

THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

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INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

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FIGHTING THE RECESSION

The IBEW Pushes for Job Opportunities Amid Downturn

Two stories, one goal: job growth in an economic downturn. Whether it is using new technology or old-fashioned marketing with a twist, the following articles are examples of small steps taking us in the right direction. While comprehensive job creation must be part of a broad-based economic recovery, our members can't wait. Here are examples of the things that the IBEW and employers are doing to save, and create, jobs in tough times.

Sunny Skies and Green Horizons: Clean-Energy Laws Create IBEW Jobs

The San Diego area has not been exempt from the effects of the great recession of 2009, with work on many big construction projects slowing down or, in some cases, coming to a complete halt as financing dried up.

But despite a sluggish construction market, the alternative energy sector—particularly solar photovoltaics—continues to be a vibrant and growing part of California's economy and it is keeping members of Local 569 busy.

"Without all the solar work, our unemployment rate would be twice as high," says Local 569 Business Manager Allen Shur.



IBEW members across the country are participating in new partnerships with industry leaders and policy makers to create good jobs in the electrical industry.

More than 10 percent of the 2,200-member local are busy installing and maintaining solar panels on commercial projects. Solar power has even allowed the local to crack the traditionally nonunion residential market.

"One of our contractors did more than 800 homes alone," Shur said.

The growth of solar power has also translated into increased opportunities for top-down organizing, as new PV startups seek out sources of skilled electricians.

"A lot of the owners of these new solar opera-

tions don't have the same kind of anti-union attitude that we sometimes encounter with other nonunion contractors," Shur said.

He credits the local's success in attracting new contractors to their green training program, which has been in operation for more than a year. "We bring the owner to look at our training facilities to see what our members are learning. That's a big ice-breaker right there."

Bass Electric, a Bay Area-based signatory contractor with contracts with San Francisco Local 6 and San Mateo Local 617, also reports that it is keeping busy with solar work. Owner Jeff Yee said between 30 and 40 percent of their

JOB OPPORTUNITIES continued on page 2

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The IBEW Seeks Job Opportunities

work is solar-related. Yee is now getting ready for his biggest PV project yet—a 5 megawatt solar array for the city of San Francisco that is expected to require more than 20,000 hours of electrical work.

While not uniform across California, many locals are finding that renewable energy projects have kept their members working, even with the state's unemployment rate topping 12 percent.

The California Difference

Despite fiscal emergencies, drastic budget cuts and a gridlocked legislature, the Golden State has managed to turn green energy from a buzzword into a vibrant new energy sector that is creating good jobs and new businesses, all while reducing the state's carbon footprint.

While casual observers may chalk up the state's success to its sunny climate, those on the ground credit California's combination of innovative political leadership, energetic clean-energy entrepreneurs and the skilled training and manpower provided by the IBEW for making it the leader in alternative energy. "California has fouled up plenty

of things," John Bryson, former chairman of Southern California Edison, told Atlantic magazine's Ronald Brownstein. "But on this set of issues—the clean-energy issues, the kind of things that need to be done in terms of the risk of climate change—I think California is getting it right."

California got an early start in renewable energy legislation. As far back as the 1970s, state leaders aggressively promoted energy efficiency, setting some of the highest standards in the country, while pushing utilities to invest in energy-saving devices and programs.

"Those decisions made more than 20 years ago set us on a course quite different from the rest of the country," said Bernie Kotlier, director of green energy solutions for the California Labor Management Cooperation Committee—a joint partnership between the IBEW and union contractors.

The energy crisis of the early 2000s spurred further efforts to invest in renewable resources, including an ambitious 2001 bill that required the state's three investor-owned utilities to generate 20 percent of their electricity from renewable energy by 2010.

And in 2006, the state's public utilities commission approved the California Solar Initiative, which authorized the state to invest \$3.2 billion in solar power.

"Our relationship with the IBEW and NECA has been critical to opening up new opportunities for us in this area."

— Shelley Keltner, chief executive of Pacific Data Electric

"It's been a bipartisan approach," Kotlier said. "Both Democratic and Republican administrations have backed the efforts."

And it has paid off. The average Californian uses 40 percent less electricity than the average American, which has saved consumers more than \$50 billion in energy bills.

It has also made the state a thriving center for solar power investment with more than \$3 billion flowing into California from 2005 to 2008 alone.

Making Sure Green Jobs Are Good Jobs

Having the third-largest solar market in the world has meant thousands of new jobs for California's electricians. But going after this work has required strong outreach by the IBEW and NECA contractors to let potential commercial and governmental clients know what union electricians can offer.

"Our biggest selling point remains our training," said Santa Rosa Local 551 Membership Development Representative John Lloyd. Local 551 represents six counties north of the Bay Area.

One of those counties, Sonoma, has gone a long way in taking advantage of a 2008 law that allows municipalities to fund the installation of energy-efficient upgrades to existing properties. Local 551 has been successful in attracting small solar start-ups to sign with the IBEW due to its extensive work in the county. Sonoma's seat is the city of Santa Rosa, which was designated as a "Solar American City" by the Department of Energy.

Lloyd sits on the board of directors of a nonprofit organization called Solar Sonoma County, which promotes PV installation.

There is great demand for companies that can perform energy audits and help clients develop plans to save on their electric bills using technologies like motion detectors and advanced lighting controls.

The IBEW has been training its members in these technologies for more than a year and the awarding of a \$5 million Labor Department grant to the state LMCC in January will mean thousands more members will receive training in the field.

"Our relationship with the IBEW and NECA has been critical to opening up new opportunities for us in this area," said Shelley Keltner, chief executive of Pacific Data Electric, a statewide electrical contractor. She says that energy efficiency has become one of her fastest growing areas of work.

Training is only one part of the IBEW's formula for building green market share. The other is marketing.

"We actively build our image," Kotlier said. "We do outreach to all sorts of prospective customers." For example, the LMCC has purchased advertising in specialized business publications and has invited organi-

zations that represent potential customers—from business journalists to school superintendents—to hold their meetings at the 144,000-square-foot Electrical Training Institute in Los Angeles—Local 11 and NECA's state-of-the-art training facility.

"My goal was to rebrand the union and NECA," said Thomas Martinez of the Los Angeles LMCC. "When I first started four years ago, people would wonder why a union was showing up at professional trade shows talking about alternative energy. Now they know."

Kotlier advises IBEW locals in other parts of the country looking to break into the renewable energy field to work with signatory contractors to promote the IBEW's training programs in the wider community. "The green sector is developing a lot faster than many people were expecting," Kotlier said. "Get your members trained and let the world know what you are doing. It's the exposure that allows public and private entities to understand our expertise and that leads to work for our members and contractors." ■

New Interstate Workforce Council Seeks Green Jobs in Rust Belt

IBEW leaders in Ohio and Pennsylvania are the driving force behind the nation's first interstate regional workforce investment board, charged with reigniting interest in their corner of the world.

Warren, Ohio, Local 573 Business Manager Mark Catello, Youngstown, Ohio, Local 64 Business Manager James Burgham and Beaver, Pa., Local 712 Business Manager Frank Telesz Jr., are charter members of the OH-Penn Competitiveness Council, formed Jan 1.

The council covers the Youngstown metropolitan area, which extends from the city of Warren in the north to Mercer County in Pennsylvania.

Made up of educators, local work force investment board directors and local business and labor leaders from both sides of the border, the council is committed to attracting new investment and good jobs back to region—a former center of the steel and auto industry that has been hit hard by the recession.

"We've lost 10,000 jobs due to the decline in the auto industry alone," Catello said.

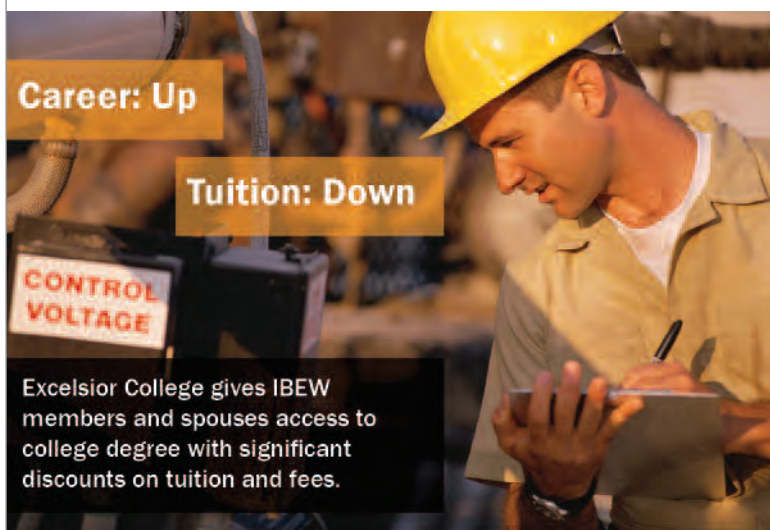
The group is partially funded by the Department of Labor, through grants used to encourage regional economic development.

Council member Sam Giannetti, who is also executive director of work force development for West Central Job Partnership Inc., in New Castle, Pa., attributes the leading role of the IBEW on the council to the union's commitment to training, particularly its emphasis on green power.

"Alternative energy technology will be the cutting edge of developing a new economy and I know the IBEW places a lot of emphasis on clean-energy training," he said.

The group's first course of action is to market the region to high-tech manufacturers, with a focus on companies involved in the green technology sector.

"It's vital that we diversify our economy if we want to bring good jobs back," Catello said. ■



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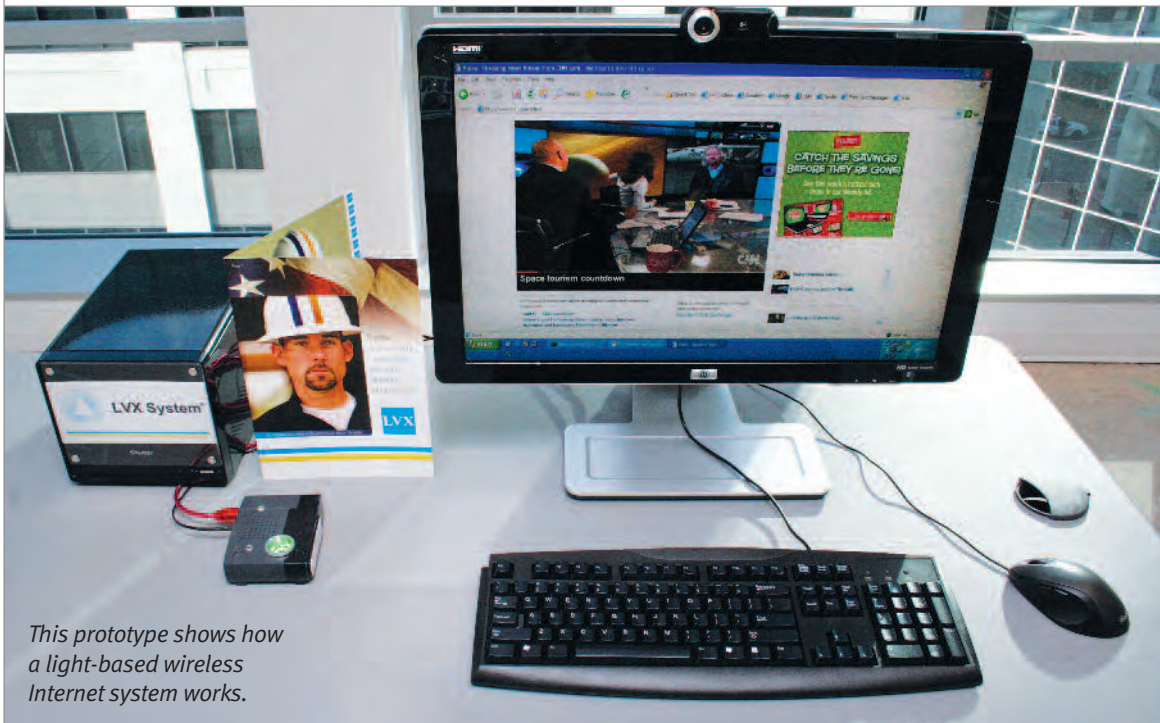
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This prototype shows how a light-based wireless Internet system works.

New Energy-Saving Invention Uses Light to Connect to Internet

In the near future, hooking up to the Internet may be as simple as turning on the lights.

A new wireless data communication system, invented and patented by a D.C.-based company and licensed to Minnesota's LVX System, uses visible light instead of radio waves to transmit digital information, a development that could revolutionize online communications.

"We're talking faster speeds and more secure connections, all with reduced energy consumption," said LVX Lab Chief Executive Officer Mike Muggli.

Muggli was at the IBEW International Office in Washington, D.C. late last year to show off the company's new invention.

Before a gathered audience of IBEW representatives and staff, Muggli pointed to a small box with a glowing green light. It sat next to a computer, which was broadcasting the latest updates from CNN. Besides an electrical cord, it had no wires.

The reddish glow of an energy-efficient LED bulb illuminated the workstation. Thanks to a special computer chip developed by LVX System, the bulbs were also transmitting the data signals that kept the computer online.

The system is not only faster than regular broadband, LED lights cut down on energy usage by more than 30 percent. And even when the lights are off, the bulbs still emit signals to keep the computer connected to the network.

Light-based wireless is not only faster, it is also more secure. "Unlike radio waves, a light-based connec-

tion can't go through walls or floors, making it impossible for strangers to piggyback on your connection," Muggli said.

Muggli said he was particularly eager to share the new invention with the IBEW, which he hopes can provide the manpower to make sure it ends up installed in every office building, government center and school in the near future—a project that could potentially create tens of thousands of jobs.

"This is a big project and we need the training and skills the IBEW can provide to make it happen," Muggli said. "We're talking about millions of buildings across the United States which could potentially be wired for this system."

The new technology is the brainchild of St. Cloud, Minn., native and LVX System founder and chairman, John Pederson.

Pederson, a veteran inventor who developed the power-saving flashing LED lights used by many police and emergency vehicles, first publicly tested out his new light-based wireless system at the local high school and police station in January 2009, grabbing the attention of Minnesota Local 292 Business Agent Dennis Kalthoff, who works out of the local's St. Cloud office.

"It seemed so incredible at first, I didn't know what to make of it," Kalthoff said. He got in contact with Pederson and Muggli, with whom he attended high school.

"I quickly grasped how important this was going to be," Kalthoff said. "And they wanted to work with

us, because they knew we had skilled electricians and training facilities, and that we would be ready to move on this right away."

The technology also opens up new opportunities for wireless use outside the office. LED streetlights could easily be outfitted with the system, making the downtown of any major city a giant Internet café.

Car headlights could also be fitted with wireless chips, which would feed commuters important traffic and safety information—even letting drivers know when they are getting too close to a passing vehicle.

Kalthoff and Tom Leonard from Le Sueur Local 343 talked up the invention with local contractors and friendly political leaders and recently set up a display at Local 292's training center.

Local 343, which holds the contract to maintain the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, will be setting up a system prototype at the clinic and other local institutions sometime this year.

Muggli says he is looking to partner with business and governmental officials in the coming year to promote the system, hoping to see it become an integral part of any green building retrofit.

And members of the IBEW—both in construction and manufacturing—are ready to provide the labor to make it happen. "Light-based wireless has the capacity to help provide tens of thousands of new jobs in both construction and electrical manufacturing," said IBEW International President Edwin D. Hill. "And the IBEW will help make sure it's done right the first time." ■

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 Games. We go behind the scenes to show you

how the skill of IBEW electricians helped build the state-of-the-art venues.

ElectricTV

The award-winning electricTV.net just got better with a massive redesign to improve the viewer experience. Take a video tour of the site with our very own Dominic Giarratano.





Los Angeles Local 11's Sammy Jackson, top, started in a pre-apprenticeship program.

Below, a health fair sponsored by East Windsor, N.J., Local 827 and Verizon.



Los Angeles Local 11 Business Manager Marvin Kropke addresses a pre-apprenticeship class.

Committee on Diversity & Full Inclusion

- **Phillip Flemming**, First District International VP
- **Robert Klein**, Tenth District International VP
- **Jeff Lohman**, Sixth District International VP
- **Michael Mowery**, Ninth District International VP
- **Pat Lavin**, International Executive Council, Business Manager, Diamond Bar, Calif., Local 47
- **Greg Lucero**, International Executive Council, Business Manager, Houston, Local 66
- **Javier Casas**, Business Manager, El Paso, Texas, Local 583
- **Clarence Larkin**, Business Manager, Laurel, Miss., Local 1317
- **Lorraine Tinsley**, Business Manager, Hartford, Conn., Local 1040
- **Victor Uno**, Business Manager, Dublin, Calif., Local 595
- **Diana Limon**, Compliance Officer, Los Angeles Local 11
- **Russell Ponder**, former Assistant Business Manager, Chicago Local 134
- **Karen Stoshnof**, Assistant Business Manager, Calgary, Alberta, Local 254
- **Michael Yee**, Treasurer, New York Local 3
- **Carolyn Williams**, Director, IBEW Human Services Department
- **Jan Schwingshagl**, Director, IBEW Education Department

Diversity and Inclusion Program Builds Union's Strength

St. Louis Local 1439 Business Manager Michael Walter didn't expect to become an example of diversity awareness when he launched a volunteer fund-raising effort to help unemployed members of his city's inside construction Local 1. It just seemed like the right thing to do.

Then Walter, whose local represents utility workers, attended one of the first sessions of IBEW's new diversity and inclusion training, Amplifying Membership Participation=Strength (AMPS). There, participants considered the full spectrum of differences that exist among the union's base including educational level, age, gender, race and branch and, yes, even employment status. "We're all IBEW and branches need to work together for the benefit of our entire membership," Walter says.

"The AMPS training is about providing IBEW leaders and members with the education and knowledge that will enable us to access the many talents available within a diverse membership and create the next generation of activists and leaders," says IBEW Human Services Director Carolyn Williams.

Working with IBEW Education Director Jan Schwingshagl, Williams and the 16-member IBEW Committee on Diversity and Inclusion, convened by International President Edwin D. Hill in response to a unanimous resolution at the 37th IBEW Convention in

2006 in Cleveland, worked with outside experts to design the program.

"For years, we've been talking about how our nations' populations are changing and how our leadership needs to look more like our membership," says Schwingshagl. "Now it's time to make it happen, or the IBEW and organized labor will be the dinosaurs we are always falsely accused of being."

The training fulfills the diversity and inclusion committee's decision to put education of leaders first as the foundation for positive cultural change in the Brotherhood. Unlike training sessions of the past, AMPS avoids dryly presenting legal obligations on civil rights or gender harassment, or simply encouraging members to get along better. "We're all one, but we recognize that one size doesn't fit all," says Susan Woods, a partner in Henderson-Woods, the program's designer.

Russell Ponder, the now-retired vice president of Chicago Local 134, who co-chaired the diversity and inclusion committee, has seen firsthand the benefits of increasing local leaders' appreciation of the need for diversity and inclusion.

Ponder recalls how three African-American Local 134 apprenticeship instructors approached their local about the challenge of preparing minority applicants to pass entry tests. With the financial and moral support of their business manager and the

local contractor's association, the instructors developed 134 Jump Start, a highly-successful pre-apprenticeship program, recognized across the city. (See "Chicago Residents Get Jump Start on Apprenticeship Programs," IBEW Journal, Spring 2008).

"That's the kind of successes we can have everywhere when local leaders understand the importance of diversity and inclusion," says Ponder, who also served as vice president of the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus.

The International committee understood that diversity training will take time considering the turnover in business managers and their busy schedules, says Ponder. "This is a long process," he says. "But it's the only way for IBEW to survive."

"People are like icebergs," says a PowerPoint slide in the first of four sections emphasizing how individual identities are a combination of what's visible and invisible, above and below the surface. Effective leaders need to know both ends of the iceberg. "Diversity is about the people. Inclusion is about the organization," says Woods, who credits the strength of the IBEW's plan with the organization's inclusion of members from different backgrounds and different levels of organizational leadership experience on the planning committee.

Tom Rutherford, political coordinator of Denver Local 68, who

attended AMPS in December on the invitation of Business Manager Dennis Whalen, remembers being assigned to a female journeyman in the late 1980s and challenging the bigotry of a senior male journeyman who questioned why women should be in the trade. Even so, the training was "eye-opening," says Rutherford, especially the section on how

IBEW Human Services Director Carolyn Williams fields questions from participants at a diversity training session.



diverse generations in the union view themselves, each other and the organization's role in their work lives and futures.

Kathy Jordan, who became the first female journeyman in Local 68 in 1980, joined Rutherford. Remembering how sisters in the trade would hide their pregnancies to keep from unemployment, Jordan still sees room for improvement at the jobsite. "The training's been a long time coming," she says.

Jordan and Rutherford enjoyed role-playing exercises where participants are presented with potential conflicts between members and are asked to devise solutions. "It's elevated our awareness," says Rutherford. "We'll still make mistakes [dealing with each other], but, when we do, we can step back and say, 'we've goofed.'" The IBEW Media Department has produced a series of videos—using professional actors—to enhance the role-playing sections.

The 37th IBEW Convention's resolution on diversity and inclusion proceeds from the reality that, while women and people of color have "joined unions in far greater numbers than other workers in the past 25 years, this growth would have been even greater if the labor movement had adequately addressed issues important to them..."

The resolution is a testament to the consistent advocacy of the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus, founded in 1974 at the 30th IBEW Convention in Kansas City. (See "Building IBEW's Diversity and Strength," IBEW Journal, June 2006). From its inception through 1991's Centennial Convention—when the group's meeting was officially listed in the convention brochure for the first time—and beyond, EWMC has been

pressing for more mentoring and advancement of minority members into leadership.

The resolution continues, "Managing diversity is not only an economic and business imperative, but is a political, social, and moral imperative as well." The measure empowers the International President to study policies and procedures related to recruitment, hiring, access to education, career paths, mentoring and leadership to realize diversity as "a core structural element to achieve inclusion and full participation for all members at every level of the IBEW..."

After the Cleveland convention, Hill met with leaders of the EWMC to flesh out implementation of the resolution. A newly-formed diversity and inclusion committee met for 18 months, during which a curriculum for diversity training was developed. In April 2009, International officers and executive assistants attended a pilot session in Las Vegas, followed by several other sessions with business managers and district staffs.

In a video introduction for AMPS training, International President Edwin D. Hill says, "With AMPS, like COMET and the Brotherhood's Code of Excellence, the IBEW is providing an example to the building trades and other organizations in taking on tough challenges."

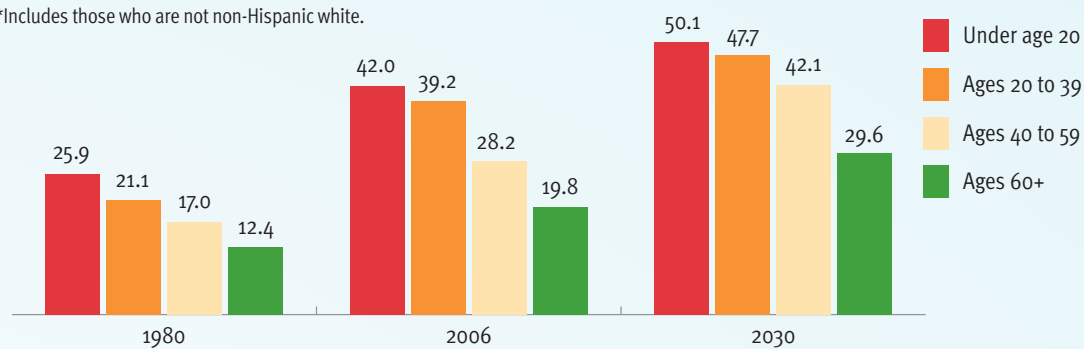
In a troubled economy, says Hill, there will be those who want to "go slow" on ushering in a more inclusive union culture.

"As with our other programs, we need to have the courage to do both what is right and what can make us stronger. A more confident, forward-looking union will be better positioned to advocate for our members who are facing tough times," says Hill. ■

The Future is Diverse

Percent Minority* in U.S., by Age Group, 1980-2030

*Includes those who are not non-Hispanic white.



Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of U.S. Census data

Local Initiatives Enhance Diversity, Community

Here are a few examples of locals that honor the union's diversity and build stronger links with surrounding communities. We will be reporting on others in future issues of *The Electrical Worker* and www.ibew.org.

Verizon Locals Bargain for Family Benefits

As chairman of a Verizon-IBEW advisory council on training and family benefits, Business Agent Clyde Dickinson, East Windsor, N.J., Local 827, had a problem. Verizon agreed to continue funding the program begun in the 1990s. But, if the money were used to subsidize daycare for members' children—at current costs—there would be no funds left over to support the needs of members who have no children at home. A good thing could end up being divisive.

So Dickinson, a co-worker, and a fellow advisory council member from Philadelphia Local 1944 joined with their employer to brainstorm a solution that considered the diverse needs of the telecommunications work force.

Some members are scheduled to work on days when their children are out of school. Others are scrambling to care for aging parents. Members of the "sandwich generation" often have both responsibilities. So the locals bargained for all workers to qualify for funds providing up to 120 hours annually to cover child care or nursing care for aging dependents.

The joint program gives workers access to a database that rates the quality of child care and elder care vendors. Current benefits also include a free-of-charge online homework assistance service for students, giving some relief to parents who have already put in a long day at work.

Debra Naugle, the union's liaison to the family program, says funds for training in new technologies and careers and the family support provided by the joint program are more needed than ever before. "At one time, Ma Bell provided cradle to grave benefits. Things have changed," she says.

Los Angeles Community/Faith-Based Construction Initiative

When Mayor Anthony Villaraigosa was campaigning for office, the one-time labor organizer traveled to minority communities and promised to do something about high unemployment. "We finally had someone in office that didn't see organized labor as a 'special interest,' but as a valuable resource to improving our city," says Local 11 Treasurer Eric Brown.

Brown and other labor leaders met with the mayor's representatives and religious and civic leaders of minority communities, engaging in frank discussions

about how to bring increasing numbers of African-American and Hispanic residents into the trades.

"Villaraigosa said he wanted to make the [construction] crane the official bird of Los Angeles and he developed a progressive building agenda," says Brown. Project labor agreements on work for the Los Angeles Unified School District, the airport and the port carried local hire requirements. But special efforts needed to be launched to prepare many applicants to pass necessary tests to succeed in the trades.

The Los Angeles branch of the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus set up Saturday study sessions at Local 11's training facility. Some Local 11 activists traveled to local churches for weekly mentoring sessions.

"Residents got to see the intensity of our training. You could see it their eyes," says Brown, that many were thinking, "We want to be a part of this."

The construction market has slowed, but local hire requirements are still in place and Local 11 is continuing to prepare a diverse group of workers to enter the trades. "Some of our new members will be stars," says Brown. Many have already succeeded despite being placed in schools with oversized classes and facing street violence in their communities. "They are deserving people who have the foundation to succeed and just need a little help."

Portland, Ore., Local Restores African-American Landmark

Donna Hammond, president of the Portland, Ore., chapter of the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus, cherishes her memories of celebrations at the Billy Webb Elks Lodge, the most renowned landmark of the city's African-American community.

"The Gathering," an annual event at the building—which opened in the 1920s as the "Colored YWCA" amidst opposition by white residents—reminded her of homecomings that she attended with her parents in their native Arkansas, bringing together residents who had moved away but wanted to stay close to their roots. But, like others in the community, Hammond feared that, without major restoration, the building that also hosted USO services for black soldiers in World War II could be lost.

Working with a local signatory minority contractor, Local 48 sent a journeyman and two apprentices to apply their skills to upgrading the Elks Lodge's electrical system as part of a \$1 million restoration project.

"Our work tremendously enhanced Local 48's reputation and contacts in the African-American community," says Hammond, who teaches cultural competency training courses in her municipality. ■



Los Angeles Local 11 has sought to promote more diversity in the trades.



New Oil Sands Refinery Project Fuels Alberta's Economic Recovery

The great recession of 2009 may have led to a slow-down in the normally busy oil sands region in northern Alberta, but in 2010 Canada's biggest job market is hotter than ever—and it's putting thousands of building trades members to work.

"A year ago, we had a three-month bump when we had to send all the travelers home," said Edmonton Local 424 Business Agent Wade Ashton. "We had a hard time making sure all our members were working." It is a sentiment not usually expressed in Alberta, which has one of the tightest labour markets in Canada, thanks to the oil and gas industry.

Record low oil prices last year put many projects in the oil sands—the second-largest reserve of petroleum in the world—on hold, but the recent jump in energy prices and positive signs that the recession may be winding down have given the area an economic jumpstart.

Leading the way is Royal Dutch Shell's new \$27 billion oil upgrade facility, located just outside Edmonton, which will process tar-heavy oil from Fort McMurray for refineries in the United States. The heavy crude oil from the region is mined, not pumped, and requires a great deal of refining before it is useable.

The project, Scotford Upgrader 2, is the biggest construction project in Canada, employing more than 8,000 workers, including more than 2,700 IBEW members.

"It's the busiest work site in Canada right now," said Local 424 Business Manager Tim Brower of the Fort McMurray site, more than 400 kilometers (or about 200 miles) north of the provincial capital. "We're at full employment."

IBEW members from throughout Canada are being recruited to come to Edmonton, with contractors even offering a \$100-a-day stipend for out-of-town workers.

It isn't easy work, particularly as the frigid Alberta winter blows across the prairies, with temperatures dropping as low as minus 26 degrees Celsius (or minus 17 Fahrenheit).

But IBEW members are glad to be on the job again.

"We are going to need even more electricians on this project before it is completed," Brower said.

The massive project, which is to be built in four phases, is expected to take upwards of 15 years to complete. The first phase is expected to be completed by September.

The upgrader will have a total processing capacity of 400,000 barrels a day.

Other oil sands projects in the works include an \$8 billion mine being built by Imperial Oil an hour north of Fort McMurray. The job will require thousands of skilled work-

ers, and Local 424 is gearing up.

"We're going to have to fight hard for the job," Ashton said. Unlike the strongly union Edmonton area, Local 424 and its contractors face increasingly cutthroat competition in Fort McMurray from both nonunion contractors and the Christian Labour

Association of Canada, an employee association that many in the labour movement have criticized for signing sweetheart deals with employers.

"We'll be very busy until the end of the summer and then we're getting ready for the next big project," Ashton said. ■

Canadian Building Trades Calls for Balanced Debate on Oil Sands' Future

In the face of environmental criticism, the Canadian building trades is calling on policy makers and elected officials to engage in a fair debate about the future of the oil sands region in Alberta. It is sponsoring an ad campaign in favor of balancing the need for good jobs and an inexpensive energy supply with concerns about reducing carbon emissions and fighting pollution.

In an ad that ran in the Hill Times, Canada's leading political weekly, the Canadian building trades, said: "Debate about the oil sands is important, but it must be a reasonable debate ... we need the oil sands. It is a secure supply of a required energy and significant economic resources."

The oil sands region represents the second-largest reserve of petroleum in the world, and in recent years it has become the economic powerhouse of Canada. But the process of extracting oil from the sand is intensive and dirty and it takes its toll on the environment, leading to bad press and increased calls from environmental groups like Greenpeace for a shutdown of projects there.

While sharing concerns about global warming and air quality, many building trades members feel that the oil sands are being unfairly targeted out of proportion to its actual impact on the environment, says Robert Blakely, director of Canadian affairs for the Building and Construction Trades Department, AFL-CIO.

Les Syndicats des métiers de la construction au Canada revendiquent un débat équilibré sur l'avenir des sables bitumineux

Devant la critique des environnementalistes, les Syndicats des métiers de la construction demandent aux responsables et aux représentants élus de s'engager dans un débat honnête sur l'avenir de la région des sables bitumineux en Alberta. Ils commanditent une campagne publicitaire dont le message précise qu'ils sont en faveur de trouver un juste équilibre entre la nécessité de bons emplois et d'un approvisionnement énergétique économique et les préoccupations concernant la réduction des émissions de gaz à effet de serre et la lutte contre la pollution.

Dans une déclaration au Hill Times, un hebdomadaire national canadien très influent qui couvre les actualités sur la politique, les Syndicats des métiers de la construction ont affirmé qu'« il est important de tenir un débat au sujet des sables bitumineux mais il faudra qu'il soit honnête et ouvert...car nous avons besoin des sables bitumineux. Ils assurent la fiabilité d'un approvisionnement énergétique nécessaire ainsi qu'une ressource économique significative ».

La région des sables bitumineux représente la deuxième plus importante réserve de pétrole au monde et au cours de la dernière décennie, cette industrie est passée au statut de centrale purement économique au Canada. Toutefois, le procédé d'exploitation du pétrole étant de forte intensité et polluant, il a exercé ses ravages sur l'environnement, ce qui a entraîné une mauvaise presse et une augmentation des demandes de fermetures des projets par les groupes environnementaux, notamment Greenpeace.

« Bien qu'ils soient préoccupés par le réchauffement climatique et la qualité de l'air, plusieurs membres des métiers de la construction estiment que les sables bitumineux sont injustement ciblés hors de proportion pour ce qui est de

"There is too much alarmism by some in the environmental community," he said. "We need to make sure the debate is grounded in reality, not fear."

The building trades' ads point to the progress made on the environmental front by the oil sands industry. Carbon emissions in the oil sands are down by nearly 30 percent since 1990 thanks to new technological advances, and less than 5 percent of Canada's greenhouse gas emissions come from the region.

"We and our families want our children to inherit a healthy environment," the Building Trades of Alberta said in a statement on its Web site. "We believe that improved processes and technology will continue to reduce the environmental impacts of oil sands development."

Building trades leaders also say that groups like Greenpeace ignore the importance of the oil sands to Canada's economy. More than 200,000 jobs from across the country are linked to the oil sands, making development in the region key to Canada's future.

"For the tens of thousands of workers whose livelihoods depend on the oil sands, the region is too vital for the environmental debate to be based on anything but hard facts," said IBEW First District Vice President Phil Flemming. "There are too many jobs at stake." ■

leur impact réel sur l'environnement. » déclare Robert Blakely, Directeur, Affaires canadiennes, du Département des métiers de la construction, FAT-COI.

« Certains écologistes sont beaucoup trop alarmistes. Nous devons nous assurer que le débat sera basé sur des faits réels et non sur la peur. » ajoute-t-il.

Les publicités des métiers de la construction indiquent que l'industrie des sables bitumineux a fait beaucoup de progrès sur le plan environnemental. Des percées dans le domaine de la nouvelle technologie ont permis de réduire d'environ 30% les émissions de gaz dans les sables bitumineux, depuis 1990. Moins de 5% des émissions de gaz à effet de serre proviennent de la région.

Les Syndicats des métiers de la construction de l'Alberta (*Building Trades of Alberta*) déclaraient sur leur site Web : « Chaque famille souhaite léguer un environnement plus sain à ses enfants. Nous sommes confiants que l'amélioration des procédés et la technologie continuera de réduire les impacts environnementaux liés au développement des sables bitumineux. » Les dirigeants des Syndicats des métiers de la construction sont également d'avis que les groupes tels que Greenpeace ignorent l'importance des sables bitumineux pour l'économie canadienne. Plus de 200,000 emplois à travers le Canada y sont liés, d'où l'importance du développement de l'exploitation des sables bitumineux pour la prospérité économique future du Canada.

« Cette région est vitale pour des dizaines de milliers de travailleurs dont le gagne-pain dépend du développement des sables bitumineux. Le débat portant sur l'environnement ne devra reposer que sur des faits concrets. Trop d'emplois sont en jeu. » conclut Phil Flemming, Vice-président international pour le Premier district de la FIOE. ■

Circuits



This panoramic photo of IBEW's 17th Biennial Convention, held in Montreal in 1923, was obtained for the union's archives from Dayton, Ohio, Local 82 last December.

Filling the Holes in IBEW's History

Few souvenirs from an IBEW convention are more cherished than panoramic photos of delegates to the International gathering. Images of rank and file members and their leaders—so varied in dress and demeanor—are a window into the union's changing numbers and demographics. Whether perched on a union hall's walls or rolled up in a chest in a family's attic, the pictures—going back to 1891—hold the value and meaning of the ages in labor history.

At the International Office's archives, original convention photos are stored in a climate-controlled room, guarded from deterioration that results from fluctuating temperatures, light or infestation. Only digitally-scanned prints are available for public exhibit.

While few unions have worked harder to honor its history than the IBEW, most historical preserves contain holes that need to be filled.

Retired International Representative Mike Nugent, who managed the archives until last year, worked tirelessly to gather memorabilia to fill some of those holes. Last December on a visit to Dayton, Ohio, Local 82, Nugent found two missing panoramic photos of the Seventeenth International Convention, held in Montreal in 1923, and the Eighteenth convention, held in Seattle in 1925.

Local 82 agreed to donate the original photos to the archives under the condition that the local receive digitally-scanned copies back. The originals were sent to Dodge Color in Silver Spring, Md., where they were removed from their frames. Dodge fixed the frayed edges of the photos that were rolled up and damaged before framing and completed the digital imaging.

Despite Nugent's broad outreach efforts to build the union's collection, photos of the Sixth International Convention, held in Pittsburgh in 1899, and the Seventh International Convention, held in St. Louis in 1901, are still missing.

Curtis Bateman, the IBEW collections manager who replaced Nugent, says, "I hope members can help us look around for these missing photos, so that we don't have to go another 100 years before we find these images of some of the dedicated men who set the IBEW on the path of growth." Their accomplishments are documented in *The Electrical Worker*, says Bateman.

The November 1899 issue of the newspaper, for instance, includes minutes of that year's convention and a progress report since the last meeting in Detroit in 1897. "Our membership at the close of the last convention was 1,800. Today we have 3,200. Instead of 48 locals in good standing, we have [today] 74," states the *Electrical Worker*. The paper reported \$7,000 in the union's treasury.

If you have copies of the missing photos or know where they can be located, please contact Bateman at the International Office (202-728-7691), or e-mail him at Curtis_Bateman@ibew.org. ■

Health Care Risk Assessments Save Costs and Lives in Tennessee

With health insurance costs continuing to rise and Washington gridlocked on how to reform the system, local unions and employers continue to share a keen interest in containing costs while promoting a healthy work force.

In Sparta, Tenn., a health screening partnership between Local 2143 and Philips Luminaires' lighting fixture plant is not just trimming costs,

but saving the lives of union members, including Local 2143 Business Manager Jerry Pryor's. The dramatic success of the wellness program is part of a record of achievement that made it one of *Industry Week* magazine's top 10 plants in 2009.

Pryor signed up for a colonoscopy two years ago at a company-sponsored health fair. "They say the test isn't necessary until age 50. I was 48, but I signed up anyway," says Pryor. The screening showed a mass in his colon that doctors said could have taken his life within two years.

Pryor is not alone. Since the self-insured employer, located about an hour-and-a-half east of Nashville, began offering voluntary risk assessments and blood analysis free to all workers six years ago, dozens have been diagnosed with serious conditions that were successfully treated.

Lisa Norris, Philips Sparta's human resource manager, told *Industry Week* that 5 percent of workers accounted for 50 percent of the plant's health care costs, but "those sick workers changed from year to year." The only way to get ahead of those costs, she said, was through extensive screening to detect disease, coupled with educational programs to address diabetes, smoking, obesity and other conditions.

Ninety percent of Philips' work force participates in risk assessments. One hundred workers were diagnosed with serious health conditions in the first year of the program. Only nine were similarly diagnosed last year.

Once a week a nurse is available in the plant and mental health specialists are on site two days a week. "Not too many people [in the 140 member bargaining unit] are on sick leave anymore," says Pryor.

The productivity of Philips' work force—despite a tough national economy—mirrors its progress on health

care savings. Bargaining unit members, who manufacture fluorescent lighting for schools and public buildings and specialty lights for airports and swimming pools, were working 10 hours a day, six days a week until the beginning of February. The last large producer of fluorescent lighting in the U.S., Philips and Local 2143 have stayed in competition with manufacturers in China and other nations by involving workers in improving techniques and practices.

Tenth District International Representative Brent Hall—who helped negotiate the last two contracts at Philips—says that the company has "softened the impact of the economic downturn in Sparta," by working with the union and electrical contractors to aggressively market the plant's products as "made in Tennessee/made in the USA." ■

Plans Being Finalized for Online College for Working Families

Since its early days as the George Meany Center for Labor Studies, the National Labor College has been an important part of the lives and careers of thousands of trade unionists, including many IBEW members and leaders.

Today, this unique institution, like its partner—the AFL-CIO—is once again adapting to major changes in the makeup of the labor movement and society.

Next fall, the college, based in Silver Spring, Md., will launch a new online learning curriculum that will combine liberal arts with technical training and cover new subjects like security studies, criminal justice and construction management.

"We listened to our members to determine what kinds of courses and degrees people require to

advance their careers," Thomas J. Kriger, the college's provost, told *Human Resources Online*. The online program is dubbed the College for Working Families.

The developing program will be enriched by the experience of Paula Peinovich—who was appointed interim president of the college after the retirement of President William Scheuerman in January. Peinovich was formerly provost and president of Walden University, a distance-learning graduate school. Before that, she was vice president of academic affairs for Excelsior University, an online institution that has trained IBEW members in the nuclear industry.

With added financial pressures on working families, the online curriculum provides a way for students—including the AFL-CIO's 11.5 million members and their families—to pursue educational credits without having to attend the one-week in-residence sessions required under the current curriculum.

Technical support for the online university will be provided by the Princeton Review Inc. and its subsidiary, Penn Foster Education Group Inc.

Kirk Brungard, executive assistant to AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Liz Shuler and former IBEW Director of Construction Organizing, is helping to establish the new program. "With partners like Penn Foster and The Princeton Review," says Brungard, "the new distance learning program fulfills the original vision of NLC founders by making available quality, affordable and accredited higher education to millions of rank-and-file union members and their families."

Tuition for the College for Working Families, requirements for entry into the program and course offerings are being finalized. ■

Local Lines

'Adopt-a-Family' Program

L.U. 1 (as,c,ees,ei,em,es,et,fm,i,mt,rts,s,se,spa,st&ws), ST. LOUIS, MO—In December 2009, Local 1 initiated an Adopt-a-Family program to help some of the many members struggling with unemployment during these hard times. The goal was to give members unemployed for a long period the opportunity to provide their families a happy holiday season. The program allowed members to “adopt” other families, request that their family be “adopted,” or simply make contributions for those in need. Special consideration went to those with a disability or on the out-of-work list for an extended time. Families in need received funds to purchase gifts for their children, gift cards for the children’s use and funds for other necessities.

Overall, more than 170 families were assisted by Local 1, in addition to numerous families helped by other individual members on their own. The support and generosity were overwhelming, and a true testament to Local 1 members. The local thanks all who contributed.

We mourn the following members’ deaths: Jeffrey Martchink, Ralph Spitz, Wayne Atchisson, Robert Voss, William Harding Jr., Stanley Dampier, Harold Ragan Sr., Evelyn Parker, Robert Fleming, Andrew Gerber Sr., Aloysius Lipinski, Roy Weaver, Jimmie Lancaster, Lester Cordes, Clarence Daskoski, Eugene Landwehr, Richard Dickinson, Darrell Lachance, Edna Earley and David Shanks.

Matt Gober, P.S.



Los Angeles Local 11 members installed a rooftop solar array at a Steiny and Company Inc. warehouse. From left, back row standing, are: Casey Britt, Mark Jacqmin, Dion Mau, Roy Cheaney; front row, Dave Mojica, Wayne Tesoriero, John Garduno and Jose Peregrina.

Embracing Green Technology

L.U. 11 (i,rts&spa) LOS ANGELES, CA—Congratulations to Local 11 members at Steiny and Company Inc. for their skills and expertise at installing sustainable energy technology on the rooftop of the company’s Baldwin Park warehouse. [See photo, below.] The solar panels will provide power and lighting for years to come. We salute the company’s efforts to offset its carbon footprint and are hopeful this example will convince other businesses to do the same.

We are proud to report that U.S. Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis visited the Electrical Training Institute along with other high-ranking Obama administration cabinet members as part of the president’s plan to put America back to work. Solis toured more than 50 classrooms and state-of-the-art labs while speaking with students and posing for photos.

Solis praised the Local 11 leadership for taking an active role in promoting green jobs. She acknowledged the ETI as the premiere training facility for green careers in the United States and marveled at the nearly 500,000 kilowatt photovoltaic array installed by Local 11 members. Solis was joined on the tour by Marla Elena Durazo, executive secretary-treasurer of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO.

Bob Oedy, P.S.

Tremendous Generosity

L.U. 15 (u), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—Local 15 sends good wishes to Bus. Reps. Ron Welte and Dave Mullen. Bro. Welte retired after 37 years of service. Bro. Mullen was appointed International Representative assigned to the IBEW Utility Department in Washington, D.C. Local 15 will miss their extensive experience.

Thanks to our members, we exceeded the collection goal for the United Way 2009-2010 campaign. Together, the union and management contributed more than \$2,530,000!

In our nuclear stations, we reached agreement with ComEd on Travel Agreements for 2010 and are working on other packages. Some members

helped with an outage at Three Mile Island Nuclear Generating Station in Pennsylvania and were welcomed by Local 777.

Local 15 is installing smart meters under an AMI pilot program; the goal is to install 131,000 meters in the next few months. The Systems Services Group Agreement with ComEd was overwhelmingly approved by affected members by a vote of 70-1.

We reached an agreement with Exelon on a new clerical aptitude entry test—Support Administration Selection System—replacing the EEI test. This will cover new hires with ComEd, Exelon and BSC.

In our fossil stations, the Midwest Generation employees heard from CEO Ron Litzinger the harsh reality that the stations’ futures depend on how climate control legislation turns out—a reminder that elections are important! In June, our benefits package with MWGen expires, so we will provide “change forms” for members’ input.

Douglas Vedas, P.S./B.R.

Tribute to a Union Brother

L.U. 19 (u), AURORA, IL—We are deeply saddened to report that Gary Cichy, a Nicor Gas field employee and a member of the IBEW for more than 30 years, was fatally injured at a work site on Nov. 23, 2009.

Gary began his career at Nicor in 1979 and worked as a distribution technician out of the Naperville reporting center. Outside of work, Gary was an avid fisherman and very talented in creating unique, true-to-life wood carvings depicting aquatic nature.

Gary is survived by his wife, Janice, and their sons, Matt and Brian. Gary is deeply missed by his many friends and co-workers.

Chris Harris, B.R.

'National Broadband Plan'

L.U. 21 (catv,govt&t), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 was signed into law by Pres. Obama on Feb. 17, 2009. Over the last year, the Federal Communications Commission has been working with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to perform the FCC’s role under the Recovery Act. Part of the Act requires that a National Broadband Plan be completed by Feb. 17, 2010. The Act also funds initiatives that are planned to speed up deployment in unserved, underserved and rural areas, providing important public benefits while also increasing jobs. Stay tuned.

At this writing, member education continues on health care reform and the fight for passage of the Employee Free Choice Act. Helping to pass laws to improve jobs, the economy and the everyday lives of all working families will continue to be a priority in 2010.

We highly encourage all members needing work boots to take advantage of a 27 percent discount on 100 percent American made, union-made work boots at www.TheUnionBootPro.Com. Use discount code Be0021mD. Buy American. Buy union. Save money!

Local 21 continues to expand our means of communicating with our membership. Follow us now on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/IBEWLU21>.

Thomas Hopper, P.S.

Political Involvement

L.U. 43 (em,i&rts), SYRACUSE, NY—Local 43 has a long tradition of political involvement in our jurisdiction and this past year was no exception. Because of term limits the incumbent mayor of Syracuse had to vacate his seat in 2010. This caused a battle for the open position. Both the Democratic and Republican parties started early with hotly contested primaries. Our local stood behind Stephanie Miner, union labor attorney and city councilwoman.

Bus. Mgr. Bill Towsley asked Bro. Al Marzullo to act as our political coordinator. With door to door canvassing, literature drops, phone banks, fundraising and human billboards, Al had the members deeply involved. Miner won her primary and then won the general election over her Republican opponent by a large margin.

We also had three members run for public office. Bro. Jim Corbett—for Onondaga County Legislature, Bro. Jeff Currie—for Cortland County Legislature and Bro. Bill Kuhn—for councilor, Town Of Elbridge. Both Corbett and Currie won election. Many thanks to all those who helped on Election Day, including political coordinator Marzullo, JATC instructor Dave Nichols and many journeymen and apprentices.

Jim Corbett, P.S.

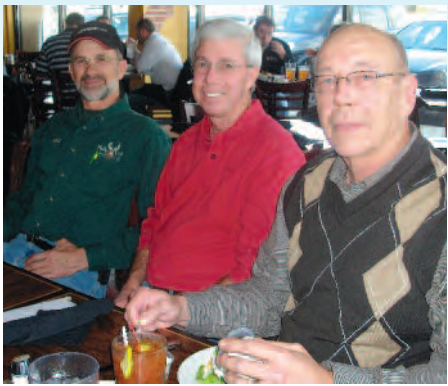
New Year’s Resolution

L.U. 51 (catv,lctt,o,rtb,t&u), SPRINGFIELD, IL—As we welcome the new year ahead and a new decade, let us not forget the importance of community and the sacrifice of those who have given their time to make life better for union members and society in general. Being a member of the largest electrical union in the world means more than just paying dues.

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.



Attending Local 51's staff Christmas luncheon are, from left: Local 51 member Mike Bradshaw, Bus. Mgr. Jim Bates and Tom Peterson, retired business representative.

Every one of us should understand the importance of community building and each of us should find a way to do our part.

Our current work load has slowed somewhat with nine journeyman linemen on Book 1 and 67 on Book 2. We are hopeful that as spring arrives our work outlook will improve.

As of this writing, negotiations continue with American Line Builders (NECA), Henkels & McCoy, Asplundh (power & LCTT), Nelson Tree and Wright Tree Services, Corn Belt Energy and Frontier Communications.

We have reached agreements with the L.E. Meyers Shop and WICS-TV.

Remember to work safe; give eight hours' work for eight hours' pay; and attend your union meetings.

Dan Pridemore, Pres.

Trap Shoot Day

L.U. 57 (lctt,mo,o,t&u), SALT LAKE CITY, UT—The local held its annual Trap Shoot at the Lee Kay Shooting Center in West Valley, UT, on Nov. 21, 2009. Thirteen teams participated. Tom Baker won "High Gun" and Dave Vega, Drue Palmer, Bill Walker, Wade Palmer and Jeremy Price won the Men's Division. Danielle Palmer won "High Gun" in the Lady's Division while Porter Baker and Jesse Sainsbury tied in the Junior Division. This event continues to grow, as it is a great time for family and fellow employees to spend a day together. A special thanks to Mass Electric, Sturgeon and Black and McDonald for all the great prizes.

The Shelley, Idaho, Unit of Rocky Mountain Power held its 4th Annual Christmas Food Drive. This drive continues to grow and in 2009 helped feed 1,500 families in the region. We thank all members for assisting those less fortunate in these tough economic times.

The Populus/Terminal Transmission/Substation project is winding down and ahead of schedule. The work outlook should improve this spring as the



Winning Team at the Local 57 Trap Shoot, from left: Dave Vega, Wade Palmer, Bill Walker, Jeremy Price and Drue Palmer.

weather improves and impending transmission projects get out to bid.

Be safe. Stay strong. Stand together.

Scott Long, P.S.

World-Class Training Facility

L.U. 77 (lctt,mt,o,t&u), SEATTLE, WA—After a long, hard battle, on Nov. 13, 2009, the purchase and transfer of the National Utility Training and Education Center, located at 2800 Horn Rapids Road, Richland, WA, to IBEW Local 77 was finalized.

The prior NUTEC Inc. board of directors was unable to develop the NUTEC site and training facilities, mainly due to lack of corporate/business membership funding. Instead of the site reverting back to desert, with a total loss of a training site, Local 77 saw an opportunity to continue the vision of establishing a much-needed center.

Thus Local 77 made an offer to purchase the 70-acre facility from the old NUTEC board in January 2009. The transfer required Local 77 to engage with the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. Department of Energy (former owner of Hanford training site), the State of Washington, and Benton County. The process began by a vote of the membership in 2006.

After months of hard work by Bus. Mgr. Don Guillot and the local's property attorney, Cindy Thomas, Local 77 will partner with the IBEW Utility Training Trust, HAMMER Training Facility, electrical utilities, and line construction contractors to have a world-class, inclusive utility industry training facility.

Pat Darling, P.S.



Attending the NUTEC signing are, from left: Local 77 Pres. Rick Johnson, Bus. Mgr. Don Guillot and Bus. Rep. John Trumble.

'All-Members Meeting' in June

L.U. 125 (lctt,o,t&u), PORTLAND, OR—On June 12, 2010, Local 125 is hosting an All-Members Meeting at the Embassy Suites Hotel located near the entrance to Portland International Airport. With our multi-state jurisdiction, we have individual unit meetings to make attendance convenient for our members. We are going to hold this meeting and capture the true spirit of our brotherhood, provide a "state-of-the-

union" address, and share strategy for dealing with upcoming challenges. IBEW Ninth District Int. Vice Pres. Michael S. Mowrey and International Executive Council member Pat Lavin are scheduled to join us.

We'll also use this opportunity to provide training for our shop stewards, unit chairmen, and unit recorders on June 11. These unit leaders will have an opportunity to attend our unit chairman/recorder, shop steward, or advanced shop steward classes.

There will be a buffet dinner for members and a guest on the evening of June 11. Lodging will be provided for those selected to attend training. Additional details will be posted on the local's Web site www.ibew125.com and shared at unit meetings in the coming weeks. For more information or to RSVP, please call the Local 125 business office at (503) 262-9125.

Marcy Putman, P.S.

President Visits Jurisdiction

L.U. 129 (i,mt&spa), LORAIN, OH—We had the great pleasure of a visit by Pres. Obama to our jurisdiction on Jan. 22 for a town hall meeting and a tour of some of our local businesses. He spoke of some very positive things that will influence our area and state greatly.

Work in our local remains slow. We do expect some projects to start this spring including a \$100 million Cleveland Clinic project and a Wal-Mart project. Additionally, we have received grant money for training our members to build wind turbines. Also, as a reminder to our members—there is a sign-up sheet at the hall for the fire alarm test.

Dennis Pedings, P.S.

Stimulus Package Benefit

L.U. 145 (em,i,o,rts,spa&u), ROCK ISLAND, IL—Local 145 wishes to acknowledge retirees Ron Peters and Larry Hoffman for their continued endeavors to promote a positive union image through community service. Again last year, they led the efforts of several union brothers and sisters, including retirees, to bring power to the Symphony of Lights holiday display in Clinton, IA. At more than a mile long, the display includes over half a million individual lights and is known regionally as "the" holiday destination.

Despite the economic downturn facing the country last year, Local 145 was able to keep most of our journeymen working. Locally, we continue to benefit from the Obama administration's stimulus package through several government contracts in the Quad Cities. The construction of a flagship biodegradable plastics plant for ADM Company also kept many members on the job late into the year.

2010 promises to bring more work to the area. Making national headlines, the Thomson Prison will be converted to a super maximum security facility to house detainees from Guantanamo Bay. Also, Western Illinois University has begun efforts to

expand campus facilities in Moline. The annual outage at our Cordova nuclear facility will also provide jobs for electricians in early 2010.

Steve Long, P.S.

2009 Projects Successful

L.U. 153 (em,i,rtb,rts,se,spa&st), SOUTH BEND, IN—As 2009 wrapped up so too did two large projects that helped Local 153 get through this economic slowdown.

In September 2008, at the American Electric Power D.C. Cook Nuclear Plant in Bridgman, MI, there was a mechanical failure in Unit 1. One of the turbines threw a blade causing some damage and a minor fire. The damage was labeled a catastrophic incident by AEP. The IBEW was instrumental in turning this around. For 15 months Local 153 members put in long hours, seven days a week. The entire project resulted in more than 180,000 hours through the 15 months. The repair job was finished up on schedule and the unit was returned to the power grid on Dec. 23, 2009.

In the fall of 2006, construction began on the new St. Joseph Regional Medical Center in Mishawaka, IN. The 633,000 square-foot hospital opened its doors on Dec. 14, 2009. The project was built by all union construction workers. Over 3.5 million hours were worked by members of the St. Joseph Valley Building & Construction Trades over the course of the \$365 million project. On Dec. 5, 2009, the hospital hosted an open house for the contractors and trades workers. The St. Joseph Valley Building & Construction Trades was happy to present the hospital charitable foundation with a small token of its gratitude in the form of a check for \$10,000.

Troy D. Warner, B.R.



IBEW Local 153 Bus. Mgr. Michael Compton presents a \$10,000 check to Nancy Hellyar of St. Joseph Medical Charitable Foundation on behalf of the St. Joseph Valley Building Trades.

Community Service Recognized

L.U. 163 (ees&i), WILKES-BARRE, PA—Local 163 grieves the passing of Bros. Carl Olshefski and past training director Michael J. Shannon.

Apprentices and journeymen participated in community service this summer at the Ferrwood Music Camp near Hazleton, PA. The volunteers donated their time to upgrade and repair sections of the camp buildings; the work included switching circuits, exit signs and energy efficient lighting. The Greater Hazleton Area Can Do Community Foundation presented Local 163 JATC with a resolution recognizing the efforts.



Local 163's October 2009 dinner dance for retirees and guests is well-attended.

Local Lines

A dinner dance was held in October 2010 for retirees and their guests. Local 163 Bus. Mgr. Michael Kwashnik hosted the evening's festivities along with Executive Board members and officers to honor the many years of service and dedication by our retirees.

The annual children's Christmas party last December was a big success due to the hard work of Bro. Eric Grohowski and all his elves.

John T. Nadolny, P.S./Training Dir.

Membership Development Effort

L.U. 177 (bo,ees,i,mo,o&pet), JACKSONVILLE, FL—Retired member Bro. Bill Gehm celebrated his 34th year in the red suit at our annual children's Christmas party last year. Santa gave out gifts to approximately 250 kids that day as they enjoyed games and refreshments. Both the children's party and the retirees' Christmas party were big successes, thanks to the help of many volunteers.

Work in the Jacksonville area remains dismal at best. The Membership Development Volunteer Committee (MDVC) remains energized and is still monitoring the progress of the new county courthouse being built nonunion. The new \$430 million Greenland Energy Center was awarded to H.B. Zachary and will be built nonunion as well, thanks to the Jacksonville Electric Authority. The MDVC plans to monitor the project and the use of undocumented workers on it.

Alan Jones, Pres.



Santa Claus (retired member Bill Gehm) hands out gifts at Local 177's children's Christmas party in 2009.

Honoring Our Members

L.U. 191 (c,i,mo,rtb&st), EVERETT, WA—The Retiree and Service Pin Dinner was held in December 2009 at the Cotton Tree Inn in Mt. Vernon, WA. Thanks to all who helped and attended, it was a great afternoon of fun, food, games and prizes.

Among the many service pin recipients were: for 50 years' service—Andrew Desrosier, Robert E. Johnson, Wallace S. Mason, Dorrell B. Quinton, Bing G. White, Reider R. Hammer; for 55 years—William M. Rockwell; for 60 years—Wayne J. Deming; and for 65 years—Stanley S. Schneller.

Congratulations to recently retired brothers: Kent Barnes, George Brattain, Ronald Davison, Ronald Evans, Richard Jubie, John Hovey, Gary Lakey, John Palm, Dennis Patterson, Michael Potter, Gary Smith, Melvin Taylor and Tommy D. Tomlinson. Thanks to all members for your continued service.

The IBEW is a better place because of you. We wish you all a happy retirement.

The LMCC hosted foreman classes at the Everett union hall in December with an overwhelming response. The Electrical Project Supervision Program consists of three integrated levels. It's open to all members and contractors. Please contact the Everett hall for more information.

Rob De Velder, P.S.



Several Local 191 retiring members gather for celebration: front, center, Ron Davison; back row, from left, Mike Potter, Dennis Patterson and George Brattain.

Holiday Food Drive

L.U. 197 (em&i), BLOOMINGTON, IL—We celebrated a happy holiday season. Our apprentices did a fine job collecting canned food for the needy during the 2009 holidays.

We held our annual Christmas party, and everyone had a good time. Service pins were awarded to: Dave Coopridger (10 years of service), Scott Taylor (10 years), Shawn Dehaven (15 years), Russell Roberts (35 years), Dave Ashenbremer (40 years) and Elmer Alsene (retiree). Congratulations, brothers, and thanks for your commitment to the IBEW and our local. Door prizes were awarded and good food and drink were served.

As we move forward into 2010 we wish our members good luck in the year ahead. This is another contract year so we must be diligent in attending journeyman classes to continue to hone our skills.

This is also an election year for many local and state candidates. If anyone wants to help, walking precincts or getting involved with candidates who are friends of labor, please call the hall.

We wish Sean Tibbs, who is serving in Afghanistan, a safe and speedy tour.

Remember: take pride in the union, get involved, and stay involved.

Mike Raikes, P.S.



Service pins are awarded at Local 197 holiday party. From left are: Bus. Mgr. Lance Reece, Pres. Rich Veitengruber, and award recipients Elmer Alsene, Dave Coopridger, Shawn Dehaven, Scott Taylor, Russell Roberts and Dave Ashenbremer.

New Union Hall/JATC Facility

L.U. 229 (em&i), YORK, PA—Local 229 officers are proud to announce that on Dec. 21, 2009, the local settled on a new union hall/JATC training facility. The new facility will be located at 555 Willow Springs Lane in East Manchester Township, only 2 miles off the Emigsville, PA, exit off Interstate 83. The building is more than 18,000 square feet and is situated on 6.13 acres.

The officers and JATC committee are working with architects and contractors to get the necessary renovations underway as quickly as possible; we hope to have the facility ready by late spring.

The primary motivation for the purchase of this facility was the need for more space for our apprenticeship training program. We now have the facility to give all Local 229 apprentices the opportunity to learn with every piece of electrical equipment necessary for them to "top out" as the best trained electrical workers in the industry!

We have much work ahead of us and we will need members' participation to accomplish it.

Mark Tomes, P.S.

Retirees Donate to Worthy Cause

L.U. 257 (em,i,rtb,rts,spa&t), JEFFERSON CITY, MO—Local 257 retirees met on Dec. 8, 2009, for a Christmas meal provided by the local. This year, in lieu of a gift exchange, the retirees decided to contribute to a worthy cause.

Retirees donated \$800 to a Local 257 member's family to assist with their son's needs. Local 257 journeyman wireman Brian Kaiser's 2-year old son, Brayden, was born with a kidney disorder and has needed a kidney transplant. There has been a two-year wait for the transplant and the family has spent countless hours in doctors' offices, hospitals and dialysis clinics. We commend the Local 257 retirees for helping Bro. Kaiser's family. The Kaisers thank everyone for the prayers and contributions.

Last November, CenturyLink (created by the merger of CenturyTel and Embarq) employees negotiated a new three-year contract. The negotiation committee consisted of Local 257 Bus. Mgr. Don Bruemmer, Chandra Sullivan, Dale Adams and Greg



Local 257 Retirees Club Pres. Jerry Rehagen (left), Heather Kaiser and Brian Kaiser with son Brayden.

Phillippe. The telephone business is constantly changing, which made negotiations for this contract very hard. The union will monitor CenturyLink's progress over the next three years.

Our condolences go out to the families of deceased members Jeff Boehm, Reed Creath, Wendell Gilbert, Norman Hart, Orville Lenger, Harold Rackers and Willie Schulte.

Support your local—help keep our unions strong.

Ryan Buschjost, P.S.

Airport Control Tower Project

L.U. 291 (i,o,rtb&,rts), BOISE, ID—Work remains slow here in southwest Idaho with more than 260 book 1 hands still out of work. Local 291 extends a big thank-you to sister IBEW Local 449 and Bob Bodell for providing work for many of our members over in the eastern side of the state. Ongoing work at Sorento Lactalis, the Boise State University Science Building, and Middleton High School continues to provide some work for our members. Lea Electric's Tony Keen and many Local 291 hands recently finished up the new Boise Airport/FAA control tower. At 290 feet, the tower is the tallest structure in the state of Idaho.

Our condolences go to the family of Irene McMillin, who passed away Nov. 21, 2009. She was an IBEW member for 55 years and was Local 291 office manager for 37 years. She is missed by all.

Congratulations to Bro. Lonny Wearin on the birth of a new son. We thank Randy and Melanie Cope for their efforts putting on our 2009 Christmas party. Great job.

Ron Ely, P.S.



Local 291 members completed work on a new Boise Airport/FAA control tower.

Hope for Spring Upturn

L.U. 309 (i,lctt,mo,mt,o,rts,spa&u), COLLINSVILLE, IL—The economic downturn that has hit too many locals unfortunately has now touched ours. The Inside branch is currently suffering unemployment since the completion of our two largest projects, Suncoke at U.S. Steel and Abengoa Ethanol Plant in Granite City. The Outside has slowed down a little, but we hope for a brighter spring.

2010 looks to be a busy year as numerous labor agreements are set to expire. We are always looking for members who have not served on negotiating committees to step up and help out with new, fresh ideas.

Our "Fifty-Year Dinner" was again held at Sunset Hills Country Club. As always it was well-attended. Special congratulations to Carl W. Chesser and Robert L. Hartman Jr., our 70-year honorees.

Scott Tweedy, A.B.M.



Local 351 Christmas party committee members gather.

Holiday Party

L.U. 351 (c,cs,i,it,lctt,mt,o,se,spa&t), FOLSOM, NJ—Our annual children's Christmas party was held on Dec. 13, 2009. Again, it was a wonderful celebration for the kids. Thanks to all the committee members who made it a huge success. They are: Duke Collins, Kathy D'Alonzo, Dan Cosner, John Biondi, Bill Hosey, Jim Bresch, Joe Trumbetti, Chuck Dellavecchia, T.J. Wolfe, Ed Reiser, Dennis Kleiner, Ray Listman and Sean Newlin.

Daniel Cosner, P.S.

Care Packages for the Troops

L.U. 369 (em,es,i,lctt,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), LOUISVILLE, KY—The Local 369 office staff collects \$1 for every T-shirt, hat, etc. they sell throughout the year—then during the holidays they locate charities and needy members to assist.

For 2009, the staff spearheaded a project to prepare care packages for military personnel stationed overseas who are deployed from this state. With the help of www.anysoldier.com they found several troops from this area to send the packages.

Joanne Caple, Ronda Goodin, Kay Proffitt and Debbie Roby shopped for items requested by the soldiers. Word of this undertaking spread and the retirees decided to help. Tommie Humphreys, through his connections with Dare-to-Care, acquired 150 cases of snacks, toiletries, etc.

Tommie recruited other retiree buddies with trucks and they delivered four skids of boxes. Several business agents unloaded this massive shipment and the race was on to package everything for shipping to the soldiers for Christmas. We contacted the post office, which brought in extra help to handle approximately 200 care packages for the troops.

Thanks to office staff, business agents, retirees and a few kind citizens, the packages were shipped out in time. Most of all we thank the troops, who risk their lives to keep this country safe. We salute the troops and their families. Godspeed.

John E. Morrison Jr., P.S.

Promoting the IBEW

L.U. 379 (i,o&rtb), CHARLOTTE, NC—On Aug. 1, 1926, our brothers signed the local union charter application at the historic Hotel Charlotte. On the same date in 2009, officers and members kicked off a new cross promotion with the Hotel Charlotte Restaurant.

Located on South Sharon Amity Road, this staple restaurant of the Queen City for the past 30 years is owned by Steve Black. It has hosted many dining celebrities, most recently Federal Reserve Chmn. Ben Bernanke, named Time magazine's 2009 Person of the Year. This establishment is adorned by many items from the Hotel Charlotte dating from the 1920s—including the original mahogany bar and solid cherry valet doors. Local 379 historic pieces continue to be added along with other IBEW items, including the Brotherhood's decals on the front door!

We have established the Local 379/IBEW discount, extended to all members of our Brotherhood! A paid-up union dues receipt is all you need to show your server to receive the discount. Since the beginning of this cross promotion, Local 379 has held numerous gatherings at the Hotel Charlotte, and the upcoming charter party will be held there in August. When visiting Charlotte, NC, stop by and bring your local's wares for display in the restaurant!

Guy B. DePasquale, Historian



"The Founders" of the IBEW cross promotion are, from left: Local 379 Bus. Mgr. Bob Krebs; Steve Black, owner of Hotel Charlotte Restaurant; and Local 379 Historian Guy DePasquale.

LEED Design-Build Project

L.U. 449 (catv,em,i,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), POCATELLO, ID—Balanced Rock Electric, a signatory contractor in Twin Falls, Idaho, participated in a design-build project for the College of Southern Idaho to build the Health Science and Human Services Building. This innovative and energy efficient 72,270 square-foot building has space for health care technician programs, classrooms, lecture halls, computer rooms, simulator rooms, a dental lab, X-ray rooms, numerous offices and support spaces.



Local 449 members worked on a LEED design-build project for the College of Southern Idaho.

This building sets a new level of expectation for design, one that is high-performance from the user's perspective, as well as from an energy efficient perspective. Occupancy sensors control the lighting, HVAC, and general-use receptacles. Daylight sensors control lighting levels to allow natural sunlight to be utilized. When natural light is not sufficient, lighting levels automatically adjust to assure that lighting levels never fall below 36 foot-candles. The lighting in the common areas and lecture halls is computer controlled for day and night and different scenes.

Energy savings on the lighting alone is figured at 164,000 kilowatt hours annually, a saving of 50 percent. This building is a LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) project and scored 48 points, well into "gold" level.

Twelve journeyman wiremen and seven apprentices from Local 449 worked on this Code of Excellence project.

Robert J. Bodell, B.M.

Linemen Brighten Holidays

L.U. 457 (u), MERIDEN, CT—In December 2009, linemen from Local 457 brightened the holidays for patients at Connecticut Hospice in Branford by stringing lights on the trees on the property after receiving a request for assistance with decorating the grounds for the holidays. [See photo, below.] The IBEW members volunteered to give up a Saturday morning to work outside in the freezing cold to make a difference in the lives of others. Their generosity is an example of what the holiday season is truly about.

Rich Sank, B.M./F.S.

Service Award Honorees

L.U. 545 (i), ST. JOSEPH, MO—At this writing, work remains slow. The Lost Creek Wind Farm has helped to ease a slow winter for us. New projects in this area are finally starting to bid.

Local 545 held our annual retirees meeting on Dec. 3, 2009. At that meeting we awarded several service pins to our retirees with 50 or more years of service. Receiving 50-year pins were: Martin Lajoie, Henry Ruhnke and Roy Wood. Awarded 55-year pins were: Aubrey Anderson, Frank Roth III and Roger Schultz Sr. Awarded 60-year pins were: Robert Gilmore and Carl Schweder. Martin Logan Sr. received his 70-year pin. We are very fortunate to have so many healthy retirees in our local.

We are saddened by the passing of Bro. Gary "Gar" Keene, who passed away in August 2009 at age 60. Our prayers are with his family.

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



Local 545 retired member Martin Logan Sr. (third from left) receives his 70-year service pin. Joining him are family members following in the IBEW tradition: grandson Blain (15-year member), and sons Greg (28-year member), Martin Jr. (47-year member) and John (40-year member).



Local 457 linemen volunteers who installed holiday lights at the Connecticut Hospice in Branford are, from left: T. Kinne, W. Quattlebaum, B. Hawkins, E. Mosca, J. Tucker, B. Mehrtens, J. Bullis, M. Hartley, F. Curcio, R. Rizzitello and C. Richards.

Local Lines

2010 Election Cycle

L.U. 551 (c,i&st), SANTA ROSA, CA—We have a brand new year and decade ahead of us to make positive changes. We are in an election cycle with seats to fill, from City Council all the way up to the governor's seat. We will install a brand new phone bank system at our union hall. It's going to be real busy here. With the great bunch of union volunteers who are glad to take action and get involved, it's going to be good times with strong grass-roots activity. I have a great feeling that our members will help elect candidates who are friends of labor in 2010.

We had a tough winter with many of our members out of work. Bus. Mgr. Jack Buckhorn established a Benevolent Fund in 2004. It has helped some of our distressed members. Recently with these funds the Executive Board ordered the issue of Safeway grocery cards to all of our out-of-work members for several past winter months.

As of press time, we're hoping to get calls in soon for our Humboldt Power Plant job. The job hit a snag as the generators' weight caused concern that the roadways would fail in transport. So, at this writing, the generators are sitting in a holding facility until repairs or improvements happen to the roads.

Denise D. Soza, P.S.



Generators needed for a Local 551 Humboldt Power Plant job await transport.

Graduation Celebration

L.U. 553 (i,mt,o&ws), RALEIGH, NC—IBEW Local 553 recently held a graduation celebration for five students who completed their journeyman inside wireman apprenticeship.

John Martin, Eric Cousins, Stephen Baker, James Poplin and Alton Lynch all met the required classroom criteria to complete their apprenticeship. Their dedication to the program, the local union and the organized electrical industry is evident by their success.

The celebration included a southern-style pig roast barbecue dinner prepared by local IBEW/NECA contractors. Door prizes were donated by Local 553,



Local 553 congratulates recent JATC apprentice graduates, from left: John Martin, Eric Cousins, Stephen Baker, James Poplin and Alton Lynch.

the Raleigh Durham Electrical JATC, and area IBEW/NECA contractors.

The graduates, their families, JATC Committee members, other Local 553 apprentices, supportive NECA contractors and IBEW members all joined in the celebration fun.

Ronald L. Cockman, B.M.

Prospective New Companies

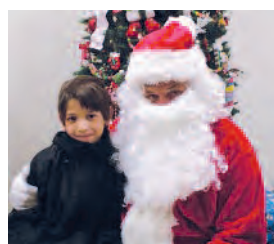
L.U. 557 (i,mt,rts&spa), SAGINAW, MI—The prospect of new companies entering the Saginaw area is a bright light at the end of a long winter tunnel. Some solar cell companies have shown an interest in possibly calling Saginaw their new home to manufacture components geared toward America's new focus on green energy.

No doubt that the recent work at the Hemlock Semiconductor facility has shown new companies that this area can still support some substantial economic growth. Couple this new work with additional pending expansion due in Hemlock, and things can start to look a bit more optimistic than in previous months. It is no secret that much of the state of Michigan has struggled with a major downturn. Optimism must prevail in order to weather the difficult winter. Frozen temperatures may chill us for now, but let's try to stay warm in the long run.

Our local was saddened by the sudden death on Nov. 23, 2009, of Bro. Scott MacArthur. He was 54 and suffered a fatal heart attack. Bro. Scott was a remarkable union member and did wonderful things for the IBEW and its members in his time on Earth. He is truly missed.

Evan Alardyce, P.S.

Celebrations a Success



Joshua Miranda (left) visits with Santa at the Local 569 Imperial County holiday party.

L.U. 569 (i,mar,mt,rts&spa), SAN DIEGO, CA—Our annual San Diego holiday party was held Dec. 9, 2009. The IBEW hall was filled to capacity with members and their families. We were also joined by numerous

elected representatives. Office manager Dana Morgan again provided the children with delicious homemade cookies, and the kids had fun customizing them with frosting and sprinkles. Santa also delivered gifts and took pictures with the children. All had a great time.

Also, on Dec. 16 our annual holiday party was held at our new Imperial County Office and Training Center facility for the first time. A big thanks to IBEW Local 47, which not only donated the use of their impressive grill on wheels, but also assisted in preparing a tasty carne asada dinner for our members and guests. Santa handed out gifts to the delight of the children. California Assembly member Manuel Perez was on hand to give his vision of bringing jobs to the Imperial Valley.

Thanks to the local staff for making both holiday parties a success.

Nicholas J. Segura Jr., P.S.

Steady Work Picture

L.U. 611 (catv,es,govt,i,lctt,o,spa,t&u), ALBUQUERQUE, NM—The local's 2009 family Christmas party was a huge success. Each year the parties seem bigger and better and last year was no exception. The kids took pictures with Santa and we had a face painter and other activities. Thank you to the committee members who put this great event together—your time and effort are appreciated.

On Jan. 9, the membership for the second time in three months voted down our latest contract proposal by a margin of 12 votes. At the last meeting as of press time, there were 305 people who signed in but only 240 voted. I guess we'll have to wait and see what happens next.

As of this writing, work has been steady with a few calls coming in here and there.

Local 611 extends condolences to families of the following who passed away: Donald E. Leahy, Nicholas M. Veroche, James A. Wiley Jr. and Manual "Ted" Cordova.

Darrell J. Blair, P.S.



IBEW members attend the Local 611 family Christmas party.

Red Seal Journeyman Status

L.U. 625 (ees,em,i,mar&mt), HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA—The new location for our local's annual Christmas dinner and dance was a hit last year and all who attended enjoyed the meal and live band. Attendance was up to about 180 people. Word of mouth should put that number over 200 next December.

At the end of 2009, seven more members got their Red Seal Journeyman status. This brings 2009 numbers up to 35! Congratulations to Bros. Joe McCarthy, Chad Richardson, David Joyce, Art Billard, John Shorter, Scott Coulter, Jamie Gilby and Adam

Corporon. Job well-done.

Congratulations and best of luck to Ross MacKenzie on his retirement from the local in January.

It is with a heavy heart that I note the passing of retired Bro. Ambrose Richard Cole, 86, on Jan. 4, 2010. Ambrose was the father of two other Local 625 members, retired member Lenny Cole and active member Roger Cole. Our condolences go out to all the family.

2009 was a very slow year for Nova Scotia as well you all know. All indications are for a better 2010 with several good-sized projects in Halifax and one hospital in Truro coming soon. At this writing, we have 450 journeymen and apprentices on the books.

Tom Griffiths, Pres.

Looking to Spring

L.U. 683 (em&i), COLUMBUS, OH—Our Annual White Castle/Christmas Light installation and breakfast event was Nov. 14, 2009. [See photo, below.] The crew was: Mario Ciardelli, Dennis Nicodemus, Rick Deime, Joe Biser, Carmella Biser, Dan George, Skip Teaford, Bill Davies, Steve Smith, Gary Grcic, Margie Richards and Committee Chair Ed Moore. Thanks to Roberts Electric for use of the bucket truck.

The retirees luncheon on Dec. 5, 2009, was well-attended and everyone enjoyed the occasion. Local 683 officers appreciated the invitation to attend and enjoyed the get-together and the great food.

At the Dec. 10 union meeting/Christmas party, many prizes were given away including: money, blue jackets and OSU hockey tickets, a rifle, a shotgun and a year of paid dues to some lucky members. Rod Sumner received the Volunteer of the Year Award.

We extend condolences to the family of Robert L. Griffin, who passed away Nov. 19, 2009.

We hope this spring our IBEW membership will see an increase in employment to get all members back to work. We also thank the locals that are helping our traveling members with job opportunities.

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

697 'LEEDS' The Way

L.U. 697 (c,es,i,mt&se) GARY AND HAMMOND, IN—IBEW Local 697, NECA's Northern Indiana Chapter and the Lake County JATC broke ground for a new Training and Administration Center located in Merrillville, IN, on Sept. 29, 2009. [See photo, pg. 13.]

The facility combines the Local 697 business office, apprenticeship training center, benefit trust funds office and credit union. This 40,000 square-foot structure will be the first privately owned LEED



Local 683 crew members gather for the Annual White Castle/Christmas Light installation.



IBEW Local 697, NECA'S Northern Indiana Chapter and Lake County JATC break ground for new Training and Administration Center.

certified building in Lake County. It is on track for LEED "silver" level certification, and has potential to make "gold" level.

Local 697 is committed to new technology and training in alternative energy for photovoltaic and wind energy. The project qualified for a \$75,000 matching grant from the State of Indiana for a 21.5 KW photovoltaic system supplying "green" power to the site. Local 697 member and LEED accredited professional Tracy Hall helped spearhead aspects of the project. Infrastructure for a future wind turbine is also planned.

The facility features glass walls showcasing main switchgear and low voltage mainframes, with video screens monitoring building performance. The JATC section includes an open-air, third-floor classroom with the photovoltaic arrays manufactured by IBEW members at the Sharp factory in Tennessee and installed and maintained by training center students. LEDs will be used in all exterior fixtures. Completion is scheduled for fall 2010. Progress of the project can be accessed through a link from our Web site www.ibew697.org to a real time Webcam onsite.

Our new home will serve as another proud symbol of our great Brotherhood, and partnership for generations to come.

Raymond E. Kasmark, B.M.

Career of Service

L.U. 723 (em,govt,rtb,rts&t), FORT WAYNE, IN—Local 723 sent our good friend Executive Board member and steward Jon Burkhead on his next adventure of retirement.

Jon served selflessly as a steward for more than 20 years at United Telephone, Sprint, Embarq, and later at CenturyLink. Local 723 would like to recognize Jon as a valued member and friend. We wish him good luck and happy adventures in his retirement.

Michelle Barbour, Exec. Board

National Gas Rodeo Team

L.U. 753 (u), SPRINGFIELD, MO—The Gas House Gorillas team of City Utilities of Springfield, MO, swept four out of five events, while tying for first place in the remaining event at the National Gas Rodeo held Sept. 25, 2009. Teams from across the United States attended the event, hosted by Midwest Energy Association. The team won events that comprised cutting a 6-inch pipe by hand with a wheel cutter; running a gas service; building a meter set; hand digging a vault with shovels; and a relay composed of numerous job-related tasks.

Making it to the rodeo, let alone winning it, was in question shortly before the event. The original team of IBEW Local 753 members Dana Underwood and Adam Joy had been practicing for weeks with coach Steve Holt (who is on honorary withdrawal from Local 753). Underwood and Joy had established the times needed to win the competition and were gearing up to compete when Joy sustained an injury forcing Joy to withdraw and Holt to replace him. This proven ability to work together speaks well for the relationship between Local 753 and City Utilities of Springfield, MO.

Dick Wilson, P.S.



Local 753 Gas Rodeo team members display trophy. From left are: Local 753 Bus. Mgr. Bradley Stokes; rodeo team members Dana Underwood and Steve Holt; and IBEW Eleventh District Int. Rep. Jim Lynch.

Wind Farm Projects

L.U. 773 (as,em,i,mo&o), WINDSOR, ONTARIO, CANADA—Our work picture will improve in 2010, with manpower on four major wind farm projects. Black and McDonald will finish up at the Harrow Wind Farm, and will start soon on Port Alma phase 2; Henkels & McCoy Inc. and K Line are busy at the Raleigh Wind Energy location. Motor City Electric and Mid South Contractors are working at the Comber Wind Farm site.

Other projects include a \$90 million University of Windsor engineering building, St. Clair College upgrades, and a new Leamington, Ontario, municipal building. The government's Economic Action Plan dollars will start to put some IBEW people to work due to the funding of some major water treatment projects.

It's a bargaining year for the construction trades in the Province of Ontario and when you read this, hopefully the IBEW will have reached, or be close to, an agreement.

Local 773 is honoured to be hosting the 47th Annual OPC-CCO Hockey Tournament in April at the WFCU Centre sports arena. We hope all the teams have a great tournament and enjoy themselves in Windsor.

David Spencer, P.S.



Local 915 members and their families enjoy 2009 Christmas party.

Solidarity & Fellowship

L.U. 915 (i&mt), TAMPA, FL—Local 915 hosted its annual Christmas party in December 2009. The event was chaired by Roberto Rosa and with the help of so many volunteers, it was a smashing success. To have so many brothers and sisters bring their families and gather together in solidarity and fellowship was inspiring. It was a tough year for so many of our members and to be able to put that aside to share in the Christmas spirit is truly a gift. Attendees ranged from retirees and members with more than 50 years in the Brotherhood, to new apprentices with only a few months of service.

The children enjoyed fun activities, and so many door prizes were given away it was hard not to win something. The big prizes were two flat-screen TVs and a special hand-made fishing rod. The dinner was of Cuban fare and we had delicious desserts.

Our sincere thanks go to Roberto and his wife, Diana, and to all the volunteers who helped make this an event to remember.

Theresa King, P.S.

Office Building Investment

L.U. 965 (em,govt,ptc&u), MADISON, WI—Local 965 made a bold investment in its future on Dec. 4, 2009, when it signed an agreement to purchase an office building located at 701 Watson Avenue, Madison, WI, after approval was granted by the rank-and-file as well as the International Office.

Key elements in the decision to make the purchase were the favorable real estate market, low return

on the local's current investments and a beneficial savings over the current cost of renting office space.

The purchase is a single-story commercial office building, approximately 7,400 square feet, with a partially exposed lower level. Building features include a glass atrium entrance, vaulted ceiling, first-floor bank vault and a walk-out deck. There are 24 onsite parking stalls along with ample street parking in this industrial neighborhood. The building will provide office space for the business manager, assistant business managers and office administrator, as well as meeting rooms for the Executive Board and chief stewards.

The intent is to occupy the building by the end of March 2010. As of this writing, plans are in place for some minor work needed on the building to be accomplished by member volunteers during February and March.

Kurt Roberts, P.S.

'A Better Tomorrow'

L.U. 1015 (em&i), WESLACO, TX—Local 1015 members attended their first Code of Excellence class on Nov. 21, 2009. Bus. Mgr. Sergio A. Salinas was the instructor.

"Because of the excellent training and material I received at the Seventh District Train the Trainer class, we received positive feedback from the 21 members who participated," Bus. Mgr. Salinas said. He notes that the COE will not only benefit existing signatory contractors, "but also prospective new contractors in the Rio Grande Valley."

Among the 21 participants were 13 first-year apprentices. Bro. William Balsells, one of the first-year apprentices attending, received an outstanding evalu-



Local 1015 participants attend a Code of Excellence class. From left, front row, are: Hector Banda, Lupe Hernandez, Jesse Sanchez, Ramon Martinez, Genaro Alvarez, Carlos Ingles, Aaron Buchner; middle row, Roberto Lara, Juan Benitez, Emmanuel Yanez, Doroteo Marez, Mike Saucedo, Aaron Bazan, Bus. Mgr. Sergio A. Salinas (instructor); back row, Jonathan E. Robles, Miguel Sanchez, William Balsells, George Cepeda and Ruben Garza. (Ray Duran snapped the photo.)

Local Lines

ation report from his employer, L&O Electric. L&O supervisor Eric Parrot stated, "Apprentice Balsells is a hard worker with great potential as he begins his career as a union electrician." We are grateful to our signatory contractors who recognize the hard work Local 1015 and the RGV/JATC are doing to recruit and train the best workers in the Rio Grande Valley.

Special thanks to the Seventh District office and local unions on the Texas Gulf Coast for their continued support for Local 1015.

Ray Duran, P.S.

A Successful Year

L.U. 1049 (lctt,o,u&uow), LONG ISLAND, NY—2009 was another successful year for Local 1049. With the sale of former IBEW 1381's building, we enhanced our General Fund and created a larger, stronger voice for our members. Bus. Mgr. Robert Shand has allocated some of the monies to improve the flow of information for more effective communications with the membership. Future improvements will include a new media center and a memorial garden, where members can reflect on the contributions of past members, as well as contemplate their own role in building the union for present and future members.

We ended 2009 by negotiating a new contract for our Line Clearance Tree Trim members. The three-year agreement includes general wage increases and an employer-funded increase to the Medical Fund. We also successfully expanded our jurisdiction to include Tree Trimming along the Long Island Railroad.

2010 will be challenging as well. The Long Island Power Authority will put the Maintenance Services Agreement out for bid and National Grid is actively seeking buyers for its Generation and Home Energy Services Divisions. We will also negotiate new contracts for our members who work for National Grid Home Energy Services, Waste Recycling Solutions, and National Grid.

Remember to stay informed: attend the general meetings, visit our Web site www.ibew1049.org, and sign up to receive the "Hot Wire."

Thomas J. Dowling, R.S.

Union Workers Mobilize

L.U. 1245 (catv,em,govt,lctt,o,pet,t&u), VACAVILLE, CA—More than 400 retired and working members set up the first picket line in the local's 62 years of representing workers at NV Energy. The informational picket, at the company's Reno headquarters,

protested the company's announced intention of eliminating contractual protections for retirement medical benefits during negotiations for a new contract. The picket action was followed by a candlelight rally with speeches by clergy members and other unions. Although the company and union agreed to a temporary extension of the contract beyond its Dec. 31, 2009, expiration date, NV Energy has shown no inclination to change its position on retirement medical benefits. The union increased pressure on the company over the Christmas 2009 holiday season by placing full-page ads in all the major newspapers in northern Nevada. In the ad, headlined "NV Energy: Honor Your Promise to Workers," leaders of Nevada's faith community called on company executives to "keep their word."

The local is gearing up for bargaining over the clerical agreement with Pacific Gas & Electric, which expires at the end of 2010. The bargaining committee met to strategize for mobilizing members, and the union plans joint educational meetings with company negotiators to study issues underlying the negotiations. Members can submit bargaining proposals this spring at unit meetings.

The local's mobilization against privatization at the City of Redding helped force the city council to back off of a sweeping plan to outsource IBEW jobs to the private sector. The union engaged in a wide-ranging campaign against the privatization plan, including radio talk shows, paid radio ads, a city hall rally, testimony before city officials, etc. The local remains on high alert in Redding, where some city leaders are still pursuing an outsourcing agenda and where two proposed ballot measures would target retiree benefits.

Eric Wolfe, P.S.

Training Success

L.U. 1253 (i), AUGUSTA, ME—Congratulations to Rick Broad, Pat Dauphinee and Harry Lyons for their success on the EPRI certification exam taken on Dec. 12, 2009, following the JATC sponsored instrumentation course.

Twelve Local 1253 members had the opportunity in December to participate in comprehensive wind turbine tower training sponsored by signatory contractor Larkin Enterprises Inc. and Maine's North Star Alliance. Training consisted of composite and safety training, both in the classroom and hands-on. This included tower rescue, thanks to access provided by First Wind. Participants included: Justin Alberico, Tim Bickford, Pat Cameron, Larry Drake, Chris Dunlop, Tim Dyer, Pete Fish, Steve Foster, Tom

Graham, Chris Moore, Pete Poulin and Steve Tracey.

Recent retirees include Greg True, Everett Scott, Dave Weed and Tom Smith. We thank each for their many years of dedicated service to the local union and the industry.

William Gifford, P.S.



Augusta, ME, Local 1253 members Shane Jordan and Steve Krapf terminate control transformers for signatory contractor Northline Utilities at Stetson Mountain wind farm.

Election of Officers

L.U. 1307 (u), SALISBURY, MD—On Nov. 12, 2009, officers were elected for a three-year term. Local 1307 officers are: Bus. Mgr./Pres. David Adkins, Vice Pres. Lindley Hudson, Rec. Sec. Debbie Fidderman, Fin. Sec. Michele Horner, Treas. Andy Genga; and E-Board members Mark Derrickson, Chuck Harris, Vaughn Horner, Jack Sturgis, Ginny Williams, Heather Adkins, Billy Swift, Bob Weyant and Eddie Sparks.

We thank outgoing E-Board members for their service to the local: Clarence Fletcher, Curt Hudson, Dawn Furlough, Jane Daisey and Richard Adkins.

Local 1307 congratulates four members who retired last year: Hubert "Pie" Phillips, William Moore, Linda Hardesty and Donna Sterling.

Bro. Phillips began work at Delmarva Power as a meter reader in 1974. He took a utility service position in 1994, later transferred to Centreville District, and retired Feb. 1, 2009.

Bro. Moore started at Delmarva Power as a meter reader in 1972, advanced to engineering fieldman and retired June 1, 2009.

Sister Hardesty worked at Delmarva Power since 1972. She retired as a clerical associate in Fleet Services and the Substation Department on June 1, 2009.

Sister Sterling started at Delmarva Power in 1966. She most recently worked as a protective equipment tester in Salisbury and retired on Feb. 1, 2009.

Best wishes to all for a happy retirement.

E.D. Sparks, P.S.

Hawaiian Telcom Update

L.U. 1357 (t), HONOLULU, HI—Hawaiian Telcom filed for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy on Dec. 1, 2008, in an attempt to reorganize and reduce its debt. On Nov. 13, 2009, bankruptcy judge Lloyd King ruled to confirm Hawaiian Telcom's proposed Plan of Reorganization, without modification. The confirmed "Reorganization Plan" will reduce the debt from \$1.5 billion to \$300 million and will assume the collective bargaining agreement, as well as the funding of the pension plan. This will make the company a more vibrant competitor as it emerges out of Chapter 11. Local 1357 Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Scot Long stated, "We've always supported the business plan. The longer we are in Chapter 11, no one benefits."

By the time you receive this, Local 1357 will have elected local union and unit officers for the 2010-2013 term of office, as well as delegates to the 38th IBEW International Convention. We wish Godspeed to our staff and elected officials, and we welcome the chance to continue to build strong leaders and a strong work force for Local 1357. With contract negotiations and state elections coming up soon, 2010 will be a busy year for us, and we look forward to working with Hawaiian Telcom and IT&E.

Karenann Wedge, P.S.

A 'Living Local'

L.U. 1439 (u), ST. LOUIS, MO—We at Local 1439 are a part of what I like to call a "Living Local." Our membership is working to assist, support and encourage those in other locals who are laid off, while being friend and family to our own local members. Generosity is a beautiful blessing for both the giver and recipient.

We are still looking for experienced relay technicians. These are good jobs with great pay and benefits. We seek to increase our membership with qualified craftsmen. Even in this market, we have trouble filling these positions. If you know a qualified relay technician, please pass this message on.

We also strive to be a leader in safety. The Blue Hat safety program is being implemented on Entergy-Arkansas and Alliant properties due to its success in 1439's jurisdiction on the Ameren, Missouri, property. Increased partnerships with the employers foster a better relationship with the employees and members.

We have excellent leadership in St. Louis and throughout Local 1439. Without the skill and dedication of the rank and file, our local could not thrive. We are proud of the Local 1439 members. They are generous, people of character and committed to making the IBEW better, one good job, one good deed, at a time.

Please remember all those bravely serving our country to protect these inalienable rights.

*Ken Carroll, P.S.
Michael Walter, B.M.*

Officers Elected

L.U. 1501 (ees,em,mo,pet,rts&t), BALTIMORE, MD—Our local held its election of officers in December 2009.

Local 1501 officers elected to guide the local for the next three years are: Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dion F. Guthrie, Vice Pres. Fred Richards, Treas. George Fulton, Fin. Sec. Jamie Ripley and Rec. Sec. Thomas Rostkowski. Elected to the Executive Board: William Iasielo—Western Central District; Jeffrey Dunn—Northern District; Robert Denhardt—Mid-Eastern District; and Anthony Behrens—Southern District.

Local 1501-2 officers are: Chm. Fred Richards,



Local 1245 line workers from nearly 20 employers gather at Weakley Hall in late 2009 for a two-day safety summit, convened by Bus. Mgr. Tom Dalzell in the wake of three jobsite fatalities during the year. During a general discussion, Local 1245 Safety Committee member and SMUD electrician Art Torres, standing at right, offers his perspective to the group.

Vice Chmn. Jason Strawhorn, Recorder Robert Taminelli; and Executive Committee members Neil Becker, Delaney Burkart, Bob Denhardt, Walter Plesniak and John Phillips.

Our thanks to Election Committee members—Earl Brown Jr., Kathy Doyle, George Noble and John Zebraski—for their time and hard work.

Bus. Mgr./Pres. Guthrie states that the officers and stewards of the local will continue to do the utmost in protecting the jobs and working conditions of our members. He also stated he is proud to have won by such an overwhelming majority (3 to 1) and has just successfully stood for his 14th straight election covering more than 40 years.

Thomas Rostkowski, R.S.

Union Solidarity

L.U. 1523 (u), WICHITA, KS—I know it's early but we go back to the negotiation table in one year, and a year can go by quickly. Get out your contract book and read it; it is your lifeline to your job benefits. Back when our local was started, a lot of time was spent putting our first contract together. So start thinking about it for the good of the union. Without your input there would be no union. Without your solidarity, there would be no union. We the members are the union. With the economic slowdown, things are tight. So far we have weathered the storm. We all have things that we would like to have in the contract for the better of the union. The earlier we begin, the better we will come out next year.

The IBEW members with the electrical department of the City of Coffeyville, KS, ratified their new contract unanimously, with a slight wage increase on their "wage only" third-year opener. The city was hit hard with the flood of 2007 and is still recovering.

Congratulations to Amy Pointer, a new apprentice meter person. Good luck on your new venture, Amy.

Candy C. Cruz-Dodd, P.S.



Local 1547 Bus. Mgr. Larry Bell (right) presents plaque to power lineman Bill Pedersen, who recently retired.

Awards Presented

L.U. 1547 (c,em,i,o,t&u), ANCHORAGE, AK—Bus. Mgr. Larry Bell recently presented an inscribed gold pan to Bill Pedersen, a longtime IBEW power lineman who retired after 33 years of service. Bro. Pedersen was employed by Chugach Electric for many years.

Congratulations also to Local 1547 retired electrician Karl Schroeder, who recently received his IBEW 50-year pin. Unit 102 Executive Board member Tom Minder presented that award.

Melinda Taylor, P.S.

'Actions Can Solve Problems'

L.U. 1579 (i&o), AUGUSTA, GA—IBEW has the best electricians a contractor could ever want. We learn a variety of skills within the electrical industry and we pass those skills to our apprentices. If only being the best in what we do would count for 100 percent of the grade.

Our IBEW members are well-trained—that is not a problem. The problem is sometimes coming in late, leaving early, not showing up at all and complaining about working outside. Electrical work is everywhere and we don't have bankers' hours.

If we all showed up to work on time, did our jobs and went home at the end of the day, that would help strengthen union contractors, increase our market share and benefit our membership.

In the nonunion world, the electricians are not trained to do quality electrical work. However, they are good at working every day and not complaining about where they work. In the Augusta area, they have the largest market share.

We can help solve our problems by simply doing what we are supposed to do. There are very few in the IBEW that this applies too, but one bad apple can spoil the whole bunch.

Until next time, God bless.

Will Salters, A.B.M.

New Projects Scheduled

L.U. 1701 (catv,ees,i,o&u), OWENSBORO, KY—Pres. Kenny Woodward and Bus. Mgr. Gary Osborne awarded service pins at our December 2009 monthly meeting. Awards ranged from 20-year to 60-year pins. We also recognized members who retired in 2009: Ernie Casey, Charlie Daugherty, Harold Hancock, Joe McBride, Chuck Payne, Gordon Payne, Gerald Ralph, Ron Rummage, Darryl Self, Richard Thomson and Ron Townsend.

The Owensboro Mercy Health Systems' new hospital project was awarded to Downs Electric from Nashville, TN. Our own Bellline Electric will supply local manpower to Downs for this project.

The Owensboro Downtown Development project is underway; a new hotel and attached sports arena will be built; and the Owensboro Public Works building renovations are upcoming. Two union general contractors were low bidders. We have commitments from local leaders that all these projects will be done with our local labor work force.

Membership Development Coordinator and JATC Sec. Larry Boswell reports that renovations have begun on our new training center located at 224 Ewing Road in Owensboro. To volunteer some time for the cause, contact the hall.



Local 1701 members Bill Dixon (left) and Richard Thomson receive 35-year service pins at the December 2009 monthly meeting.



Local 1739 member Frank Kastle (center) and Local 1687 Steward Mike House (second from left) present IBEW contribution of \$1,300-plus to the Callander, Ontario, Food Bank.

Bro. Boswell also reports that 2010 Continuing Education class schedules were mailed out to all. Reminder: You must have six hours of continuing education each year to keep your Kentucky state electrical license valid. Contact the hall for registration.

In sadness we report the passing of retired Bro. Bob Renfrow. May he rest in peace.

Tim Blandford, R.S.

Funds Raised for Food Bank

L.U. 1739 (i&o), BARRIE, ONTARIO, CANADA—IBEW Locals 1739 and 1687, Sudbury, presented a donation of more than \$1,300 raised by fellow IBEW electricians for the community of Callander, Ontario, Food Bank. The donation was presented during a Christmas party held at Lulu's Bar. [See photo, above.]

Tradesmen working at the new North Bay Hospital organized the event to help those less fortunate. This was the second year in which union electricians were able to assist the local community of Callander. A big thank-you goes out to everyone who attended the event and contributed to the fund-raiser.

Frank Kastle, P.S.



Local 1749 Bro. Steve Hughes (seated), a 30-year member, retired from TVA. Extending congratulations are, from left, Steve's son Brandon (left), also a TVA employee and Local 1749 member; wife Sharron; and son Derrick.

Tennessee Election Year

L.U. 1749 (u), NEW JOHNSONVILLE, TN—Bro. George Potter, a 40-year IBEW member, Executive Board chair, and steward at Tennessee Valley Authority's Cumberland Fossil Plant, received a plaque for his service to the TVA Veterans Chapter. George previously served as a chapter officer and will be missed. Congratulations to George on his retirement.

Bro. Steve Hughes, a 30-year member, also retired from TVA. He passed the IBEW torch on to his son Brandon Hughes, also a TVA employee and Local 1749 member. Congratulations, Steve.

Remember to register and vote this year. 2010 is a very important election year for working folks in Tennessee. We need to capture three House seats or the opposition will redistrict the state, which could cause us to lose three very important friends

in Congress and set the party of the working class back 20 years.

Tennessee primary elections are Aug. 5. Three friends of labor are candidates in the primary race for governor: Jim Kyle, Kim McMillan and Mike McWherter. For U.S. Congress, as of press time, candidates include: for the 8th Congressional District—state Sen. Roy Herron; and for the 7th District—Greg Rabidoux, law professor at Austin Peay State University. At this writing, we don't have an announced candidate for retiring Rep. Bart Gordon's 6th District seat. I will post updates as available. For voter registration information, visit the Local 1749 Web site www.IBEW1749.org and click on "political links."

Mark J. DeJuliis, P.S./E-Board

Generosity of Membership

L.U. 2325 (t), WORCESTER, MA—Bus. Mgr. Dave Keating thanks all Local 2325 members who participated in or donated to the 2009 Toys for Tots campaign. The generosity of our membership during the 2009 holiday season surpassed all our previous efforts. Local 2325 raised more than \$5,000 and donated some 600 toys to the program. Thank you to the U.S. Marine Corps for its ongoing work with this wonderful program.

We also thank our COPE Committee for their hard work during the 2009 municipal elections and the Massachusetts special election for U.S. Senate.

A highlight of our COPE efforts was the election of Local 2325 member Dave Cormier to the City Council in Leominster. The election of union members to political office is the only way to ensure unwavering political support for the labor movement. The best way to get our members elected is by supporting the IBEW's COPE efforts.

Political action must be part of a greater overall strategy if we have any hopes of holding on to what we have earned and securing greater gains in the future. Get involved in your local and remember that our union is only as strong as our weakest member.

Paul Mark, P.S.



Local 2325 Executive Board member Dan Manning (left) and COPE Chmn. Paul Mark (right) are joined for a photo by former Massachusetts governor Mike Dukakis (second from left) and U.S. Rep. Mike Capuano.

In Memoriam

Members for Whom PBF Death Claims were Approved in January 2010

Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death
1	Clarkson, W. L.	5/23/2009	25	Anderson, J. V.	12/23/2009	103	Missett, J. R.	12/2/2009	164	Kopetsky, J. L.	11/3/2009	364	Stevens, J. H.	11/7/2009
1	DiMaggio, J.	10/28/2009	25	Koepfen, J.	11/7/2009	103	O'Brien, K.	12/10/2009	164	Robertson, T. F.	11/30/2009	369	Akin, G. W.	11/4/2009
1	Gerber, A. J.	12/6/2009	25	Parrett, W. V.	11/18/2007	103	O'Connell, J. E.	11/30/2009	164	Shuff, W. D.	10/13/2009	369	Alexander, J. R.	12/4/2009
1	Kornhardt, L. E.	9/6/2009	26	Kline, E. P.	9/25/2009	103	Umano, R. F.	11/3/2009	175	Cash, J. W.	12/3/2009	369	Eckart, G. H.	5/4/2009
1	Ragan, H. L.	11/25/2009	29	McGowan, N. C.	11/14/2009	104	Burns, T. J.	1/17/2007	175	McElroy, R. D.	11/17/2009	369	King, J. N.	11/26/2009
1	Reinheimer, J. C.	11/5/2009	34	Harvey, R. L.	8/22/2009	104	Dunlavey, P. E.	7/26/2009	176	Sage, R. L.	12/31/2009	369	Rose, B. N.	11/25/2009
1	Stuckel, M. M.	10/8/2009	34	Molitor, R. E.	12/15/2007	104	Young, J. E.	5/6/2009	177	Belshaw, T. T.	10/21/2009	379	Dew, W. F.	12/14/2009
1	Walker, B.	10/26/2009	38	Engelman, F. S.	12/16/2009	105	Bryce, P.	12/25/2009	177	Crews, T. R.	10/29/2008	379	Sprouse, D. B.	11/30/2009
2	Ihler, V. W.	11/7/2009	38	Fahl, C. M.	11/10/2009	106	Lindfors, H. L.	11/20/2009	177	Home, J.	11/30/2007	387	France, G. A.	10/9/2009
2	Politte, J. W.	12/6/2009	38	Hayman, W. D.	12/17/2009	110	Stolarczyk, T. W.	10/3/2009	191	Labossiere, J.	11/1/2009	388	Zakrzewski, S. J.	11/14/2009
3	Crespo, F.	11/20/2009	41	Bernhard, P.	11/7/2009	111	Doyle, C. H.	11/13/2009	194	Fontana, T. J.	11/30/2009	400	Thompson, J. W.	8/8/2009
3	Cundari, F.	11/28/2009	41	Davis, T. M.	11/2/2009	111	Jamison, D. W.	11/30/2009	194	Leach, R. E.	10/4/2009	405	Keister, B. C.	12/6/2009
3	Dabrowski, J.	10/11/2009	41	Heitmann, B. J.	11/6/2009	113	Carmack, W. R.	9/6/2009	212	Oldham, J. T.	12/12/2009	424	Shostak, A. J.	9/18/2009
3	Darby, J. L.	11/25/2009	44	McKinnis, F.	10/13/2009	113	Jarrett, R. D.	11/27/2008	212	Satzger, S.	11/11/2009	428	Chidgey, J. P.	12/17/2009
3	De Albero, C.	1/27/2009	46	Fisk, E. S.	11/13/2009	115	Law, J.	1/12/2010	212	Schamer, J. M.	12/17/2009	428	Doll, F. R.	3/2/2009
3	Fletcher, M. A.	10/25/2009	46	Huffman, J. W.	12/4/2009	115	Ratz, G.	12/14/2009	213	Gunn, W. M.	10/28/2009	428	Hall, J. L.	9/17/2009
3	Graziano, W. J.	11/7/2009	46	Nelson, W. L.	12/12/2009	115	Smyth, J. R.	1/5/2010	213	McLachlan, A.	10/11/2009	428	Julian, C. I.	12/3/2009
3	Jean, R. T.	12/3/2009	46	Scillo, T.	11/30/2009	120	Wetzel, H.	2/9/2007	213	Steiner, J.	10/30/2009	429	Peden, W. E.	10/20/2009
3	Kamin, I.	10/17/2009	46	Slagle, E. E.	10/23/2009	124	Cobb, R. W.	10/31/2009	226	Sexton, R. R.	10/26/2009	441	Hoagland, H. R.	11/5/2009
3	Kelly, T. P.	11/24/2009	48	Johnson, E. L.	9/18/2009	124	England, J. E.	11/11/2009	233	Houle, P. L.	12/9/2009	445	Tramel, C. C.	9/9/2009
3	Lee, E. M.	11/1/2009	48	Ziegler, J. G.	11/22/2009	124	Hunt, C. E.	11/15/2009	233	Warnstrom, R. K.	11/28/2009	465	Schoenwald, J.	11/4/2009
3	Lockhart, W. J.	11/20/2009	51	Boyd, J. H.	11/23/2009	124	Joyce, J. J.	11/22/2009	236	Lega, G. C.	9/25/2009	466	Legg, M. L.	12/19/2009
3	Loweth, C. H.	8/30/2009	56	Gulya, D. G.	11/22/2009	124	Lamm, B.	11/25/2009	242	Karasek, F. C.	1/5/2010	474	Coleman, G. W.	8/9/2006
3	Lyons, J. M.	11/3/2009	57	Bingham, W. G.	12/3/2009	125	Beery, L. D.	9/4/2009	242	Saethre, L. W.	11/20/2009	474	Stevens, R. R.	11/28/2009
3	McEntee, E. P.	11/28/2009	57	Crane, V. H.	12/6/2009	125	Madaris, R. D.	12/17/2009	246	Kelley, G. M.	10/10/2009	479	Breaux, L. R.	6/18/2009
3	Meola, J. A.	11/9/2009	57	Rhea, F. A.	11/2/2009	125	Strecker, R. N.	12/28/2009	252	Carpenter, J. B.	9/4/2009	479	Brookshire, B.	12/6/2009
3	Palazzolo, S.	6/22/2007	58	Bars, J. S.	12/29/2009	125	West, S. H.	11/20/2009	257	Rackers, H. L.	11/9/2009	479	Garza, H.	11/10/2009
3	Prato, S. C.	11/16/2009	58	Czaja, J. W.	12/4/2009	125	Wright, H. W.	12/4/2009	258	Daniel, M. J.	5/27/2009	479	Marsh, C.	9/26/2009
3	Schwartz, S. M.	10/27/2009	58	Garvock, M. W.	8/15/2009	126	Miller, G. R.	11/28/2009	265	Patrick, G. L.	11/3/2009	479	Stein, E. F.	11/24/2009
3	Siracusano, S.	10/21/2009	58	Judycki, H. W.	11/15/2009	126	Parada, W. J.	12/2/2009	265	Sommerfeld, P. C.	9/8/2009	480	Owens, P.	11/22/2009
3	Tine, G.	10/24/2009	58	Katz, M. L.	12/23/2009	129	Meilander, R. N.	11/25/2009	270	Dixon, W. G.	12/11/2009	481	Crabtree, R. E.	12/8/2009
3	Ubieta, L.	11/15/2009	58	Mitchelson, R. L.	12/13/2009	129	Tracy, S. R.	11/3/2009	275	Alfieri, R.	12/7/2009	490	Beaudoin, R. R.	1/1/2010
3	Vecchio, A.	11/7/2009	58	Ziroll, H. E.	9/21/2009	130	McCraine, E. J.	11/12/2009	275	Holmes, C. D.	11/7/2009	494	Corcoran, T. F.	12/6/2009
3	Wengler, J. A.	12/25/2009	68	Goddard, D. C.	7/29/2007	134	Andersen, R. A.	11/18/2009	278	O'Gorman, T. D.	9/24/2009	494	Grunwaldt, C.	11/20/2009
5	Blauzdis, G. J.	10/25/2009	68	Oaks, P. A.	11/13/2009	134	Budzinski, J. B.	11/28/2007	280	Howard, J. N.	9/3/2009	494	Knudson, M. A.	10/2/2007
5	Carpenter, E. F.	12/16/2009	68	Wilkinson, R.	5/11/2007	134	Curtin, G. J.	10/23/2009	291	McMillin, I.	11/21/2009	494	Lauer, D. H.	11/21/2009
5	Hursen, E. J.	8/13/2009	70	Catalano, E. F.	12/9/2009	134	Dembiczak, B.	2/18/2009	292	Carlson, B. D.	10/7/2009	499	Baldwin, F. N.	11/15/2009
5	Mitchell, M. K.	7/24/2009	71	Rhodes, S. R.	10/11/2009	134	Dillon, T. J.	11/14/2009	292	Iverson, J. M.	12/10/2009	499	Bond, C. J.	9/1/2009
5	Williams, K. E.	10/24/2009	72	Hennesey, E. H.	7/17/2009	134	Fein, H.	11/12/2009	292	Olson, V. O.	12/5/2009	499	Grasso, A. M.	11/28/2009
6	Bernard, P.	11/14/2009	76	Dawes, D. S.	7/19/2009	134	Felton, J.	11/18/2009	294	Finch, S.	11/27/2009	499	Kaiser, D. J.	11/15/2009
6	Casey, D. E.	10/7/2007	76	Kirchmeier, H. A.	1/30/2008	134	Fey, J. B.	8/10/2009	295	Vance, H. C.	4/20/2009	518	Billingsley, L. W.	12/10/2009
6	Petterson, C. M.	11/10/2009	77	Campbell, F. L.	8/25/2009	134	Goldsmith, B. L.	12/6/2009	304	Givens, D. K.	9/22/2009	531	Frageman, H. G.	10/26/2009
8	Barkhimer, K. E.	10/18/2009	77	Hitchcock, G. C.	12/2/2009	134	Grant, C. J.	12/29/2007	305	Fick, D. D.	11/5/2009	532	Nelson, F. E.	11/25/2009
8	Cuprys, J. M.	10/12/2009	77	Hopkins, D. L.	12/14/2009	134	Gustafson, R. W.	10/5/2009	305	Welkln, R. J.	11/29/2009	549	Mathis, J. D.	11/1/2009
9	Griffith, J. T.	11/20/2009	77	Kipper, J. N.	11/24/2009	134	Hanrahan, T. D.	12/9/2009	309	Hose, A. F.	11/22/2009	553	Yeates, L. W.	2/8/2009
9	Renk, R. R.	11/27/2009	77	Kottre, J.	10/30/2009	134	Heggie, R. J.	12/11/2009	309	Schaefer, P. F.	8/2/2009	557	Macarthur, S. H.	11/23/2009
11	Cornell, M. S.	12/15/2009	77	Martin, W. W.	7/24/2009	134	Husko, W.	11/14/2009	317	Mills, R.	10/17/2009	557	Pfau, L. A.	9/14/2009
11	Halley, R. E.	12/8/2009	77	May, E. F.	11/24/2008	134	Hyerczyk, R. S.	12/20/2009	317	St. Clair, A. T.	10/22/2009	558	Barkley, S. W.	12/19/2009
11	Herrera, E. A.	11/10/2009	77	McAlpine, G. A.	12/26/2009	134	Kalas, W. G.	9/25/2007	319	Lovell, J. E.	9/30/2009	558	Beadle, J. D.	12/1/2009
11	Krutch, R.	11/4/2009	77	McCloud, A.	11/27/2009	134	Kenney, E. W.	11/6/2009	332	Lehnert, R. C.	12/2/2009	558	Chiriaco, J. L.	11/26/2009
11	Roane, H. K.	4/9/2007	77	Merlowicz, M. B.	8/15/2009	134	McKay, E. A.	11/25/2009	340	Bowers, S. M.	11/11/2009	558	Thrasher, B. L.	11/22/2009
11	Smith, W. F.	10/29/2009	80	Hanks, J. V.	11/6/2009	134	Moss, J. H.	12/3/2009	340	Mock, W. D.	12/14/2009	558	Tittle, R. L.	11/19/2009
11	Walters, J. D.	11/1/2009	80	Hickman, R. L.	11/18/2009	134	Palango, P. F.	11/10/2009	340	Schoenhoff, W. P.	9/23/2009	558	Wallace, E. O.	12/13/2009
16	Harris, D. C.	12/12/2009	86	Meyers, R. W.	12/30/2008	134	Pietrowski, A.	12/11/2008	340	Stone, A. P.	8/28/2008	558	Yell, C. E.	11/3/2009
17	Degenhardt, C. E.	10/13/2009	86	Swagler, P.	11/24/2009	134	Pries, R. L.	12/21/2009	343	Regnier, R. L.	9/30/2009	567	Ray, R. A.	11/23/2009
17	Keefer, W. J.	11/15/2009	90	Kamercia, M. M.	1/10/2007	134	Ramsden, W. F.	10/12/2009	347	Bellis, T. A.	12/1/2009	568	Page, G. V.	6/5/2009
17	Slomczenski, V.	12/18/2009	90	Martin, J. G.	11/13/2009	134	Sospizio, A.	11/21/2009	349	Bastanzi, J.	1/20/2008	568	Williamson, W.	11/25/2009
18	Harris, R. E.	10/13/2009	96	Sheperd, R. H.	12/12/2009	134	Swaback, K. H.	11/24/2009	349	Hoadley, H. L.	11/23/2009	569	Berg, V. I.	10/18/2009
18	Mathis, D. L.	11/6/2009	97	Manni, C.	12/1/2009	134	Tasca, B. A.	11/3/2009	351	Birch, G. P.	12/31/2009	569	Davis, R. N.	11/22/2009
18	Moisan, R. W.	12/2/2009	97	McGrath, J. T.	9/9/2009	134	Zygmuntowicz, E. J.	2/29/2008	351	Hosey, J. J.	10/12/2009	569	Shaeffer, R.	10/21/2009
18	Vrooman, J. A.	11/23/2009	98	Ford, R. E.	11/23/2009	136	Burst, T. E.	11/25/2009	351	Murphy, J. S.	12/2/2009	569	Smith, A. J.	12/23/2009
20	Chennault, K. L.	10/25/2009	98	Greenwalt, M. H.	11/30/2009	141	Gump, A. E.	10/24/2009	353	Kirkpatrick, R.	12/20/2009	569	Steer, W. D.	11/10/2009
20	Noska, S. R.	12/21/2009	98	Hagopian, A.	12/9/2009	141	Williams, V. W.	11/27/2009	353	Lytte, J. E.	12/4/2009	573	Keyser, W. G.	11/26/2009
20	Robertson, J. H.	11/25/2009	98	Maurone, S.	11/18/2009	143	Granahan, E. W.	11/19/2009	353	Norton, J. M.	12/29/2009	584	Bertalot, C. W.	11/19/2009
20	Wood, W. C.	9/21/2009	98	Rees, F. D.	9/28/2009	143	Stone, H. M.	11/5/2009	354	Romero, A. G.	8/16/2009	584	Downing, J. C.	12/9/2009
22	Hansen, F. A.	11/16/2009	99	Canis, C. A.	3/5/2009	145	Countryman, H. M.	4/22/2009	357	Helbert, F. R.	12/21/2009	584	Schwarz, J. R.	12/15/2009
24	Branham, P. S.	11/23/2009	100	Zapoli, R. W.	11/20/2009	145	Jahn, R. S.	11/12/2009	357	Mugg, C. R.	11/26/2009	584	Smith, R. R.	12/11/2009
24	Fowble, P. I.	11/15/2009	102	Brudny, J. J.	11/1/2009	146	Aughenbaugh, J. L.	9/26/2009	357	Wren, D. I.	12/7/2009	586	Day, J. H.	11/19/2009
24	Hadel, H. L.	11/3/2009	102	Conicelli, D. R.	6/12/2009	146	Parsons, R. C.	10/29/2009	363	Bow, J. E.	11/2/2009	595	Almason, V. E.	11/20/2009
24	Hare, J. E.	11/1/2009	103	Connolly, J. J.	7/30/2009	150	Kohler, C.	3/6/2009	363	Dempsey, J. F.	10/27/2009	595	Crouse, R. R.	7/31/2009
24	Ross, J. G.	10/28/2009	103	Coutu, H. J.	9/30/2009	160	Merrill, B. C.	11/13/2009	363	Mahoney, J. V.	11/26/2009	595	Everitt, R. E.	8/23/2009
24	Tavener, P. K.	11/3/2009	103	Keenan, D. F.	11/25/2009	164	Hammond, B. M.	12/20/2009	363	Ochs, J. P.	9/7/2007	595	Funk, J. R.	8/2

ATTENTION Federal Sector IBEW Union Members

Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death
595	Harder, I. M.	11/1/2009	765	Wallace, D. L.	10/30/2009	I.O. (134)	Kunhart, E. F.	12/5/2009
596	Stewart, E. B.	12/4/2009	768	Chase, M. P.	9/9/2009	I.O. (143)	Daugherty, D. W.	10/29/2009
601	Roderick, B. L.	1/14/2007	768	Desch, M. A.	7/27/2009	I.O. (852)	Cockrell, W. T.	11/16/2009
602	Cook, A. E.	11/15/2009	769	Housley, J. F.	8/4/2009	I.O. (876)	Lavertu, J.	11/2/2009
602	Hutchens, C. W.	12/11/2009	769	Lee, J.	8/13/2009	Pens. (629)	Meredith, J.	11/10/2009
602	Lehnen, W. E.	11/19/2006	776	Rogers, J. L.	10/27/2009	Pens. (760)	Bradley, J. H.	10/27/2009
602	Townsend, J. L.	10/8/2009	776	Segars, J. M.	9/23/2009	Pens. (840)	Roemer, E. J.	11/14/2009
607	Buggy, E. J.	10/28/2009	794	Schaefer, C. L.	12/12/2009	Pens. (840)	Sanford, D. C.	11/25/2009
611	Holguin, R. C.	11/28/2009	861	Johnson, A. H.	10/25/2009	Pens. (1251)	Grant, C. W.	12/7/2009
611	Petersen, M. J.	10/26/2009	873	Wickham, R.	11/19/2009	Pens. (1788)	Crough, M.	11/30/2009
613	Grizzell, M. L.	10/10/2009	910	Baughn, T. R.	11/4/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Argostino, F. F.	12/5/2009
613	Segraves, G. M.	9/10/2009	910	Jesmer, R. J.	12/3/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Barber, L. T.	12/18/2009
639	Branham, B. G.	12/8/2009	915	Atkins, W. L.	12/9/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Buckley, J. P.	12/1/2009
640	Cox, H. M.	12/13/2009	915	Salatino, V. S.	12/1/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Chandler, W. T.	4/20/2009
640	Potteet, W. H.	10/24/2009	948	Wise, T. J.	12/3/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Deskin, J. L.	11/12/2009
649	Molloy, J. J.	9/12/2009	949	Skaarer, C. E.	9/8/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Dwyer, J. F.	1/8/2008
659	Harbick, F. L.	11/29/2009	965	Haynes, R. F.	11/4/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Ewing, S. C.	9/29/2009
665	Karkau, H. S.	10/17/2009	970	Brenaman, E. H.	11/14/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Fugger, R. J.	11/25/2009
665	Smith, W. D.	11/8/2009	972	Haga, H. R.	11/14/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Hedman, D. E.	11/18/2009
666	Neal, P. M.	12/9/2009	972	Prunty, L. R.	10/11/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Hess, A. P.	11/7/2009
666	Saunders, M. J.	11/9/2009	995	Carmouche, T. J.	11/2/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Hodges, D. J.	4/12/2007
666	Snoddy, H. M.	12/21/2009	995	Decoteau, B. R.	8/29/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Holmsten, R. E.	12/23/2009
681	Tucker, G. L.	11/21/2009	995	Geringer, R.	11/21/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Hundere, E. G.	10/23/2009
682	Griffin, J. D.	11/16/2009	995	Rawlins, F. N.	10/18/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Hyland, J. T.	12/1/2009
683	Griffin, R. L.	11/19/2009	995	Sobers, J. S.	10/20/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Jerkins, M. A.	11/28/2009
683	Spires, G. A.	12/3/2009	1002	Miller, W. W.	8/10/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Johnson, G. A.	10/29/2009
697	Collins, W. L.	12/29/2009	1053	Howell, R.	11/29/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Kachelhofer, H. J.	11/20/2009
697	Czerwinski, L. A.	12/13/2009	1070	Holm, W. S.	11/28/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Kallhoff, A.	11/5/2009
697	Musgrave, R. E.	12/10/2009	1147	Brost, L. R.	11/8/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Koonce, B. D.	11/27/2009
701	Sickels, K. B.	10/19/2009	1205	Carlson, C. E.	12/17/2007	Pens. (I.O.)	Koreny, C. A.	10/26/2009
701	Ward, J. O.	10/21/2009	1220	Matisiak, S. J.	9/21/2007	Pens. (I.O.)	Kurylo, E. F.	11/6/2009
702	Eutsler, F. H.	12/21/2009	1245	Brant, K. L.	11/21/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Learning, A.	7/12/2009
702	Langin, D. W.	11/14/2009	1245	Yates, R.	11/16/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Lewis, N.	7/7/2009
702	Stephens, E. E.	9/19/2009	1464	Klamm, E. A.	12/1/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Lovness, W. R.	11/23/2009
712	Miller, H. F.	11/9/2009	1474	Long, J. H.	5/5/2007	Pens. (I.O.)	Marcin, J. H.	6/27/2009
716	Davis, J. R.	12/22/2009	1531	Woodard, J. D.	11/28/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Miriani, C. A.	4/17/2009
716	Turney, G. L.	12/26/2009	1547	Connolly, R. J.	3/7/2008	Pens. (I.O.)	Murphy, J. J.	3/12/2009
723	Engles, N. F.	10/1/2009	1547	Davis, J. C.	9/17/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Nearing, B. E.	12/4/2009
725	Bailey, B. G.	10/27/2009	1579	McCoy, W. T.	11/8/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Sporrer, R. L.	12/7/2009
725	Cracraft, R. D.	9/29/2009	1613	Binnie, V. M.	5/3/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Wall, W. D.	11/5/2009
743	Aungst, R. M.	12/2/2009	1687	Schmidt, H.	11/1/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Wihlborg, J. H.	11/27/2009
743	McGovern, W. G.	11/14/2009	1701	Renfrow, R. E.	11/3/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Wilson, J. A.	11/27/2009
760	Hobson, K. L.	10/14/2009	I.O. (18)	Medina, A. A.	10/16/2009			

Under the requirements of the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 (CSRA) as revised, your union is advising you of your rights as a federal sector union member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. These rights are as follows:

Bill of Rights As a local union member, you have:

- Equal rights to participate in union activities
- Freedom of speech and assembly
- A voice in setting rates of dues, fees and assessments
- Protection of the right to sue
- Safeguards against improper discipline

Collective Bargaining Agreements Union members (and other employees affected by the agreement) have the right to receive or inspect copies of collective bargaining agreements.

Constitutions, Bylaws and Reports Unions are required to file an initial information report (Form LM-1), copies of constitutions and bylaws and an annual financial report (Form LM-2, 3, 4) with the Office of Labor-Management Standards (OLMS). Unions must make these documents available to members and permit members to examine the records necessary to verify the financial reports for just cause. The documents are public information and copies of reports are available from OLMS and on the Internet at www.union-reports.dol.gov.

Officer Elections Local union members have the right to:

- Nominate candidates for office.
- Run for office.
- Cast a secret ballot.
- Protest the conduct of an election.

Officer Removal Local union members have the right to an adequate procedure for the removal of an elected officer guilty of serious misconduct.

Trusteeships The local union may not be placed in trusteeship by its parent body except for those reasons specified in the standard of conduct regulations.

Protection for Exercising CSRA Rights The local union or any of its officials may not fine, expel or otherwise discipline a member for exercising any CSRA right.

Prohibition Against Violence No one may use or threaten to use force or violence to interfere with a local union member in the exercise of his or her CSRA rights.

Local Union Officer Responsibilities

Financial Safeguards Local union officers have a duty to manage the funds and property of the union solely for the benefit of the union and its members in accordance with the union's constitution and bylaws. The union must provide accounting and financial controls necessary to assure fiscal integrity.

Prohibition of Conflicts of Interest A local union officer or employee may not (1) have any monetary or personal interest or (2) engage in any business or financial transaction that would conflict with his or her fiduciary obligation to the union.

Bonding Local union officers or employees who handle union funds of property must be bonded to provide protection against losses if their union has property and annual financial receipts that exceed \$5,000.

Labor Organization Reports Union officers must file an annual information report (Form LM-1) and annual financial reports (Forms LM-2, 3, 4) with OLMS. They must retain the records necessary to verify the reports for at least five years.

Officer Elections The local union must:

- Hold elections of officers of the local union by secret ballot at least every three years.
- Conduct regular elections in accordance with the IBEW Constitution and bylaws and preserve all records for one year.
- Mail a notice of election to every member at least 15 days prior to the election.
- Comply with a candidate's request to distribute campaign material.
- Ensure that local union funds or resources are not used to promote any candidate (nor that employer funds or resources be used).
- Permit candidates to have election observers.

Restrictions on Holding Office A person convicted of certain crimes may not serve as a union officer, employee or other representative of a union for up to 13 years.

Loans A union may not have outstanding loans to any one officer or employee that in total exceeds \$2,000 at any time. Although this is part of the regulation under the CSRA, the IBEW or its local unions do not loan union funds to officers or members.

Federal employees should contact their local union for further information. ■

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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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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FROM THE OFFICERS**IBEW at Fulcrum of Nuclear Revival**

Edwin D. Hill
International President

It's more than fitting that President Barack Obama chose Local 26's apprenticeship training center outside of Washington, D.C., to deliver the exciting news on Feb. 16 that he was approving billions of dollars in federal loan guarantees to build two new nuclear reactors in Georgia, the first to be built in the U.S. in three decades.

Since the late 1980s, more than 300 members of Atlanta Local 84 have operated two reactors at the Plant Vogtle nuclear facility adjacent to a site that was cleared last year for the new ones. The diligence, responsibility, productivity and respect for safety of the existing work force provide a strong template for the new members who will be hired to bring the reactors online. But this news sweeps in a much broader spectrum of the work force.

The IBEW joined other building and construction trades picketing the site after a nonunion contractor was awarded the preparation work. Because of our activism, the trades are on the cusp of signing a project labor agreement with the Southern Company that will put thousands of union construction workers to work building the reactors once they are approved by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

As you can see from the front page story of this issue, the IBEW is involved in all phases of the push toward a greener energy future, and we believe that nuclear power is a crucial part of the mix. Nuclear has its critics who are already saying that massive cost overruns will lead to default on loans, or that safety and operational problems could put us in greater peril.

These critics don't know the IBEW. They don't know the exemplary performance of thousands of members in nuclear plants and construction sites across the nation. They will soon. Brothers and sisters, we have brought huge construction projects in on time and under budget in every corner of our continent. Our charge is to match that pursuit of excellence in all aspects of the Georgia project.

Our union has taken decisive steps with our partners in industry and academia to establish new nuclear training programs to replace thousands of our most skilled workers who are nearing retirement. Our success at Plant Vogtle will be measured by the yardsticks of a swift learning curve and a bold, timely and safe startup.

Getting people back to work will be done not in one fell swoop but in many smaller actions. The loan guarantees are an important step forward for both a sensible energy policy and jobs. ■

Double-Talk on the Recovery Act

When Congress passed President Obama's \$787 billion stimulus package last year to help revive the economy, a grand total of three congressional Republicans—out of a total of 218—voted for it.

The GOP denounced the bill as irresponsible big government spending. But as an article in the *Washington Times* (a conservative paper, by the way) recently pointed out, this didn't stop many of those same lawmakers from seeking out Recovery Act money for their own districts.

The article points to a letter from Missouri Sen. Christopher Bond—a vociferous critic of the Recovery Act—to Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack requesting stimulus funds for a project that he said would “create jobs and ultimately spur economic opportunities.”

Bond's colleague in the House, Rep. Joe Wilson—best known for his “You lie!” outburst during Obama's first address to Congress—also had no problem petitioning the federal government for stimulus money for his South Carolina district, despite his public opposition to the stimulus plan.

All told, more than 90 Republican lawmakers—all opponents of Obama's bill—stealthily tried to steer federal stimulus monies to their own districts.

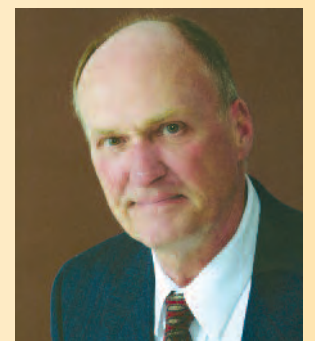
And many more made sure to boast to their constituents about all the stimulus funds and new jobs they brought home—all thanks to legislation they denounced in the halls of Congress.

Genuine political differences are one thing; sheer hypocrisy is something else.

Most economists agree that the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act helped save the economy from sliding into a new Great Depression. The three best known economic research firms all estimate that the bill added nearly 2 million jobs and saved millions more.

While the stimulus bill helped to prevent total disaster, we all know more must be done.

Now Congress is debating a new jobs bill. Is the GOP serious about joining together in a genuine bipartisan manner to do what it takes to create jobs? Or will it continue to play political theater for the beltway crowd and their own extreme right-wing base? Fifteen million unemployed Americans will be watching. ■



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

Helping Hands

I was excited to have the opportunity to help construct and wire a Christian school in Chinandega, Nicaragua, for two weeks, along with 29 other volunteers. It was hard work, but fun. We ran PVC conduit for switches, lights, fans and receptacles. It was challenging because we did most of the electrical work in the block and concrete structure that had already been completed. They did not want any conduit or boxes exposed, so we had to do a lot of saw cutting and chipping with pickaxes and hammers. All of the boxes and conduits that were in the walls were mortared in place once installed. After we installed several conduits in the floor, we poured a new concrete floor in the school. All of the concrete and mortar we used was made on site, mixed and poured by hand.

Donald C. Schroeder, III
Local 236 third-year apprentice, Albany, N.Y.



Third-year apprentice Donald C. Schroeder, III, kneeling, helped wire a Nicaraguan school.

Honoring the Heroes

I want to acknowledge and thank all of the tradesmen at the Elm Road Generating Station (Oak Creek power plant), Bechtel Construction Co. and the IBEW for their generous support of the Homes for Our Troops project in the town of Eagle and for the many care packages they send to our local soldiers serving overseas in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In these hard economic times, I am proud of my union brothers along with the support of their employers for giving back to the community. They know how fortunate they are to have a job and their generosity toward worthy causes when the “hard hat” is passed is a shining example of what sharing and being thankful is all about.

Let us never forget that the men and women who answered the call when our country came under attack make it possible for all of us to live and work in freedom.

Patrick E. Cain
Local 494 member, Milwaukee, Wisc.

Why it Matters

I have been troubled by the news of Hershey Chocolates moving its production from Hershey, Pa., to Mexico. My wife and I have totally banned purchasing any product that is made by the Hershey Chocolate Co. No more Hershey bars with almonds (my favorite), no Reece’s Cups or Reece’s Pieces (a family favorite), no Hershey’s chocolate syrup.

Having been a union member and employee for 30 years of Toledo Edison, I have watched as my local’s membership has dwindled to a fraction of its past size. And I have had to endure the cuts in benefits and compensation my local has had to accept in contract negotiations with the company the past 20 years.

Consider a simple can of mushrooms. The steel for the can, the can manufacturer and the processing plant that cans the mushrooms all consume large amounts of electricity. My union brothers operate the power plants supplying this electricity and my union brothers maintain the distribution lines supplying this electricity. A simple mushroom helps to maintain my union benefits and compensation.

Give consideration to these basic thoughts when utilizing your purchasing power. Does my purchase:

1. Enhance the life of an American worker?
2. Contribute to America’s national security?
3. Provide for the development of local and sustainable products?
4. Protect the benefits and compensation of my union brotherhood?

Steven C. Dunaway
Local 245 member, Toledo, Ohio

Who We Are

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



Local 351 member Capt. Steve Gatto captures his diving partner at a submarine that sunk off the New Jersey coast in 1920.

Deep Sea Lures New Jersey Member

Last year was deadly for New Jersey fishermen, with 11 losing their lives at sea.

But when a vessel goes down in the ocean, finding out what happened is nearly impossible, leaving family members without an explanation and ship owners without the evidence they need to back up their insurance claims.

The U.S. Coast Guard has a limited capacity for underwater investigations. So when questions arose over the cause of the March 2009 sinking of the scallop trawler *Lady Mary* off Cape May in southern New Jersey, they turned to an eight-man volunteer deep sea diving team—a team that included Folsom, N.J., Local 351 member Capt. Steve Gatto—to reconstruct what happened in the pre-dawn hours before the North Carolina-based boat vanished beneath the waves.

“It’s hard to investigate an accident when you can’t get to the evidence,” he said.

Forty-eight-year-old Gatto led three trips to photograph and videotape the wreck, which lays 210 feet below the surface. Gatto and his team discovered that there was extensive damage on the left-side stern, indicating that it was likely a larger vessel had struck the ship. “It seems like it was a hit-and-run,” he said.

The evidence, presented before a Marine Board of Investigations, could end up not only clearing the names of the seven-member crew (only one survived), but help the boat’s owner—who lost two sons, a brother and a

nephew in the tragedy—recoup some of his substantial financial losses.

A Passion for the Sea

An inside wireman since 1988, diving has been Gatto’s passion since he first saw Jacques Cousteau’s television series as a child. “I knew it was something I wanted to do,” he said.

Growing up an hour from the New Jersey coast, Gatto took up diving soon after graduating high school. Initially it was just a hobby, exploring historic shipwrecks off the East Coast, including a World War II-era German submarine and the SS *Andrea Doria*, a famous Italian ocean liner that sunk off the coast of Massachusetts in 1956.

The *Thomas Hebert*, a 94-foot tugboat that mysteriously sank in 1993, turned the avocation into serious business for Gatto.

He had once worked for the tow company that owned the *Hebert* and he was concerned that the ship’s crew—five of whom died in the accident—was being unfairly scapegoated for the accident.

“I called up the owner and offered my services,” Gatto said. After locating the wreck, Gatto and his partner Tom Packer quickly found evidence that the sinking was likely the result of an encounter with a third vessel.

“The *Hebert* was towing a 344-foot barge, and based on how the wreck was positioned, I’m confident that a submarine hit the tow cable

and pulled the tug down backwards into the water,” Gatto said.

The crew was eventually exonerated based on the evidence presented by Gatto and Packer, but the culprit still remains a mystery. “It was never pinned down what did it,” he said.

Gatto’s renown has grown to the point that he is now considered one of the leading shipwreck investigators in the mid-Atlantic—and he does it all in his free time.

“We do this on our own nickel and dime,” he said. “I’m grateful to have a job that gives me some flexibility.”

He has appeared on the History Channel’s “Deep Sea Detectives” program and is writing a book on the sinking of the *Thomas Hebert*. “I can guarantee it will be a great read,” wrote veteran Titanic researcher David Bright on his blog.

Making the Investigation

Finding the wreck itself is often the most difficult and time-consuming task. Fishing vessels are required to broadcast their location every half-hour using an electronic marker, but a ship can travel miles in that time period.

When they reach the wreck, their first job is the grimmest—recovering the bodies of the victims. “Fishing is a family affair, and often a sea tragedy can take multiple family members at once, so we want to help the family with some kind of closure,” Gatto said.

Then the crew carefully photographs and videotapes the wreck. “It’s like any other crime scene,” he said. “You don’t want to disturb the evidence until everything is recorded.”

To find out more about Gatto’s book go to www.tugboatdown.com. ■

Summary Annual Report for International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers' Pension Benefit Fund

This is a summary of the annual report for the INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS' PENSION BENEFIT FUND, (Employer Identification No. 52-0951104, Plan No. 001) for the period July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009. The annual report has been filed with the Employee Benefits Security Administration, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Basic Financial Statement

Benefits under the plan are provided by a trust (benefits are provided in whole from trust funds). Plan expenses were \$122,303,373. These expenses included \$10,774,649 in administrative expenses and \$111,528,724 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries. A total of 450,143 persons were participants in or beneficiaries of the plan at the end of the plan year, although not all of these persons had yet earned the right to receive benefits.

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was \$1,390,780,853 as of June 30, 2009 compared to \$1,817,650,443 as of July 1, 2008. During the plan year

the plan experienced a decrease in its net assets of \$426,869,590. This decrease includes unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan's assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year, or the cost of assets acquired during the year. The plan had total income of \$-304,566,217, including employee contributions of \$53,101,097, losses of \$165,277,460 from the sale of assets and earnings from investments of \$-189,257,460.

Your Rights to Additional Information

You have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, on request. The items listed below are included in that report:

1. An accountant's report;
2. Assets held for investment; and
3. Information regarding any common or collective trust, pooled separate accounts, master trusts or 103-12 investment entities in which the plan participates.

To obtain a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, write or call the office of the Plan Administrator

LINDELL K. LEE
International Secretary-Treasurer
900 7th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

You also have the right to receive from the plan administrator, on request and at no charge, a statement of the assets and liabilities of the plan and accompanying notes, or a statement of income and expenses of the plan and accompanying notes, or both. If you request a copy of the full annual report from the plan administrator, these two statements and accompanying notes will be included as part of that report. These portions of the report are furnished without charge.

You also have the legally protected right to examine the annual report at the main office of the plan:

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers' Pension Benefit Fund
900 7th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

and at the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C., or to obtain a copy from the U.S. Department of Labor upon payment of copying costs. Requests to the Department should be addressed to: U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Public Disclosure Room, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Suite N-1513, Washington, D.C. 20210. ■



IBEW FOUNDERS' SCHOLARSHIP

AWARDED ONLY TO IBEW MEMBERS

The IBEW Founders' Scholarship honors the dedicated wiremen and linemen who, on November 28, 1891, organized the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Each year the officers of the IBEW are pleased to offer its working members scholarships on a competitive basis. It is hoped that the awards will not only contribute to the personal development of our members but also steward the electrical industry that our founders envisioned.

This award is for \$200 per semester credit hour at any accredited college or university toward an associate's, bachelor's or postgraduate degree in an approved field. The maximum distribution is \$24,000 per person over a period not to exceed eight years.

RULES FOR ENTRY

Eligibility Checklist

Founders' Scholarship competition is an adult program, to be used solely by IBEW members. It is NOT for the children of members.

1. Applicants must have been in continuous good standing and have paid dues without an Honorary Withdrawal for four years preceding May 1 of the scholarship year, or be charter members of a local union.
2. Each applicant must be recommended in writing by the local union business manager. If there is no business manager, then the recommendation must come from the local union president, system council chairman or general chairman.
3. At least two additional letters of recommendation must be sent by individuals who are familiar with the applicant's achievements and abilities.
4. Copies of all academic transcripts from high school, college, apprenticeship or other educational and developmental programs must be submitted.
5. A complete personal résumé is required. The résumé should outline education and work history, any special honors or awards, military service, involvement in union, local, civic, community or religious affairs.
6. Applicants are required to submit a 250-500 word essay. The title and topic must be: "How the Founders' Scholarship will benefit the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the electrical industry." The essay must be typed and double-spaced.
7. Applicants must submit a test score from the SAT I or the ACT. NO OTHER TESTING SERVICES ARE ACCEPTABLE. Archived scores or new test registration may be obtained by contacting: SAT (www.collegeboard.org) or ACT (www.act.org). To send scores directly to the IBEW Founders' Scholarship, the code numbers are 0485 for SAT and 0697 for ACT. It is strongly suggested that any new test taken should be the SAT I.
8. Materials need not be sent at the same time but must be postmarked prior to May 1 of the scholarship year.

Selection of Winners

Awards will be based on academic achievement and potential, character, leadership, social awareness and career goals.

The independent Founders' Scholarship Selection Committee will be composed of academic, professional and community representatives. They will examine the complete record of each scholarship applicant to choose the winners. All applicants will be notified, and the scholarship winners will be featured in the *Electrical Worker*.

Responsibility of Each Founders' Scholar

Scholarship winners must begin their studies in their next term or, at the latest, in January of the following year. Each term's earned grades must be sent to the Founders' Scholarship Administrator, together with a Founders' Scholarship Progress Sheet. After the first calendar year in the program, and by each August 1 thereafter, the annual Founders' Scholar paper is due. It must be at least 1,000 words on a labor-related topic, covering any aspect affecting the current labor movement or labor history. Scholarships are not transferable and are forfeited if the student withdraws or fails to meet the requirements for graduation from the school. If a serious life situation arises to prevent continuation of studies, the scholarship winner may request that the scholarship be held in abeyance for a maximum of one academic year.

APPLICATION

Name _____ Telephone # (____) _____

Please print or type

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip/Postal _____

SS/SIN # _____ Birthdate _____ Member of local # _____

Card # _____ Initiated into IBEW _____

On IBEW Membership Card or Dues Receipt Month/Year

Most recent employer _____

Job classification _____ Work telephone # (____) _____

I wish to study for a _____ degree in _____

Note: Field of study must contribute to the development and improvement of the electrical industry as determined by the Founders' Scholarship Administrator.

List your first and second choices for school:

1 _____ 2 _____

Did you complete high school or the GED? Yes No

Send transcripts or other evidence to the Scholarship Committee.

Did you have the opportunity to take apprenticeship or skill improvement training? Yes No

Send transcripts or your courses to the Scholarship Committee.

Do you have any education certificates or professional licenses? Yes No

Send evidence to the Scholarship Committee.

Have you taken any college courses? Yes No

Send transcripts of all college courses to the Scholarship Committee.

Name used on class records _____

When did you take the SAT I or the ACT? (Month/Year) _____

To submit new test scores, it is strongly suggested that you take the SAT I. We will use your highest score; therefore, it is in your best interest to retake the test.

The creation of this scholarship program is a free act of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. The IBEW retains its right to alter, suspend, cancel or halt the IBEW Founders' Scholarship Program at any time and without giving any reason, provided that each scholarship winner already in school under the program will continue to receive the stipends until graduation or the receipt of \$24,000 for undergraduate study under his/her IBEW Founders' Scholarship—whichever comes first.

My signature is evidence that I understand and agree to all the rules governing the scholarship as listed on this application.

Signature

Date

Mail application materials postmarked prior to **May 1** to:

IBEW FOUNDERS' SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
900 Seventh Street, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20001

Form 172
Revised 01/10