Massive storms like Hurricane Sandy, which wreaked havoc throughout the Northeast last year, are becoming more frequent, and pushing utilities to tap into the ranks of IBEW wiremen to help with emergency response.

Massive storm whips through a region. The local utility company brings in pole inspectors, engineers or other managerial personnel from out of town to assess damage and dispatch linemen and tree trimmers to restore power. These “bird doggers,” as they are known in the field, have no knowledge of the roads and landscape. They can’t devise detours to evade downed trees or buildings to rapidly guide equipment to hospitals and other critical locations.

As the widespread power outage drags on, a barrage of public criticism slams the utility and even the IBEW local union representing men and women who are putting their lives on the line to restore power.

This scenario—to often repeated as more frequent storms torment North America—has forced leaders on both sides to ask, “Can’t we do better?”

In New Jersey, Michigan and Connecticut, IBEW local unions and their employers have decisively answered that question with innovative thinking and action. They are training Brotherhood wiremen—many of them unemployed—as members of emergency response teams to not only assess storm damage, but to assist utility customers—fixing damaged connections to their homes, hooking up generators, etc.

These skilled union bird doggers are part of the community. They know the terrain. They have a personal interest in quick recovery from storms.

Anderous battles against ice storms, derechos...
Utility Companies Recruit Wiremen for Emergency Response Teams

and hurricanes, the developing model of cooperation between IBEW’s construction and utility branches marks “a glowing combination of union solidarity and community engagement,” says International President Edwin D. Hill.

Jersey Central Power and Light/Paterson Local 102

JCP&L, a FirstEnergy subsidiary, garnered national attention in August after announcing the formation of the JCP&L–IBEW Local 102 Emergency Response Team.

“After the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, it occurred to us that the IBEW was not being utilized to its full potential,” Local 102 Business Manager Patrick Delle Cava told the Daily Record after the announcement. Delle Cava’s local is contributing to an IBEW-produced ad detailing the skill and courage of New Jersey members in power restoration efforts after Sandy—to be released on the first anniversary of the storm in late October. He initiated discussions with JCP&L’s president to find the emergency response crew.

The team of inside electricians will supplement the company’s IBEW-organized line crews, which include locals 327 (Dover), 1289 (Lakewood), 1298 (Morristown) and 1303 (Keyport). A formalized training program began in September. It is expected that 350 inside and outside members of Local 102 will attend four hours of training in the classroom and four in the field.

This partnership will serve to supplement JCP&L’s dedicated work force. Ultimately, our customers will benefit from this unique emergency response team because the more personnel we have working during a storm, the faster we can get the lights back on,” says JCP&L President Jim Fukula.

Delle Cava says a chance meeting with JCP&L President Don Lynch at a New Jersey Business and Industry breakfast set the basis for a new approach to storm damage assessment. Delle Cava approached Lynch over the summer—after he signed on with the union’s 30th year celebration—suggesting that the union reach out to a utility. Lynch expressed interest in the idea of pairing inside electricians with outside linesmen, an idea that was soon formalized.

“Using linemen to do secondary restoration after storms takes them away from what they do best,” says Scott Rausch, a 30-year Detroit Local 58 journeyman wireman who traveled east to help restore power after Superstorm Sandy.

President Frank Carroll who contacted inside locals, dispatching dozens of wiremen to help.

In Connecticut, when utility services lines to residences are disrupted, repairs are the responsibility of individual homeowners. “During power outages, residents see a utility truck on their street and they expect power to be restored quickly,” says Carroll. After they find out that the linemen are solely assigned to restoring transmission lines, they start screaming and writing letters.”

While this situation improved after the 2011 storms, in the wake of Superstorm Sandy, CL&P once again turned to some non-signatory contractors. Carroll set up a meeting with CL&P President Bill Herdegen III and suggested that CL&P utilize inside wiremen as part of their secondary power restoration. Herdegen agreed, quickly scheduled safety training for wiremen and supplied gloves.

“The cooperation between utility and inside locals and CL&P was phenomenal,” says Carroll. Up to 100 wiremen wearing IBEW shirts were greeted as heroes as they restored power to residences. Carroll says the goodwill generated during the storm cleanup has paid dividends all the way up to the governor’s office, where IBEW skills and training and community engagement have enjoyed renewed respect.

All of the wiremen assigned to storm restoration, says Carroll, have been trained by members in inside construction. “That’s what brotherhood is all about,” he says. Wiremen have included members from Connecticut locals 103 (Bridgeport) as well as Massachusetts locals 103 (Boston) and 223 (Brocton).

“We members don’t do any pole climbing. They assist the linemen,” says Carroll. CL&P’s respect for the union’s work has spread as other employers, seeing the effectiveness of IBEW electricians during storms, have called them back for more work. And jurisdictional issues between utility and construction locals are being resolved in the interests of the surrounding communities.

Carroll and Herdegen, who recently shared a panel at a meeting of the IBEW’s national utility partnership, the Labor Management Public Affairs Committee (LAMPAC), are finalizing a comprehensive agreement that will deal with all storm work. “We had folks from all over the country asking about our work,” says Carroll.

“The agreement will truly be a first in the Second District,” says Carroll. “We have had parts of the work before, but this new pact will be great for Connecticut.”
Sequester Shutters Space Fence, Mothballs Nuclear Submarine

The Department of Defense has canceled repairs for a damaged nuclear submarine and ended a program that monitors orbiting space junk, two striking examples of consequences of a federal austerity program that could lay off dozens, potentially hundreds, of IBEW members.

These are the first layoffs affecting IBEW members resulting from drastic budget cuts that are slashing jobs across the country. Known as the sequester, more than $1 trillion in automatic, across-the-board budget cuts started March 1 and will continue until 2023.

“This decision wasn’t made because it is right for national security or because we don’t have the time,” said Government Employees Department Director Chico McGil. “These are decisions that don’t save any money in the long-term and leave us more vulnerable now.”

When the Budget Control Act of 2011 was passed and signed into law creating the sequester, it was intended to be a self-imposed doomsday device so drastic that it would force budget compromises out of the Republican majority in the House of Representatives and the Democratic majority in the Senate.

“...the whole design of these arbitrary cuts was to make them so unattractive and unappealing that Democrats and Republicans would get together and say we can’t do these bad cuts,” President Obama said.

Things did not go according to plan. Negotiators failed to come up with a budget and the sequester was implemented. Most of the nearly 65,000 IBEW members who work in the federal sector—including shipyard workers, Army Corps of Engineers civilian contractors and workers at the Government Printing Office—were exempt from 11 unpaid furlough days in 2013. But Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel told aircraft maintenance workers that they were going to be laid off. During a Station Jacksonville in July that furloughs would not be enough to cover the additional cuts and inevitably there will be layoffs.

With the cancellations of the space fence and the USS Miami, the first IBEW members are now feeling the bite.

“Politicians played Russian roulette, and then gave control of the trigger to the tea party,” said Paul O’Connor, president of the Metal Trade Council at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Portsmouth, N.H.

The Air Force Space Surveillance System, commonly known as the space fence, is a major component of the national system to monitor space debris and satellite locations. The International Space Station and many private satellite owners use data from the tracking systems to prevent potentially catastrophic collisions.

The IBEW represents 56 workers at the USS Miami, and the IAM represents the 110 workers at the Huntington-Ingalls Shipyard in Pascagoula, Miss.

*Congress is making our men and women pay the price for their failures,* said O’Connor, who is a member of Portsmouth Local 2071. *“How many small businesses will close? How many families will be destroyed because of a policy that wastes money and makes our country more vulnerable? It is shameful.”*

### Big Municipal Win Rocks Calif. City

Winning a campaign by an overwhelming vote is every organizer’s dream. Twenty years ago, Jaime Tinoco, a longtime union leader, set his sights on winning a big union campaign to level the playing field between employees, managers and politicians in the working-class community just miles north of ritzy Santa Barbara.

Tinoco’s dream turned real in June when the city’s public works employees cast a 95 percent vote in favor of representation by Vacaville Local 1245. The clerical staff followed with an 86 percent yes vote.

“All the hard work we did really paid off,” said Tinoco, crediting Local 1245 Organizer Fred Ross Jr. and Assistant Business Manager Ray Thomas with helping so many of his 125 co-workers to put their trust in each other after a chain of prior disappointments.

“The powerful vote carried a combination of closure and hope to men and women who provide electricity and waste treatment in the city of 42,000, once known as the flower seed capital of the world, adjacent to sprawling Vandenberg Air Force Base.

They had maintained their morale on a long road marked by setbacks—decertifying a former bargaining agent for ineffective representation, then organizing an independent union, the Lompoc Employees Association, that ended up being too weak to bargain in a tight economy.

“We were fed up and needed to shake the trees,” says Shawn Wynn, a 20-year city worker. “I’m paying $600 per month for my family’s health care insurance and we haven’t seen a raise since I can remember,” says the water plant technician.

Some of the city managers, says Wynn, used to be like “bad cops.” Immediately after the union vote, Local 1245 pursued a complaint against a manager who had been charged with harassing female workers.

“The IBEW stood up and immediately took care of business. The manager no longer works here,” says Wynn.

While the city couldn’t escape the consequences of a national economic meltdown, says Tinoco, the mayor and city council helped to create a tight budget by opportunistically reducing electric rates by five percent before last November’s election, despite the need for investment to keep up with costs, including employee benefits.

In July, as negotiations on a first contract commenced, Tinoco told Local 1245’s Utility Reporter he expects some bumps in the road in the short term as the city adjusts to the new bargaining relationship, but that “long term it will be much better for city employees” to have a strong union behind them. The city’s police and fire departments have been organized for many years and have fared far better than members of the new unit.

Tinoco has been talking to his co-workers and has addressed a city Democratic Party forum and a Labor 1245 leadership conference advocating the need to elect more labor-friendly candidates to public office in Lompoc and cities across California.

A former U.S. Navy Seabee, Tinoco brought a powerful spirit to his organizing that extends to his youth, when he marched with United Farmworkers leader Cesar Chavez, says Ross.

His grandmother was a leader of a Mexican-American community organization, El Concilio (The Council) in Carpinteria. The group fought for and won bus service to nearby Santa Barbara and other public battles.

I was a “tough guy,” he says. But then he was introduced to mentors in the Migrant Education and Upward Bound programs. With plans to retire in three years, Tinoco is encouraging some of his younger co-workers—as he was once pushed and mentored—to take initiative to protect the gains won over generations.

Looking far beyond Lompoc and its newest bargaining unit, Tinoco says, “We [senior workers] need to be more proactive with some of the younger generation to get them to give up their “whatever, dude” attitude.” And, in return, he says, unions need to recruit more women and minorities to truly unify their ranks and build the kind of solidarity seen in Lompoc.

Some of their co-workers are fearful of management retaliation for forcefully supporting the IBEW, says Wynn. They gained confidence when he, Tinoco and others stood up and “everyone realized we weren’t blowing smoke.”

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**Photo credit**: U.S. Navy photo by Jim Cleveland
Quality Fuels Memphis Solar Plant

Made in the U.S.A. It’s a rare label in manufacturing these days, especially in the booming solar photovoltaic market, which is overwhelmingly dominated by government-subsidized Chinese companies. Even rarer: a union label.

But a solar panel plant in Memphis is placing conventional wisdom on its head. Sharp Manufacturing Co.’s photovoltaic factory opened in 2003 with fewer than 100 employees. Today the plant work force totals 225 employees. And last spring it produced its 4 millionth panel, helping to make Sharp the sixth largest supplier of solar modules in the world, with more than 70 percent of production exported to foreign countries.

Not only has Sharp managed to hold its own against cheaper, foreign competitors, but management and the IBEW have also created a model labor-management partnership, proving once again that good jobs and strong unions aren’t incompatible with productivity.

The relationship between Memphis Local 474 and Sharp management is governed by the Code of Excellence—an agreement by both parties to strive for excellence and cooperation.

“We always stress the need for doing quality work,” says Local 474 Business Manager Paul Shaffer. “I think it’s really important to keep manufacturing in the United States and one way we can do it is by putting out a quality product.”

And it’s that commitment to strive for the best that has allowed Sharp to sell its panels worldwide, says Brian Gibson, vice president of sales for Sharp. “That’s the difference between us and our competition,” he said. “We won’t beat them on price but on quality and reliability.”

And the market for Sharp’s products keeps growing. Improvements to technology, along with federal and state incentives, are making solar an affordable, clean energy option for many businesses and government agencies. Renewable energy, including solar, accounts for 49 percent of added energy capacity last year in the U.S., which is likely to rise throughout 2013.

Sharp expects the U.S. photovoltaic market to grow from 3 gigawatts up to 10 gigawatts by 2016, which is enough capacity to replace over a dozen power plants. Having a “made-in-USA” sticker on its panels, combined with Sharp’s continued emphasis on quality production will keep the company strong in the U.S. market.

The factory’s success has impressed on employees the importance of the Code of Excellence’s emphasis on high-level performance.

“If I feel if a panel leaves here, if I touch it, it should be nothing but excellence,” says Local 474 member William McGee.

The Code goes both ways however, emphasizing the importance of management’s responsibility to ensure good relations with employees and the IBEW.

“We’ve got an extremely good relationship with the IBEW,” said T.C. Jones Jr., vice president of human resources for Sharpe. “And it’s extremely important to maintain that relationship, because the IBEW will ensure that we maintain a good quality product.”

Watch the Sharp solar plant in action on the IBEW’s Vimeo channel at http://vimeo.com/ibew

After Legal Purgatory, N.J. Comcast Members Win Thousands in Back Pay

In July, Comcast technician Brian Marshall got a check for more than $5,600 from the company, in addition to his regular wages.

The drawback? It took four years and a lengthy court battle to get it.

Marshall, a steward for East Windsor, N.J., Local 827, was part of the team that negotiated the most recent contract for workers at the Tom’s River facility in 2009. This on their own—going to court against a large corporation and winning. There’s no other way this kind of victory could have happened for these workers if they didn’t have an active union helping stand up for their best interests.”

Marshall said that it feels like a weight has been lifted, but the four-year process has taken its toll.

“Too many people are convinced that union workers don’t make anything here anymore,” said Manufacturing Department Director Randal Middleton. “This tool will make it clear that we do.”

A committee of manufacturing branch business managers has been assigned to help get the program off the ground. And the first step is to create a master list of all IBEW-made products.

The group is also working with the Information Technology Department to create an online tool that will allow business managers to constantly update new information and changes to product lines that will keep the list fresh and relevant.

“We want to make it easy to update so people get exact information, all the way down to the model number,” says Manufacturing Department International Representative Scott Zilling.

IBEW-represented manufacturers range from multinational behemoths like General Electric, which produces a wide array of consumer and industrial goods, to smaller independent shops that make everything from switches to lighting fixtures.

By giving not only the average consumer the option of going with union-made goods, but signatory contractors and IBEW-represented utilities as well, the program is expected to help give union manufacturing a needed boost.

The existing list of IBEW-made products on IBEW.org is out of date and doesn’t provide specific information a customer needs to find goods online or in the store.

Middleton says that creating a system to actively promote union-made goods is part and parcel of the Code of Excellence to promote high-quality manufacturing and build closer relations between workers and employers.

The searchable, online list is expected to be rolled out next spring. Check IBEW.org and the Electrical Worker for future updates.

To learn more about Comcast workers fighting for a voice on the job, visit www.JusticeAtComcast.com.
The IBEW’s efforts to tap into good jobs in the booming energy sector are seeing big results in West Virginia, with hundreds of members hard at work building and maintaining the infrastructure needed to get the Mountain State’s rich natural gas load to market.

“We’ve had full employment for three years straight,” says Wheeling Local 141 Business Manager John Clarke. The Northern Panhandle region, which is in the middle of the Marcellus Shale gas deposit, is also home to hundreds of travelers taking advantage of the region’s newfound work.

The majority of the work is in the midstream sector, which includes building and maintaining plants that extract valuable liquids like ethane from the gas. It also includes constructing the pipelines to transport it for sale on the market.

And the boom is being felt across the building trades—Ohio Valley Building Trades Council President Tom Gray told the Public News Service that nearly every construction trade is seeing growth. “There are 45 different crafts that make up the upper Ohio Valley building trades, and all of those crafts are taking people,” he said.

But it was not always the case, says Clarke, who also represents the Third District on the International Executive Council. When the natural gas boom began a few years ago, the biggest player in the local market was Dominion Resources Inc., a nonunion Virginia-based company.

“Most of the folks they used around here were from out-of-state—Texas, Oklahoma,” Clarke said. The IBEW was stuck on the sidelines, coming in at the last minute to bail out projects when nonunion contractors fell behind schedule.

The lack of local hiring meant that the record profits being made by energy companies weren’t benefitting the local community. Ironically, the place with some of highest levels of natural gas production in the country also has higher-than-average unemployment, with more than 15 percent of Wheeling-area residents living below the poverty line. And Wetzel County, south of Wheeling, continues to suffer from double-digit jobless rates.

At the same time, the Upper Ohio Valley boasts more than 20,000 skilled construction workers—many of whom were sitting on the bench while every hotel and motel in the area was filled with out-of-state workers.

It was enough of a problem that officials formed a coalition to demand energy companies working in the shale region hire local residents.

With the owner’s knowledge, IBEW electricians, “salts,” were put to work on Chapman Corp. a chance wiring a new processing plant in Woburn, Mass., using the new members of Local 567 through the IBEW’s portability language.

Moulison announced the signing on a billboard outside of the company’s yard facing Route 1 in Biddeford, a heavily-traveled commuter road in Maine: “Proud Member of Local 567 IBEW.”

Signing Moulison, says Deering, is still “a work in progress.” A quarter of the local union’s membership is still out of work due to a still-recovering economy.

But, says Deering, when the announcement of the letter of assent was made at a local union meeting, “most of our members were excited to know that we have a new player in the market that is already looking to take on new work currently done by nonunion outfits.”

Local 567 is currently testing Moulison electricians to properly place them in apprentice or journeyman slots.

“Persistence by Business Manager Deering and Organizer Allan Shepard proved to be the key element in winning this top-down campaign,” says District Organizing Coordinator Bob Corraro. “This is certainly a proud moment in the Second District.”

Today, rather than seeing the union’s focus on one trade as a limitation, Moulison is considering using union electricians to diversify his customer base—expanding into a wider range of commercial jobs, even hiring a commercial estimator to compile bids.

Because so many of the company’s projects are outside—subject to New England’s tough winters—gaining inside commercial work would also allow Moulison to keep his electricians busy rather than putting them on furlough or reducing their hours during inclement weather.

The bulk of Moulison’s work on projects like lighting at Bangor International Airport is covered by prevailing wage regulations. But the company’s employees, including the firm’s controller, were concerned about how the benefit package under a collective-bargaining agreement would work.

Shepard and Local 567 Business Manager Richard Deering met with the electricians, the controller and other office staffers. They demonstrated that—by signing a letter of assent with the local—workers would gain a better benefit package, Moulison’s costs would not rise dramatically and the union hall would help administer the plans.

“We got a great deal of cooperation from locals and contractors throughout the Second District,” says Shepard. Providence, R.I., Local 99 helped Moulison by dispatching members to a large project.

Boston Local 103 Business Manager Mike Monahan pledged to support Moulison’s continuing performance of electrical maintenance at Kraft Food’s large processing plant in Woburn, Mass., using the new members of Local 567 through the IBEW’s portability language.

Only hours after the signing, representatives of the National Electrical Contractors Association were calling Ken Moulison to offer him help networking with others throughout the region.

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Transitions

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
Our Web site has news and info not available anywhere else. Visit us to connect with the IBEW on Facebook and Twitter. And read The Electrical Worker online!

YouTube
Our popular YouTube channel is a hit with viewers. Youtube.com/TheElectricalWorker

Vimeo
Our latest TV ad showcases members’ skills and as well as our role in the community. Watch it on Vimeo at vimeo.com/ibew.

HourPower
Our latest Out of the Box is another example of IBEW members doing right by their communities – and the autistic kids of Harry’s Buttons. Check it out! IBEWHourPower.com

ElectricTV
American Woodshop, a hit show on PBS, recently relied on IBEW Local 8 and Romanoff Electric to help reduce their footprint by installing solar. See the project on ElectricTV.net

IBEW MEDIA WORLD

RETIRED
Christine Pynaker
First District International Representative Christine Pynaker retired effective Aug. 1.

Sister Pynaker began working for Alberta Government Telephones in 1979 but did not become a member of Calgary Local 348 until three years later when she was finally asked to join.

“I said, “We have a union!” I had no idea because it was way too quiet,” Pynaker said. “I said sign me up because we really needed a union.”

The 348 workers in Pynaker’s unit, all women, were subject to punitive treatment over bathroom breaks, including a pregnant worker who was told she had over-used the toilet.

“A lot of them were young mothers who couldn’t just quit,” Pynaker said. “I hate seeing people bullied and I was young, didn’t have kids and was a bit of a rebel. I had no fear.”

Pynaker became the shop steward and tried to negotiate an end to the policy. When that failed, she secretly photocopied pages from the bathroom break book and leaked them to reporters. The story drew national attention, and the book disappeared.

“That was Sister Pynaker’s first successful fight for the right of our telecom members in Canada to be treated with the dignity and respect that is their right, her first of many such fights,” said First District International Vice President Bill Daniels. “She helped improve the working lives of thousands, maybe tens of thousands of people.”

Soon after that victory, Pynaker became a business representative for Local 348, then assistant business manager, negotiating for hundreds of operators working in conditions that one newspaper, during the bathroom book episode, had compared to a sweat shop.

In 1994, Pynaker was appointed an International Representative in the First District, where she spearheaded a successful national campaign that ended discrimination against pregnant women.

In 1997 Pynaker helped organize Canada’s first, and so far only, national IBEW women’s conference. “The women’s conference in Washington, D.C., is fantastic, the best conference within the union. There is such enthusiasm and energy, information sharing and we learn from each other,” Pynaker said. “But women in Canada want a women’s conference in Canada. It is needed.”

In the final years of her career, Pynaker became the first privacy officer at the First District, drafting the union’s policy to protect member information and going after companies that violated Canadian privacy law.

Pynaker says that when then-International President J.J. Barry hired her, he told her not to forget her roots.

“It was quite profound and I have always remembered and lived by it,” Pynaker said.

On behalf of the entire IBEW membership and staff, the officers wish Sister Pynaker a long, healthy and rewarding retirement.

DECEASED
Ernest J. Viveiros
The IBEW is saddened to report the Aug. 30 death of retired Second District International Representative Ernest Viveiros. He was 85.

A veteran of the U.S. Army and the Navy who served in World War II and the conflict in Korea, Brother Viveiros was initiated into Fall River, Mass., Local 437 in 1951. (The local union was amalgamated into Brockton Local 223 in 1988.)

He was an inside wireman who served as business manager from 1966 to 1972, when he was appointed Second District International Representative. He also served as an officer of the Fall River Building Trades and the Fall River Central Labor Council and as a member of the Fall River Redevelopment Authority Advisory Board.

As an International Representative, he served as administrative assistant to then-Second District International Vice President Paul Loughran from 1990 until his retirement in 1995.

A long-time member of the Board of Trustees of Bristol Community College, he received its Citizen of the Year award in 1995 for his contributions to the advancement of the college.

Brother Viveiros was married for 58 years to his wife, Shirley, and leaves behind a daughter, sons, a sister, several grandchildren and nieces and nephews. The IBEW officers, staff and membership send our condolences to his family and friends.

Organizing Wire

Del. Bus Mechanics Join IBEW

Diesel bus mechanics employed by the Delaware Transit Corp. never had much need for a union. That is until one of their own was fired—all because of his breakfast.

The employee usually packed a banana for his morning break, but after a manager found a peel on top of one of the buses, the long-time DTC veteran was summarily fired.

“All of a sudden, the guys said ‘maybe we aren’t as secure as we thought we were,’ says Regional Organizing Coordinator Steve Rockafellow.

One of the workers had a friend who was a member of Baltimore Local 24 so the first union they contacted was the IBEW.

“They put in so much work and risked so much to exercise their basic right to organize and collectively bargain.”

– Frank Gentry, Local 2270 Business Manager

Groups from both shifts met with Rockafellow and Wilmington Local 2270 Business Manager Frank Gentry last spring.

“They were receptive to what I was saying but I wanted to give them time to talk among themselves before making any big decisions,” says Gentry. “Well, they called me up the next morning and said ‘we’re all on board.’”

More meetings followed.

Most transit authority employees are unionized, but management was not initially happy about the mechanics’ organizing drive. They asked the state Public Employment Relations Board—which conducts union elections for state employees—to expand the size of the proposed bargaining unit to bring in mechanics who were thought to be less pro-union.

But after meeting with those workers, Gentry found they supported the IBEW as well, joining the original group in voting 21 to 6 on July 31 in a PERB-administered election.

Preparations for first contract negotiations are underway, with pay and grievance procedures the top issues for employees.

“Union workers at DTC, including members of the Amalgamated Transit Union, were making more money than them, so they want to narrow the pay gap,” says Gentry.

They are also fighting to get their fired co-worker back on the job.

Gentry says he is currently meeting with other nonunion workers at the DTC.

“These employees put in so much work and risked so much to exercise their basic right to organize and collectively bargain,” he says.
Many collective bargaining agreements between employers and the IBEW or its local unions include “union security” provisions stating that employees must become and remain members of the union as a condition of employment. The National Labor Relations Act permits employers and unions to negotiate these clauses where they are not otherwise prohibited by state law. These provisions are also permitted under the Railway Labor Act and under many state public employee bargaining laws. Under these laws, employees may fulfill their “union security” obligations either by joining the union and thereby enjoying the full rights and benefits of union membership, or by simply fulfilling their financial obligations to the union.

Employers who elect to become agency fee payers—that is, who choose not to become full-fledged IBEW members—forefeit the right to enjoy a number of benefits available only to union members. For example, only union members are entitled to attend and participate in union meetings; to run for union office and to nominate and vote for candidates for union office; to participate in contract ratification and strike votes; to participate in the development and formulation of IBEW policies; and to participate in the formulation of IBEW collective bargaining demands; and to serve as delegates to the International Convention.

Agency fee payers are generally charged the same dues and initiation fees as nonmember union members. However, agency fee payers who object to supporting certain union activities must, by resigning from union membership, forfeit the right to enjoy a number of collective bargaining. Examples of such “chargeable” activities are negotiating collective bargaining agreements; meeting with employer representatives; meeting with employees on employment-related issues; participating in proceedings on behalf of workers under the grievance procedure, including arbitration; and managing internal union affairs.

Among activities considered “nonchargeable,” which objections are not required to support, are support of political candidates, general community service, legislative activities, certain costs of affiliation with non-IBEW organizations, and members-only benefits.

The IBEW Agency Fee Payers Objection Plan establishes the procedure for obtaining a fee reduction and is set forth in full below. By way of summary, fee payers must file their objections during the designated open period (usually the month of November) or within 30 days of becoming agency fee payers. Current fee payers who wish to file for objections for calendar year 2014 must do so during the month of November 2013. Objections must be addressed to the International Secretary-Treasurer, IBEW, 900 Seventh Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001, and must be postmarked during the November open period. Objections filed during this period will become effective on January 1, 2014, and will remain effective for as long as the objection remains in the bargaining unit.

No special form is required to register an objection. However, please include your full name, your mailing address, the local union to which you pay fees, your nonmember identification number (if known), and your Social Security number. In addition, please advise the International Secretary-Treasurer of your new address.

Dues and fees paid by employees covered by IBEW bargaining agreements consist of a portion retained by the local union and a portion that is transferred to the International. During January of each year, or as soon as possible after receiving a timely mid-year objection, the International will mail a check reflecting the reduction in the International’s portion of the fees to each objector who has filed a timely objection with the International Secretary-Treasurer, along with a detailed explanation of the basis for the fee reduction. During these same time frames, the local union that represents the objector will provide him or her with a reduction in its portion of the fees, either by reducing its check or by adjusting the amount of the objector’s periodic payments, and will provide information explaining the basis for its reduction.

The reductions are based on the percentage of the “union’s” expenditures that were devoted to “chargeable” and “nonchargeable” activities during the previous fiscal year, as defined above. For example, the International determined that during its 2012-13 fiscal year, 49.8% of its expenditures were for “chargeable” activities and 50.2% of its expenditures were for “nonchargeable” activities. The local’s proportions vary, with most local unions devoting between 90 and 95 percent of their annual expenditures to “chargeable” activities. In no year has any IBEW local union spent a smaller percentage of its expenditures on “chargeable” activities than the International, although some of the locals use the International’s percentage to calculate their own annual reduction—thereby giving objects a larger reduction than if the locals used their own figures.

Some public sector collective bargaining laws require different procedures for honoring the rights of non-members. If you are a public employee covered by such a law, your local union will advise you of the proper procedure to follow to register your objection.

The IBEW Agency Fee Payers Objection Plan

1. Nonmembers’ Right to Object. Any employee who is not a member of the IBEW and who pays agency fees to an IBEW local union (LU) pursuant to a collectively bargained union security provision in the United States has the right to object to expenditures of his or her fees for activities that are not reasonably related to collective bargaining. For purposes of this plan, such activities will be referred to as “nonchargeable activities.” The agency fees paid by a fee payer who perfects an objection under the procedures set forth below will be reduced to reflect the expenditures of the LU and the IBEW that are used for “chargeable activities” (including, for example, negotiating and enforcing collective bargaining agreements, dealing with employers on employment-related concerns, and union administration).

2. Procedure for Filing Objections. Each fee payer who wishes to file an objection must do so in writing, addressed to the International Secretary-Treasurer (IST) at the International Office of the IBEW, 900 Seventh Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. In registering their objections, objectors must include their name and address, the LU to which they pay fees, their nonmember identification number (if known), and their Social Security number. Objections must be postmarked during the first 30 days after an employee becomes an agency fee payer (either by being hired or transferred into the bargaining unit, or by resigning from union membership) and becomes obligated to pay agency fees to an IBEW LU under a collective bargaining agreement or, for current bargaining unit members, during the month of November (the open period may be extended in Convention years.) Objections will be effective for as long as the objection is in the bargaining unit.

3. Reduction in Agency Fees. No later than January 31 of each year (or as soon as possible after receiving a timely mid-year objection), the IST will mail each individual who has filed a timely objection a check representing the reduction in per capita payments to which he or she is entitled for the entire calendar year. The reduction checks will be accompanied by a description of the major categories of expenditures, an explanation of how the amount of the reduction was determined and an explanation of the appeal procedure.

6. Appeal to Impartial Arbitrator. An objector who has filed a timely objection and who believes that the per capita reduction provided by the IST does not accurately reflect the IBEW’s expenditures on chargeable activities may appeal through the procedure established by the LU. An objector challenging both the IBEW’s and the LU’s reductions must appeal through the procedure specified in paragraph 5 a., except that the appeal must be received in the office of the IST within 30 days of (a) the date on which the International mailed the objector the per capita reduction or (b) the date on which the LU mailed its reduction, whichever is later.
Annual Fishing Derby & Picnic
L.U. 6 (c,es,lm), SAN FRANCISCO, CA—A band of hearty Local 6 members braved the chilly weather and small craft advisories, setting out for the Annual Electrical Industry Fishing Derby in the early morning hours of June 22. In the end, Cupertino electrician and Local 6 member Felix Huang came out on top, hooking a 29-pound salmon.

Local 6 extends our sympathy and gratitude to the family of George Scarborough, a longtime Local 6 member and JATC instructor, who recently passed away. George’s dedication and passion in training and nurturing many classes of apprentices through the years is something to be celebrated.

Fleig, Nathan Gallaher and Doug Demory. Many members volunteer by coaching their kids’ baseball or softball team or by helping at a soup kitchen. I commend them for giving back to their community and charity projects.

Grinstead was re-elected as business manager; Kelley McGlamery was elected as president; and Ronan Carbaljaz was elected vice president.

Our apprenticeship program turned out four new journeyman wiremen this year: Ronan Carbaljaz, Jose Dela Torre, Jason Olds and Zane Grinstead. Congratulations to all.

Our Annual Picnic this year is scheduled for Oct. 5 at the Nature Center. It should be fun for the young and the young at heart.

Susan J. Johnson, P.S.

Community Service Volunteers
L.U. 8 (as,em,lm,nt,rs,ts&spa), TOLEDO, OH—Hello, brothers and sisters. Election Day is Nov. 5. We are looking for volunteers to assist in phone banking, Ill drops and working the polls on Election Day. Please call the union hall if you are available to help with this important election.

When their workday is done, many Local 8 members continue working by donating their time and talents for community and charity projects. Members have assisted the Bethany House, the Miracle League, the Wood County Democratic Party, Habitat for Humanity, Hope House and the Monroe County Labor History Museum, just to name a few.

Local 8 members installed a new scoreboard and new electrical service at the Miracle League baseball fields.

Election of Officers
L.U. 12 (as,skol), PUEBLO, CO—We held our local elections in June and had a good voter response. Dean Grinstead was re-elected as business manager; Kelley McGlamery was elected as president; and Ronan Carbaljaz was elected vice president.

Our apprenticeship program turned out four new journeyman wiremen this year: Ronan Carbaljaz, Jose Dela Torre, Jason Olds and Zane Grinstead. Congratulations to all.

Our Annual Picnic this year is scheduled for Oct. 5 at the Nature Center. It should be fun for the young and the young at heart.

Susan J. Johnson, P.S.

Local 8 members installed a new scoreboard and new electrical service at the Miracle League baseball fields.

Class of 2013 Graduates

This year’s academic award winner is Jarret M. Parkes, and the John D. Brenner Memorial Award went to Christopher M. Tenbargs.

Local 16’s Political Action Committee recently held another successful golf tournament and continues to grill tasty brats and burgers for sale before regular union meetings. Proceeds from these events will be used to help fund pro-labor candidates in future elections.

Other people from the hall have been actively involved in Coaching for a Cause. The money they raise from their delicious BBQ sales helps members who have severe injuries or critical illnesses. Please come out and support each of these fine organizations.

Donald P. Beavin, P.S.

JATC Apprentice Graduation
L.U. 20 (em,lt,nt,sk,tl), DALLAS-FORT WORTH, TX—The North Texas Electrical JATC held its Annual Completion Dinner at the Sheraton Grand Hotel on June 7.

IBEW Local 20 and North Texas Chapter NECA both give an Outstanding Apprentice Award to a graduating apprentice for an overall outstanding performance. The IBEW award went to Charles Towb, and the NECA award went to Jason Ruben.

Awards are presented to apprentices for outstanding performance at school and on the job. Taken into consideration are their grades, attendance, job evaluations, attitude and community involvement.

Local 20 Gold Pliers Award recipients: William Holt (1st year), Rolanda Feibies (2nd year), Price Warwick III (3rd year) and Ronald Pratt Jr. (4th year).

NECA Achievement Award recipients: Ronald McDowell (1st year), Rhett Glover (2nd year), James Moats (3rd year) and Ronald Pratt Jr. (4th year).

Local 20 Federal Credit Union Award recipients: William Holt (1st year), Michael Morrison (2nd year), Price Warwick III (3rd year), Timothy Vernon (4th year) and Jesus Hernandez (5th year).

The Fort Worth Local 16 Federal Credit Union award went to: Jason Raburn and Jesus Hernandez.


Kersten E. Frentrop, B.M./F.S.

2013 Apprenticeship Graduates
L.U. 22 (ts,sk,spa), OMAHA, NE—Congratulations to the Local 22 apprenticeship graduating class of 2013.

Telecom apprentice graduates are: Jeff Adams, Andrew Hurley, Nick Incontro, James Jensen, David Meredithe, Jamie Parks, Dennis Payne, Bryan Thomas and Tyler Worrall. Residential apprentice graduates: Joe Ward; inside apprentice graduates: David Anderson, Jared Bain, Ryan Becker, Tyler Becker, Bob Bergamini, Tim Christensen, Anthony Ciani, Tyler Danggaard, Chase Daniels, David Dickey, Shelly Dubbs, Andy Fisher, Garrett Flynn, Ben Fonfara, Michael Gady,

Work in our area continues to be good and we are putting many travelers to work on the data center projects in our area.

Chris Bayer, P.S.

Officers Elected

L.U. 24 (es,ik&spa), BALTIMORE, MD—On June 29, Local 24 held its election of officers. Thank you to all members who came out and exercised their right to vote. Congratulations to newly-elected officers: Bus. Mgr. Gary Griffin, Pres. Carmen Voso, Vice Pres. John Rankin, Sec. Larry Broadwater, Fin. Sec. Tom Benjamin, Treas. Ray Starks, Executive Board members Norman Bagge, Tony Decint, Horace Ellis, Dave Springham, Frank Voso; and Examining Board members Aaron Butcher, Larry Preisssler and Connie Williams.

On behalf of the membership I wish to thank the outgoing officers for their service to the local. I encourage all members to support your union officers in order to move our local forward. Stay safe, stay productive and enjoy the upcoming season.

Gary K. Griffin, B.M.

Motorcycle Club Benefit Ride

L.U. 26 (es,em,es,govt,ik,m), WASHINGTON, DC—in May, Local 26’s Motorcycle Riders’ Club held its 2nd Annual Poker Run Ride in Virginia and nearly 100 motorcycles participated. The run raised $35,500 for Special Love for Children with Cancer. Congratulations to the Local 26 softball team brought home a tournament trophy.

Diego Gutierrez and will attend the University of Virginia. Megan, daughter of Bro. Michael White, will study at James Madison University. Evan is the son of Bro. David Norman and will attend Virginia Tech University.

We mourn the following members, who passed away since our last article: Michael J. McDermott, Gustavo A. Ramirez, Robert A. Cherry, Minor A. Vaught, Joseph L. Lacey Jr., David A. Pometto, Charles E. Wise III and Richard B. Schuler.


Charles E. Graham, B.M.

Tribute to Service

L.U. 34 (em,ik,rrts,spa), PEORIA, IL—In recent months, we have had several Local 34 events, including the Local’s Steak Fry, Trap Shoot, Labor Day parades in Galesburg and Peoria, and Labor Night at the Peoria Chiefs’ games. Additionally, the fall Golf Outing in Galesburg supports Big Brothers and Big Sisters. We thank all the members who attended and volunteered at these events. Special thanks also go to all who participated and donated various items to all events. Without their support events like these would not be possible.

Labor Night at the Peoria Chiefs game was a great success. Former lifetime business manager/financial secretary Mike Everett was honored for his service to the Peoria area and invited to throw the ceremonial first pitch (see photo, at bottom). Thanks again, Mike, for all your years of service to both Local 34 and the Peoria community.

The work outlook for the Peoria area looks to remain steady for fall, but winter is approaching fast.

Marc Burnap, P.S.

Cleveland Local 36 members participate in job actions against Magnificat High School in Rocky River, OH.

Pickets & Job Actions

L.U. 38 (i), CLEVELAND, OH—We thank all the Local 38 members who showed up for the pickets and job actions at Magnificat High School in Rocky River. Many members who have sent their daughters to Magnificat recently called the school to voice their displeasure regarding use of nonunion labor; Local 38 thanks everyone who has spoken out. We hope the school administrators now realize that union wages enable us to send our children to their school, and we hope the administrators will make sure the next phase of work is all done with union labor. Thanks to Bro. Dan LeHotaly for taking the photos.

Calls for work have been coming in for various projects around town. Although we will most likely not be getting into book 2, we expect more calls for projects at the steel mill and for the apartments downtown. The conversion of the East Ohio Gas Building at 9th Street and Superior Avenue into 250 apartments should start soon, as well as the 250 apartments in the Ameritrust Tower at 9th and Euclid Avenue, and the apartments in the Schofield Building right across the street.

We had many members working at the Cleveland Browns stadium and the Browns training facility this summer. The Browns have announced $100 million in renovations to begin as soon as the end of this season. (And we hope that will be in February this season!)

Dennis Meaney, B.M./P.S.

Certification Courses

L.U. 42 (at,es,em,vs,ctb&spa), HARTFORD, CT—Local 42 and McPhee Electrical Contractors are building a new substation in Chicopee, MA. The work picture for Local 42 is still very slow. At this writing, we are waiting for two to three large transmission projects to start up in the fall.

At press time, the IBEW Local 42 OSHE Dept. (Occupational Safety & Health Education) planned to hold two sessions in September 2013 for the Continuing Education Course for our members who currently hold a Connecticut Electrical License for E-1, E-2, L-1 and L-2. The Department of Labor requires the “OSHA 10 course” to be renewed every five years. The OSHE Dept. is also offering a Crane Certification Course. For more information on courses, call the OSHE Dept. at 860-643-4048. The Dinner Cruise was cancelled for June 15, 2013, due to all the rain we had. The Connecticut River flooded Charter Oak Landing. As of this writing, the cruise was rescheduled for Sept. 7, 2013. The rest of our events have been very successful. Remember the Annual Christmas Smoker to be held at the Dec. 12, 2013, union meeting at the Knights of Columbus location in East Hartford, CT.

Jacquelyn Moffitt, P.S.

“Our Energy is Electric”

L.U. 48 (es,em,ik,rrts,spa), PORTLAND, OR—We are experiencing a surge of positive energy following Gary Young’s election as business manager. Gary stated: “In my IBEW career I have learned that assessing and valuing people’s strengths is key. I am proud of all of our Local 48 members who have volunteered their time to make a real difference in our community.”

Some recent examples of Local 48’s member involvement include the following: Joe Edmondson was appointed to TriMet’s board of directors (TriMet is our Portland area mass transit); Wayne Chow organized a group of members to march in Portland’s Starlight Parade in June; members Kathy and Lee Duncan organized the annual Unions for Kids Poker Run and Chill Cockfights that raised $46,000 for Portland’s Doernbecher Children’s Hospital.

Phil Parker was reappointed to a position on the Washington Transportation Commission. Members Joe DePue, Jodi Tillinghast and

iBEW Local 42 and McPhee Electrical Contractors are building a new substation in Chicopee, MA.
Bros. Jeff Krill, Don Gregorowicz, Anthony Joyner made a donation. We especially wish to recognize 10 percent to local area veterans. In addition, the donation was made to the Wounded Warrior Project and 10 poor children in a Tank Pull sponsored by the Clifton, NJ, Knights of Underground Department joined together to take part in the event.

L. U. 94 recently honored some of its deceased members. The books at Local 68, although not what they were, are still a great resource. The Historical Society and Museum host a “Working History” presentation at the Clark County Library. Bob Blair, P. S.

Bridget Quinn helped organize this year’s Women’s Day at the Races, which is designed to educate and encourage women to consider a career in the trades. Jack Cox, Pres.

Battle for Market Share

L. U. 68 (l), DENVER, CO—Greetingsthe brothers and sisters, the books at Local 68, although not what they could have been, have been slow and steady. This has let those brothers and sisters who could not, or chose not to, travel find work.

A thank-you goes out to all the locals that had work to offer our members off of their book. We continue the battle that you all have—getting more of the projects that are out there on our contractors’ side of the ledger. We extend our deepest sympathy to the families of our recently deceased brothers: James W. Scharf, Gregory C. Lease, Michael B. Shapulis and Darrell W. Jones.

Governor Attends Union Meeting

L. U. 102 (em.govt,lm,ct,aws), PATERNSON, NJ—Over 500 of our brothers and sisters packed the Barnyard and Carriage House for our special meeting July 29. On hand for the meeting was New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, who spoke for approximately 20 minutes and then opened the floor to a Q&A session that lasted about 50 minutes.

In an introduction, Bus. Mgr. Patrick DelleCava highlighted the governor’s success in luring private-sector business to New Jersey. Companies such as Bayer, Honeywell, Ferring Pharmaceuticals, Reckag, and Ashland Oil; these are all companies that the governor directly influenced, companies that have provided hundreds of jobs for our members. Private sector growth is vital to our local’s success; the jobs listed above are just a snapshot of the role this governor has played in providing work for the building trades’ community. Gov. Christie stated, “The most important way to make New Jersey better is to get people back to work; back to work solves a lot of problems, back to work gets everybody out of the house, back to work gets money coming into the house.” We thank Gov. Christie for spending time with us and for his commitment to job creation in New Jersey.

Bernie Corrigan, Pres.

‘Thanks to All Volunteers’

L. U. 110 (em,lt,ts,wp), ST. PAUL, MN—IBEW Local 110 thanks all of the volunteers who help make our communities a better place to live and work. We could not do it without you. Once again this year IBEW 110 has hired five Habitat for Humanity homes in our jurisdiction, five families now have a place to call home thanks to the help of our members. The work project continues to improve with many of our contractors reporting they are bidding on more work than they have in the last five years. Let’s hope that all bidding goes to our union contractors.

Our annual IBEW 110 family picnic was held in July and more than 500 people attended. It is our hope all that bidding goes to our union contractors. Let’s remember to buy American and buy union. Your job and future depend on it!

Brian Winkelaur, B. R.

‘Pullin Badgers’ Aid Veterans

L. U. 94 (klr,mt,sh), CRANBURY, NJ—On Sunday, June 23, members from Palisades Division Underground Department joined together to take part in a Tank Pull sponsored by the Clinton, NJ, Knights of Columbus to benefit the Wounded Warrior Project.

The pull was the culmination of a month-long fundraising effort by members of IBEW Local 94 to support this worthy cause. The 20 team members were joined by other brothers and sisters from the local and family members.

We raised $8,600, of which 90 percent was donated to the Wounded Warrior Project and 10 percent to local area veterans. In addition, the Pullin Badgers (our team name) came in first place with the fastest time for the pull! The local came in second place in donations. We thank everyone who made a donation. We especially wish to recognize Bros. Jeff Kil, Don Gregorowicz, Anthony Jayner and Justin Perdue for their outstanding effort.

Family Day at the Races was also a great success! Members and their families spent a fun-filled day at Monmouth Park. Thank you to everyone who came out. We hope you can join us again next year.

Carl Romao, B. A.

Local 124 recipients of the George Meyers Award for volunteer community service with Bay Scouts of America: Mick Owens (2009 award), Rick McWhirt (2013) and John Moreno (2008).

Voter Education & Mobilization

L. U. 124 (rts,em,mr,ts,se,spa&t), KANSAS CITY, MO—Local 124 inside wiremen ratified a new three-year agreement, with roughly two-thirds of the first year’s increase being used to maintain benefits. Missouri legislators debated more than two dozen anti-labor measures in 2013. Gov. Jay Nixon vetoed a paycheck deception bill. A bill modifying state prevailing wage passed; the governor did not sign it. Right to work for less didn’t get a Senate vote, but we are sure to see it again in 2014. Local 124 is committed to stopping any anti-labor agenda, especially right to work. We have increased our voter education and mobilization efforts.

In Kansas, Gov. Sam Brownback’s legisla
tive agenda is a failure as tax revenues fall. It is extremely corporate friendly and Brownback is suggesting it as a national model. Our outstanding Inside apprentice of 2013 was Joel Schmidt; the outstanding VDKS apprentice was Misti Myers-Wilson. Joel was the Local 124 young worker delegate at the Eleventh District Progress Meeting and attended NTI in Ann Arbor, MI.


Congratulations to recent retirees: Bros. Lonnie W. Harris, Martin E. Livingston, James P. Kelly, Gary D. Pratt, Dennis Reugsegger and Harold R. Thornton.

Steve Morales, P. S.

‘Work Outlook Encouraging’

L. U. 134 (ct,em,go,lm,rt,ts,wp), CHICAGO, IL—At this writing, our unemployment is still high. The book moved somewhat in the summer with annual school work.

The future looks bright, though, with numerous proposed projects. These include the following: a 4-million-square-foot development over three towers at Wolf Point; three new buildings for St. Anthony Hospital on the former site of Washburne Trade School; a $153 million venture at Harper College; a new car rental space, cargo facil-
ity, people mover and control tower at O’Hare Field; a new building at the former site of Northwestern’s Prentice Hospital; three hotels, a conference center and parking garage near Higgins/Bryan Manor; and a $1.5 billion undertaking for an entertainment district including hotels and a sports complex slated near the McCormick Place exhibition complex.

These projects all have project labor agreements and hopefully will put a majority of our unemployed members back to work.

Congratulations to Bus. Mgr. Terry Allen and his entire slate on their victory at this year’s June elec-
tion. 2014 is looking like it will be a very good year.

Frank Cunningham, B. R.

2013 JATC Graduates

L. U. 50 (em,lt,rt,wp), WAUKESHA, WI—Recently JATC graduation activities were held. The following apprentices all successfully completed their training program and are now inside wiremen! Our newest journeymen include: Steve Caronell, Ian Connce, Jonathan Dietz, Ryan Gettschul, Jeremiah Husko, Lucas Jones, Edwin Lopez, Michael Mukhney, Brandon Padilla, Doug Stelter and Ike Tulacz. The Hansen Award for the Highest GPA for the current school year went to Brandon Padilla. The Outstanding Apprentice Award for the highest GPA for all previous years combined went to Jeremial Husko. Congratulations to all of these graduates and we all wish you every success in your careers in the years to come.

Be sure to sign up for a journeymen update class or two during this fall session. A wise man once said that our education is the only thing that cannot be taken away from us. Knowledge of the many aspects of our trade only makes us more employable. I am still looking for photos and other memorabilia for our upcoming 100th anniversary activities. Please see me at any union meeting or leave items at the hall in my name. Thanks for any and all contributions.

Wendy J. Cordts, P. S.

‘Flush with Work’

L. U. 58 (l,rt,mt,wp), GREEN BAY, WI—Our local has been flush with work for most of the year. We had a real challenge manning all our projects. Once again we were helped out by travelling sisters and brothers. We received requests for manpower for: Marinette Marine and Bay Shipbuilding, which are two of our shipyards, as well as for the Lambeau Field renovation, Schreiber International headquarters, and the new Costco store.

In a campaign to increase membership, Local 58 held an open house Aug. 20 at our facility. Invitations were sent to our members as well as to any nonunion electrician who resides in our jurisdiction. Also invited were local officials, business leaders, Wisconsin Public Service and our neighbors. We took in about 20 applications for apprenticeship. Wisconsin Public Service representatives attended the open house to help dedicate a
Local 236 congratulates the Tri-City JATC Class of 2013.

Deatrick Forbes, and URD technician Cecil Story.

Ford, Jason Ayers, Amber Elrod, Rocco Arcaro and Fuller, Michael Wagner, Shaun Galloway, Frank.

journeyman linemen Marcus Thomas, Carlos

guys working the 429 job should be proud. The work even the dog will be crying foul.

days of summer and if August has anything on July,

sisters. We are writing this at the start of the dog

'Work Picture Looks Good'

L.U. 196 (govt,mt,o,t&u), ROCKFORD, IL—Local 196 recently participated in the Union Sportsmen’s Alliance “Boots on the Ground” project, trimming trees in a camping area for the Illinois Conservation Foundation so that the youth campers could safely continue to use the facility. The USA is a great organization that Local 196 will continue to support.

Our recent organizing campaign at the City of Geneva Street Department is going well, and 14 of the 16 employees have been certified as a bargaining unit, yet the employer has decided to attempt to dispute two of the employees’ ability to organize, which will slow the process. Another day, another fight! Organize!

Eric Patrick, B.M.

Who Designed the Inside Wiremen’s Pouch?

L.U. 230 (catv, em,lm,marka), VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA—This year’s Local 230 Retiree Luncheon in Nanaimo brought with it an unusual comment. “I designed the pouch,” declared 50-year service pin recipient Bro. B. Horseland.

The story goes that in 1952 while building the original Port Alberni Pulp and Paper Mill, he worked alongside several shipyard mateys who came out of the navy wearing a canvas pouch on their hip, which would hold a wireman’s tools in one single opening, as opposed to a box.

He, Bro. Horseland loved the idea of wearing a pouch that would hold all of his tools, so he sat down and designed a pouch that would have smaller open compartments to hold tools individually for his pliers, screwdrivers and hammer. He took his design down and designed a pouch which would hold all of his tools, so he sat down and designed a pouch that would have smaller open compartments to hold tools individually for his pliers, screwdrivers and hammer. He took his design down and designed a pouch which would hold all of his tools, so he sat down and designed a pouch that would have smaller open compartments to hold tools individually for his pliers, screwdrivers and hammer. He took his design down and designed a pouch which would have smaller open compartments to hold tools individually for his pliers, screwdrivers and hammer.

Or did Bro. Horseland from Local 230 design the pouch we all use and wear today?

Robert Bausch, Mbr. Dev.

2013 Apprenticeship Graduates

L.U. 226 (em,rtb,rtts&spa), TOPEKA, KS—Local 226 is pleased to recognize the apprenticeship graduating class of 2013. The graduates are pictured (at bottom, left) along with the apprenticeship director and several instructors.

2013 graduates are: Michael Ellis, Cory Moutzho, Craig Moranz, Zac Keshen, Nolan Glenn, Kiel Esquivel, Clyde Andrews, John Waters, Branner Gordon, Adam Hibsh, Derek Hansford, James Kent, Thomas Bostoon, Andrew Keating, Justin Haas and Bryan Sho.

See photo at top, right. The graduates were: Matt Battaglia, Erik Fritz, Daniel Gilbertson, Miguel Huerta-Ponce, Luke Poljak and Trey Replogle.

As our Outstanding Graduate, Trey attended the NJATC’s National Training Institute at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor this summer and was generously sponsored by our LMCC. Milwaukee and Klein each donated substantial gifts to the graduates.

This year we were honored to have in attendance Diane Ravnik, chief of the Division of Apprentice Standards from the state of California, as well as three trustees from Hartnell College: Bill Freeman, Ray Montemayor and Demetrio Pruneda. Hartnell College is our LEA (lead education agency). Our keynote speaker was Dr. Willard Lewallen, president of Hartnell College.

Congratulations to the Inside Class of 2013.

Stephen Slawcek, P.S.

Inside Apprenticeship Graduation

L.U. 234 (b&m), CASTROVILLE, CA—Our Inside Apprenticeship Graduation was June 7 at the Hyatt in Monterey. (See photo at top, right.) The graduates were: Matt Battaglia, Erik Fritz, Daniel Gilbertson, Miguel Huerta-Ponce, Luke Poljak and Trey Replogle.

As our Outstanding Graduate, Trey attended the NJATC’s National Training Institute at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor this summer and was generously sponsored by our LMCC. Milwaukee and Klein each donated substantial gifts to the graduates.

This year we were honored to have in attendance Diane Ravnik, chief of the Division of Apprentice Standards from the state of California, as well as three trustees from Hartnell College: Bill Freeman, Ray Montemayor and Demetrio Pruneda. Hartnell College is our LEA (lead education agency). Our keynote speaker was Dr. Willard Lewallen, president of Hartnell College.

Congratulations to the Inside Class of 2013.

Stephen Slawcek, P.S.

JATC Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 236 (catv,es,gtv,lm,lnmb,rtbkt), ALBANY, NY—It is that time of the year again, time to say congratulations to our Tri-City JATC Class of 2013. In June, a graduation dinner was held to honor 35 of Local 236’s newest journeyman wiremen. It is always a great pleasure to watch these young men and women receive their diplomas, all of them standing tall and proud of their great accomplishment.

Graduates Nathan Elble and Shawn Hildebrandt received special recognition for their outstanding academic achievements. Bro. Elble was recognized for having the highest cumulative GPA over the five-year apprenticeship, and Bro. Hildebrandt was recognized for having the second highest cumulative GPA during the five-year apprenticeship. We wish the entire class all the best of luck and hope they enjoy a long and prosperous career as IBEW journeyman wiremen.

Work has begun on the Owens Corning 2.6 megawatt solar project, Local 236’s largest solar project to date. Intermountain Electric is installing a 9,000-panel array that will cover nine acres of land and will produce more than 6 percent of the plant’s annual electricity needs. Way to go green, brothers!

Michael Torres, P.S.

Election & Graduation

L.U. 226 (ees,ltb,rtbkt), STEUBENVILLE, OH—Brothers and sisters of Local 226 welcome our newest inside wiremen, who completed their five-year apprenticeship program and earned an associate degree from Eastern Gateway Community College in Technical Studies. Congratulations on a job well done to the new journeyman wiremen: Tyler Kelley, Stephen Badgley, Christopher Scammell, Lance Lucairelli, Matthew Keller, Michael Bell, Charles Nemeth, Greg Whiting, Donald Hipkiss and Dustin Crawford. (See photo on pg. 12.) Also, congratulations to our newly elected officers: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Kyle Brown, Pres. Phil

Local 256 congratulates the Tri-City JATC Class of 2013.
**Local Lines**

Local 246 congratulates the recent apprenticeship graduating class.

**2013 Apprentice Graduation**

L.U. 270 (IA), OAK RIDGE, TN—As of this writing, work is still very slow in our area. A couple of small jobs have been let and there have been a small number of members, but there are still a substantial number of workmen on the books.

At press time, we are still awaiting a start date on the Uranium Processing Facility project at the Y-12 Department of Energy site in Oak Ridge.

We recently welcomed our newest class of apprenticeship graduates to our ranks. The graduation ceremony was May 30. We are honored to have these fine men and women joining us and helping to ensure the future of our great union.

The 2013 graduates are: Justin Langley, Josh Davidson, Blake Edwards, and Josh Peck. Congrats to all.

**Weather & Work Forecast: Cool**

L.U. 280 (i,ees,em,e,Jm,mt,nts&sk), SALEM, OR—As fall approaches, we see cooler temperatures and a cooler work picture in Local 280. There will be projects starting in the near future, but the financial woes of businesses and access to funding has kept many projects from rising out of the ground. This story is not new to many locals around the country, but Bus. Mgr. Tim Frew and the Local 280 staff are working diligently with our contractors to compete and capture the market share within our jurisdiction.

Networking with general contractors and political officials, as well as educating and reintroducing the public to the IBEW are critically important to the success of our local and many like it around the country. With the help of our membership, we will continue these efforts into the coming year.

In late July, Donna Evans, our office secretary of 23 years, concluded her career and was bound for retirement. We wish her well in this new chapter of her life and thank her for her service and dedication to Local 280 and all of its members.

**Brotherhood in Action**

L.U. 292 (em,gvL,nts&sk), MINNEAPOLIS, MN—The Local 292 Golf Tournament was July 22 with 105 members joining together in brotherhood and camaraderie. The winning team comprised Brandon Eggert, Lane Helgeson, Randy Egggers-gluess and Brian West.

The Local 292 Family Picnic was Aug. 17 at Bunker Hills Regional Park. Each year we alternate locations; in August 2014, the picnic will return to Minnehaha Wabun Park in Minneapolis. Each year we have a great turnout with families enjoying BBQ, corn on the cob, bounce house and foot races for the kids, live music and bingo.

The Local 292 Brotherhood Committee assists members in need or distress, either with gift cards from our Local 292 food shelf, or teams of brothers and sisters helping around the house. If you need assistance or know of another member in need, please call our Brotherhood line at (620) 677-4247 or send an e-mail to brotherhood@ibew292.org.

We are responsible for our own safety at work. It’s important that you not only create a safe environment for yourself but that you also help others around you be safe as well. Be aware of your surroundings and correct things on the spot instead of ignoring them.


**Work Outlook is Strong**

L.U. 300 (govLmnt&sk), MONTPELIER, VT—The summer of 2013 was good to IBEW Local 300 Unit 1 electricians. Along with the usual school work, our largest local contractor, Peck Electric, secured the contracts and construction of two large solar fields. These jobs consistently employed 20-30 IBEW members daily during construction. These two jobs were in addition to multiple mid-size and residential installations that Peck Solar (a division of Peck Electric) has been and will be performing. Once again solar is the leader.

Our contractors continue to see a steady flow of blueprints crossing their desks, and they are aggressively bidding them. We are at full employment, with several book two hands working, and we are increasing membership nearly on a daily basis.

We are very optimistic about the future work outlook, as we are starting the largest first-year apprenticeship class we’ve had in many years. At the time of this writing, all are gainfully employed and many have been for months. My goal is in five years to state that we graduated the largest fifth-year class in many years.

In closing, I sincerely extend thanks and praise to the brothers and sisters who gave their all to ensure that Local 300 jobs came in on time and within budget. You truly are the IBEW.

Timothy J. Labbombard, Mbr. Dev. Dir.

**‘Look Toward the Future’**

L.U. 302 (Lrts&skp), MARTINEZ, CA—Our local union elections are behind us and the votes have been tallied. It is time for us to look toward the future.

With a new administration come new ideas and new ways of facing old challenges. Change can present difficult challenges, but it can also reveal new opportunities.

In this spirit, we welcome a new era of member outreach, transparency, and regaining our market share that was taken for granted for so long.

Hopefully, we have learned from the mistakes of the past. Failures have been duly noted. But our past successes have been tallied, too! They will serve as a platform for even greater gains in the days to come.

Change for its own sake is pointless. But a trim of the sails—setting the course toward a brighter horizon—benefits all those aboard.

We are committed to bringing the members back into the fold and forming a renewed and invigorated relationship with our contractor partners and our sister building trades locals.

There is so much to be done and we have a long way to go.

It is time to grab the tools and get to work!

Bob Lilley, P.S.

**Former Business Mgr. Retires**

Local 306 (i), AKRON, OH—Local 306 members wish to thank retiring former business manager Mark Douglas Sr. for his many years of dedicated service to the IBEW and our local. Mark has served with distinction in many capacities over his 43-year career—as Executive Board member, recording secretary, trustee, assistant business manager and, finally, business manager. We wish Bro. Douglas a long, enjoyable retirement.

The Local 306 election of officers was held in June and Bro. Michael Might, our former organizer, was elected business manager. Also elected were: Pres. Mike Kammer, Vice Pres. Dave Nult, Treas. Lou Torcaiso, Rec. Sec. Jason Hannah, Executive Board members are: Dave Bedane, Shan Fisk, Pete Hafer, Mike Johnson, Adam Wright, Tom Wright and Chuck Zittle. Examining Board members are: Rick Hicks, Jim Lives and Joe Quensberry.

Congratulations to all.

Thanks go to election judge John Crockett and tellers Mark Stoltz, Rick Field, Nick Taras and Pau Zimmerman.

With sadness we report the loss of retired Bro. William Henninger Jr. We send our condolences to his entire family.

Thomas Wright, Org./P.S.

**‘IBEW Local 340 North’**

L.U. 340 (i,rts&skp), SACRAMENTO, CA—Fifteen years ago IBEW Local 340 amalgamated with former Local 442 in Redding, CA, and picked up seven counties: Butte, Glenn, Lassen, Plumas, Shasta, Tehama and Trinity. Although in 1999 employment was very slow in these counties, we kept the original Redding business office open in order to maintain a presence in the area and to continue to provide service to the members who lived and worked there. This was the birth of “Local 340 North.”
Since elected in July, my Sacramento staff and I have had the opportunity to travel up North to meet the members who continue to use this office for dues, dispatch and monthly unit meetings. We have been getting up to speed on what is going on in the Northern area regarding politics, the work picture, organizing, etc. Our visits were very welcomed by Aust. Bus. Mgr. Andrew Meredith, as well as by the members who attended the unit meetings. It was great getting to know some of these dedicated union members, and it is our goal to maintain support to Local 340 North for years to come. With the help of our Northern members, I am confident we can increase growth in both membership and employment in this area. The Local 340 Northern Unit office is located at 900 Locust Street, in Redding. When in the area, be sure and stop by!

Rest In Peace: Bros. Tony R. Cimino (father of Bro. Tim Cimino), John C. Fain (father of Bro. Jeff Fain), and Charles L. King.

Tom Okumura, B.M.

Newly Elected Business Manager

L.U. 364 (cat,vees,em,es) (mt,ts&spa), ROCKFORD, IL—Signaling the beginning of a new era for our local, Bro. Tom Sink was overwhelmingly elected by the membership as business manager/financial secretary. Nearly 300 members voted in the June election of officers, the largest turnout in 12 years. At the July union meeting, Bro. Sink was sworn in for his first elected term as business manager. The selection was welcomed by Asst. Bus. Mgr. Andrew Meredith, Pres. Patrick Tomlin, E-Board member Theresa Fernbaugh, Bus. Mgr. Tom Sink, Rec. Sec. Greg Cote and Pres. Patrick Tomlin.

Local 340 North members attend monthly unit meeting. Asst. Bus. Mgr. Andrew Meredith is third from left, back row.


Strong Work Picture

L.U. 428 (gov,lt&ts&spa), BAKERSFIELD, CA—The work picture remains strong with more than 2,900 megawatts of photovoltaic projects on the books in our area. Add to that three large projects at both the junior college and the university here in Bakersfield, as well as a brand new hospital in nearby Tehachapi, and the next few years should make for a very busy time.

Congratulations to all officers! With elections behind us it is a time to come together to strengthen our Brotherhood, work together, look out for one another and continue to engage our adversaries, the nonunion contractors, at every opportunity.

Charlie Laskonis, B.A./Org.

Summer Activities a Success

L.U. 424 (rs,vees,em,es) (mt,ts&spa), EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA—Unit 2 had a Pancake Breakfast & BBQ Lunch for their members on July 5 to mark the start of the 10-day Calgary Stampede & Exhibition, raising about $100 for Unit 2 Retirees. Thank you to Darcy Duthie, Darcy’s daughter Lindsay, Larry Gatner, George Gladney, George Smith and others on the grills, especially the Calgary Retirees, who did a super job on set up and take-down.

Next was Tina Stevenson’s July 13 Unit 1 Family Picnic in Edmonton’s Dunlack Park. A big “thank you” to Tina and husband Scott Stevenson, who have been the impetus behind this picnic for years, assisted by a few Retirees and office staff. The annual Unit 1 Pancake Breakfast & Lunch was July 19, done entirely by the Edmonton Retirees, who raised $675 toward some projects. Simultaneously, in southern Alberta, the Unit 2 Golf Tournament was played, having been rescheduled from June due to flooding in Calgary. Edmonton’s Unit 1 Golf Tournament was July 26. July 19 was the first Executive Board meeting for officers elected to a three-year term in June. Bus. Mgr. Kevin Levy, Pres. Dan Smith, Unit 1 Chmn. Dave Towers, Unit 2 Chmn. Darcy Duthie, Unit 3 Chmn. Gord Spackman and Unit 4 Chmn. Jim Round are all returning. New faces on the Board are Vice Pres. Fred Babiaik, Rec. Sec. Dan Maher and Treas. Paul Cherry. Congratulations to the successful candidates!

Dave Anderson, P.S.

Graduating Class of 2013

L.U. 440 (lt&ts&spa), RIVERSIDE, CA—As the first semester of Local 440’s largest first-year apprenticeship class in our history begins, we wish to recognize our graduating class of 2013.

The 2013 five-year apprenticeship program graduates are: Jason Amangrane, Christopher Berg, Aaron Candelaria, Daniel Casperson Jr., Alfonso Ceballos, Daniel Corson, Ryan Davis, Wallace Russell Heaps, Philip Holst, Verónica Inglada-Llumado, Dakota Kritzer, Richard Lara, Bradley Long, Christopher Lovio, Michael Lucas, Eddie Navarre, Andrew Richards, Mikael Stevens, Robert Webb and Juan Valencia. The two-year accelerated program graduates are: Frank Alman, Justin Biggs, Christopher Cooper Sr., Dante Coz, David Deiss II, Geoffrey Drennan, Jorge Huertas, Tom Martinez and Aurelio Rabilava. The Sound and Telecommunications Installer graduate is Nathan Habeker.

We are proud of all our brothers and sisters who committed, made the sacrifice, and completed the program. (See photo, at bottom right, of some of the graduates.)

Bro. Mikael Stevens was named Outstanding Riverside Apprentice for this graduating class. Bro. Stevens also received the Willis L. Fehlman Outstanding Apprentice Award, presented to one apprentice by the Southern Sierras Chapter NECA.

Good jobs—graduates—now it’s your turn to take all that you have learned and help this great Brotherhood thrive.

Bernie Bolland, Org.

Ann Pannell Retires—37 Years of Service

L.U. 520 (lt&spa), AUSTIN, TX—Congratulations to Ann Pannell on her retirement. Ann has served Local 520 as a secretary for 37 years and has been a member of the local for the past 15 years. Her husband, Billy, is also retiring from his job as a court bailiff this year. Congratulations to you both, Ann and Billy, and may you enjoy your time off.

At the time of this writing, the local has opened negotiations on a proposed wage and benefit increase; there is no update to report as of press time. The AEJATC has a new training director, Jim Strickland became the new director in June 2013.

Lone Price, Pres.

Annual Picnic & Golf Tournament

L.U. 530 (lok.rb), SARNA, ONTARIO, CANADA—July 21 saw Local 530 hold its Annual Picnic at Bluewater Fun Park. All members along with their spouses and children were invited to the water park to enjoy the rides and water slides.

On Aug. 9, Local 530 enjoyed perfect weather at Huron Oaks Golf Club for the Annual Golf Tournament. Participants played 18 holes of golf, followed by a steak dinner and prizes for everyone in attendance. The scramble foursome with the best score was an amazing 14 under.

Once again for both these events, a big thanks goes out to our Recreation Committee! Local 530 would like to take this opportunity to thank Locals 105 Hamilton, 402 Thunder Bay, 1687 Sudbury, and 2038 Regina for employing our members during these trying times.

Al Byers, P.S.

L.U. 440 (lt&ts&spa), RIVERSIDE, CA—As the first semester of Local 440’s largest first-year apprenticeship class in our history begins, we wish to recognize our graduating class of 2013.

The 2013 five-year apprenticeship program graduates are: Jason Amangrane, Christopher Berg, Aaron Candelaria, Daniel Casperson Jr., Alfonso Ceballos, Daniel Corson, Ryan Davis, Wallace Russell Heaps, Philip Holst, Verónica Inglada-Llumado, Dakota Kritzer, Richard Lara, Bradley Long, Christopher Lovio, Michael Lucas, Eddie Navarre, Andrew Richards, Mikael Stevens, Robert Webb and Juan Valencia. The two-year accelerated program graduates are: Frank Alman, Justin Biggs, Christopher Cooper Sr., Dante Coz, David Deiss II, Geoffrey Drennan, Jorge Huertas, Tom Martinez and Aurelio Rabilava. The Sound and Telecommunications Installer graduate is Nathan Habeker.

We are proud of all our brothers and sisters who committed, made the sacrifice, and completed the program. (See photo, at bottom right, of some of the graduates.)

Bro. Mikael Stevens was named Outstanding Riverside Apprentice for this graduating class. Bro. Stevens also received the Willis L. Fehlman Outstanding Apprentice Award, presented to one apprentice by the Southern Sierras Chapter NECA.

Good jobs—graduates—now it’s your turn to take all that you have learned and help this great Brotherhood thrive.

Bernie Bolland, Org.

Ann Pannell Retires—37 Years of Service

L.U. 520 (lt&spa), AUSTIN, TX—Congratulations to Ann Pannell on her retirement. Ann has served Local 520 as a secretary for 37 years and has been a member of the local for the past 15 years. Her husband, Billy, is also retiring from his job as a court bailiff this year. Congratulations to you both, Ann and Billy, and may you enjoy your time off.

At the time of this writing, the local has opened negotiations on a proposed wage and benefit increase; there is no update to report as of press time. The AEJATC has a new training director, Jim Strickland became the new director in June 2013.

Lone Price, Pres.

Annual Picnic & Golf Tournament

L.U. 530 (lok.rb), SARNA, ONTARIO, CANADA—July 21 saw Local 530 hold its Annual Picnic at Bluewater Fun Park. All members along with their spouses and children were invited to the water park to enjoy the rides and water slides.

On Aug. 9, Local 530 enjoyed perfect weather at Huron Oaks Golf Club for the Annual Golf Tournament. Participants played 18 holes of golf, followed by a steak dinner and prizes for everyone in attendance. The scramble foursome with the best score was an amazing 14 under.

Once again for both these events, a big thanks goes out to our Recreation Committee! Local 530 would like to take this opportunity to thank Locals 105 Hamilton, 402 Thunder Bay, 1687 Sudbury, and 2038 Regina for employing our members during these trying times.

Al Byers, P.S.

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Lone Price, Pres.


Local 530 would like to take this opportunity to thank Locals 105 Hamilton, 402 Thunder Bay, 1687 Sudbury, and 2038 Regina for employing our members during these trying times.

Al Byers, P.S.

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2013 JATC Graduates
L.U. 558 (catv,em,Lmt,o,rbt,ts,spak), SHEFFIELD, AL—The North Alabama JATC annual Apprentice Graduation Banquet was May 23. The class of 2013 produced seven linemen and 26 wiremen. This class of wiremen is the first to successfully complete the craft-certification and state electrical testing exam. While these new policies bring an added workload, we believe this could be the most valuable tool in regaining work in our competitive industry. It also validates our motto “Aptitude, Skills and Knowledge,” a distinguishing feature of the IBEW/NECA training program.

The 2013 wiremen graduates are: Nicholas Moore, Travis Grossheim, Blaine Jones, Blake Berry, Jimmy Evans, Zachary Aday, Benny Dunn Jr., John Ciemons, Eric Clemmons, Jeremy Morgan, Bobby Gregory, Matt Overton, Ryan Stooksberry, Orrie Lansdell, Brett Sellers, Corey Matlock, Joshua Austin, Anwar Willis, Nathan Jaynes, Brandon Austin, Anwar Willis, Nathan Jaynes, Brandon Orrie Lansdell, Brett Sellers, Corey Matlock, Joshua Austin, Anwar Willis, Nathan Jaynes, Brandon

The lineman graduates are: Timothy Forrester, Joel Cole, Jason Borden, David Scott, Tyler Pace, Preston Parker and Zachary Tubbs. Outstanding Wireman Apprentice: John Ciemons. Outstanding Lineman Apprentice: Tim Forrester. Work has been moderate this year. We completed the spring outage at Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant. And work is steady at the third Toyota Plant being built in Huntsville, AL; this plant was scheduled to be completed by early fall, but inclement weather may extend that date. We continue to promote our Utility Workers on successfully promoting Senate Bill 66, which gives added protection to our utility workers, especially during times of emergency.

Tony Quillen, Pres./A.B.M.

2013 Graduating Class
L.U. 606 (em,es,i,rtb,spa&u), ORLANDO, FL—Local 606 congratulates the graduating class of 2013. The skill level of the local will be greatly enhanced with the addition of these graduates. They are: Lorraine Lauer, Mark Dunham, Byron Hand, William Linnwag, Russell Murdock, Shuanell Peterson, Lavonace Pettiford, Mark Brown III, Richard Daisley, Lawrence Hedrick, Keith Kimbrell, Brandon Rickert, Jeremy Wirtz and Adam Zimmer.

Local 606 also honors retiree Bill Waits for 65 years of dedicated service. Bro. Waits sits on the local’s Credit Union Board of Trustees and continues to be an active member of the local and the IBEW. We encourage all the recent graduates to follow Bill’s footsteps of making the IBEW stronger and larger.

‘Let’s Get Out the Vote’
L.U. 666 (lmt,ts,spa), RICHMOND, VA—As we approach the fall elections, I would like to call attention to one of the candidates for governor, Ken Cuccinelli. We posted a link on our Facebook page showing Ken saying he would “not support collective bargaining for public or private employees in Virginia.” Let’s all get out to phone bank and walk precincts and vote and be sure he does NOT represent our state if he does not support our way of life.

Our picnic was in June and everyone had a great time. If you could not make it, come out next year or join us at the Christmas Dance. Thanks to the members who put these events together!

Please come and get involved with the Volunteer Organizing Committee; a little time and energy from a lot of members can make a real difference. If you are out of work, come take a salting class and help with workplace organizing. We have had a couple of members do some real good work with a contractor in the area! We have an active Twitter feed; please follow us @ibew666.

Many thanks to all those who are putting in work for the local as an officer, on a committee, helping with organizing, or volunteering on one of our many events.

Charles Stely, P.S.

Local 606 also encourages all IBEW members to do their part in making our union and America stronger. Attend union meetings, become active in your local, and buy American/union-made products whenever possible.

Fernando Rendon, R.S./P.S.

‘A Little Help from Our Friends’
L.U. 636 (as,catv,em,spa&u), TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA—Spirts were high as golfers gathered for a day of fun, fellowship and fundraising at the 2013 IBEW Local 636 Classic, hosted by Waterloo North Hydro. We extend heartfelt thanks to CEO Rene Gatie, Unit Chair Sharlene Cameron, Pamela Kidd, Laurie Clayton and all who donated their time and talents to ensure the tournament’s success.

We raised more than $12,000, which was donated to our charity of choice—MySafeWork. These funds will help our friend Rob Ellis continue his campaign to raise awareness among young workers regarding workplace health and safety. At such recent gathering, an act of kindness by a student demonstrated that this program is indeed inspiring courage and change. After receiving a cash prize during the presentation, this student decided to donate it back to the Heart & Stroke Foundation in honour of the late Int. Vice Pres. Phillip Flemming, who passed away the week before. Without ever meeting Phil, this young champion seized the opportunity to “pay it forward” in his name. The youth of today truly are our hope for tomorrow.

Kudos also go to members at Process Group who helped raise $5,500 to assist a union brother and his wife as she battled cancer. Unions: making a positive difference in the world around us and lending a hand whenever we can. That is the true spirit of solidarity.

Paddy Vlanich, P.S.

Local 692 Retires
L.U. 692 (lmt,bt,spa&u), BAY CITY, MI—As reported in our August article, we did not have any accepted nominations for recording secretary and treasurer prior to the June election of officers. The Executive Board subsequently filled the vacancies for those offices, appointing Bro. Jeff Wilcox as recording secretary and Bro. Carl Overly as treasurer.

Our picture this month is of recently retired former business manager Bro. Mark Bauer. Again, we wish to thank Bro. Bauer for his years of service to our local. His long-time, dedicated service to the IBEW is greatly appreciated. We wish him a healthy and relaxing retirement.


Please remember: Union meetings are the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. When the first Monday of the month is a holiday, the meeting will be on the following Monday. Please come and get involved. The more we are all involved the stronger we will be.

Tammy Gottlieber, P.S.
Kudos to 2013 Graduates

L.U. 760 (I,ICTT,RTS,SPABU), KNOXVILLE, TN—Congratulations to the Local 760 class of 2013 apprenticeship graduates.

The 2013 graduates are: Denver Berry, Krystal Cads, Christopher Cromwell, Shane Gordon, Jerry Hembree, Adam James, Gerald “Chad” Kuhn, Walter “Trip” Lambert, David Manning, Bradley Massengale, Steven Miller, Greg Shields, Travis Rieuthey, Charles Schaefer, Bret Schulz, Jimmy Shields, Michael Wallace and Christopher Williams.

We are proud of all of our new brother/sister journeymen wiremen!

R. Cavalletto, P.S.

Local 760 congratulates the graduating Apprenticeship Class of 2013. Seated is JATC Training Dir. A.J. Pearson.

Alabama Senate Bill 66

L.U. 904 (IL), TALLASSEE, AL—Shown in the photo below are IBEW Local 904 lobbyists Greg Daniels and Mike Walker with Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley. Gov. Bentley had just signed Senate Bill 66. SB 66 is heralded for being among the strongest utility worker protection laws in the nation.

Greg Daniels, F.S./R.S.

Weathering the Storms

L.U. 1166 (il,ICTT,IL&L), TUCSON, AZ—After a few wicked storms, the monsoons have come to an end. Our members have once again safely and expe-
diously replaced a record number of poles and restored power to the community; and when it was all said and done—the excellent customer service that all of our members performed spoke for itself. Several Local 1166 Tucson Electric Power linemen will compete in October at the Linemen’s Rodeo in Missouri. They are: Brandon Balbierz, Lucas Cummings, Leander Johnson, Mike Halbur and Chito Ortega. The linemen will show off their skills as they “glove up and work it union style.”

Congratulations to Bryant Farrow, Phil Wilhite, Todd Cornell, Martin Cota-Robles and Jason Nash on completing their apprenticeship programs and becoming journeymen in their respective crafts.

Our union family grew when the following employees were organized and became Local 1166 members: Ray Bowen, Clark Kasey, Lillian Canty, Alyssa Kuzukian, Javier Rodriguez, David Ontiveros, Natalie Naou, Bryan English, Hershel Kitchens, Eric Eager, Janice Malone, Maria Sherfield, Desiree Torres, Blake Katterman and Adam Myers.

Welcome to the Brotherhood!

Local 1166 Bro. Roger Asplin takes down on elk that scored around 360 with a 50-inch-wide rack. Hunting season is an Asplin family tradition, Bro. Roger’s wife and father were drawn for bull elk tags as well.

Czech Days Festival Volunteers

L.U. 2366 (IL), LINCOLN, NE—IBEW Local 2366 members and Schneider Electric joined forces to stock and man a stand, handing out free bottled water at the 52nd Annual Czech Days Festival in Wilber, NE, August 3-4. The volunteers made arrangements with the Wilber Volunteer Fire Dept. and set up the stand at the Wilber Fire Hall.

On Saturday the weather was beautiful, as temperatures reached a high of only the mid-80s. This for Nebraska in August is quite unusual. Normally it’s in the 90s or higher.

Large crowds came out for the parade. The stand was very well-received and appreciated by many. Sunday morning started with light rain, with temperatures in the mid-60s. By parade time, the temperature reached 75 and big crowds came out to enjoy the last day of the festival.

Pres./Bus. Mgr. Rocky Maas said the stand was very well-received and appreciated by many. Sunday morning started with light rain, with temperatures in the mid-60s. By parade time, the temperature reached 75 and big crowds came out to enjoy the last day of the festival.

Local 2366 E:Board Chair Shelley McVey (left) and Pres./Bus. Mgr. Rocky Maas at the 52nd Annual Czech Days Festival.

Summary Annual Report for Int’l Brotherhood of Electrical Workers’ Pension Benefit Fund

This is a summary of the annual report for the INT’L BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS’ PENSION BENEFIT FUND, (Employer Identification No. 52-0951104, Plan No. 001) for the period July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012. 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 $144,018,152. These expenses included $51,701,014 in administrative expenses and $53,705,105 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries. A total of 44,603 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 $3,709,654,665 as of June 30, 2012 compared to $3,761,824,302 as of July 1, 2011. During the plan year the plan experienced a decrease in its net assets of $52,171,447. 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 $59,315,792, including employee contributions of $56,538,733, gains of $40,900,234 from the sale of assets and earnings from investments of $7,666,450, gain from foreign currency translation of $2,150,137 and other income of $188,410.

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;
3. Transactions in excess of 5 percent of the plan assets; and
4. 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

SALVATORE J. CHILIA
International Secretary-Treasurer
900 7th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
45-3922185 (Employer Identification Number)
(202) 728-6200

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

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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

All in to Win?

Five years in from the start of the worst economic recession in recent history, things are finally looking up for the IBEW. Our members are going back to work and some big projects are coming down the pipe that could potentially mean thousands of jobs.

And we’re seeing an increasing number of organizing wins—both in construction and professional and industrial, including inspiring victories that were showcased at this year’s Membership Development conference last month.

Good news, sure. But is it enough? Are we as a union doing everything we can to follow our mandate to organize every single electrical worker in North America under one roof?

As I told conference attendees: No.

I see the effort put in every day to organize—at the International Office, at the districts, at the locals and in the field. We’re working. We’re trying.

But the truth is, as an organization, we’re still not all in. Too many leaders and members still don’t get that it’s our future on the line if we don’t grow.

Don’t believe me? Take a look around in your neighborhood. What jobs aren’t being done by us? How many IBEW stickers do you see on the helmets or trucks by the newest construction site?

What about the folks who install your cable or satellite TV service? Or those who bring you the news or assemble electrical parts? Are they union?

It doesn’t help to say “But look at this big project we got.” Or “We represent the boys down at the power plant.”

Let me be blunt. If most of electrical work in your area is being done nonunion, then we’re in trouble. And the truth is that pretty much sums up the situation in every part of North America right now.

We developed some bad habits during the IBEW’s heyday in the 50s and 60s, but the worst one is the idea that we’re an exclusive club.

Reality check. We’re not the Elks Lodge and if we’re not doing everything we can, digging deep for every tool at our disposal, to organize and recruit every worker in our respective industries, then the IBEW’s future is precarious at best.

And that means buy-in from everyone—from the rank-and-file on up to my office.

We’ve made some important strides forward. Let’s all pull together to keep this Brotherhood alive and thriving for another 120 years and beyond.

Storm Responders in Your Neighborhood

A year ago this month, the Northeast and parts of the Mid-Atlantic were battered by one of the worst storms to hit the United States in recent memory. Hurricane Sandy combined with a weather front moving in from the west to form a “superstorm” that killed more than 280 people and left $68 billion in damages in its wake. Some parts of coastal New York and New Jersey are still recovering.

From the moment the National Weather Service first picked up Sandy on its radar to confronting its terrible aftermath, IBEW linemen were there, ready to respond to the challenges of rebuilding the electrical infrastructure.

It’s dangerous, difficult work, requiring our members to stay on the clock for sometimes weeks at a time. Without their efforts, residents of New Jersey might still be sitting in the dark.

But as we know all too well, the utility industry is understaffed and lacks the necessary manpower to restore power in a timely manner, leading to a barrage of public criticism about delays and repair bottlenecks.

The utility industry and emergency officials know that the IBEW is an invaluable frontline resource in an emergency response. But they weren’t taking advantage of everything we had to offer.

As we report in this issue of the Electrical Worker, utilities are now reaching across branch lines to recruit inside linemen for emergency response teams to meet the challenges of future Sandys.

We won’t give up our struggle to replenish the ranks of retiring linemen, but neither will we turn our backs on our communities in need.

As power professionals rooted in our communities, we have the skills and the personal interest to ensure recoveries happen in a timely manner. And our commitment to the Code of Excellence—with its emphasis on daily on-the-job performance and safety, and building strong employer-employee partnerships to get the job done—is just what America needs to get back on her feet the next time a big storm hits.

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Stakeholders in the utility industry get it—let’s make sure our neighbors and friends do as well. In that vein, keep your eyes open for our latest TV ad, which is airing on CBS and Fox Sports throughout the NFL season. Residents of the Mid-Atlantic will also soon be seeing an ad focused on the IBEW’s contributions to Sandy recovery. You can also watch them on our YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/user/theElectricalWorker.
A Selfless Act
When my daughter Alie was 7 years old, she was diagnosed with chronic kidney disease. We were devastated to learn that eventually she would need a kidney transplant at a future date. As years went by her kidney function continued to decline and the time for transplant was close enough at hand for the doctors to tell us to start looking for a relative or close friend who would be willing to donate. Having a living relative that would be willing to donate would give her the best chance of transplant having the most success. I had one family member, besides myself, who went for the potential donor workup. My sister was a different blood type and that immediately ruled her out. I was ruled out as a donor due to having high blood pressure.

It was about this time that I started working at the Brandon Shores Air Scrubber Project and was running a crew of about 12 to 15 guys. I was laying out work for one of my crew members for the following day so I could take my daughter for a doctor appointment. He then asked me why I was taking off and I told him the story of my daughter. As his eyes began to fill with tears, he looked at me and said, “I don’t have any children of my own. I was adopted and I feel like I was put on this earth to make a difference. I want to be the one to give her a kidney.” My Local 24 brother, Emanuel Anderson, had just made the most selfless offer possible. I told Emanuel that we did not even know if he would be a match. He said he would go be tested. He was the same blood type as my daughter and his tissue match was good enough to be considered. After a few more medical tests and procedures, he was declared a match. My family often wondered how a stranger would be willing to do so much for a family that he barely knew. It didn’t take long for us learn the type of person and brother he is.

On August 28, 2013, my daughter received a healthy kidney from Emanuel. The next day, Emanuel was discharged from the hospital and six days later, my daughter was allowed to come home. Both are doing well. As I see my daughter’s health drasti-

cally improve every day, I reflect upon Emanuel’s kindness and generosity. Needless to say, Emanuel will forever not only be my local union brother, but a family member.

The world would be a much better place if it were filled with more people like him. My family considers him their hero. Many of our local union members have learned the value of true brotherhood.

Randall Collins, Local 24 member Baltimore, Md.

From Facebook: Every month the IBEW Facebook page receives thousands of comments from our dynamic and engaged community of members and friends.

I am the mother of deceased member James Shukait, Ann Arbor, Mich., Local 252. Jim was so proud of his career choice and union brotherhood. His son, Hunter, who is 8 years old, has his hard hat and I am trying to fill it with stickers from around the U.S.A. Could anyone send a sticker from their local to add to his memory hard hat? It would mean so much to him? Cathy Lovelace Shukait, 51295 Judd Road, Belleville, Mich. 48111. Thank you in advance.

Cathy Shukait
Belleville, Mich.

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

Annual Motorcycle Ride is a Mile-Long Banner for Brotherhood

More than 400 IBEW members came together in July for the annual IBEW motorcycle ride, the biggest showing since the ride started four years ago. Members from 22 states, 58 locals and nearly every job classification found their way to State College, Pa., for a 720-mile ride over and through the deep river valleys of the high Allegheny plateau.

The ride traveled some near-perfect roads for motorcycle riding. Curving up into hills you could see out for 100 miles and then plunging alongside mountain streams in the darkness of deep valleys hidden by hemlock, beech and maple trees. The ride followed the guaranteed recipe for an epic motorcycle ride: first, find all the nearby shopping malls and traffic jams and identify the route that puts the most distance between you and them in the least amount of time. Second, take the longest, twistiest road on the blankest part of the map and follow it as far your gas tank will let you.

“This is beautiful country, really different from home,” said Rapid City, S.D., Local 1520 member Dallas Deranelle, who drove for three days and nearly 1,500 miles to the ride. “You work every day and do your job, and you come here, together, and it’s amazing how many of the people I meet I know. It is a real nice surprise.”

But riding a motorcycle is fundamentally a solitary activity. It is an active, sometimes aggressive, often meditative state, but it isn’t often shared.

Which leads to a common question from people who do not ride: why do people drive their motorcycles hundreds of miles, more than 5,000 for the brave souls with the cast-iron backs who rode in from South Dakota and Shreveport, La.? It’s not like you are doing it with other people, more like doing your own thing in proximity.

Retired New York Local 3 member Steve Shapiro, riding possibly the most outlandish motorcycle at the rally—a V-8 powered three-wheeler with the back end of a 1957 Chevy, fins and all—said he has been coming to the ride since it was just a handful of guys riding around Delaware before the NASCAR race at Dover Downs a few years ago.

“Brings back old friends. There’s lots of hugs,” Shapiro said. “I was at Woodstock, and this really reminds me of that same feeling. I’ll keep riding with the guys as long as I can.”

The annual motorcycle ride is one of the few times when the full variety of the IBEW membership comes together. Every job description and accent in this vast Brotherhood is all in one place, from the International President to a newly minted construction electrician. Where else but here would you find a towering lineman from Maine, a business manager for a Midwest utility local and a senior organizer from the Third District sharing a beer and swapping stories in a parking lot?

There is also a more complicated answer to the question of why folks get together, to ride, about that time spent seemingly alone on the bike. Riding in a line of bikes nearly a mile long, even if they were all strangers, is not the same thing as riding alone. Everyone is riding the same road, looking out for each other, learning something about the people around them by the way they handle themselves and keep watch over the riders around them.

“The line is longer every year, pulling the IBEW tighter together,” said Sal Giaffi, president of the New York Local 3 motorcycle club. At the end of the ride—the year called the Rattlesnake Run because of the annual rattlesnake round-ups that are common nearby—after seven hours beneath the hemlock trees, roaring past little children standing slack-jawed on their front lawns and bombing over the railroad straight highway that tracks through the farmland surrounding State College, every rider has a clearer vision of who the IBEW is, why it works and what it is for.

“One of the best things about being International President is watching how things grow,” said International President Edwin D. Hill. “Four years ago we were a handful. Look what we’ve got going now. It makes me damn proud. We can tell the other international unions, ‘That’s the IBEW. We stand together and we stand for brotherhood.’”

Ed Mings, International Representative in the Construction and Maintenance Department, planned the ride with Director Jerry Westerholm.
Deadline Extended!

Our yearly photography contest is a chance for members to connect their powerful skills with a camera to the often unsung and underappreciated work that they do every day.

For more than 16 years of competition, the IBEW Journal and The Electrical Worker have been honored to print hundreds of photos of and by IBEW members at work—restoring the power after storms, helping build their era’s architectural masterpieces, driving the development of new energy sources—and performing hundreds of other jobs that contribute so much to communities across North America and even beyond.

We invite all IBEW members to enter the 2013 IBEW Photography Contest. It’s your chance to not only match your skills with brothers and sisters across our union’s landscape, but to help chronicle—for posterity—the shining achievements of a union that is prepared and equipped for its future.

[Deadline: Nov. 30]

Photo Contest Rules:

1. The contest is open to active or retired IBEW members only. The person submitting the photo must be the person who took the photograph. Members may enter more than one photo.

2. International Officers and staff are not eligible.

3. Photos can be submitted as digital files of at least 300 dpi, in color or black and white, on slides or prints. The preferred print size is 8”x10”.

4. All submissions become the property of the IBEW Media Department.

5. Photo entries must have an IBEW theme of some sort, with IBEW members at work, engaged in a union-related activity or subjects conveying images of the electrical industry or the union.

6. If members are featured in the photo, they should be identified. If large groups are pictured, the name of the group or the purpose of the gathering (e.g., a safety committee, a lineman’s rodeo, a union meeting) can be submitted in place of individual names.

7. Photos previously published in IBEW publications or the Web site are not eligible for submission.

8. All entries must include a completed contest entry form. Please note that photo entries may be submitted through the IBEW Web site at www.ibew.org.

9. Please fill out the contest entry form and affix it to each photo you submit for the contest and mail it to the IBEW Photo Contest, 900 Seventh Street NW, Washington, DC, 20001.

10. Fifteen finalists will be selected and posted on www.ibew.org for final judging by the public. The winners will be featured in the January 2014 issue of The Electrical Worker.

This Fall, A New IBEW News Smartphone/Tablet App

Two years after the launch of the first IBEW app, the IBEW is putting the finishing touches on a new news app for digital readers.

The new app is being developed in-house, and will bring readers news and video content in a more streamlined interface than the current one. The new app is easier to navigate and will allow people to see the news summary instantly, instead of having to wait through a splash page, which takes longer to load. Besides the latest videos and selected content from the IBEW Web site and the Electrical Worker, it will also contain an opinion section that includes the officers’ editorials as well as letters to the editor. Local Lives—the newspaper section devoted to dispatches from local unions—and a direct link to allow feedback from readers.

As of August 31, the original app has not been updated and it is no longer available at the Apple App Store or the Android Marketplace. The new app is being tested for launch this fall. We will keep readers posted via announcements on the Web site, Facebook, Twitter and the Electrical Worker.