by calling the union hall at (301) 459-2900. Local 26 scholarships are open to the children of Local 26 members in good standing for at least five years; applicants must be in their senior year of high school or high school graduates between the ages of 17 and 21 with less than two

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.

years of college completed. The deadline to submit applications is March 31.

We mourn the death of members: Edwin P. Kline, Joseph C. Barbariot, George E. Buette, Earl F. Crosby, Carol L. Dempsey, Stanley A. Ketchel, Frederick Fischetti, Michael E. Walsh, James L. Little and John M. Wolfrey.

Best wishes to recent retirees: Kenneth A. Chevalier, George E. Harrison Jr., Nolan L. Jacobs, Kenneth R. Lackey, David L. Ross, Leroy A. Trippett, Leonard W. King, Thomas E. Frank, John C. Nalley, James A. Quinn, Larry W. Tomlin and Joseph V. Kirchner.

Charles E. Graham, B.M.

Union Victories Yield Jobs

L.U. 38 (i), CLEVELAND, OH—Shown in the photo below is a crew from Lake Erie Electric working at the General Motors plant in Parma, OH. The crew is working on installation of presses at the car parts plant. The job may need as many as 50-60 members to get the job done in the time frame involved. More work should be coming to the GM plant this spring.

Labor played a major role in two victories here in Ohio recently. The first was in helping pass Issue 3, a constitutional amendment to legalize gambling in Ohio. As a result, work should start sometime in 2010 on a \$500-\$600 million casino in downtown Cleveland.

The other victory came in the city of Euclid, OH, where many of our members worked on a tough campaign to help pass a school levy. The levy passed by just 75 votes and as a result we have negotiated a project labor agreement for more than \$65 million in construction to build four new schools.

We hope that with these projects, and the \$300 million East Bank Flats project, we will be able to put our unemployed members back to work soon.

Dennis Meaney, A.B.M.

Ongoing Battle for Jobs

L.U. 58 (em,i,rtb&spa), DETROIT, MI—We currently have 2,000-plus on Book I and 18 on Book II. The work picture remains slow. We hope spring and summer projects forecasted will come through.

On the horizon are: the retool of the General Motors Orion plant, Detroit Public Schools improvements, and defense contractor BAE Systems' new facility. Bloomfield Park, Beaumont Hospital and many other stalled projects could also become a reality.



Local 38 crew members employed by Lake Erie Electric are working at the GM Plant in Parma, OH.

Local 58 is in an ongoing battle with singer Toby Keith's plan to build a new bar and grill in north Oakland County. We and other trades are protesting the nonunion construction and the out-of-town subcontractors. Public and media support have been great. After aggressive daily hand billing initially, the trades vowed to protest every Friday, concluding with a mass demonstration on opening night. If his developer's actions are an indication, it seems Toby Keith is no friend to union tradesmen.

We have joined other Michigan locals in pressuring state officials to approve four new clean coal power plants in our state. These plants could result in millions of man-hours for the state's unemployed trades and shore up our power generation needs. We are disappointed by some legislators we thought were our friends.

Our Christmas and Super Bowl Sunday parties were huge successes. Thanks to all the volunteers.

Visit our Web site at www.IBEWLocal58.org for more information.

Ryan Webb, P.S.

Participation is Key

L.U. 68 (i), DENVER, CO—We are reminded to always practice safety—both on and off the job, and even after retirement.

A Local 68 retiree, Howard Doughman, recently sustained serious injuries in a fall resulting from an electric shock. Bro. Doughman believes the shock was the result of no GFCI being installed in the aircraft hangar where the injuries were sustained. Howard was using a device to move his airplane inside the hangar, and that device gets its power by plugging into a 110-VAC receptacle. The device malfunctioned. If there had been a GFCI, his injuries could have been prevented.

Please check for potential hazards at home or work, and decrease those hazards to prevent injuries.

What is the most important issue to you and your family? Is it important enough for you to volunteer some time to make things better? Think about that. When you are asked to make phone calls or write letters, please pitch in to help. Please get involved, volunteer your service and contribute to your IBEW COPE.

We extend deepest sympathy to the families of recently deceased brothers: Elwood Overton, Donald Gilbert, Theodore Burkhardt, Ernest Jenkins, Donald Morgan, Terence Sluga and Philip Oaks.

Ed Knox, Pres.

Code of Excellence Training

L.U. 80 (i&o), NORFOLK, VA—Work is starting to pick back up in our area, with contractors being awarded several new jobs. Many members are still out of work, but 2010 looks to be better than 2009. You must be registered in ERTS to be referred out of Local 80.

Recently, five members attended the Code of Excellence Steward Training held in Williamsburg, VA. Bros. Michael Hampton, Ervin "Woody" Gregory, James Huban, Detrick Owens and Donnie Newcome all completed this training. They will be working on jobs throughout the jurisdiction, ensuring the Code of Excellence is being enforced correctly and making sure the IBEW is being seen in the best possible way.

Thank you to Maureen and Terry McPhillips for all their work for the children's Christmas party. All the families enjoyed the afternoon and the children were excited that Santa Claus came to see them. Thanks to everyone who helped with setup and cleanup for the party.

W. Dennis Floyd, P.S.

Wind Turbines Installed

L.U. 96 (i), WORCESTER, MA—Local 96 honored the following retiring members with watches at the 2009 holiday meeting: Bros. Wayne Comeau, Donald Diemdowicz, Richard Ermanski, Brian Gosselin, Raymond Halvorsen, Robert Horgan, Anthony Mancuso, Thomas McGauley, Paul Pratt Jr., Roger LaRoche and Joseph DiLiddo. Also, members received pins for 10 to 55 years of service. Congratulations, brothers, and thank you for your service.

Once again the children's Christmas party was a great success. The local thanks all who helped, especially Jennifer Blake, Dana Mrozinski, Bus. Mgr. Leo Miller and Pres. Robert Fields. The smiles on the children's faces as they met with Santa are priceless memories for local families.

In Princeton, MA, Local 96 assisted with installation of two 230-foot wind turbines. The 1.5 megawatt generators are estimated to provide 40 percent of the town's energy. The accompanying photo was taken during construction.

On the political front, Joe O'Brien, backed by Local 96, was elected mayor of the city of Worcester. O'Brien made history by defeating the incumbent. Thank you to local members for turning out to vote and supporting the endorsed candidate. This win is evidence that labor prevails.

Luke E. Carpenter, P.S.

Baram Elected to Labor Post

L.U. 102 (c,catv,i,it,o&t), PATERSON, NJ—Local 102 Bus. Mgr. Lou Baram was unanimously elected president of the Mechanical and Allied Trades Council.

Some of Lou's duties in his new post include providing a political voice by initiating and supporting political agendas critical for the success of the mechanical and electrical industry. As president of this large association, Lou communicates directly with state and federal representatives on issues

that affect trade unionists.

We at 102 congratulate Lou and wish him well in his new position. We know Lou is the right man at the right job at a crucial time for labor and management. We realize that all the friendships Lou has acquired over the years help our local and the labor movement succeed and grow stronger. We at 102 also know it wasn't a coincidence that at our October 2009 meeting, then-Gov. Jon Corzine was our guest speaker. The governor spoke on the importance of building union, having project labor agreements and how New Jersey is the leader in green energy. Our local will remain active on the political front to advance the cause of working people.

Ed Fredericks, P.S.

Training Center Expansion

L.U. 106 (catv,govt,i&spa), JAMESTOWN, NY—Ground was broken in October 2009 on a 7,500 square foot addition to Local 106. In attendance at the ceremony were Local 106 officers, New York state Sen. Catharine Young, Jamestown Mayor Sam Teresi and representatives of the National Electrical Contractors Association and the IBEW Third District. The \$1.5 million project increases the existing facility to 10,000 square feet. Bus. Mgr. Dave Wilkinson said, "This much-needed expansion provides our trainers with a new state-of-the-art educational and lab space to train new generations of skilled electricians."

In addition to four new classrooms, the center will also feature a computer data lab, a shop and group training room for 60. The original structure will be remodeled for secure administrative space.

Bidding was active and competitive and the project came in within the budget established by the local. Construction is expected to be complete by Memorial Day.

Dave Painter, P.S.



Participating in groundbreaking ceremony at Local 106 are, from left: New York state Sen. Catharine Young, John Ethridge of NECA, Local 106 Bus. Mgr. David Wilkinson, IBEW Third District Int. Vice Pres. Donald C. Siegel, and Jamestown, NY, Mayor Sam Teresi.

Midulla Employees Join IBEW

L.U. 108 (ees,em,es,lctt,mar,mt,rtb,rts,s,spa,t&u), TAMPA, FL—Local 108's newest unit, the employees of Seminole Electric Cooperatives' Midulla Generating Station, ratified their first agreement on Dec. 1, 2009. Negotiations were ongoing for approximately one year. Congratulations to negotiating team members Fred Campbell, John Trauger and Larry Best for a job well-done. Special thanks to Bus. Mgr. Floyd Suggs and Int. Rep. Danny Johnson.

Local Lines

The unit officers are Fred Campbell, chairman; James Harvey, vice chairman; and John Trauger, recorder. We welcome these 18 new members and look forward to working with the group. They now have a contract, a just cause, and a voice.

2009 was an extremely busy year for our hall. The local is in negotiations with Indiantown Telephone, working on a first agreement for the network technicians. Johnson Control Inc., Sensor Systems, and WEDU-TV have had layoffs. Employment opportunities are few.

The local's annual charity golf tournament for 2010 will be at Walden Lake on March 27. Hope to see everyone there.

Doug Bowden, A.B.M.

Green Technology Classes

L.U. 124 (ees,em,i,mar,rts,se&spa), KANSAS CITY, MO—Local 124 mourns the passing of Pres. Allan Ward, a true champion of labor.

Work is still slow. We anticipate more work this summer, with a new casino and hotel, DOE project, stadium construction, Iatan Power Plant and more.

Our JATC offers green technology classes, and solar panels for our building are planned. Local 124 intends to capture more green work.

IBEW wiremen are responsible for understanding the terms of all working agreements. When forced to make difficult decisions, be wise, think situations through, and talk to your representative before you act.

We mourn deceased members: Lyndell Anderson, Charles Baughman, Jack Baumli, Jesse Carriker, Robert Cobb, Jerrold Coleman, Theodore Cook, Joseph Dalton, Gus Ducoulombier, John England, Warren Greene, Bladen Hadley Sr., Robert Hatfield, George Holeman, Virgil Horton, Charles Hunt Jr., Lynn Jenkins, John Joyce, Thomas Kret, Beasmore Lamm, Gale Miller, Robert Mock, Howard O'Neal, Dale Schowengerdt, Glen Sears, Stuart Pace, Russel Stuart, Robert Taylor, Roy Taylor, Virgil Thompson, Gene Vondemfange, Allan Ward, Norman Worrell and Charles Wurzer.

Kudos to recent retirees: Glenn Abbiatti, William Azar, Russel Baird, John Battle, Glenn Cairer, Martin Clark, Donald Coney, Mike Corbin, Bernard Eckart, Stephen Goethals, Charles Harnar, Gerald Hart, John Henry, Ronald Hughes, David Jackson, Gilbert Jones, John Kraft, Carl Lindsay, Michael McCormick, Donald McNally, George Mallon Jr., John Murkin, Larry Newcomer, John Nicholson, Anthony Occhipinto, Joseph Powell, James Rooks, Michael Schleicher, Richard Simmons, Rodney Sommers, James Sparks, Cleo Small, Charles Turner, Allan Ward and John Wise.

Frank D. Mathews Jr., P.S.

Hope for Improved Work Picture

L.U. 130 (i), NEW ORLEANS, LA—Our local participated in the 2009 New Orleans AFL/CIO Labor Day picnic, always a great success. The annual gathering draws crowds of union members, politicians and TV reporters. Organized labor has a chance to shine at these events.

Our work picture is slow now. Hopefully as this article goes to press, the work situation will improve. Local contractors are telling Bus. Mgr. Clay Leon that after the first of the year a lot of work will break open.

Service pins were awarded at our October 2009 meeting. Recipients received their 25- to 65-year pins. Congratulations to all.

Our condolences go out to the family of Bro. Douglas Ehrensing, who collapsed at the October meeting and later passed away in the hospital.

Bus. Mgr. Clay Leon wishes to thank Int. Rep. Linda Mathews, with the IBEW Education Department, and Fifth District Int. Rep. Glen Brannen for conducting our Code of Excellence steward class. Bro. Leon also thanks officers and members who attended.

Please attend local union meetings. The only way we can achieve success is to participate, share ideas and work together in the spirit of brotherhood. This press secretary welcomes all news about our local. Please call the office, leave your number and I will return your call.

Sandy Theriot, P.S.

Business Manager Retires

L.U. 146 (ei,i&rts), DECATUR, IL—We congratulate former business manager/financial secretary Jan Dunn on his recent retirement, effective Dec. 1, 2009. Jay served Local 146 extremely well and will surely be missed.

Congratulations and best wishes to Shad Etchason, former assistant business manager, on his appointment as business manager. Jay and retiring Apprenticeship Dir. Steve Wrigley were recently honored at a retirement reception with a large turnout of members, spouses and dignitaries in attendance.

The refuel outage at the Clinton Power Station was successfully completed, and we thank the traveling brothers and sisters for their assistance in the 20-day outage. Unfortunately, with the end of the outage there is very little work in the immediate future. The Future Gen and Tenaska projects are set to possibly begin in the fall.

Congratulations to Terry Hammer on his recent retirement.

Our sympathies go out to the family of 56-year member Richard Parsons, who recently passed away.

Rich Underwod, P.S.

2010 ~ It's a New Year

L.U. 150 (es,i,rts&spa), WAUKEGAN, IL—Let's look forward with hope and belief in the future. The economy will get better and jobs will return; it is only a matter of time. Unfortunately time will prove to be an elusive commodity for some of us. Many hard lessons are learned when we go through tough times; lessons about planning for the dry times and saving for a rainy day. And we also are seeing how much our benefits truly cost us when we are out of work. It will get better; don't lose faith.

The SPARKS are hosting their 3rd Annual Chili Cook-off on Sunday, Feb. 14, 2010. It will start at 1 p.m. and the cost is \$10. The Cook-off will be held at AJ's Horsin' Around Bar in Round Lake Park. There will be prizes!

The Local 150 Annual Picnic will be June 26, 2010, at Lakewood Forest Preserve in Wauconda. We are at our usual spot. Come out and bring the family and join in the fun.

Remember that the JATC has ongoing update classes for the entire membership. If you are warming the bench at the moment and looking for something to fill your time, please consider taking a class or two and updating your skills and knowledge.

Wendy J. Cordts, P.S.



Joliet, IL, Local 176 volunteers gather for a Labor of Love/United Way community service project.

Community Service Volunteers

L.U. 176 (es,i,rts&spa), JOLIET, IL—IBEW Local 176 members volunteered their skills for the Labor of Love/United Way project to help elderly and low-income members of our community have their homes ready for the rough winter months here in northern Illinois. Our members repaired electrical work in several of the homes, helping those less fortunate live a more comfortable life by providing a needed service otherwise unaffordable to them.

After working on this project we can better appreciate what we have. Our apprentices working on the project received credit for community service hours, now a requirement by the JATC in Local 176.

The work situation in our jurisdiction is very slow as of this December writing, with the exception of a few short-term commercial projects and outages at the nuclear power station. Our Book 1 has more than 350 local journeymen out of work and more than 60 apprentices, with very few options presently.

Our work outlook for the summer of 2010 appears to be better. However, making it through the winter months will be tough. Some of our members have found work in sister locals and sister states. We thank those locals for employing our members.

Jim Conness, Rep.

Village of Richmond Contract

L.U. 196 (govt,mt,o,t&u), ROCKFORD, IL—Outside construction work in our area remains slow. The prospect of work in the first quarter of 2010 does not look much better. Thank you to the surrounding outside construction locals in Illinois that have helped keep our apprentices working—it is much appreciated.

After more than two years, we finally have a contract with the Village of Richmond for our new members there. It took unfair labor practice charges and several negotiations, but we ended up with a fair first agreement.

Workers at another municipality that our local organized more than 2 1/2 years ago are still fighting for their first contract. The City of Savanna Public Works employees signed cards in August 2007, and we are getting close to an agreement. It was necessary to file unfair labor practice charges in this battle also. The NLRB agreed with IBEW 196 on the majority of charges filed and we have made substantial progress since the decision at the bargaining table. It is unfortunate that those without a voice in their workplace are forced to wait

so long to get a first contract, but it is well worth it! Organize, organize, then organize some more. Chuck Harrington, our field membership representative, observed a nonunion contractor painting transmission poles in our jurisdiction and contacted OSHA, which completed an investigation and promptly fined the contractor over \$50,000. Good job, Chuck!

Eric Patrick, B.M.

A New Union Hall

L.U. 222 (o), ORLANDO, FL—At this writing Local 222 officers and members are hoping that by the time this article is published the employment picture will have made a 180-degree turn.

As of press time, we have 94 journeyman linemen on Book I and 33 journeyman linemen on Book II. Some of our members have found work in other parts of the country. Many thanks to the locals that have helped put our members to work. Our work picture looks brighter for the beginning of 2010.

After two years of permitting (and jumping through hoops), Local 222 has successfully completed our new union hall on our existing property in Reddick, FL. On Nov. 11, 2009, we held our first official E-Board meeting in our new hall. On Dec. 19, we held our first ever Local 222 membership meeting in a hall owned by our members. We had food and entertainment, games for the kids, and a good time for all. The open house was also the day we celebrated Local 222's charter and 20th anniversary.

James M. Bell, B.M.



The Local 222 E-Board meets in the local's new office building. From left, clockwise, are: Willy DeZayas, Roger Courtemanche, Fred Morgan, Dale Smithmier, Mike Bell, Gary Robbins and Jim Puzon. Not Pictured: J. J. Zlotowski.

Solar Installation & Training

L.U. 234 (i&mt), CASTROVILLE, CA—Local 234 recently completed a 6.6 kW photovoltaic installation at our union hall and training center. The 36 Sharp solar panels are mounted on a metal frame, creating a covered walkway along the south side of our building. Many of our members gained experience and knowledge by helping with the installation.

In addition to our members gaining experience

with this installation, we enlisted the help of Local 11, Los Angeles, to put on an intensive hands-on, two-day solar training session. We had more than 100 local and traveling members attend this training, which consists of 10 hands-on modules and lectures. Each module deals with various aspects of a solar installation, such as safety, system sizing, and the NEC.

Our local has a strong commitment to both renewable green technologies and a cleaner environment. We recently became a member of the USGBC and are currently seeking LEED certification for our existing building, in addition to becoming a Monterey Bay Certified Green Business.

Andy Hartmann, Pres.



Kim Kraft of IBEW Local 11 explains the hands-on solar training, conducted at Local 234, to Monterey County, CA, elected officials.

'Support Your Apprentices'

L.U. 280 (c,ees,em,es,i,mo,mt,rts&st), SALEM, OR—At this early December writing, we still have 18 apprentices unemployed. The list has come down a lot since it was around 50, but we still have many



Local 280 Bro. Rick Slavkosky proudly displays his union membership after ascending to the top of Mt. Jefferson, which at 10,495 feet is the highest point in the local's jurisdiction.

who have little to pay for books and tuition. The hall has set up a great donation fund for helping many of these fine future journeyman wiremen, and every little bit helps. If you can spare a little, please call the hall and help out our next generation of IBEW journeymen. Some of these union members have been out of work for over a year, so let's show them what brotherhood is all about!

The work picture here is still extremely slow but some large jobs, like the Salem Mental Hospital, have our IBEW contractors on site which is extremely encouraging. Nonunion Bergelectric has begun manning up on the Knight Basketball Arena in Eugene, OR, so please call Organizer/Bro. Bill Kisselburgh at the hall to see what we can do to make sure they get no more work and send them back to California. The underhanded tactics that Bergelectric used to wrongfully capture the arena are an outrage to all Oregon taxpayers and we must never let this happen again.

Please work safe!

Jerry Fletcher, P.S.

Vermont Electric 'wattWatchers'

L.U. 300 (govt,i,mt&u), MONTPELIER, VT—Vermont Electric Cooperative, where IBEW Local 300 represents employees, announced the launch of VEC wattWatchers, a Web-based application that will enable VEC customers with smart meters to analyze and manage their electric consumption. Users will be able to toggle between graphs that display hourly or daily usage over a period of up to 90 days.

Additionally, users can set alerts to receive e-mail notifications when consumption exceeds a pre-determined level. Personalized comments can be added to graphs to help consumers keep track of factors that cause their electricity consumption to peak.

"IBEW members at VEC are truly leading the way as our state transitions to a greener economy with a particular emphasis on energy efficiency," said Bus. Mgr. Jeffrey Wimette. "Smart grid technology and initiatives like VEC wattWatchers will certainly help ratepayers control the cost of electricity."

VEC wattWatchers was developed internally by VEC's IT department using open-source software. After seeing similar applications enter the market with price tags of \$50,000 and more, VEC was able to capitalize on its smart grid technology—which has been deployed to more than 29,000 customers in the form of AMI (automated meter infrastructure) meters, also known as smart meters.

VEC customers with smart meters may view personalized consumption data by registering for VEC wattWatchers at www.vermontelectric.coop. Non-customers may view a demo and learn more about VEC and smart energy on the newly designed Web site, as well.

Matthew Lash, P.S.

Another Outstanding Job

L.U. 306 (i), AKRON, OH—Kudos to our Social Committee for the 2009 Christmas party! Mike Kammer, Cyndy Colley, Brian Jackson and Tim Schafer did another outstanding job, assisted by Todd and Wendy Michl and Santa Claus. The children, parents and grandchildren attending enjoyed a wonderful time.

We wish a happy retirement to Bros. Kenneth Fett, Bob Jenior, Jim Hornacek, John Quirk and David Tryon, who recently completed their IBEW careers. Welcome to the work of the ever-full job jar, brothers!

Recession years teach us to prioritize, separating wants from needs and truth from fiction. As of this writing we are watching the debate in Congress on health care reform with concern and we hope our elected representatives (folks who do not work with their hands or bargain for their health care benefits) will help solve America's health care crisis!

Wishing everyone a safe and employment-rich new year in 2010!

Bob Sallaz, P.S.

Casper Area Food Drive

L.U. 322 (govt,i,it,lcct,o&u), CASPER, WY—During October and into November 2009, IBEW Local 322 members and families organized a food drive for Casper area food banks. We thank Albertson's store managers and staff, as well as Jon Michaels and Tara Short with Gapwest Broadcasting, for their help during the on-site drive on Halloween Day. We sincerely appreciate the generous donations from

community members who provided food or monetary donations toward the purchase of food.

We collected 3,000 pounds of non-perishable food items and 500 pounds of turkeys, and 100 percent of the donations were distributed among Joshua's, Holy Cross and the Salvation Army. I thank the Local 322 members and families who donated their time to help with the food drive and a special thanks to the apprenticeship classes that raised 700 pounds of food during the drive.

IBEW 322 strives to promote stewardship in the community by helping the needy and generously donating to humanitarian causes. We work to demonstrate that the IBEW is a supportive force for the people of Wyoming. Local 322 continues to work with contractors and employers to provide a profitable, skilled and reliable labor force for Wyoming's electrical industry.

Chris Morgan, P.S.

Retirees Honored at Luncheon

L.U. 340 (i,rts&spa), SACRAMENTO, CA—Last October we held a pin presentation at our union hall for members who had 50-plus years' service with Local 340. We presented pins to 32 retired members, who were accompanied by their families for the event.

These deserving members, as special honorees for the day, were treated to a lunch barbecued by several rank-and-file members and then served by our Executive Board and staff members. The room was full of members (both active and retired) who came to cheer everyone on. It was a great event filled with the sharing of stories and lots of laughter! Congratulations to all of you who reached that 50-, 55- and 60-year milestone. Brothers, it was an honor to serve you that day. Our local owes its success to you, due to your years of hard work and dedication to Local 340.

A special thanks to Int. Rep. Michael Meals, who helped with the award presentations. To view the event, go online to YouTube and type in "IBEW Local 340."

Our local was very lucky in late 2009. Several jobs peaked and local members, and even a few travelers, were able to go out to work.

I am saddened to report the passing of Bros. John Benkosky, Sidney Bowers, Robert Crockett and Richard Dittbenner.

A.C. Steelman, B.M.

Appointed to NFPA Panel

L.U. 354 (i,mt,rts&spa), SALT LAKE CITY, UT—The local congratulates Bro. Gary Beckstrand on his appointment to the National Fire Protection Association code making panel #15. Gary is an Inside instructor for Utah Electrical JATC in our day school program and holds classes for continuing education of journeymen. Additionally he serves as chairman of the local union safety committee. Thank you, Gary, for your dedicated service to IBEW members and the electrical industry.

The Inside and Voice-Data-Video apprenticeship graduation ceremony was held at the Little America Hotel on Nov. 6, 2009. Congratulations to the following members, who recently completed the NJATC curriculum:

Inside Journeymen—Jeremy Bierwolf, Randall Cammack, Colby Croft, William Ellis, Jose Garcia, Shawn Gibson, Brian Gillman, Jesse Hansen, Kevin Harding, Andrew Holbrook, Michael Lanoue, Scott Latham, Joseph Magnuson, Benjamin McCrimmon,

Matthew Nielsen, Uriel Orona, Robert Russell, Zlatan Sabanovic, Richard Staten, Scott Sterzer, Perry Tangren, Michael Taylor and Chris Zdunich; Voice Data Video Technicians—Tyler Blackard, Christian Steren and Stephen Stohel.

Work has experienced the usual winter slowdown for our members, but we expect things to pick back up in the spring of 2010.

Manya Blackburn, R.S.

IBEW Lifesaving Award

L.U. 364 (catv,ees,em,es,i,mt,rts&spa), ROCKFORD, IL—At the November 2009 union meeting, Bros. Hersel Hicks and Jeremy Weaver were presented the IBEW Lifesaving Award by Bus. Mgr. Darrin Golden. They also received letters of recognition from Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill for saving the life of a fellow tradesman after a trench wall collapsed on him at a jobsite. After the collapse, the worker was speedily dug out of the rubble. The Lifesaving Award is one of the highest honors bestowed by the IBEW. Congratulations to Bros Hicks and Weaver for their acts of heroism.

Our seventh annual Children's Christmas Party was a great success, with fun and food for the kids, games and prizes. The high point of the annual event was a visit from St. Nick, again portrayed by Bro. Ty Hillman. Thanks go out to Bro. Hillman for again playing the role.

With primary elections approaching, Local 364 has nearly all of our members registered to vote. We are looking for every single vote we can give for union friendly candidates. We must get out the vote.

We hope every IBEW member has a prosperous new year.

Ray Pendzinski, P.S.



Local 364 members Jeremy Weaver (left) and Hersel Hicks (center) receive IBEW Lifesaving Awards presented by Bus. Mgr. Darrin Golden.

Winter Classes Offered

L.U. 388 (em,i,rts&spa), STEVENS POINT, WI—The local is saddened by the death of two members, Seth Zakrzewski and Peter Franken. Seth would have received his 10-year pin at our December 2009 meeting. As his friends and co-workers knew, Seth was a young man who could always bring a smile to your face. He will be missed.

Peter Franken passed away after battling Alzheimer's disease. Pete was an IBEW member before becoming a co-owner of Newton Electric Corporation, one of Local 388's signatory contractors and a NECA member. Pete had more than 40 years in the trade. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families of these individuals.

Local 388 is offering classes this winter including Code of Excellence and OSHA 10, required by cer-

Local Lines



Local 388's new journeymen received their Apprenticeship Completion Certificates at the December 2009 union meeting. From left, front row: John Kramas, Andy Osowski, Brian Cherek, Andy Crowbridge; back row, Nick Stuttgen, Justin Pacocha and Jordan Melville.

tain locals if you are traveling. The local graduated our first Advanced Solar Photovoltaic class in December. We thank our instructors and the students who put so much effort into making this class a success.

The work picture in our area is slow and looks as if it will remain slow throughout the winter. Other locals from around the state are also reporting a slowdown in construction.

Guy Lepage, P.S.

Iatan Generating Station

L.U. 412 (u), KANSAS CITY, MO—Kansas City Power & Light's Iatan Generating Station Fuel Department has gone over 3,000 days with zero recordable accidents. This is more than eight years of operating safely. This achievement is even more significant considering all the construction work occurring in the Fuel Department over the last two years, the commissioning of many new systems and the addition of several new employees. Iatan and the IBEW are extremely proud of this record and the Fuel Department's efforts to keep everyone safe! Thanks to Tara Leslein, Iatan facilitator, for information for this article.

Debi Kidwiler, P.S.

2009 Graduation Banquet

L.U. 474 (em,i,lctt,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), MEMPHIS, TN—At the 2009 Completion Banquet sponsored by the Memphis Electrical Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee, the apprenticeship committee, administrative staff and instructors proudly recognized the graduation of 13 apprentice wiremen into the ranks of journeyman wiremen. The banquet was held Oct. 30, 2009.

Presented as journeyman inside wiremen were: Joel Forbess, Christina Goldsby, Jonathan Hopper, Adam Jennings, Thomas Lindsey, Michael Ragan, David Spates, Henry Woodard II, Zaron Woodard, Justin Hayes, Jeffrey Palmertree, Richard Parker and Samuel Powell. Graduating with honors were: Bros. J.



Memphis, TN, Local 474 Apprenticeship Class of 2009 enjoys graduation celebration at Jim's Place East.

Hayes, J. Palmertree, R. Parker and S. Powell. The graduates were treated to a fine meal, and representatives from both Local 474 and NECA spoke highly of the new wiremen and their value to the industry.

The skills and knowledge they have developed are sure to contribute greatly to their personal success and the future of the IBEW.

David R. Swann, P.S.

Work Remains Slow

L.U. 498 (c,catv,em,i&spa), TRAVERSE CITY, MI—At this writing the work in our jurisdiction continues to be slow. We wish a happy new year to our members around the country and overseas. The annual Local 498 Christmas party was held Dec. 9 after the monthly meeting. On Dec. 12, Santa made his annual visit to the hall. Thanks go to all those who helped with these events.

Several of our retired members received 60-year service pins. They include: Ervin Heuer, Samuel Bossingham, Orange Hinds, Arthur Bossingham, Robert Dost, James Eisenheimer and Bernard Flickinger. Congratulations!

Timothy R. Babcock, P.S.



Among Local 498's recent 60-year service pin recipients are, from left: Ervin Heuer, Samuel Bossingham and Orange Hinds.

A Co-Worker's Life Saved

L.U. 502 (c,em,i,it&t), ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA—A big "thank-you" and "well-done" goes out to Bro. Jason Blanchard, who helped save the life of a co-worker at the Potash Mine site in Sussex. When a co-worker went into cardiac arrest during a jobsite orientation, Bro. Blanchard immediately moved to help him, using first-responder skills acquired on another job.

The Local 502 training center has been very busy the last few months offering courses in Rigging, Arc Flash Awareness, CEC Updates, Lift Truck Operation and First Aid.

Congratulations to IBEW contractor RFI Industrial Services on winning a contract to assemble more than 325 Power Skid control panels for the PotashCorp mine in Sussex. The IBEW Union Assembled sticker will be proudly displayed in each panel.

The recent announcement of a pending sale of NB Power to Hydro Quebec is being greeted with caution and questions. [See "New Brunswick Local Rallies to Stop Sale of Provincial Utility," *The Electrical Worker*, January 2010, pg. 6.] The Graham government must provide guarantees that the IBEW will continue to provide the manpower for maintenance, upgrades and shutdowns on NB Power infrastructure should this deal actually go through as planned.

Our annual Christmas party was a huge success with more than 100 IBEW kids receiving gifts from Santa.

Dave Stephen, P.S.

Solar Farm Installation

L.U. 530 (i,o&rtb), SARNIA, ONTARIO, CANADA—Local 530 held our annual dinner dance on Friday, Nov. 20, 2009. Our members received their "Years of Service" pins at the dinner dance and everyone enjoyed a great evening. On Dec. 6, 2009, Local 530 members and their families celebrated Christmas with a skating party. Santa Claus showed up with presents for all the children.

Local 530 thanks IBEW Local 804 (Kitchener) for providing work for our members in these slow times.

Shown in the photo below is a 20 megawatt solar farm, one of the largest in North America, that was completed by IBEW Local 530 members along with help from traveling members from IBEW Locals 773 (Windsor), 120 (London), 894 (Oshawa), 586 (Ottawa), 115 (Kingston) and 105 (Hamilton). This was the first phase of the project, with 60 more megawatts to be completed in the spring.

Local 530 wishes all brothers and sisters a good new year and a prosperous future.

Al Byers, P.S.



Sarnia, Ontario, Local 530 members, joined by travelers from five sister IBEW locals, completed the first phase of a huge solar farm with additional work scheduled for spring.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

L.U. 540 (i), CANTON, OH—The Canton Electrical JATC held a "volunteer appreciation dinner" on Oct. 22, 2009. The JATC would like to thank all the volunteers for the work they put into converting the building into a training center.

It took many hours and approximately 75 members (active, retired and apprentices) donating their time for the electrical work, painting, repairs, tear-out, and landscaping. The building was purchased in July 2009.

Jerry Bennett, P.S.



IBEW Local 558 members participated in a holiday drive to purchase new bicycles for area children.

'Bikes or Bust' Donations

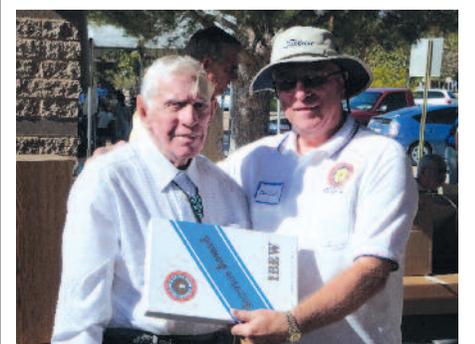
L.U. 558 (catv,em,i,mt,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), SHEFFIELD, AL—We hope everyone had a blessed and joyous 2009 holiday season. We extend special thanks to our members employed with E.G.&G. at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, AL. With everyone's donations and support, they were able to purchase 18 new bicycles to donate to the "Bikes or Bust" drive put on by local radio station WZYP and the U.S. Marine Corps to help less fortunate children in our area during Christmas time. Thank you and God bless you all.

Mac Sloan, Pres.

Picnic & Service Awards

L.U. 570 (i,mo,spa&u), TUCSON, AZ—Labor Day 2009 with the Pima Area Labor Federation was a great day, with one of the largest turnouts in many years. PALF hosted the first annual Union Olympics, and IBEW Local 570 took home the trophy.

Local 570's annual picnic last year had a great turnout and was loads of fun. We had "jumping castles" and other fun activities for the kids. The apprentices challenged journeymen to a tug-of-war



Local 570 Bus. Mgr. Jack Scott (right) presents 60-year service award to retired Bro. Horace Bounds, former business manager.

(Journeyman—1; apprentices—0). Bus. Mgr. Jack Scott awarded service pins to members with 50-, 55- and 60 years of service.

Receiving 50-year pins—Roy Iley, Paul Sowle, Thomas Wilson and Walter Wyllie; 55-year pins—Arthur Aros, John Baumer, Arthur Comolli and Larry Miller; and 60-year pins—Horace Bounds, Hugh Crane, Antonio Perez and John Stark

After receiving his 60-year service pin, retired former business manager Horace Bounds offered some words of wisdom to members and their families.

The work picture is still pretty dark at this writing in late 2009, but we have a lot of hope in sight for the start of 2010.

Scott Toot, Organizer

Electrical Contractor Course

L.U. 584 (ees,em,es,i,rt,spa&u), TULSA, OK—As a way of attacking our problem of not having enough union signatory contractors within our jurisdiction, our local recently held a three-day Electrical Contractor Business Course.

Designed to educate prospective contractors in every aspect of the contracting business, the course was held Nov. 12-14. Matt Kolbinsky, of Pro-Union Consulting, LLC, presented information on: determining start-up costs, estimating, licensing, payroll, business record-keeping, marketing strategies and much more.

Thirty-two people attended, representing five different IBEW locals, and all were enthusiastic about the opportunities presented during the course. Bro. Kolbinsky's presentation was enlightening, and we highly recommend his classes.

Attending our classes were: Mike Walker, Casey Stafford, Brandon Pitts, David Ward, Todd Holtz, David Hewitt, Robert Denten, Anthony Harrison, Hank Estes, Greydon Gerow, Dennis Livingston, Jesus Faz Jr., Paul Dunnum, Patrick Ferguson, Eric Ybarra, Eugene Long, Scott Arner, Mike Evans, Jason Raska, Chris Raska, Michael Gomez, Skip Cruzan, Curtis Powers, Keith Keener, Larry Visinski, Hardy Hamm, Mark Gregory, Ray Manues, Kyle Williamson, Tom Witt, Trentice Hamm and Ken Coventon.

Johnny Patterson, A.B.M.



IBEW Local 584 holds a three-day Electrical Contractor Business course.

Continued Training

L.U. 606 (em,es,i,rt,spa&u), ORLANDO, FL—Local 606 members know the importance of continuing their education. Among the brothers attending a recent OSHA 30-hour class: Jack Bowers, Dave Hebert, Terry Petty, Rick Noack, Allen Iarossi, Kevin McElroy, Clinton Walker, Tom Allen, Chris Williamson, Joe Iacopelli, Kelvin Johnson, Daniel Hall, Winston Lewis and Chris Stump.

We extend deepest sympathy to the family of Bro. Coleman "Fuzz" Ridings, who recently passed

away. We are also saddened by the death of one of our longtime contractors, Terry Davis, who was killed in a car accident. Terry was JATC chairman for more than 24 years. We will sorely miss both of them.

Janet D. Skipper, P.S.

Support for Community

L.U. 640 (em,govt,i,mo,mt,rt,spa&u), PHOENIX, AZ—Through contributions from membership and the industry, Local 640 is able to provide community support for those in need. Hacienda de Los Angeles has been the chosen charity organization for 11 years and still going strong.

Founded in 1967 as a single facility serving only three children, Hacienda de Los Angeles has expanded to meet the needs of ever-increasing numbers of infants, children and adults who require the high level of medical and habilitation care offered by the organization.

Today, Hacienda is a leading Arizona provider of specialized health care and social services for children and adults with a range of medical, physical or mental health impairments. Hacienda meets the habilitation, restorative and long-term care needs of people with debilitating conditions.

Frank Cissne, P.S.

100th Anniversary Celebration

L.U. 648 (em,i,spa&u), HAMILTON, OH—Local 648 celebrated 100 years as a chartered IBEW local on Oct. 24, 2009, with an anniversary celebration dinner. More than 400 people attended, including area politicians and friends from local industry. County commissioners declared Oct. 24 as "International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union 648 Day."

Special guests included: Fourth District Int. Vice Pres. Salvatore J. "Sam" Chilia, IEC member John R. Clarke, retired Int. Vice Pres. Paul Witte and Int. Rep. Donald W. Vidourek. Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill sent Local 648 an inspirational message, enjoyed by all in attendance. Bus. Mgr. Frank Cloud was master of ceremonies, with speeches from special guests. Bus. Mgr. Cloud, officers and staff thank all

who attended, with special thanks to all past and present members. Without the contributions of its members, Local 648 would not be the great organization it is today.

Local 648 mourns the loss of five longtime members in 2009: Robert Davis (53 years of service), Robert Hedgepeth (61 years' service), Ted Schuster (41 years), Ron Helm (34 years) and Bob Gilbert (41 years). These brothers are fondly remembered and sadly missed.

Jeff McGuffey, P.S.

Holiday Volunteers

L.U. 654 (i), CHESTER, PA—Each year the entertainment committee does a great job in making the Christmas party a huge success. We can't thank them enough for volunteering their time. The food, the decorations and the gifts really provide the atmosphere that seems to kick off the season. It is always good to see members come together with their families around the holidays. Everybody gets to catch up with friends they haven't seen in a while

and marvel at how much each other's kids have grown. I hope your Christmas was joyful and wish you and yours a safe and happy new year.

Jim Russell, V.P.

Green Energy Workshop

L.U. 684 (c,i,rt,spa&st), MODESTO, CA—On Nov. 12, 2009, the Green Energy Solutions Workshop was hosted at the Double Tree Hotel in Modesto by the NorCal NECA-IBEW 684 Partnership. Keynote speakers included Bernie Kotliar, director of Green Energy Solutions, IBEW/NECA; and Paul Danielsen, vice president of business development, Renewable Ventures.

Nearly 100 people in attendance—including contractors, union members, school and government officials—listened to the keynote speakers discuss photovoltaic systems, energy audits and marketing strategies for renewable energy projects. Jobs of the Future!

Continuing our community involvement, IBEW members donated and installed a new scoreboard at Modesto Junior College. We are helping folks and getting out the word, too.

Our JATC continues to offer a new schedule of classes for journeyman re-certification including the EPS series, motor control, photovoltaic systems, etc. Check the Web site www.cvjatc684.org.

Stay strong, stay union, hang in there.

Torrey Newton, P.S.



Approximately 100 people attend Green Energy Solutions Workshop sponsored by NorCal NECA-IBEW 684 Partnership.

'Much-Needed Optimism'

L.U. 692 (i,mt&spa), BAY CITY, MI—We have 134 on Book 1 and 800-plus on Book 2. Michigan still holds the unemployment record. We have had many members off for some time. But there are a few known jobs coming up for bid this year that should get our book moving again, giving our local some much-needed optimism with the possibility of a stronger year. No powerhouse work has been approved as of this writing. And we don't foresee getting into Book 2 at this time.

In November the officers attended a Code of Excellence class that explained the benefits of adopting the program. This can be another marketing tool for our local. Customers are now requesting we use it on certain jobs. All officers agreed on the COE's benefit to the union, especially when customers require it for a job. This is something we can offer that the nonunion can't.

The economy is hard to forecast with so many factors involved. But the stock market at least is up from its previous bottom, and that is a good thing. Employment always follows the market; the bad

thing is it always lags the market ... but it always follows! Continued thanks to brother locals for helping keep our members employed.

Our condolences to the family of recently deceased retiree, Bro. August Voisine.

Tom Bartosek, P.S.

Thanks to Volunteers

L.U. 702 (as,c,catv,cs,em,es,et,govt,i,it,lctt,mo,mt,o,p,pet,ptc,rtb,rt,se,spa, st,t,u,uow&ws), WEST FRANKFORT, IL—As of this writing, we have 20 members on the journeyman wireman Book 1 out-of-work list and 1,300 on the Book 2 out-of-work list. At the Prairie State Energy Campus Project in Lively Grove, IL, we currently have 220 wiremen working, with a projection of 150 to 200 more to be added in the next six months. We have 105 wiremen at the Dynege/ Baldwin Scrubber project and hope to be adding more this year.

IBEW Local 702 partnered with Cairo Public Utility and Cairo Public High School to help the community of Jackson, MO, transfer the ball field lights for a new baseball park in Jackson. Members volunteered their time and LE Myers, along with CPU, donated equipment to complete this request.

All the business representatives continue in tough negotiations involving line clearance, telephone construction, and utilities.

Marsha Steele, P.S.

Work Picture for 2010

L.U. 716 (em,i,lctt,rt,spa), HOUSTON, TX—Even though 2009 closed with a slow work picture, we look forward to a prosperous 2010. With contractors aggressively bidding work, and projects coming out of the ground, we expect full employment by summer.

The JATC is once again providing the Continuing Education Code Update classes, which are held at the union hall and are free to our members. At these classes the Aetna Wellness Team will be here to perform the testing, free of charge, that is needed to fill out your Health

Assessment form. Members who do this will qualify for free dental insurance for themselves and their family. If you don't participate, your deductibles and co-pays will slightly increase.

Regarding pension news, the trustees voted to increase the following: per year of service benefit from \$25 to \$32 on or after January 1, 2009, increase the 401 retirement contribution from 57 cents to \$1 effective the first payroll period in January 2010, and increase all retiree monthly payments by 5 percent in pay status as of Dec. 31, 2008.

Thanks to Fred Ellis and everyone who helped with the Christmas parties and to the Watt Women for the refreshments at the December union meeting.

John E. Easton Jr., B.M./F.S.

Victory Achieved—Again

L.U. 728 (em,i,rt,spa), FT. LAUDERDALE, FL—Approximately one year ago, Local 728 and the IBEW International Office joined with 63 MasTec West Palm Beach Unit employees for an IBEW organizing

Local Lines

drive. Following a hard campaign, the result was a clear victory to make the MasTec division union. MasTec fought back, and due to a single employee filing for a decertification of the vote, a second election was held. Same result—a favorable vote to make the division union. [See “MasTec Satellite Technicians...,” *The Electrical Worker*, June 2009.]

Thanks to the efforts of these courageous MasTec employees—with assistance from IBEW Int. Rep. Brian Thompson and Local 728 Bus. Mgr. David Svetlick, as well as the determination and hard work of MasTec employees Mark Hall and Charles Bingham—a decisive IBEW victory on behalf of the workers has been achieved.

During the MasTec campaign, local Comcast employees became aware of the success at MasTec and they approached Local 728 asking for assistance to also unionize. Consequently, we have requested our International organizers return to Local 728’s jurisdiction and help organize these Comcast workers, numbering 125 employees. We are extremely optimistic that victory will again be won.

Walter Bost, Organizer



Children of Local 756 members enjoy holiday party at the union hall.

Holiday Party for Kids

L.U. 756 (es&i), DAYTONA BEACH, FL—The local held its annual kids Christmas party on Sat., Dec. 5. Members brought their children to the decorated union hall for a great party and a visit with Santa, who had a gift for all the kids attending. Bro. Buddy Hart and his wife, Kathy, surprised the kids with an appearance as Mr. and Mrs. Clause. Thanks to Buddy and Kathy, and to office manager Candice Hampton, who handled advance logistics for the party.

As of this writing, the work picture is still slow in Daytona. The new direction the space industry is heading is unfolding as NASA prepares to retire the space shuttle late in 2010. [See “Outsourcing Space: IBEW Workers Face End of Shuttle Era,” *The Electrical Worker*, January 2010.] The new Constellation program, with a vehicle similar to the Apollo missions, is set to replace it. Private companies are also now getting involved in launching rockets. Local 756 and the building trades are monitoring the situation to make sure that all applicable federal laws such as the Davis-Bacon Act are adhered to. We are very hopeful for a happy new year.

Daniel Hunt, P.S.

‘2009 Mission of Hope’

L.U. 760 (i,lctt,o,rts,spa&u), KNOXVILLE, TN—Many thanks to local union members who contributed donations and participated in the 2009 Mission of Hope drive to benefit our community and neighbors in Appalachia. What an awesome exhibit of love and community service! This marked Local 760’s fourth year participating in the drive. Once again, it was one to be proud of and a great success.

Congratulations to Local 760’s retiree pin recipients honored in 2009. Thank you again for all you do! For photos and more information, visit Local 760’s Web site www.ibew760.org.

George A. Bove, B.M.

Harrison Thornhill Retires

L.U. 824 (t), TAMPA, FL—On Sept. 26, 2009, Local 824 celebrated a milestone in the life of Harrison Thornhill and this union. After more than 52 years as a strong, involved union brother, former president Thornhill celebrated his retirement.

The union hall was full of union members, family and friends, wishing Bro. Thornhill well. Many told stories about how he touched their lives and made them better union members.

Bro. Thornhill joined the union in 1958. He served seven terms on the Executive Board as both a board member and as board chairman from 1967-86. In 1986 he was elected president and held that office until July 2009. As president, he influenced countless members and helped mentor stewards, staff and officers. Through his guidance during contract negotiations, through good times and bad, Bro. Thornhill made a lasting contribution to our local.

Among the well-wishers, Fifth District Int. Vice Pres. Joe S. Davis recounted his meetings with Thornhill at conferences, seminars and International functions. In any situation, Thornhill always contributed ideas to move forward for the good of the union.

Bro. Thornhill emphasized that he will always be available to help the local and share his experience gained over the years. He has been and will continue to be a strong union brother.

Dawn Livingston, P.S.



Local 824 former president Harrison Thornhill (second from left) celebrates his retirement. From left are: Local 824 Bus. Mgr. Robert Prunn, Thornhill, Int. Vice Pres. Joe S. Davis, Pres. Erik Jones, Int. Rep. Danny Johnson and Treas. Dan Kemmling.

Increase Union Participation

L.U. 1116 (em,lctt&u), TUCSON, AZ—With the current economy, our union and unions across the country are fighting to keep members’ jobs and to stay union. Now more than ever we need to organize those who chose not to be members but who share our benefits. Tell the “hitchhiker” to pay for some of that gas, become a member and let your voice be heard.

UniSource Unit Chmn. Frank Gillis says: “It is my hope that we can increase participation in our union and not lose what we have gained over the years. We are the union, we determine our future—let’s keep our future bright for ourselves and our families.”

Farewell and best wishes to Bro. Bill Butler, who hit the retirement chapter in his life, concluding his service as unit chairman. Bill’s years impacted many changes with our Springerville membership and he will be missed. Vice Chmn. Rick Ryan steps into Bill’s former position and shouldn’t miss a beat taking over, as he also has many active years with the local.

R. Cavaletto, P.S.



Local 1464 members pull together for Labor Day success.

Special thanks to Mandy Byers, Tere Guynn, Mike Bledsoe, Aaron Hopper and all others who pitched in. Many thanks to all the union brothers and sisters and their families for showing up to support a great day for all unions. Thanks also to Barry Johnson for providing information for this article.

Susan Cowart, P.S.

Welcome to New Members

L.U. 2100 (catv&u), LOUISVILLE, KY—After a long journey Local 2100 welcomes Shelby Energy linemen as our newest members. The process began with employee interest meetings in July 2008. In August 2008, we petitioned the National Labor Relations Board for an election to organize Shelby Energy’s line tech employees. The NLRB determined there were 15 eligible voters. Negotiations for these employees began on May 20, 2009, reaching a tentative agreement on Aug. 17, 2009. The contract was ratified by the members on Sept. 2, 2009.

It is encouraging that in this time of economic downturn and uncertainty we have new members joining our cause. We look forward to the opportunity of representing our new members and securing a better work atmosphere and improved overall livelihood. We are proud to have you onboard, Shelby Energy linemen.

Jennifer Kinsey, P.S.



IBEW members in Springerville, AZ, assisted in the 2009 “Capitol Christmas Tree” project, harvesting a holiday tree that was sent to Washington, DC.

Solidarity on Display

L.U. 1464 (u), KANSAS CITY, MO—Local 1464 pulled together for the annual Labor Day parade last year. For 2009 we decided to do something special that would show the solidarity of the IBEW. Danny Quintero, lead cable splicer, who normally puts together the parade, asked for volunteers to help out. The members in Shops and Tech Services responded in a big way. Mandy Byers spent her own time at home creating a 6-foot tall representation of the hand featured in the IBEW logo. The union brothers and sisters in Shops painted and mounted the hand. They also enlisted some help from the Weld Shop. Aaron Hopper designed and built 3-D lightning bolts to mount on top of the hand. [See photo, top right.]

A Career of Union Service

L.U. 2286 (em,mar,mo,rts&u), BEAUMONT, TX—Bus. Mgr. Randy Albin announced his resignation effective Jan. 31, 2010, at the October 2009 Executive Board meeting. Bro. Albin was business manager for approximately eight years and during that time our local union continued to grow and prosper. Previously, Bro. Albin was assistant business manager and earlier served as chief steward at River Bend Nuclear Power Plant for 11 years.

Bro. Albin expressed what a great honor it has been to serve the membership and that he now wants to spend more time with his family. He encouraged the membership to continue the fight for workers’ rights and benefits, to work safe and always be your brother’s keeper. Bro. Albin’s dedication and hard work have made our union stronger and he leaves behind a legacy for future generations.

Plans for a new union hall for Local 2286 have been submitted to the I.O. for approval.

Mona Mack, P.S.

Retirees

Outstanding Service

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 1, ST. LOUIS, MO—The retirees of Local 1 enjoyed the annual Christmas luncheon hosted by the Ladies Auxiliary in December. These ladies always contribute outstanding service for the working and retired members of our local. They have raised money for the Welfare Committee for many years by selling quilts and crafts. We salute them for their dedicated service.

We look forward to our 2010 meetings, with informative guest speakers who supply helpful tips for retirees. We also will enjoy other activities, including our annual attendance at a Cardinals ballgame (go, Redbirds!), golf outings and luncheons. We will continue to support our working brothers and sisters in these times of economic turmoil. We pray for more jobs for our unemployed. As the new year proceeds, we welcome each new retiree to our group and mourn the passing of members we've lost.

We join all others in support of our military and wish our leaders success in their endeavors to help the working people.

Don Appelbaum, P.S.

2009 A Successful Year

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, WEST-CHESTER/PUTNAM CHAPTER—Thanks to the officers and Special Events Chmn. Bill Robertson, the chapter had a very successful 2009. Also, thanks to Golf Chmn. Tony Pasquale and Fishing Chmn. Dick Mills. Rec. Sec. Marty Hogan had a busy year enrolling new members.

At our January 2010 meeting, the officers got together to set events for this year. Nominations for officers will be held in May 2010.

The 2009 Christmas/Hanukah luncheon at the Travelers Rest in Ossining, NY, was a great success with 104 members, spouses and guests attending. Everyone enjoyed celebrating the holiday season—nice music, dancing and socializing with our friends.

Our officers and members wish all local retirees a healthy, happy New Year 2010. Let's hope job conditions improve for our working brothers and sisters out in the field.

Edward A. Rubow, P.S.



At the Local 3, Westchester/Putnam Chapter, Retirees Club Christmas/Hanukah luncheon, chapter Chmn. Dominic Peronti (standing) greets Jose and Charlie Sladek.

Gulf Coast Chapter Party

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, SW FLORIDA GULF COAST CHAPTER—On Dec. 10, some 37 members and spouses attended the Gulf Coast Chapter's 2009 first annual Christmas party at The Edison restaurant in Fort Myers, FL. Chapter Trustee and former Local 3 president Ed Cleary and his wife, Trudy, were among the guests. The weather was a balmy 76 degrees outside—and the camaraderie, good food and holiday cheer inside made everyone happy to attend.

Other chapter happenings include a change of officers. Chapter Trustee Nick Faello will assume the duties of recording secretary, and Chet Olson will assume duties as trustee.

The chapter is working on a planned bus trip to the Pension Reunion Luncheon on Feb. 13, at the Westin Beach Resort in Fort Lauderdale. Happy new year to all.

George Dondero, P.S.



Local 3, SW Florida Gulf Coast Chapter officers, retirees, spouses and guests enjoy an excellent Christmas dinner at The Edison restaurant in Fort Myers, FL.



Local 3, Central Florida Chapter, Retirees Club Chm. John Greco (seated at right) and club members present a birthday cake to Bro. Leo Raffie (seated, left).

98th Birthday Celebrated

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, CENTRAL FLORIDA CHAPTER—Members of the Central Florida Chapter of the Local 3 IBEW Retirees Association honored Bro. Leo Raffie with a celebration of his 98th birthday last year. We extend hearty congratulations and best wishes to Bro. Raffie and thank him for his dedicated, longtime service to the IBEW.

John Greco, Chmn.

Tribute to Two Brothers

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 11, LOS ANGELES, CA—The Retirees Club held its annual holiday luncheon at Taix Restaurant. Some great gifts were raffled off and everyone enjoyed a delicious meal. Local 11 Pres. Joel Barton updated the group on progress made in the local over the last year.

Four club members went to the 6th Annual Convention of the California Alliance for Retired Americans in El Segundo, CA. Thank you to Marty Cohen, Albert Ortiz, Dolores Gomez and Richard



The late Local 11 retired member Alex Ende (right) received a Silver Star on Jan 23, 1945.

craft fire and he saved the passengers and crews by putting out the fire.

We invite all retired Local 11 members to join our club. We meet on the second Wednesday of every month at the Commerce location.

Bob Oedy, P.S.

Fourth Cruise to Alaska

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 26, WASHINGTON, DC—Our club continues to pursue travel activities. On Aug. 27, we'll take our fourth cruise to visit Alaska. The ship sails from Seattle, so if any of our West Coast brothers and sisters would like to join us, call Rick Warner at (240) 472-0438. (We have 60 already booked!)

In November 2009, we drew our annual raffle winners. Congrats to all winners, especially Kathryn Bruch, wife of retired member Howard Bruch [See photo, below.] The raffle winners were: for 1st prize—Robert Iddins; 2nd prize—Kathryn Bruch; 3rd prize—Roger L. White; 4th prize—Robert Young; and 5th prize—Bill Rutan. Thanks to all participants.

December 2009 went out with a record breaking winter storm for Washington, DC, and vicinity! Even the federal workers had a day off on Dec. 21. Retired members enjoyed not having to think about work, especially newly retired members!

If you have not paid your 2010 dues (\$12 per member and \$12 per spouse), please send the dues to our treasurer, Terry Campbell, # 4 Tindlay Court, Silver Spring, MD 20905. Checks payable to: Retired Members Club, Local 26 IBEW. Please also include your e-mail address.

Susan Flashman, P.S.



Local 26 Retirees Club Pres. Dick Bissell (right) congratulates raffle winner Kathryn Bruch and her husband, Howard Bruch, a retired member.

News From the Great Lakes

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 38, CLEVELAND, OH—In 2009, our club members enjoyed many group activities. In August, we traveled to Marietta to cruise on the Ohio River—what a great adventure that was. In September, we enjoyed our annual clambake, which was first-class. Then in October, we got together at the park for our potluck picnic and a friendly corn-toss competition. In December, we celebrated the holidays together at the annual Christmas party with gift exchange.

Our retirees club is a proud organization that wouldn't be possible without the IBEW union. We are proud of our union and appreciate our club members, who have worked so hard to put these events on for us. Many thanks to all.

Retirees

For all you brothers and sisters in the IBEW work force, times are tough. Hang in there; things will get better. The retirees of IBEW have not forgotten you.

Our club is saddened by the passing of dear members and spouses. May God be with them and their families.

God bless our troops and God bless America.

Arthur Lesjak, P.S.

Association of Retirees

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 58, DETROIT, MI—Our snow bird members are down south for the winter and we hope all members had good holidays.

The Retirees Board of Directors welcomed newly retired Local 58 president Elaine Crawford as a board member. We also welcomed Dennis McCann as our secretary and Rick Koerber as board member. Dennis replaced the late Delores Barrett, who succumbed to cancer.

The 2009 Christmas party saw more than 155 attendees. Many thanks to all those who helped make it a wonderful occasion. Local 58 Pres. David Austin attended and reported that all our funds were doing well. The Christmas Party is always an excellent time to see old friends.

Dates and places are set for this year's luncheons. Vladimir's Banquet Hall on Grand River in Farmington Hills will be the site for the March 24 and Sept. 22 luncheons. The Gazebo, located on 13 Mile Rd and Mound, will entertain us for luncheons on Feb. 24, July 28 and Oct. 27. The Port Huron luncheon is set for June 23 at the Black River Country Club. The Aug. 25 picnic will be at Hemlock Park in Dearborn. Don't forget the Awards Banquet on Sat., April 24. The 2010 Christmas party will be Dec. 3. All events are \$15 per person. Dues were increased to \$8 per person as well.

Frank A. Maisano, P.S.

Officers Elected

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 90, NEW HAVEN, CT—On Nov. 3, 2009, the Local 90 Retirees Club held election of officers. Our new president, Giro Esposito, took over for Richard "Rip" Kirby, our past president of some 12 years, who served with distinction. We thank Bro. Kirby for his service and applaud him for a job well-done. We also thank Joseph "Ace" DellaCamera, our past vice president, who also stepped down. Fred Ciastko was elected our new vice president. Remaining in office are Hughie McGuire as recording secretary and Bob Gallagher as treasurer.

Our annual holiday luncheon was held Dec. 1, 2009, at the Fantasia Banquet Facility, for club

members and their spouses. All had a wonderful time, and we thank the officers and the committee for a job well-done.

We wish all IBEW members and their families a healthy, prosperous new year.

Richard Launder, P.S.

Spirit of Brotherhood

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 99, PROVIDENCE, RI—We enjoyed a well-planned annual Christmas luncheon at the West Valley Inn. We had many new faces at the 2009 luncheon; we hope attendance continues to grow.

Mrs. Gale Govern said the blessing prior to our wonderful feast. Vice Pres. Sam Bedrosian led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Club Pres. Robert Pierce and Local 99 Bus. Mgr. Allen P. Durand distributed service pins to members. Pres. Pierce remembered our brothers who passed away during the past year. He also thanked the local for its continued support of our club. Bus. Mgr. Durand recognized Local 99 Asst. Bus. Mgr. Ronald Leddy and Local 99 Pres. John Shalvey; he also wished everyone a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Pres. Pierce thanked Bro. Robert Beardwood for planning our two fishing trips and the trips to Foxwoods Casino. The program also included remarks from two candidates who are running for political office—Frank Caprio, candidate for governor, and Secretary of State Ralph Mollis, who is running for re-election.

Our Sunshine Committee, with the help of the local union, distributed a little Christmas cheer to our housebound brothers.

Here's to keeping the spirit of brotherhood alive.

Raymond Gemershausen, P.S.

Holiday Party a Success

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 103, BOSTON, MA—Our Dec. 17, 2009, Christmas party drew 50 new retired members. The party started at noon and we served prime rib, roast potatoes and gravy. Dessert was cheesecake and strawberries. The union provided two bottles of wine for each table, and the members were tendered a free drink ticket. They were also provided with a chance to win a \$200 drawing. Bernie Sharpe obtained poinsettia plants for each table and, even more remarkably, convinced Santa to make an appearance. Bro. Jim Sachetta's orchestra provided music.

The entire proceeds from the affair were turned over to the "Brotherhood Fund," which provided \$50 gift certificates, redeemable at a union

supermarket, for the 1,700 unemployed members.

The bottom line—it was the largest crowd we ever had. So, we were very pleased to find the prescription to achieve higher participation in Retirees Club attendance. Tip of the cap to club officers who planned the affair, and a grateful tip of the hat to all who attended. Everyone stay warm until we restart the luncheons in March. Happy and healthy new year to all.

Leo E. Monahan, Pres./P.S.

March Meeting

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 130, NEW ORLEANS, LA—Our club's next meeting is scheduled for March 2010. At this meeting, we will hold the election of officers, and only the members are invited. Any dues paying member is eligible for nomination, but Pres. George Clesi will be nominating the same 2009 officers for re-election. It's that time again; yearly dues of \$35 are due now or at the March 2010 meeting. Please make every effort to be a part of the Retirees Club.

The casino trips are being planned again for the upcoming year. Each retired member will be notified of the times and dates.

Congratulations to our golden age members, age 90 and older: Bros. Henry Daries, Ralph Ehrensing, M.E. Joseph, Warren Seher and Gerard Tonglet.

Get-well wishes go out to Loraine Rodriguez, wife of Robert Rodriguez. Loraine is the lovely lady who leads us in prayer at our meetings.

We thank Bus. Mgr. Clay Leon III for all support given to our club.

We mourn the passing of Bros. Lester Barback, Joseph Caire, Lancelot Cazauz Sr., Paul D'Amico, Samuel Heaslip and Edward McCraine. May they rest in peace.

Happy new year to all IBEW members.

Buddy Carver, P.S.

Celebrating the Season

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 134, CHICAGO, IL—Here we go again—old man winter has come in strong. But we will survive the snow and more snow.

Our 2009 corned beef dinner event was great. People attending were happy to be there. The prizes were gift cards. The poinsettias and the joy of those attending set the holiday mood. I also want to thank the fellows who helped me. The celebratory gathering was a good way to end the year. Until the next issue, stay warm and healthy. Best wishes to all for a happy new year.

Richard E. Bronars, P.S.

Welcome to New Officers

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 150, WAUJEGAN, IL—Our Lake County Retirees Club now has a new treasurer, Tom Curley, and a new vice president, John Kolar.

Our former vice president Jack Sullivan and former treasurer Maureen Sullivan relocated to Arizona. The Sullivans returned for our children's Christmas party to serve as Santa and Mrs. Claus. The party went well and everyone had a good time.

Ray and I are retiring from our officer jobs in June. We have done it for about 15 years and it's time for some younger members to take over. Thanks for all the cooperation we have had during these years.

Last year, the annual overnight stay at White Pines State Park was a lot of fun despite the rain. We spent an enjoyable day at the new Harley Davidson Museum in Milwaukee. Once again, we participated in the Zion Labor Day parade; we had a good number show up for it. Also in September, we had the annual Pot Luck at the Holst's and all had a good time.

We welcome new retirees to join us. We meet the second Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. at the union hall.

Diane Holst, P.S.

Active & Involved Retirees

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 164, JERSEY CITY, NJ—Local 164's Retirees Association had a busy 2009. We had a golf league, a golf outing, a doo-wop/oldies show with 280 people attending, a bus trip to the new Yankee's Stadium, a fishing trip to Canada, a fishing trip to the Atlantic Highlands and much more.

Our monthly meetings, at the union hall in Paramus, NJ, feature a wonderful luncheon, a business meeting and occasional seminars. For Christmas/Hanukkah, we had a holiday party for members and spouses with dinner, dancing and entertainment.

With more than 250 members, our club has even more planned for 2010. Just off the ground is a new Local 164 Retirees Association "Grandchild Scholarship Fund." This past holiday season, we collected 420 winter coats for the Coats for Kids & Adults program for at-risk people. We also collect money at each meeting for Habitat for Humanity and recently donated to the "Bold, Brave and Courageous" program. For updated news and events, please visit our Web site www.LU164Retirees.squarepins.org.

David Judovin, P.S.

Holiday Luncheon

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 194, SHREVEPORT, LA—On Dec. 9, 2009, Local 194 held its Retirees Annual Christmas Luncheon with a record 150 in attendance.

Retired Fifth District international rep Bob King and Retirees Club Pres. Harold Cooper presented service pins to several brothers for a total of 660 years of service in the IBEW. [See photo, pg. 15.]

Receiving a 65-year pin was Chancey McCormick, while Grady Barber, Frank Burroughs and Melvin Shirey received 60-year pins. The 55-year recipients included James Barnett, Jack Gladden and William Isbell Jr. Awarded 50-year pins were: Joseph Akins, Richard Bolin, James R. Lacaze, Carlos Murphy and Wallace Paul.

All attendees feasted on a holiday menu and enjoyed the fellowship and stories of past years.

Harold Cooper, Pres.



Local 103 members and retirees gather to celebrate the season.



Among the Local 194 retirees who received service pins in 2009 were, from left: C. Murphy, R. Lacaze, T. Akins, J. Barnett, J. Gladden, G. Barber, R. Bolin, L. Cryer, M. Shirey and F. Burroughs.



Among those attending the Local 611 retirees Christmas brunch are: Nap Duran, Leo Olson, Don Brady, Ralph Cochrane, Carl Brown, Joe Romero, Hal Kissinger, Harold Paschke, Glen Frazier, Vivan "Rainbo" Romero and Tracy Hall.

35th Annual Club Luncheon

RETIRES CLUB OF L.U. 236, ALBANY, NY—Members and spouses enjoyed the club's 35th annual luncheon on Oct. 27, 2009. A good time appeared to be had by all who attended. The food was excellent and the reminiscing of the good old days was incredible. Thanks to all who participated.

Jim Porter, P.S.



Attendees enjoy the Local 236 Retirees Club's 35th annual luncheon.

Christmas Fund Donation

RETIRES CLUB OF L.U. 257, JEFFERSON CITY, MO—The Retirees Club met Dec. 8 at the Local 257 Labor Temple for our 2009 Christmas luncheon. Lunch was provided by Local 257. It was appreciated by all and we thank the local for its hospitality. Instead of gifts, members gave to the Christmas Fund, to benefit a charity designated by our committee.

On Oct. 28, 2009, one of our members, Chris Binggeli, a World War II veteran, went on the Central Missouri Veterans Honor Flight. We were very proud that he went. He said he had a wonderful time and felt honored to go.

On a somber note, we lost two of our members in November—Orval W. Lenger and Harold L. Rackers. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families. They will be missed.

Happy new year to all.

Delores Melloway, P.S.



Retired Local 257 member Chris Binggeli, a World War II veteran and 2009 Honor Flight participant, attends the Retirees Club Christmas dinner.

'Tool Buddies' Visit

RETIRES CLUB OF L.U. 306, AKRON, OH—At our December 2009 meeting, we gathered to visit with old "tool buddies," compare our growing lists of medications, brag about our children and grandchildren and wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy new year!

Biggest grandchild went to Bro. Art Goodspeed's 316-pound football playing grandson.

Bro. Gary Carpenter won a Silver Medal in the Senior Olympics in Palo Alto, CA. At age 75, Gary won for playing a whale of a Slo-Pitch softball game in the "70-and-over" class!

Bro. Glenn Schiller was re-elected Guilford Township trustee. Starting his 26th year in office, he is the third-longest serving public official in Medina County.

Bro. John Hornacek's winning Soap Box Derby racer

has been moved to Norwalk, OH, for a complete restoration. Even more amazing, a few years ago John actually got into his 1950's vintage racer.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of those no longer with us.

Our "Snowbirds" were first out the door!

Bob Sallaz, P.S.

Sarnia Happenings

RETIRES CLUB OF L.U. 530, SARNIA, ONTARIO, CANADA—Our group has completed another very successful year.

On Sept. 3, 2009, our retirees gathered for the annual golf tournament at Mooretown Golf Course. Thirty members took to the greens and 43 members sat down to enjoy a fine meal following the day's events. This year's best foursome: John Mentanski, Bob Morrison, Fred Sterling and Tim Swales. Bo Kohut shot an eagle on the 10th hole. Terri Hungle, assisted by Elsie Morrison, organized a putting contest for the non-golfers. The weather was excellent and this popular event was a huge success.

On Dec. 10, following our regular monthly meeting, 50 members gathered for our annual Christmas luncheon. Terri Hungle, Jackie McLellan and Anne Randall sang the blessing before we sat down to eat. Thank you, ladies—your rendition of the blessing added a wonderful touch to the Christmas get-together.

We are deeply saddened to report that Gerry Douglas, a faithful club member, passed away on Dec. 14, 2009, from cancer. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Nellie, and their family.

Local 530 retirees extend best wishes for good health to all in 2010.

Nancy Stinson Philbin, P.S.

Active & Having Fun

RETIRES CLUB OF L.U. 611, ALBUQUERQUE, NM—Local 611 retirees are active and having lots of fun. On Dec. 12, 2009, several retirees, spouses and guests attended our annual retirees Christmas brunch and gift exchange at a local buffet.

Attendees also received a separate Christmas bag full of IBEW gifts, and door prizes with Target gift cards were drawn. Prize winners were Glen

Frazier, Don Brady, Harold Paschke and Joe Romero. Bros. Glen and Harold were recognized as the oldest IBEW members present as well as the longest retired. A group picture was taken in front of our new retirees banner. Those present signed a get-well card for Ted Cordova, who was battling cancer. Sadly, Bro. Ted passed away on Dec. 14.

On this same date and time, Local 611 was holding its annual children's Christmas party at the union hall. Yours truly stopped by the hall where Bro. Jenero Pedroncelli was playing Santa and handing out Christmas gifts for the kids. Approximately 250 pictures were taken with Santa, and the union used 18 turkeys and trimmings to feed 750 people.

Our condolences to the families of the following brothers, who passed away: Max L. Quintana, Lawrence F. Reyos, Martin J. Peterson, Kyle A. Spreacher, Donald E. Leahy, Nicholas M. Veroche, James A. Wiley Jr., Manual Ted Cordova.

Tracy Hall, Pres.

Quarterly Meeting

RETIRES CLUB OF L.U. 613, ATLANTA, GA—At our quarterly meeting on Dec. 17, 2009, the topic was the Retirees Health and Welfare Fund and to reiterate what was said by former business manager Tom McGuire, there needs to be a change to our plan for retirees. I hope this points out the great need for all retirees to attend these meetings, as we have a voice even if we don't have a vote.

We mourn the following members: Cathy Gloss, M. L. Grizzell, Leroy Propst, Donald Jones, Richard Glore, Jimmy Crocker, Ben Ridgley and Michael Cook.

Blake McLeod, Pres.



Local 530 Retirees Club members gather for Christmas luncheon.

Local Lines



Retired IBEW Local 1245 members join current employees for an informational picket at NV Energy's Reno headquarters to protest the company's attack on retirement medical benefits. All 400 picket signs were displayed at the height of the action, which was followed by a candlelight rally with speeches by religious leaders and representatives from other unions.

Massive Informational Picket

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 1245, VACAVILLE, CA—Local 1245 retirees at NV Energy in Nevada are continuing their defense of retirement medical benefits. On Nov. 19 over 400 retirees and current members converged on the company's Reno headquarters for an informational picket—the first picket on the company in the union's 62 years of representing employees there. In December, retirees generated goodwill for their cause by leading holiday food drives for the needy in Reno and Yerington, NV. In Reno, retirees delivered \$4,000 of groceries to the Evelyn Mount Community Outreach food drive. Mickie Baryol, recorder for the Retirees Club's Reno/Sparks chapter, has been the driving force in creating a Web log to publicize retirees' efforts to preserve their benefits (<http://renosparksibew1245retireesclub.blogspot.com/>).

The local's executive board approved \$500,000 to boost organizing efforts through a variety of means, including possible paid media ads and community outreach.

Local 1245 retiree Ken Rawles, a former PG&E high voltage electrician, was tapped by Int. Vice Pres. Michael S. Mowrey to create a blog and an electronic newsletter to serve all IBEW retirees in the District. Rawles, who serves as recorder for the Santa Rosa Chapter of the Local 1245 Retirees Club and as vice president on the board of the California Alliance of Retired Americans, set up the blog and invites participation from all Ninth District retirees at <http://ibewninthdistrictretireeses.blogspot.com/>.

The local now has Retirees Club chapters in Antioch, San Jose, Vacaville, Santa Rosa and Merced, CA, as well as the Reno/Sparks, NV, chapter.

Eric Wolfe, P.S.

In Memoriam

Members for Whom PBF Death Claims were Approved in December 2009

Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death
1	Forshee, W. T.	10/3/2009	20	Brown, W. D.	11/1/2009
1	Germer, W. C.	10/12/2009	20	Pentecost, W. W.	10/13/2009
1	Harding, W. R.	10/9/2009	20	Pope, E. A.	10/29/2009
1	Roling, T. B.	10/29/2009	24	Brown, W. S.	9/13/2009
1	Shanks, D. F.	11/2/2009	24	Masters, A.	9/22/2009
1	Spence, R. L.	10/20/2009	24	McNemar, C. W.	10/10/2009
1	Spitz, R. B.	11/11/2009	24	Moudry, R. F.	9/17/2009
1	Wheeler, J. C.	10/2/2009	25	Carota, A. A.	11/2/2009
3	Boffa, R.	10/31/2009	25	Rosen, M.	11/5/2009
3	Clarino, F. J.	10/25/2009	26	Fischetti, F. N.	11/10/2009
3	Colucci, J. P.	7/25/2009	26	Kline, E. P.	9/25/2009
3	Douglass, J. A.	9/23/2009	26	Lucas, G. A.	6/15/2007
3	Drake, L.	11/8/2009	26	Pierce, J. K.	7/16/2009
3	Flanagan, M. J.	11/28/2009	26	Taylor, S. L.	6/30/2009
3	Fring, C. C.	9/25/2009	34	Chaney, M. D.	11/20/2009
3	Galbraith, F. T.	8/13/2009	34	McWhirter, H. N.	7/24/2009
3	Giambruno, J. F.	11/30/2009	38	Battle, F. D.	11/2/2009
3	Hudson, W. A.	11/11/2009	38	Harris, D. L.	9/26/2009
3	Kamps, F. J.	11/5/2009	38	Lemin, O. L.	11/9/2009
3	Kirschner, J. L.	11/20/2009	38	Schultz, F.	11/23/2009
3	Kolodey, P. R.	10/24/2009	41	Gaske, E. H.	11/11/2009
3	Lafata, R.	10/4/2009	41	Mariella, A. R.	7/22/2009
3	Lorenzo, J. M.	8/29/2009	41	Ortman, T. W.	10/30/2009
3	Nasta, G. G.	9/16/2009	43	Sullivan, D. C.	6/11/2009
3	O Hagan, C. J.	10/11/2009	44	Grady, E. L.	9/24/2009
3	Oldak, J. W.	10/5/2009	44	Liebel, A. B.	10/25/2009
3	Poris, S. R.	10/26/2009	46	Bryson, R. L.	8/18/2006
3	Rawlins, L.	9/25/2009	46	Morgan, W. P.	9/29/2009
3	Rutherford, K.	4/20/2009	46	Pekonen, M. Y.	10/20/2009
3	Ryan, T.	10/18/2009	47	Coumont, J. F.	10/7/2009
3	Talcovit, A. S.	8/12/2009	48	Burkitt, W. L.	6/23/2009
3	Vinci, V.	10/25/2009	48	Sinner, R. W.	8/17/2009
3	Wartelsky, L.	3/24/2006	48	Westom, J. J.	10/24/2009
3	Wood, J. A.	10/19/2009	55	Fadiga, M. P.	9/1/2009
4	Schultz, L. W.	9/8/2009	55	Samo, M. J.	8/20/2009
5	Patterson, A. D.	10/27/2009	57	Stone, M. J.	8/1/2009
6	Pouliot, C.	2/6/2009	57	Walton, W. A.	7/15/2009
7	McAuliffe, W. J.	8/29/2009	58	Bjorn, R. B.	11/14/2009
8	Cuprys, J. M.	10/12/2009	58	Colucci, D. J.	10/27/2009
8	Wolever, W. H.	10/29/2009	58	Gauthier, G. E.	10/27/2009
9	Gilbert, J. C.	10/30/2009	58	Gluski, B. F.	7/19/2009
9	Lau, R. B.	11/11/2009	58	Green, E. H.	10/13/2009
9	Loessy, R. W.	9/26/2009	58	Leon, P. J.	11/15/2009
9	Murray, W. J.	11/13/2009	58	Owens, J. C.	10/27/2009
9	Teliszczak, J. C.	11/21/2009	58	Sossi, J. A.	11/23/2009
11	Elzenga, R. C.	10/19/2009	58	Wagster, B. J.	12/29/2008
11	Krutch, R.	11/4/2009	64	Yeaton, C. E.	11/13/2009
11	Kuether, J. E.	10/22/2009	68	Burkhardt, T. W.	10/5/2009
11	Lansdell, H. M.	10/5/2009	68	Forsberg, H. T.	8/27/2009
11	Mills, A. A.	9/1/2009	68	Gilbert, D. M.	9/28/2009
11	Rahon, J. S.	11/11/2009	68	Jenkins, E. R.	10/9/2009
11	Roy, F. S.	10/11/2009	68	Overton, E.	10/2/2009
11	Schnoebelen, J. N.	10/27/2009	68	Stagg, D. H.	10/3/2009
11	St Aubin, G. D.	10/7/2009	68	Van Sambeek, P. J.	9/24/2009
11	Sweetin, J. L.	11/8/2009	71	Palmer, O. L.	10/24/2009
11	Truitt, T. S.	4/20/2009	73	Conniff, G. E.	7/1/2009
11	Westman, J. B.	8/15/2007	73	Lyman, D. R.	9/30/2009
13	Meck, T. S.	9/15/2009	76	Fay, D. L.	10/15/2009
16	Perkins, W. F.	10/18/2009	77	Snyder, K.	9/18/2009
17	Shortridge, C.	9/10/2009	86	Rank, J. S.	11/1/2009
18	Mullen, E. E.	9/24/2009	90	Bennett, R. L.	6/24/2007
18	Smith, R. W.	8/22/2009	98	Andersen, E. R.	10/28/2009

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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
98	Casparro, J. H.	11/7/2009	164	Takash, F. P.	9/27/2009	353	Iori, F.	10/28/2009	595	Wright, R. G.	10/11/2009	970	Huntington, A. D.	5/15/2009
98	Conover, J. A.	9/4/2009	176	Duncan, P. H.	11/3/2009	353	Jamieson, S. D.	11/24/2009	596	Luzier, J.	11/10/2009	995	Davide, J. A.	9/10/2009
98	Diamond, W. P.	10/16/2009	176	Thomas, C. H.	11/1/2009	353	McArthur, J. K.	11/10/2009	601	Frisbee, J. C.	8/19/2009	995	Kelley, R. J.	10/2/2009
98	Ford, R. E.	11/23/2009	177	Griffis, M. R.	8/17/2009	353	Punch, M. W.	10/24/2007	601	Reynolds, R. D.	8/19/2009	1003	Walde, K. G.	9/21/2009
98	Francis, M. T.	11/10/2009	177	Jones, L. P.	9/9/2009	353	Swanepoel, W. J.	10/22/2009	602	Whittington, M.	3/22/2009	1116	Miranda, E. M.	7/6/2009
98	Tetley, T. H.	11/26/2009	177	Lomax, W. C.	11/17/2009	353	Wicks, B. E.	11/3/2009	611	Spreacker, K. A.	11/3/2009	1116	Robson, J. M.	7/1/2007
99	McDonald, E. J.	9/1/2009	180	Long, N. D.	10/20/2009	353	Zandona, E.	11/10/2009	611	Wiley, J. A.	10/5/2009	1158	Hart, J. R.	3/18/2009
102	Knowlton, D. S.	10/18/2009	180	Szekely, J.	7/17/2009	354	Fahrner, P. W.	10/14/2009	613	Crocker, J. D.	10/25/2009	1212	Rifkin, W. A.	10/2/2009
102	Moniz, F. F.	8/15/2009	193	Browning, R. L.	10/15/2009	354	Torres, M. G.	11/14/2009	613	Glore, W. R.	11/1/2009	1245	Lowery, L. H.	10/7/2009
102	Schmidt, W. L.	11/5/2009	193	Latonis, C. R.	10/1/2009	354	Waddoups, M.	11/8/2009	613	Price, S. B.	7/30/2009	1245	Poulson, J. M.	8/23/2009
103	Ahearn, R. P.	11/8/2009	194	Hurt, F. W.	7/28/2009	357	Forrester, J. H.	11/30/2009	613	Propst, R. L.	10/19/2009	1249	Krieger, K. R.	9/19/2009
103	Callahan, E. L.	9/9/2009	213	Commis, S.	10/14/2009	357	Sabourin, G.	10/27/2009	613	Worthy, W. D.	6/29/2009	1253	Lerch, W. C.	10/22/2009
103	Oneil, R. A.	2/9/2007	213	McLaren, G. M.	7/11/2009	375	Schnitzler, R. F.	11/17/2009	617	Balestrero, C. P.	10/24/2009	1253	Parlee, L. C.	8/4/2008
105	Lisson, B.	10/29/2009	223	Bradshaw, I. C.	11/2/2009	379	Stogner, J. L.	10/25/2009	617	Bjorner, R. W.	10/1/2009	1377	McNeely, J. P.	11/24/2009
110	Bergevin, C. W.	11/5/2009	226	Feist, R. E.	5/26/2007	387	Dewey, T. H.	10/30/2009	617	Ladouceur, D.	5/1/2009	1393	Stanton, E. B.	10/8/2009
115	Boileau, L. L.	11/1/2009	230	Hartland, E.	7/30/2009	400	Marricco, J. A.	11/3/2008	617	Voris, E. J.	10/17/2009	1426	Gira, C. J.	10/28/2009
115	Hasson, P. J.	10/16/2009	234	Layher, W.	10/2/2009	402	Martin, L. G.	8/22/2009	625	Blackadar, R. M.	6/3/2009	1687	Bouchard, G. J.	9/20/2009
117	Martenson, W. F.	8/23/2009	234	Pybas, S. A.	10/8/2009	429	Long, W. C.	10/5/2009	640	Burns, R. C.	10/4/2009	1687	Scanlan, R.	10/23/2009
120	Akiens, C. J.	10/20/2009	236	James, M. B.	10/8/2009	441	Brebrick, D. W.	5/21/2009	640	Lucero, A. D.	10/21/2009	2085	Gagne, R. L.	8/28/2009
124	Anderson, L. L.	11/17/2009	236	Reid, R. D.	11/22/2009	443	Welford, D. E.	10/8/2009	640	Pearce, S. E.	10/24/2009	2088	Lacey, R. L.	11/23/2009
124	Carriker, J. C.	9/30/2009	236	Wolcott, D. P.	10/16/2009	444	Braker, R. D.	10/7/2009	640	Washburn, C. W.	10/20/2009	I.O. (3)	Lynch, L. J.	7/15/2007
124	Taylor, R. G.	10/14/2009	237	Alcorn, L. R.	9/10/2009	446	Ivy, C. D.	11/10/2009	647	Moore, K. C.	9/11/2009	I.O. (3)	Miranti, O.	9/11/2009
124	Ward, A. E.	10/18/2009	242	Hicks, J. E.	10/10/2009	446	Moore, C. H.	10/18/2009	659	Donnelly, A. W.	8/27/2009	I.O. (134)	Manheim, J. A.	8/8/2009
124	Wurzer, C. L.	10/31/2009	245	Bigelow, B. W.	11/5/2009	446	Raborn, L.	11/1/2009	659	Youtsey, J. D.	2/2/2008	I.O. (702)	France, F. R.	10/31/2009
125	Harmon, H. L.	8/27/2009	245	Danko, G.	9/29/2009	453	Wheeler, G.	10/19/2009	666	Johnson, W. F.	11/23/2009	I.O. (852)	Young, L. W.	10/4/2009
125	Knight, L. L.	11/2/2009	252	Nowak, J. A.	9/15/2009	456	Boyce, L. P.	10/2/2009	673	Lipovich, S. G.	10/1/2009	Pens. (276)	Larson, A. O.	10/22/2009
125	Lawton, R. A.	9/18/2009	252	Paduan, F. J.	11/14/2009	456	Brandmahl, H. H.	10/27/2009	676	Kast, H. C.	7/31/2009	Pens. (323)	Tucker, C. E.	2/27/2009
125	Winter, J. L.	10/21/2009	257	Lenger, O. W.	11/7/2009	456	Stearn, R. B.	9/7/2009	683	Binkley, J. F.	9/18/2009	Pens. (637)	Smith, R. E.	6/6/2009
126	Whitt, J. E.	9/18/2009	265	Walton, C. J.	10/17/2009	459	Smith, E. W.	10/28/2009	683	Mancini, J. J.	8/7/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Bine, A. C.	10/21/2009
127	Scruggs, R. P.	11/17/2009	266	Howell, B. A.	6/14/2009	474	Calhoun, E. R.	7/3/2009	692	Voisine, A. G.	9/13/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Collesi, A. D.	10/15/2009
129	Ritter, C. A.	10/26/2009	275	Anderson, G. A.	9/28/2009	477	Kibler, C. N.	9/28/2009	697	Berdine, L. M.	11/11/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Cook, J. L.	10/20/2009
130	Selmon, S. L.	10/5/2009	278	Fergus, J. L.	10/24/2009	479	Siau, J. P.	11/9/2009	697	Smolen, J. T.	8/10/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Cooper, J. H.	5/6/2009
134	Benson, C. W.	10/5/2009	278	Schulle, W. C.	11/6/2009	479	Whitton, O. J.	9/12/2009	701	Anthony, G. P.	9/4/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Cornick, L. F.	9/28/2007
134	Bratich, M. P.	10/1/2009	291	Hubbard, K. T.	9/21/2009	480	Sledge, W. T.	9/18/2009	702	James, D. E.	10/5/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Coughlin, R. D.	11/20/2009
134	Burns, F. W.	10/23/2009	292	Anderson, H. W.	11/2/2009	480	Thibodeaux, J. W.	9/10/2009	716	Matthew, R. F.	8/10/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Currey, R.	10/30/2009
134	Caddigan, D. W.	10/28/2009	292	Fahy, T. J.	6/1/2009	481	Nutter, R. M.	10/25/2009	716	Ramirez, E. M.	7/9/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Dedek, W.	10/23/2009
134	Goodman, M. W.	10/25/2009	292	Petersen, D. E.	11/1/2009	483	Jensen, L. A.	9/29/2009	716	Singleton, D. M.	8/1/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Doss, C. W.	1/11/2007
134	Greinke, G. F.	9/20/2009	292	Taylor, E. C.	11/1/2009	490	Congram, E. J.	8/15/2008	716	Vernon, L. E.	10/11/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Erling, L. D.	10/22/2009
134	Grube, J.	3/30/2009	294	Seliskar, A.	8/29/2009	494	Brindza, J. F.	9/27/2009	725	Hamburg, M. S.	9/19/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Fordice, H. C.	11/7/2009
134	Hult, B. E.	11/15/2009	301	Smith, M.	7/28/2009	494	Lenhardt, W. J.	1/13/2009	725	Simpson, T.	8/22/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Gray, J. L.	1/31/2008
134	Kershner, V. L.	11/1/2009	302	Joiret, T. P.	10/17/2009	494	Lerner, J.	9/7/2009	743	Dauksis, D. J.	10/3/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Graziano, J. A.	9/11/2009
134	Leturno, D. C.	7/17/2009	302	van Westrop, J.	10/24/2009	499	Bond, C. J.	9/1/2009	743	Groh, M. J.	10/20/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Holbrook, C. A.	11/8/2009
134	Lukas, L. J.	9/6/2009	304	Little, E. E.	10/30/2009	503	Flood, F. N.	11/9/2009	743	Turner, L. A.	10/19/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Hover, R. C.	11/18/2009
134	Micek, L. J.	11/17/2009	309	Baum, D. D.	9/11/2009	505	Perkins, B. D.	11/2/2009	756	Culpepper, M. P.	10/13/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Hulett, V. J.	10/30/2009
134	Reilly, R. E.	9/24/2009	309	Ross, R. M.	9/4/2009	508	Harvey, D. W.	7/16/2009	760	Long, W. H.	10/2/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	James, D. E.	9/28/2009
134	Renz, H. F.	10/14/2009	317	Guthrie, C. M.	10/28/2009	518	Grijalva, R.	9/21/2009	760	Plante, J. R.	10/24/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Jenkins, L.	11/24/2009
134	Sadowski, H. L.	10/7/2009	332	Baptista, T. N.	10/4/2009	531	Trojanowski, J.	11/3/2009	760	Swicegood, W. C.	11/3/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Jeroue, D. G.	10/13/2009
134	Schultz, A. M.	10/18/2009	332	Masse, F.	10/14/2009	540	Huth, P. R.	9/12/2009	767	Marino, T.	9/25/2008	Pens. (I.O.)	Kasley, L.	10/27/2009
134	Shepler, C.	10/3/2009	332	McArthur, M. D.	10/22/2009	540	Tolles, E. F.	6/29/2009	776	Whittemore, J. L.	11/15/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Klein, A. I.	11/8/2009
134	Valandingham, D. G.	9/10/2009	332	Pyl, R. C.	3/17/2007	558	Alexander, E. L.	8/18/2009	796	Cole, D. J.	10/19/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Lavolette, R. F.	8/21/2008
134	Vanko, M. F.	10/10/2009	340	Dittbenner, R. M.	10/11/2009	558	Pratt, W. D.	11/12/2009	816	Schoborg, E. R.	10/9/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Liebman, H.	9/30/2009
134	Zuckerman, R. R.	7/20/2009	342	Coe, A. J.	4/22/2009	558	Wallace, S. D.	11/24/2009	816	Strader, C. E.	10/21/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Lund, P. C.	9/10/2009
139	Sly, R.	8/27/2009	343	Reberg, M. F.	11/2/2009	569	Hayn, J. W.	3/7/2009	855	Miller, M. R.	10/23/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Lunsford, R. H.	11/6/2009
143	Bodenberg, F.	8/7/2009	347	Abel, C. C.	11/6/2009	569	Honey, R. A.	11/5/2009	861	Cook, C. A.	11/3/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Miley, C.	11/7/2009
143	Bressler, R. L.	10/12/2009	347	Weeks, W. G.	10/27/2009	569	Whitt, R. L.	11/5/2009	861	Spears, D. R.	8/5/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Motley, L. R.	10/23/2009
143	Reed, J. C.	9/24/2009	349	Cozzi, F. G.	9/18/2009	573	Stahl, D. D.	10/7/2009	876	Chivis, F. S.	10/29/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Pearce, R. C.	10/9/2009
145	Soenksen, P. M.	9/14/2009	349	Switzer, J. V.	10/11/2009	583	Byrge, C. W.	10/3/2009	932	Tippey, K. W.	11/27/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Radford, C. A.	11/12/2009
153	Clark, M. R.	10/25/2009	351	Jordan, R. E.	11/3/2009	583	Ortiz, E.	10/29/2009	934	Byrd, J. C.	9/23/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Rath, R. L.	8/17/2009
163	Olshefski, C. C.	10/22/2009	351	Reynolds, M. A.	10/29/2009	583	Place, W. E.	10/8/2009	934	Chambers, P. E.	9/24/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Trotta, C. B.	7/13/2009
164	Doncoes, R.	10/14/2009	353	Berwick, E. W.	5/14/2009	589	Marconti, A. P.	11/9/2009	948	Goff, J. F.	4/18/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Woods, I. B.	10/16/2009
164	Fiore, R. G.	10/12/2009	353	Diteljan, J.	9/3/2009	595	Heinemeyer, P. A.	7/4/2009	949	Weight, A. A.	8/31/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Worthing, R. W.	10/3/2009
164	Macrae, R. J.	11/30/2007	353	Hesse, S. J.	5/23/2008	595	Vandevanter, H. M.	9/30/2009	970	Hambly, O. B.	4/2/2009			



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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Lindell K. Lee
International Secretary-Treasurer

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FROM THE OFFICERS**Which Way for the Republicans?**

Edwin D. Hill
International President

In late January, the media took a break from covering the tragic events in Haiti to focus on the election in Massachusetts to replace Sen. Ted Kennedy.

A little-known Republican state senator, Scott Brown, traveled the state in a pickup truck saying that he would go to Washington to represent average citizens, tens of thousands of whom are unemployed or worried about losing their jobs. While Brown burned gas and shoe leather, his Democratic opponent, Mass. Attorney General Martha Coakley, appeared aloof from the pain of working families.

If past traditions hold, more Scott Browns can be expected to win office in November as Americans who are anguished or angry about the state of the U.S. economy head to the polls and vote against the party in power, the Democrats.

But the very reversal of fortune for many Democrats shows that the day of reckoning will come soon for Scott Brown and others who ride this wave into Congress.

There are two ways to go. Brown can choose to rubber stamp his Republican leaders in Congress by saying "No!" to every meaningful proposal that the Democrats bring to the floor or proposing that all of the complex problems facing our nation can be solved by lowering taxes or just yelling about "big government."

But if Brown truly wants to be a man of the people, those approaches just won't work. Americans need problem-solvers in high offices, not blowhards. Brown should take some cues from the man he replaced.

Sen. Ted Kennedy was often taken over the coals by Democrats for compromising with Republicans. But he continued to be re-elected and was cherished by millions because he knew how to get results.

If the new senator truly wants to represent working families, he won't follow his leaders into opposing all legislation to make health care more accessible and affordable. And he won't stand in the way of reforming our nation's labor laws to establish a more level playing field between workers and employers.

Overnight, Sen. Scott Brown is a powerful man with choices that few others have. What will he make of them? ■

A Labor Secretary Who Fights for Workers

Continuing high unemployment and the slow pace of reform on Capitol Hill have caused some to get impatient for change that would make a real difference for working families.

On at least one front, however, the Obama administration has made some genuine progress in the last year.

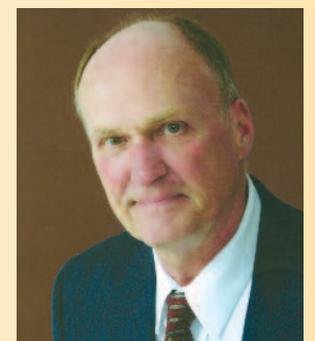
Labor Secretary Hilda Solis has turned around a department that under the Bush administration viewed labor law as a joke and routinely ignored health and safety violations, and returned it to its mission of enforcing safety and health regulations and standing up for workers' rights.

Let's look at Secretary Solis' record so far:

- Mining deaths fell to an all-time low in 2009, thanks to tough enforcement of mine safety laws. Compare that with the Bush administration, which failed to issue more than 4,000 fines for recorded safety violations.
- Solis recently announced that she is hiring 250 new investigators for the department's wage-and-hour division to crack down on employers who violate minimum wage and overtime regulations.
- All government contractors are now required to publicly post notices listing employee rights under federal labor law.
- A new initiative by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to update safety standards in the construction industry to reduce the number of injuries and fatalities in the field
- The promise of 90 new safety regulations in the coming year and stiffer fines for law-breakers

And as you can read in this issue, Solis is strongly committed to supporting union training partnerships in the growing green-energy industry, issuing \$100 million in renewable energy grants that will create good, green jobs.

While most of this has flown under the media's radar, these actions make a real difference in our members' lives and in the lives of working people throughout the country. Despite our many frustrations with Washington, it is satisfying to finally have a labor secretary who is willing to stand up for the rights of the workers and looks at organized labor as a partner, not an adversary. ■



Lindell K. Lee
International Secretary-Treasurer

**HOW TO REACH US**

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

Send letters to:

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

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

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Letters to the Editor

The Road to Socialism, Continued

[Editor's note: The December letter from Richmond Local 50 member Fenton Wyatt Jr., who spoke of ending his membership due to the IBEW's support for "socialist" health care reform, generated more mail from readers than we have seen in a long time. Please read on for a sampling.]

I believe as union members, we must stop the backstabbing and remember we represent the union first. We have groups trying to kill the movement, lobbying for right-to-work laws, spreading lies on how we organize and rumors about how the secret ballot will end if the Employee Free Choice Act is passed. We must stand together as one. Remember, the first step to a strong union is its members.

Now is the time to put the BS behind us and stand for a common cause. It starts with members and elected officials to begin a new era. Time to show who, when, what and how the IBEW is making a difference with the skill level we have.

I am proud to be a member of the IBEW since 1998. The best move I have ever made. But some members don't do nearly enough to promote us. Let's stand together as one, not as two or three, but one. Let's have our voices heard and show we are the future.

William R. Shilling Jr.
Local 375 member, Allentown, Pa.

As a father and lineman who has raised three children in Canada, I must question the validity of Fenton Wyatt Jr.'s assertions regarding our Canadian health care system. My personal experience of our public system has been positive. We may not have all the bells and whistles available to our U.S. neighbors who are fortunate enough to be members of a good health provider. We do, however, have coverage for all our citizens and we won't end up in the poor house when we need it! I and all those I know have always received proper care from dedicated professionals. Are there problems? Of course, but I would not trade what we have for your profit-driven system. American health care costs are the highest per capita in the world. Incidentally, there are 25-30 million Americans who have no health coverage. That's the population of our country! Perhaps Mr. Wyatt ought to do a little unbiased research before he condemns an entire country's choices.

Greg Slobodin
Local 258 member, Vancouver Island, British Columbia

I was an IBEW member for 39 years and have been retired for three years. I am so sick and tired of the people that cry socialism every time the Obama administration tries to correct a fundamental problem with this nation. President Obama inherited one of the biggest messes that any president could imagine. The economy was unregulated and unsupervised throughout. The mortgage industry was totally wrapped up in greed to the point of near financial collapse. The total quagmire of two wars that is draining financial assets and lives of the soldiers is a burden on our nation. It has been a decade of one disaster after another. Any organization that stood in the way of maximum profits was simply under-budgeted to make the organization ineffective.

If President Obama accepted the status quo and the problems had continued, the nation would have dived into a much deeper depression. The unemployment rate at this point is a product of the financial disaster inherited from the Republican Party.

The Republican Party would like nothing better than rid the country of organized labor. Strong unions have led the way for a stronger financial middle class in the United States. A vote for a Republican politician and what that party stands for is a vote against organized labor and against a union member's job.

Larry T. Grigsby
Local 613 retiree, Atlanta, Ga.

I have also been a long-time member of the IBEW (like 58 years) and it is so frustrating to hear from people who are so ungrateful to an organization that has done so much for so many for so long.

To all of the members, let me say we are so damned lucky to have the opportunity to be members of the IBEW. There are thousands out there that would kill for a chance to get into an organization such as this one. So let me thank all of the members that feel as I do and respond to these kinds of ingrates that are willing to take all of the benefits in full and still badmouth us.

Thank you for being a part of the IBEW and the great people I had the privilege of working with for 35+ years. I owe everything I have to the IBEW, and so does Wyatt, even if he doesn't realize it.

Bill Butler
Local 477 retiree, San Bernardino, Calif.

Who We Are

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

Fighting for Our Fighting Women



Knoxville, Tenn., Local 760 member Lindsay Long serves on a national women's veterans committee. She enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1977 at age 17.

When 17-year-old Lindsay Long enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps back in 1977, a woman's role in the military was far different than it is today.

"It was peacetime and we were perceived differently than the men. I was called a "Woman Marine,"" said Long, who just celebrated her 50th birthday. "Today, women in the Corps wear helmets and armored vests, carry weapons and serve on the front lines."

Long, a member of Knoxville, Tenn., Local 760 and a chemical operator at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee, served just one year in the service. But the experience left her with a deeply ingrained empathy for women in the military and inspired her life-long dedication to improving the lives of female veterans.

"Women have been retiring from the service or coming home from war for decades with a set of challenges that male veterans don't have to face," Long said.

In September, U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki appointed her to a two-year term on the federal government's Advisory Committee on Women Veterans. The committee, formed by Congress in 1983, assesses how the VA deals with women's issues and recommends ways the agency can improve. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan mean a

record number of female veterans are seeking assistance from an already overloaded VA health care system.

"There is an influx coming into the system because of the current conflicts overseas," Long said. "The VA isn't prepared and doesn't have enough manpower to serve the special needs of women."

Female veterans may need help dealing with post traumatic stress disorder or sexual trauma experienced in combat. In the past, victims of such trauma were assigned to group counseling sessions made up mostly of men. They also faced male colleagues skeptical about their service or injuries.

Female veterans can also face major obstacles as they try to return to civilian life at home with husbands and children. Many older or middle-aged women veterans may need counseling or health services from the VA, but are not aware they qualify for help.

"These women may have served during the World War II era. They think because they were never in combat that they aren't entitled to help," she said. "They need to know help is here for them no matter when they served."

The VA already has program coordinators specifically tasked with guiding women through the system. The agency also has plans to publish advertisements informing female vets about gender-specific services.

Still, Long is convinced more needs to be done to make sure women get equal treatment and to address the growing problem of homelessness among female veterans.

"They need a safe place to go," she said.

Long, a proud part of Local 760 since 1999, is also an active member of the Women Marines Association, the East Tennessee Women Veterans Network and the Women Veterans of America. A breast cancer survivor, she is the program coordinator for Casting for Recovery of East Tennessee, a group that helps women cope with the emotional and physical toll the illness can take.

"We are extremely proud of her," said Local 760 Business Manager George Bove. "She's done really great work for our Brotherhood and for our nation's veterans."

Long's first official meeting as part of the advisory committee happens this month in Washington.

Her continuing goal is to reach out to female veterans, letting those who have sacrificed for their country know that the nation is prepared to give something back.

"I've always been proud of my military service, both active duty and as a veteran," she said. "I want to make sure the country today's women soldiers are fighting for will always be ready to serve them." ■

December 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 Chairman Pierson, on Tuesday, December 15, 2009, in Washington, D.C. Other members of the Council in attendance were Lavin, Dowling, Riley, Calvey, Clarke, Calabro, Lucero, and Schoemehl.

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 members of the International Executive Council, examined and filed.

Local Union Under International Office Supervision

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

Retirement of International Representatives

Joseph Penna Effective, January 1, 2010
Third District

Harold James Pelley Effective, April 1, 2010
Eleventh District

Retirement of International Office Employees

Robert Drevenak Effective, January 1, 2010
Senior Electrician—Information Technology Department

Paula Frost Effective November 1, 2009
Secretary III, Grade Six—Information Technology Department

Colleen Kalb Effective, January 2, 2010
Secretary IV, Grade Seven—Membership Development Department

Belinda Young Effective, November 11, 2009
Data Control Clerk, Grade Four—Per Capita Department

Resolution—Elizabeth Shuler

The members of the International Executive Council adopted a resolution regarding Elizabeth Shuler's transition from the Executive Assistant to the International President of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers to serve as the Secretary-Treasurer of the AFL-CIO. This resolution is to clarify Elizabeth Shuler's entitlement to certain pension welfare and relocation benefits under the IBEW's plans and policies.

Resolution—Kirk Brungard

The members of the International Executive Council adopted a resolution regarding Kirk Brungard's transition from the Director of Construction Membership for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers to serve as Elizabeth Shuler's Executive Assistant. This resolution is to clarify Kirk Brungard's entitlement to certain pension welfare and relocation benefits under the IBEW's plans and policies. The International Executive Council members congratulate Kirk Brungard on his recent appointment.

Resolution—Amanda Pacheco

The members of the International Executive Council adopted a resolution regarding Amanda Pacheco's transition to join AFL-CIO Secretary Treasurer Shuler as her

Assistant. This resolution is to clarify Amanda Pacheco's entitlement to certain pension welfare and relocation benefits under the IBEW's plans and policies. The International Executive Council members congratulate Amanda Pacheco on her recent appointment.

Charges Filed with The International Executive Council Against Samuel W. Oaks, Jr., Retired Member of Local Union 306, IBEW

On June 5, 2009, charges were filed with the International Executive Council against Samuel W. Oaks, Jr., Card Number C18668, retired member of Local Union 306, IBEW, Akron, Ohio, by Stephen A. Stock, Organizer, also a member of IBEW Local Union 306.

Brother Stock has charged retiree Oaks with violation of Article XXV, Section 1(f), for a "practice detrimental to the IBEW."

After a thorough review of the facts presented, it is the determination of the council members to pend this case until February 1, 2010, at which time additional documentation will be presented for further consideration.

Charges Filed with The International Executive Council Against Raymond Lambert, Retired Member of Local Union 99, IBEW

On April 15, 2009, charges were filed with the International Executive Council against Raymond Lambert, Card Number D368534, retired member of Local Union 99, Miami, Florida, by Michael Nagle, a member of Local Union 349, IBEW.

Brother Nagle has charged retiree Lambert with violation of Article XXV, Section 1(a), (e), (f), and (q), of being employed by ABC Electric Services, Inc., a contractor not currently holding a letter of assent with Local Union 349, IBEW.

After a thorough review of the facts presented, it is the determination of the council members to pend this case until February 1, 2010, at which time additional documentation will be presented for further consideration.

Let it also be noted that council member William Riley has recused himself from hearing this case due to his currently holding the position of Business Manager/Financial Secretary of IBEW Local Union 349.

Charges Filed With The International Executive Council Against Terry J. Nemecek, Retired Member of Local Union 405, IBEW

On September 17, 2009, charges were filed with the International Executive Council against Terry J. Nemecek, Card Number D308471, a vested pension member of Local Union 405, IBEW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, by Bill Hanes, also a member and the Business Manager, of IBEW Local Union 405.

Brother Hanes has charged Brother Nemecek of violating Article XI, Section 6(d), "Prohibition of Work," for operating a business, Nemecek Electric, which is currently a non-signatory contractor.

After a thorough review of the facts presented, it is the determination of the council members to pend this case until February 1, 2010, at which time additional documentation will be presented for further consideration.

Article XX and XXI Cases

The IBEW is not involved in any disputes arising under Article XX of the AFL-CIO Constitution, during 2009. However, two matters involving "organizing responsibilities," under XXI developed and are capsulated and recorded, as follows:

Article XXI ORP 09-1—Cingular Wireless (AT&T Mobility)

Dispute arose from a campaign the CWA originally registered under the AFL-CIO's Strategic Campaign Registration Program in 2004, targeting what was then Cingular Wireless.

Article XXI ORP 08-2—AT&T Yellowpages.com

Ongoing dispute with IBEW seeking the exclusive right to organize employees at AT&T's Yellowpages.com.

Officers, Representatives and Assistants Pension Plan

The members of the International Executive Council reviewed the actuary report and funding recommendations for the plan, noting the recently passed amendment where participants in the plan would begin contributions, effective January 1, 2010, consistent with the recently approved amendment.

It was further noted the Officers', Representatives' and Assistants' contributions will be phased in by October of 2011, and at that time, would equal 5% of their pay, with the contributions assisting in the funding of the pension plan.

Accordingly, a motion was made and unanimously approved by the council members, to approve the actuarial recommendation for the funding policy of the Officers', Representatives' and Assistants' Pension Plan.

Office Employees Pension Plan

The members of the International Executive Council reviewed the actuary report and funding recommendations for the Plan. A motion was made and unanimously approved by the members of the International Executive Council to approve the actuarial recommendation for the funding policy of the Office Employees Pension Plan.

Amendment to Pension Benefit Fund's (PBF) Rules and Regulations and Summary Plan Description

International Executive Council Chairman Pierson introduced, and the members of the International Executive Council unanimously adopted, an amendment to delegate authority to the International Secretary-Treasurer to suspend a member's pension upon learning that the member has returned to the electrical industry and to initiate an investigation.

Location of the 2011 IBEW Constitutional Convention

Article II, Section 1, of the IBEW Constitution states, "The I.B.E.W. shall meet in regular convention every five (5) years on the third Monday in September, at such place as decided by the I.E.C."

After thoughtful consideration, it is the determination of the council members, to hold the 2011 IBEW 38th International Convention, in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, from September 19-23, 2011.

Per Capita Objection Plan

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

Special Dispensation for the Payment of the IBEW Death Payment for Scott Westfall, Card Number D840502 Local Union 659, IBEW

After having reviewed Business Manager Jones' request to honor a death benefit, on behalf of Brother Scott Westfall, it is the determination of the council that due to the extenuating circumstances involved, the council members hereby authorize the death payment to Brother Westfall's beneficiaries in a timely fashion.

The Next Regular International Council Meeting

The next regular meeting of the International Executive Council will commence at 8:30 a.m., on Monday, February 1, 2010.

For the International Executive Council

Patrick Lavin, Secretary

December 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.

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