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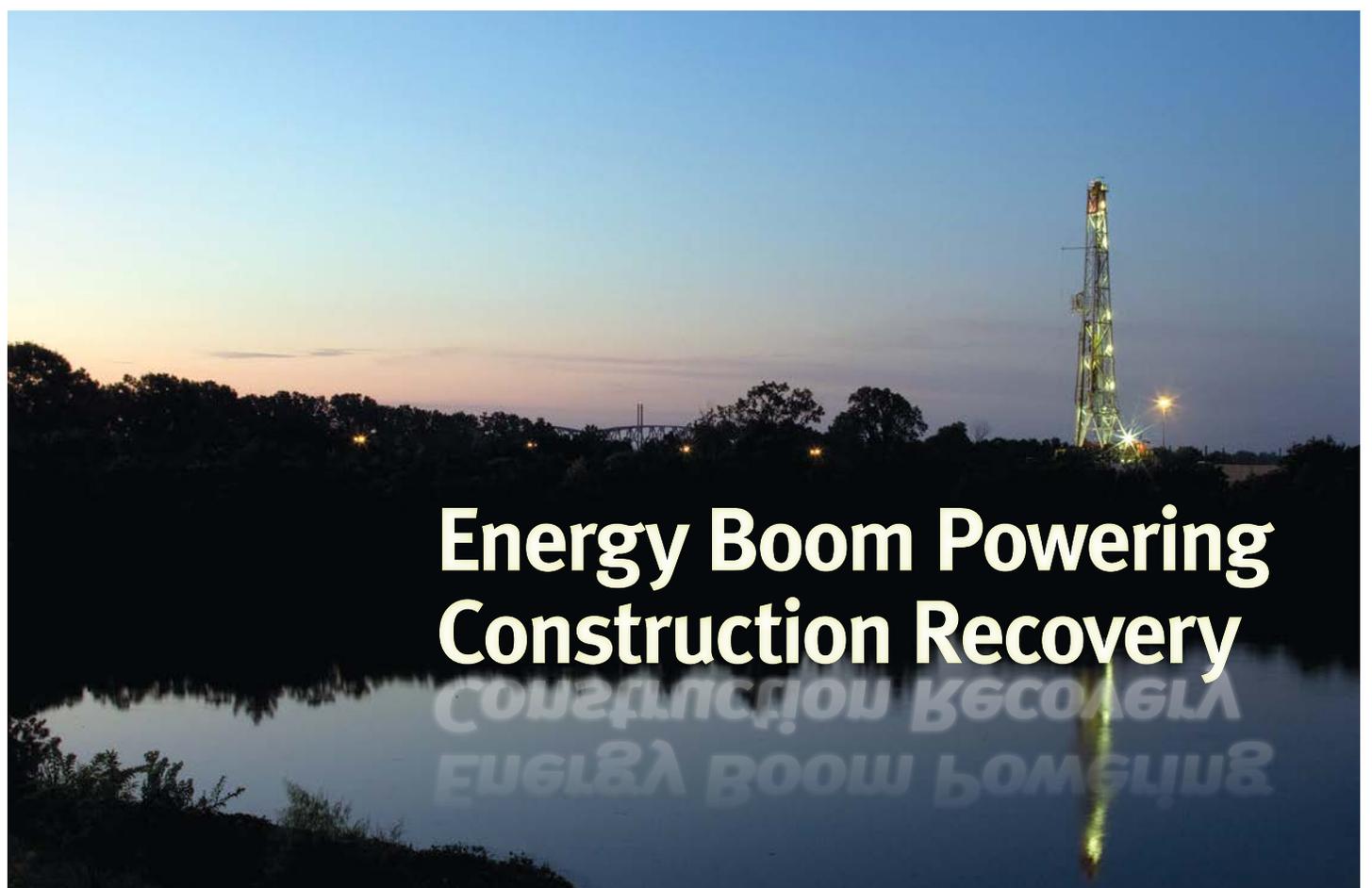
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Who We Are



Energy Boom Powering Construction Recovery

Increased oil and gas production, like from this drilling rig in Shreveport, La., has translated into tens of thousands of new jobs. Credit: Daniel Foster

Better known for its zydeco music clubs and restaurants serving up boiled crawfish, Lake Charles, La., has recently become one of the leaders of the United States' energy revolution—a revolution that has not only radically changed the country's energy portfolio, but has revived a sluggish construction industry, putting tens of thousands of electricians back to work.

Just ask Lake Charles Local 861 Business Manager Jeffrey Sanders. "I haven't been this optimistic since the 1970s," he said.

Every member of his local is working, with an additional 100 travelers in town. "We increased our

FUELING THE COMEBACK

membership by 30 percent since January," he said.

One of the biggest jobs they are working on is the Golden Nugget casino, a 30,000-square-foot entertainment complex and luxury hotel.

But what's really powering the construction boom in Lake Charles is liquefied natural gas, better known as LNG.

"Pretty much all future work in this area hinges on natural gas," Sanders said.

LNG is natural gas that is converted to liquid form for ease of transport. Built a few years ago, the first local LNG facility in the area was designed to receive natural gas imports. But the rapid growth of gas drilling in the U.S. has made exporting—not importing—a lucrative field for energy companies, forcing a major retooling of the facility.

The Lake Charles Liquefaction Project recently received permission from the U.S. Energy Department to export domestically produced gas.

Two other multibillion dollar export facilities are also in the works, including a \$15 billion gas-to-liquids terminal to be built by South African energy giant Sasol.

All in all, more than \$240 billion in natural gas and oil related projects are coming to the shores of the Gulf of Mexico, stretching from Brownsville on the Texas/Mexico border up through Florida.

"Oil and gas are such a huge stimulus to the economy," says International Representative Tom Davis, who serves as business development representative for the area.

Industry-related jobs have grown by 40 percent since 2007. And the economic effect extends beyond the oil and gas projects themselves.

"We're seeing new industrial and commercial projects going up to support LNG," Sanders said. "Buildings for power tool shops, vendors to back up these big jobs."

CONSTRUCTION RECOVERY *continued on page 2*

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Energy Boom Powering Construction Recovery

Shale Fortunes

Powering this new construction boom is shale gas. Extracted through the sometimes controversial practice of hydraulic fracturing, natural gas extracted from shale deposits has surpassed nuclear power as the U.S.'s second-leading electricity source, just behind coal.

Largely untapped just a few years ago, shale gas is not only helping the U.S. toward energy independence, it's transforming the U.S. from an energy importer to exporter.

Its rapid expansion has tightened labor markets across vast regions of America.

"Take the Dakotas, Iowa, Nebraska, we're super-busy," said International Representative John Bourne, who handles business development in the Midwest.

IBEW members throughout the region are working on pipeline compressor stations that help transport gas to customers in the U.S. and the world, he said.

Increased natural gas capacity has also translated into other industrial projects, including fertilizer plants and ethylene crackers, which process ethane, a component of natural gas, into ethylene, which is used in many industrial and commercial products like plastic and adhesives.

Millions of dollars are also being invested in natural gas processing plants further east, including Ohio, Maryland and Pennsylvania, home to the Marcellus Shale, the largest source of natural gas in the U.S.

In Youngstown, Ohio, a city devastated by the collapse of the steel industry in the 1980s, building infrastructure for gas development has led to an industrial revival in the Rust Belt town.

"We've been building processing plants, compressor stations and steel mills that produce parts for the drills," said Local 64 Business Manager James Burgham, who also represents the Third District on the International Executive Council. "We've been very busy, and it's due in large part to gas drilling."

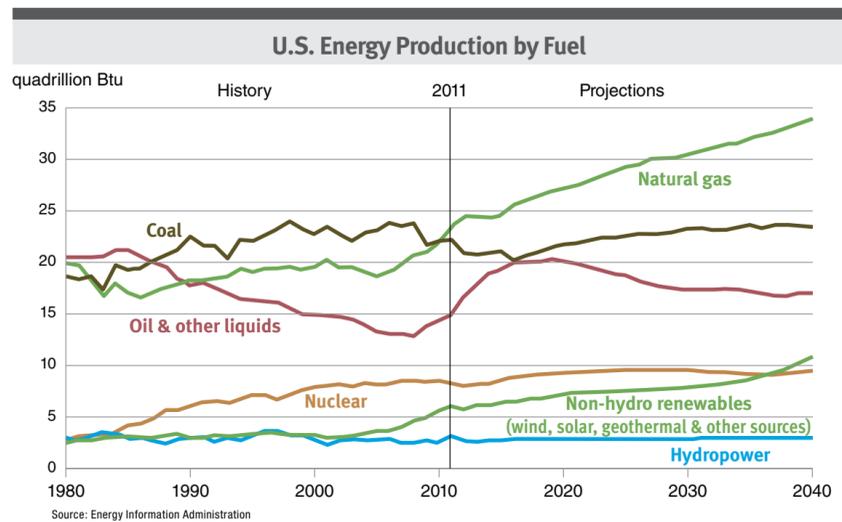
On the West Coast, the \$7.7 billion Jordan Cove liquefied natural gas export facility in Oregon is expected to employ more than 2,000 workers at the peak of construction. Owner Veresen has agreed to build it under a project labor agreement.

Investor's Business Daily reported earlier this year that more than 100 new plants and factories related to oil and gas production will come online by 2017.

"When all are up and running, another \$300 billion will be pumped into GDP and 1 million more jobs will be created," wrote reporter Mark Mills.

Increased oil production is also fueling the construction boom. The Bakken formation—a 200,000-square-mile rock unit whose deposits are more accessible due to today's extraction techniques—has turned North Dakota into the second biggest oil-producer in the nation, just behind Texas.

"The best way to describe the work picture in North Dakota is out of control," Bourne said. In addition to oil field work,



thousands more tradesmen are required to help build the pipeline infrastructure to transport crude oil to processing and export facilities throughout North America.

For Minot, N.D., Local 714—located in the heart of the Bakken formation—that has meant full employment for years now, with more than 400 travelers in town as well.

An Uneven Recovery

More than five years after the worst recession in decades—one that hit construction especially hard—things are looking up for the industry in a big way.

And it's not just in the boom towns of North Dakota or the Gulf Coast.

Construction spending is at its highest level since 2008, reaching a seasonally adjusted rate of \$981 billion.

The construction unemployment rate, which topped 25 percent in 2010, is down to 8 percent, two points higher than the national jobless rate.

A tighter labor market combined with more aggressive organizing, has boosted building trades membership by 100,000 in the last year. The IBEW's Construction and Maintenance branch alone has grown by 11,000 members in the last two years.

This translates into higher wages for union workers, with the median earnings of construction workers represented by a union increasing by more than \$500 a year.

But pockets of higher than average unemployment can still be found, making

this recovery uneven.

Public spending still remains a weak spot for construction due to deadlock on Capitol Hill, with spending declining in 2014 compared to the previous year.

The 2009 stimulus act pumped up infrastructure spending as a percentage of GDP, but last year it dropped to its lowest point in 20 years.

Spending stalled out for two reasons. One, the Great Recession caused a steep drop in tax revenue for states and cities—the largest provider of infrastructure spending—forcing deep cuts. The Washington Post found that transportation spending in California fell by 31 percent from 2007 to 2009.

Second, the sequester, the 2013 budget-cutting mechanism set in place by Congress, automatically slashed billions from the federal budget, starving highways, bridges and school facilities across the U.S. of funds.

Continuing deadlock on Capitol Hill has kept federal spending levels frozen, delaying needed investment in an increasingly aged and decrepit infrastructure.

Green Lines

While natural gas and oil remain the main drivers of the energy-related construction boom, renewable power is increasingly becoming a major area of job growth.

Solar and wind still make up less than 13 percent of the U.S.'s total electrical gen-

erators were creating good, middle-class jobs for local workers," said Local 569 Business Manager Johnny Simpson at an August event. "Since then, IBEW members have logged more than 1.6 million hours building 1,000 mw of clean energy in Imperial County and we have put 1,000 local residents to work."

Partisan politics have prevented Congress from moving on the federal level, but lawmakers in both red states and blue states—from Massachusetts to Kansas—have passed renewable energy standards mandating that more customers get their electricity from green sources.

Getting the Work

The tightened labor market means that customers are more interested in contractors who can provide skilled workers right away as opposed to who's offering the lowest bid, Davis says.

This gives the IBEW the opportunity to make inroads at companies and in regions that aren't necessarily union-friendly.

A main focus of the IBEW's strategy is building relationships with industry stakeholders and public officials, says Bourne. That means advertising what the union has to offer.

"Every time there is an article in the paper about the skilled worker shortage, we need to invite the public to tour our training centers to see what we do," Bourne said. "If a company needs a particular specialized training, we must show them we can do that."

The Code of Excellence is also a key tool for the business development team. The code's focus on safety is especially important in the oil and gas industry. The quick pace of development has led many contractors to take shortcuts on safety. It's no surprise that an oil and gas worker is more likely to be killed on the job than a coal miner.

"A lot of these companies don't have enough qualified people who know what they are doing," Minot Local 714 Business Manager Randy Bartsch said.

The 2010 BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico has made energy giants conscious about avoiding accidents, so the IBEW's safety record is a big plus in getting work.

IBEW locals are also working to build from the bottom up, recruiting skilled workers into the trades.

Bartsch says his local has maintained a steady presence at job fairs and runs ads on the radio to promote the IBEW. Local 714 also supports Dakota Construction Careers, a building trades' initiative to recruit workers for the North Dakota oil industry.

Ohio Local 64 Business Manager Burgham says his local's secret to getting the work is to build a track record of successful on-time and under-budget projects.

"The reason we hang on is because of the quality of our work and the combined knowledge our membership brings to the project," he said.

Next month, we report on construction industry changes in Canada. ■

Everyone a Member on Day One

IBEW's top organizing target: Everyone is a member, on their first day on the job

Every day, several hundred organizers head out into the field to bring new members into the IBEW. They work in every state and province to meet the first and third objectives of the IBEW as laid out in the constitution written in 1891: to cultivate feelings of friendship with those in the industry and organize everyone in it.

At the 38th Convention in 2011, delegates approved a target growth plan: 1 percent a year through 2015. As things stand in September, the IBEW is just over 32,000 new members shy of next year's target.

"We can still make the goal. I think we can beat it, but we have to be smart," said Ricky Oakland, Special Assistant to the President for Membership Development. "When you are trying to do something difficult, you start with the low hanging fruit."

You start, Oakland said, with non-members that are easy to find. And there are tens of thousands of them. We know where they work, because they work under IBEW negotiated contracts. They just aren't members.

They are the focus of a new initiative launched by the IBEW, called Membership on Day One.

"We don't have to look for them and we don't have to educate them about the benefits they get from the IBEW," Oakland said. "If everyone we represented was a member, we would increase our membership by 5 percent."

There are more than 31,000 people working under IBEW negotiated contracts who are not members. Some might be fervent union haters, others might live in right-to-work states and have decided not to join, but many would be members already, Oakland said, if we just stopped keeping them out.

"We've been talking about the importance of organizing for decades, but somehow we are still putting up barriers in front of people who want to join," Oakland said.

Every Apprentice, On Day One

Oakland estimated that 5,000-6,000 are apprentices that are not initiated into the local until they finish one, two or three years of work and training.

"Are we nuts?" Hill said at the September Membership Development Conference. "Does this make sense? They are contributing to and getting the benefits of the IBEW. Why shouldn't they be on our rolls and carrying a card?"

Oakland said some business managers expressed concern that immediately making apprentices members violated IBEW



Ricky Oakland

rules or would force the local to allow any member to sign in for job referrals.

"I'm not sure where those ideas come from, but membership from day one is explicitly allowed in the constitution,"

Oakland said. "Membership does not prevent an apprentice from being removed from the program, nor can a non-journeyman member sign up for jobs they are not qualified for."

In many states, it is also illegal for someone to work under a collective bargaining agreement for longer than a month, in some cases a week, without joining the union.

"It almost always comes down to the same thing: we do it this way because it's the way we've always done it," Oakland said. "That just isn't a good enough answer when every member counts."

Even if all of the nonmember apprentices were initiated tomorrow, it's still far short of the target.

Good news in the construction industry makes for more effective organizing campaigns, Oakland said, and he believes construction organizing will bring in another 10,000 new members.

But construction only fills half of the member shortfall. There is a gap of at least 17,000 new members that must be made up by June 2015, more once the normal loss of members to retirement, factory closures and career changes are accounted for.

Activists Gather for Largest-Ever Women's Conference

Working women have come a long way since the famed activist Mary Harris "Mother" Jones was branded "the most dangerous woman in America" more than 100 years ago for her support of coal miners' rights.

But the playing field is still far from level. Despite recent legislation such as the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, women still earn just above 75 percent for the same work as men, and the 2008 Great Recession shifted even more women into the roles of primary wage earners for their families. Recent austerity cuts to state budgets and school districts have disproportionately affected women. Add problems of overt or implicit discrimination and bigotry—especially against women of color—and it's clear that there is more work to be done.

More than 400 female activists gathered Sept. 17-20 in San Antonio, Texas, for the seventh IBEW Women's Conference. Under the theme of "Sisters in Solidarity: Our Journey Together," attendees studied organizing strategies, common sense economics and ways to step into leadership roles at the local union level.

"I like learning the history of women in unions—it will be good for me when I go back to my local and share the knowledge with other union members," said Adrienne Johnson, a business representative from Los Angeles Local 18.

The conference also allowed members to get politically active in the state where pro-worker gubernatorial candidate Wendy Davis is running against state Attorney General Greg Abbott.

Dozens gathered on the first night of the conference to write postcards to fellow union women in Texas urging them to vote for Davis Nov. 4. Davis, a state senator, has

championed "Buy America" provisions, fought worker misclassification and pay-check deception and led a 2011 filibuster to oppose cuts to public education.

The Reach out and Energize Next-Gen Electrical Workers—or RENEW—initiative, held a caucus to discuss issues specific to female young workers.

"At my job, it's mostly male dominated, so it's awesome to be in an environment with so many active women," said Nicole Stykalo, a shop steward and member of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Local 2034 who has joined NextGen, the Canadian equivalent of RENEW. Stykalo, 27, works in civil engineering for Manitoba Hydro. "In male-dominated industries, we can find that we are the small voices, no matter what we say."

International President Edwin D. Hill addressed the assembly and hosted a question and answer session. "One thing that is constant is your spirit and enthusiasm," he said. "This conference is getting better every time."

Carolyn Williams, who directs the Civic and Community Engagement Department and spearheaded the conference, stressed the importance of continued community involvement. "It is my hope that the sisters who attended the 2014 conference will go back home and become engaged with their leadership and actively involved in their local unions—initiating mentoring programs, working on political committees and community service programs and serving as activists and leaders in a manner that will continue to grow the IBEW."

Read more coverage of the conference's get-out-the-vote effort at bit.ly/IBEWTexasGOTV. The link is case-sensitive. ■



Carmella Thomas

Using Our Muscle

There are nearly 27,000 non-members working in utility, manufacturing and telecom jobs in right-to-work states. Oakland said they are likely to be more receptive to organizing than nearly anyone else.

"They can see the benefits they get from the IBEW. The key to our success will be finding the right strategy for every local and every unit," he said. "I don't expect to sign up every one, but 75 percent [19,500] is realistic, maybe even pessimistic."



Texas gubernatorial candidate Wendy Davis greets supporters at the 2014 Women's Conference in San Antonio.

Read more coverage of the conference's get-out-the-vote effort at bit.ly/IBEWTexasGOTV. The link is case-sensitive. ■

NORTH OF 49° | AU NORD DU 49° PARALLÈLE

Life Returns to Vancouver Shipyards

Vancouver, B.C., juts like an arrowhead out of the Canadian mainland and into the Pacific Rim. Vancouver has been Canada's lighthouse, where the ocean ends and British Columbia's dark endless forests begin. The mountain-backed skyline reflecting brightly in the waters of the Strait of Georgia was built with fortunes made trading what the loggers cut down and miners pulled out for everything the factories in the U.S., Japan and now, especially, China had to offer.

But while the city has long been home to forest product and mining behemoths, banks and financial services and more recently added biotech and software startups, in recent years the outlook hasn't been as bright for the city's industrial workers. The Economist magazine may regularly rate it the most livable city in North America, but for highly skilled tradesmen at the city's three remaining shipyards, the last three decades have been a story of an industrial base in decline.

"We have a long relationship with the shipyards but we haven't had much work in the last 20 years," said Local 213 Business Manager Adam Van Steinburg. "Lots of maintenance, some smaller yachts and refits, but it's been slow."

But now a welcome change is coming. Since 2011, Seaspan, the owner of two shipyards in Vancouver and a third a few miles away on Vancouver Island, has signed contracts for at least nine new ships, with the possibility of 10 more in the future.

The Canadian government fueled the revival with the nearly \$37 billion Federal Fleet Renewal program refitting and replacing dozens of Canadian navy and coast guard vessels over the next 20 years. At least 20 warships will be built at Irving Shipyards in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Seaspan won the contract for up to 17 non-combat ships including science, support, patrol and multipurpose ships and a massive polar icebreaker. The total value of the contract is between \$8 and \$11 billion.

Local 213 is expecting to triple the manpower at Seaspan facilities from about 100 to more than 300 over the next few years to meet demand.

"This new work is extraordinary, for Local 213, for all the unions at the shipyard and for industry in Vancouver," Van Steinburg said. "It means good jobs with good benefits for years, decades."

To prepare for the federal order, Seaspan undertook a two-year, nearly \$200 million upgrade to Seaspan's Vancouver Shipyard, work done, in part, by nearly 50 members of Local 213. The work—expected to conclude by spring 2015—included a new crane with a 300-ton lift capacity and new paint and assembly buildings.

"We had a handshake agreement [with management] that it would be 100 percent IBEW," said John Pesa, Local 213 business representative. "They didn't have to do it that way, but they were as good as their word and I think our members have paid that confidence back with

the quality of the work."

Pesa says the size of the order, the tight deadlines and incentives that hold out the promise of more contracts if deadlines are met, gave the five unions involved in last year's contract negotiations a strong hand. Pesa, who is president of the so-called "Polyparty Committee" of the shipbuilders, machinists, pipefitters, office professionals and Local 213, said the new five-year agreement calls for pay rises totaling nearly 17 percent and benefits increases worth nearly \$1,000 a year.

While the first order will start construction in a year, the shipyard renewal is yielding benefits right now.

In February, BC Ferries announced it was awarding a \$15 million contract for a new cable ferry to Seaspan's Vancouver Shipyard, and in early September, construction officially started on the nearly 240-foot ship.

While Seaspan has had maintenance and refitting contracts with BC Ferries, Pesa said this is the first new con-

struction in many years.

"In the past, BC Ferries said we didn't have the capacity. We disagreed, but the company contracted with shipyards in Germany and Poland," Pesa said. "Obviously since the upgrade there is no question we have the people and resources to be competitive."

BC Ferries operates more than 35 passenger ships on routes as short as a mile to nearly 300, serving commuters into Vancouver to vacation goers on overnight voyages through the Inside Passage to the Yukon. When in operation, the nearly 260-foot long ship will carry 50 vehicles and 150 passengers over a mile-wide crossing.

Unlike most ships, cable ferries are not self-propelled. They are more like ski lifts, with the boat pulled by engines permanently fixed at the terminals. BC Ferries officials said fixing the engines on land will save \$80 million over the 40-year life of the ferry in reduced maintenance and fuel costs. While less common than



Hundreds of Local 213 members are working on new ships at Seaspan's upgraded Vancouver Shipyard.

self-propelled vessels, cable ferries are used throughout the world. There are more than 60 in operation in Canada alone, according to BC Ferries officials.

More than 700 tons of steel will be used in the construction and, Pesa says,

at peak about 40 IBEW members, and 100 union workers across the trades, will be on the job. Delivery is scheduled for spring 2015.

"These are good days at the shipyards," Pesa said. ■

Le retour à la vie des chantiers navals de Vancouver

Vancouver fait saillie du continent canadien et dans le littoral du pacifique. Vancouver a été le phare du Canada, là où l'océan se termine et les sombres et éternelles forêts de la Colombie-Britannique débutent. L'horizon montagneux se reflétant vivement dans les eaux du détroit de Géorgie est construit de fortunes faites du commerce de ce que les bûcherons coupaient et les mineurs tiraient pour produire tout ce que les usines américaines, nipponnes et maintenant, surtout, chinoises avaient à offrir.

Mais, alors que la ville est depuis longtemps le port d'attache de mamouths de l'industrie forestière et minière, les banques et les financières et plus récemment les jeunes entreprises en biotechnologie et en logiciel, au cours des dernières années les perspectives n'ont pas été aussi resplendissantes pour les travailleurs industriels de la ville. Bien que la revue *The Economist* la juge fréquemment la « ville la plus vivable d'Amérique du Nord », pour les ouvriers qualifiés des trois chantiers navals restants de la ville, les trois dernières décennies ont été une histoire d'une base industrielle sur le déclin.

« Nous avons une longue relation avec les chantiers navals, mais nous n'avons pas eu beaucoup de travail au cours des vingt dernières années. » dit le gérant d'affaires de la section locale 213, Adam Van Steinburg. « Beaucoup d'entretien, quelques petits yachts et remontages, mais le rythme est lent. »

Mais maintenant, un changement attendu arrive. Depuis 2011, *Seaspan*, le propriétaire de deux chantiers navals à Vancouver et d'un troisième à quelques kilomètres sur l'île de Vancouver, a signé

des contrats pour au moins neuf nouveaux navires, avec la possibilité de dix autres dans le futur.

Le gouvernement canadien a alimenté la relance avec le programme de Renouveau de la flotte fédérale, remontant et remplaçant des douzaines de vaisseaux de la garde côtière et de la marine canadienne dans les vingt prochaines années. Au moins vingt vaisseaux de guerre seront construits aux chantiers navals *Iving* à Halifax en Nouvelle-Écosse. *Seaspan* a gagné le contrat pour jusqu'à 17 navires non combattants incluant des vaisseaux scientifiques, de support, de patrouille et multifonctionnels ainsi qu'un immense brise-glace polaire. La valeur totale du contrat est estimée entre 8 et 11 milliards de dollars.

La section locale 213 s'attend à tripler la main d'œuvre aux installations de *Seaspan*, à partir de 100 ouvriers jusqu'à plus de 300 pour les quelques prochaines années pour répondre à la demande.

« Ces nouveaux travaux sont extraordinaires, pour la section locale 213, pour tous les syndicats au chantier naval et pour l'industrie à Vancouver, » dit Van Steinburg. « Cela signifie de bons emplois avec de bons avantages pour des années, des décennies. »

Pour se préparer à la commande fédérale, *Seaspan* a entrepris une mise à niveau de deux ans et de près de 200 000 millions de dollars au chantier naval de Vancouver, du travail effectué, en partie, par près de 50 membres de la section locale 213. Les travaux, qui devraient se terminer avant le printemps 2015, incluent une nouvelle grue avec un tonnage de 300 tonnes et de nouveaux bâtiments pour la peinture et l'assemblage.

« Nous avons une entente à l'amiable [avec l'administration] que ce serait à 100 % des ouvriers de la FIOE. » dit John Pesa, le représentant d'affaires de la section locale 213. « Ils n'avaient pas à procéder ainsi, mais ils ont tenu leur parole et je crois que nos membres ont rendu la pareille avec la qualité de leur travail. »

Pesa dit que la taille de la commande, les échanciers serrés et les incitations qui devraient permettre plus de contrats si les échanciers sont respectés, ont renforcé les cinq syndicats impliqués dans les négociations de contrats de l'an dernier. Pesa, qui est président du *Polyparty Committee* des constructeurs de navires, des machinistes, des tuyauteurs, des professionnels du travail de bureau et de la section locale 213, dit que la nouvelle convention de cinq ans exige des augmentations de salaire totalisant près de 17 % et des améliorations d'avantages sociaux d'une valeur de près de 1 000 \$ par année.

Alors que la première commande commencera à être construite dans un an, le renouvellement du chantier naval procure déjà des avantages.

En février, *BC Ferries* a annoncé qu'il octroyait un contrat de 15 millions de dollars pour un nouveau traversier par câbles au chantier naval *Seaspan* de Vancouver, et, au début septembre, la construction a débuté sur ce navire de près de 73 mètres.

Alors que *Seaspan* avait eu reçu des contrats d'entretien et de remontage de la part de *BC Ferries*, Pesa dit que c'est la première nouvelle construction depuis plusieurs années.

« Par le passé, *BC Ferries* disait que nous n'avions pas la capacité. Nous n'étions pas d'accord, mais la compagnie

octroyait ses contrats à des chantiers navals en Allemagne et en Pologne. » dit Pesa. « Évidemment depuis la mise à niveau, plus aucune question ne se pose à savoir si nous avons la main d'œuvre et les ressources pour être compétitifs. »

BC Ferries opère plus de 35 navires passagers sur des routes allant d'une longueur d'un kilomètre à plus de 450 kilomètres, desservant des usagers du transport en commun aux touristes effectuant des voyages d'une nuitée à travers le passage intérieur vers le Yukon. Lorsqu'il sera en service, le navire de près de 80 mètres transportera 50 véhicules et 150 passagers pour une traversée d'une distance d'un peu plus d'un kilomètre.

Contrairement à la majorité des navires, les traversiers par câbles ne sont pas automoteurs. Ils ressemblent plutôt à des remonte-pentes, avec des moteurs fixés de façon permanente aux terminaux. Les représentants de *BC Ferries* ont dit que de fixer les moteurs au sol économisera 80 millions de dollars sur la durée de vie de 40 ans du traversier en coûts d'entretien et de carburant réduits. Bien qu'ils soient moins communs que les navires automoteurs, les traversiers par câbles sont utilisés à travers le membre. Il y en a plus de 60 en service au Canada seulement, selon les représentants de *BC Ferries*.

Plus de 700 tonnes d'acier seront utilisées pour la construction et, dit Pesa, au plus fort des travaux environ 40 membres de la FIOE et 100 ouvriers syndiqués appartenant à plusieurs métiers participeront aux travaux. La livraison est prévue pour le printemps 2015.

« Ce sont de bons jours pour les chantiers navals. » dit Pesa. ■

TRANSITIONS

RETIRED Michael Mowrey



Ninth District International Vice President Michael Mowrey retired effective Nov. 1.

Brother Mowrey entered his inside journeyman wireman's apprenticeship in 1974 and began service as assistant business manager of San Luis Obispo, Calif., Local 639 in 1985.

"I caught on to organizing," says Mowrey, a former professional rodeo bull rider. The local, encompassing the jurisdiction of Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant, had, at times, hosted as many as 900 travelers. But its market share, he says, had declined to below 20 percent.

Compared to work on cattle ranches, he says, "I immediately gained an appreciation for the working conditions in the unionized electrical trade." As he talked to electricians about the benefits of representation, Mowrey says, "I drew more understanding of why they needed to be in the IBEW." After some successful recruitment attempts, he says, "I saw firsthand how the union improves people's lives."

Elected business manager in 1987, Mowrey was active in labor, political and civic affairs in his community. He served as vice president of the area's central labor council, on a county economic advisory committee and on the Democratic Central Committee of San Luis Obispo County. Under his leadership, Local 639 doubled its membership.

es during Mowrey's tenure, often visible during union conferences and conventions.

Asked how he maintained consensus and camaraderie over such a wide-spread, diverse terrain, Mowrey says, "I believe we should always treat others as we want to be treated. Whether you are from a small local or a big local, you are entitled to unity, honor and respect."

In retirement, Mowrey plans to do more volunteering in his church, finish some long-dormant projects around the house, play more golf and accompany his wife on horse rides.

"It was the highest honor and privilege just to be a journeyman inside wireman," says Mowrey. "To be able to serve above and beyond as an IBEW leader," he says, doubles the honor.

On behalf of the entire membership, the officers and staff wish Brother Mowrey a long, healthy and well-deserved retirement. ■

APPOINTED John J. O'Rourke



International Representative John O'Rourke has been appointed Ninth District Vice President effective Nov. 1. O'Rourke replaces

Mike Mowrey, who retired.

A member of San Francisco Local 6, O'Rourke completed his journeyman wireman apprenticeship in 1983.

"I'm proud of the things I've done in the IBEW, but the highlight of my career still remains the day I was handed my journeyman ticket," he said.

The son of a San Francisco firefighter, O'Rourke was inspired to go into the trade by his older brother.

He became active in the local, serving on its executive board, as vice president and then president.

"I was lucky to have some great mentors when I first started out," he said. "They taught me two rules: One, be an excellent wireman. Two, be a good union man."

In 1999, O'Rourke was elected business manager. His top priority was organizing and building market share. "San Francisco is a strong union town, but we couldn't afford to become complacent," he said. "Even here our competition was getting a foothold and doing work that had traditionally been ours."

In 2012 he was appointed Ninth District international representative, servicing the Bay Area locals. Prior to his appointment as International Vice President, O'Rourke served as the Executive Assistant to Vice President Mowrey.

He served as chair of the law committee at the 2011 international convention and as chair of the secretary-treasurer's report committee at the 2006 convention.

He also opened the 2001 convention, held in his hometown.

In addition to his IBEW activities, Brother O'Rourke serves as president of

the Bay Area Catholic Labor Coalition.

"Brother Mowrey is such a great leader and trade unionist, and I'm proud to follow in his footsteps," he said. "The Ninth District is blessed with a great team of international representatives and progressive and innovative business managers," he said of a region that includes Alaska, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon, Washington and the Pacific Islands. "My goal for the district is simple: organize all those who work in the electrical industry into local unions."

The officers, staff and membership of the IBEW wish Brother O'Rourke great success in his new position. ■

APPOINTED Virgil Hamilton



IBEW International President Edwin D. Hill has appointed Virgil Hamilton the director of construction organizing in the Membership Department, effective Oct. 1.

Brother Hamilton was born and raised in Spokane, Wash. After graduating from Central Valley High School in 1981, Hamilton received an associate degree in civil engineering from Spokane Community College in 1984. He then joined the U.S. Navy submarine force as an electronics technician.

Hamilton was responsible for maintaining the navigation equipment on board the USS Portsmouth, a Los Angeles-class nuclear-powered fast attack submarine until 1989. In early 1990, he was initiated into Spokane Local 73's apprenticeship program.

"I was a journey equipment operator before I went into the apprenticeship but electricians have better jobs, better pay, made more money and it's more mentally challenging than pulling levers all day," he said.

In 1995, Local 73's new business manager asked Hamilton to come on staff as an organizer.

"I had just topped out, but I had 20 years of experience in the construction trade, working nonunion the whole time I was growing up," Hamilton said. "I could relate very well to nonunion workers because I was one."

He found inspiration following the model of the IBEW's founders. In 2000, Seattle Local 46 hired Hamilton to be an organizer, business representative and dispatcher. He became the salting coordinator, training IBEW members to take jobs with non-union contractors to identify supervisors for organizing drives and build relationships with potential members.

From 1997 to 1999 Hamilton was secretary-treasurer, then president pro tem of the Eastern Washington Building Trades. From 2005 to 2008 he was a member of the Washington State Electrical Board.

Hamilton switched his ticket to

Local 46 in 2002 and six years later was elected business manager. He was president of the Washington State Building Trades Council from 2008 to 2012.

Hamilton says his proudest achievement at Local 46 was making the local hall welcoming to everyone in the industry. When the state electrical board increased the continuing education requirements for licensed electricians, Local 46 opened classes to non-members for \$25 a year.

"The constitution says to cultivate friendships and if you have a better way of doing it than keeping their license current and rubbing elbows with them for eight hours, well, go ahead," Hamilton said.

A year ago, President Hill appointed Hamilton to be a Ninth District international representative.

The IBEW officers, staff and membership wish Brother Hamilton success in his new position. ■

APPOINTED Carmella Thomas



IBEW International President Edwin D. Hill has appointed Carmella Thomas Director of Professional and Industrial Organizing for the

Membership Development Department, effective Sept. 1.

A Kansas native, Thomas was initiated into Topeka Local 304 in 1994 while working as a customer service representative for utility Westar Energy. Quickly getting active in the local, she served as steward and chief steward before helping organize nonmembers at the company in a right-to-work state.

"We were 98 percent strong" with the workforce, said Thomas, who took an active role in bringing new employees into the union.

Thomas said that the sense of solidarity and equality that she enjoyed with the union tempered many of the life experiences she'd faced growing up in the Midwest.

"Organizing is something that I love, because being an African-American female, everything is about not having that voice," she said. "Society and employers can take your voice away. But with the union, we're all equal. We're all on the same page. It doesn't matter who you are. As a union, you stand for one thing—working people. And that is what moved me from day one."

After five years at Westar, Thomas was tapped to become a full time organizer for Local 304. One of her biggest successes from that period was a 2003 campaign with fellow organizer Tim Bowden, now the regional organizing coordinator for the Seventh District, to organize more than 200 call center and meter readers at El Paso Electric.

"It was a huge win," said Thomas, as the largely Hispanic workforce experienced significant mistreatment from management. "When they came out of the election,

they were in tears. They were so excited."

After that victory, President Hill appointed Thomas as a lead organizer for the International Office in 2004, then as regional organizing coordinator for 10 Southern states in 2006. She became a field representative for the Education Department in 2009.

In 2013, Thomas moved back into the Membership Development fold as the regional organizing coordinator for the Fifth District. Based in Atlanta, Thomas said organizing in the Deep South—Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Florida—presented significant challenges but offered rewards.

"You can never even begin to get into campaigns if you don't understand, learn and feel the people's struggles," she said. "Everybody's taken their voice away, but once you get them to talk, they'll keep talking" about the improvements they need in their lives, she said.

"It's not just the P&I side that's going to be doing internal organizing. It's going to be the IBEW, period. Our goal is to touch those nonmembers, because that makes our contracts stronger, our union density better and helps out our economy and our communities," she said.

The entire staff of the IBEW wishes Sister Thomas great success in her new position. ■

DECEASED A. Don Clark



We regret to report that Fifth District International Representative Aubrey "Don" Clark died on Aug. 12.

"He totally believed in the IBEW and trying to help people," says retired Fifth District International Representative Joe Pledger.

A native of Hattiesburg, Miss., Brother Clark was initiated into Gulfport Local 1211 in 1982. He worked for Mississippi Power Co. for 30 years and was elected treasurer and president of Local 1211. He served on the executive board of the Mississippi AFL-CIO.

From 2005 to 2007, Clark served as business manager of System Council U-21, before being appointed to the International staff, servicing utility and manufacturing locals in the Fifth District. He retired in June as a lead organizer.

Clark played bass guitar for years in a local band "The Relative Unknowns." A member of the Gulf Coast Mustang Club, Clark's orange-colored Roush 427 followed the hearse at his funeral.

"Don put everything he had into the IBEW in organizing, servicing and winning the best contracts," says Pledger, adding that Clark told his wife, Margaret, to make sure he was buried with his IBEW lapel pin.

On behalf of the entire membership and staff, the officers send our condolences to Brother Clark's family. ■

ORGANIZING WIRE

Ariz. Locating Technicians Join IBEW

More than 80 technicians at ELM Locating and Utility Services will soon be members of Phoenix Local 387 after a federal court found the company guilty of numerous labor law violations.

The court ordered ELM to collectively bargain with the IBEW under a Gissel bargaining order in September, which is issued when an employer is found guilty of disrupting a scheduled union election through various labor law violations.

Two weeks prior to a scheduled March election, ELM fired two members of the volunteer organizing committee, sending fear throughout the workforce, said Lead Organizer Robert Sample. The company also prevented workers from voting, telling managers in outlying service areas to keep employees away from the ballot box. The IBEW narrowly lost the election.

ELM is a contractor for utilities across Arizona. Its technicians, working out of their trucks, identify underground facilities—such as cables or sewage pipes—before the ground is evacuated by residents or businesses.

It also had a reputation for poor workplace relations.

New Local 387 member Juan Guerrero went to work for ELM in 2013.

“The place was a revolving door,” he said. “People were quitting in droves because they couldn’t handle how they were treated by the company.”

Workers were punished and sometimes fired without good cause. ELM also refused to provide the proper safety equipment.

“Workers have to go into manholes on busy streets,” he said. “And the company did not provide the proper equipment to ensure our safety.”

Despite these problems, he never thought of joining a union, having no experience with them.

But last January, he got a call from a co-worker that changed his mind. ELM technicians hold regular meetings with their supervisors, usually held at area parking lots.

“He told me that a union organizer had showed up for the meeting talking about the IBEW,” he said.

He quickly got into contact with Lead Organizer Robert Sample.

“He had me convinced we needed to organize in less than 10 minutes,” Guerrero said. “It was a no-brainer.”

He and some of his co-workers started a volunteer organizing committee and collected signed IBEW cards from the majority of the workforce.

What really gave the organizing drive a boost was management’s decision to cut three vacation days from the schedule.

“That pushed it over the edge,” Guerrero said.

This wasn’t Sample’s first effort to organize ELM.

He started in 2012, meeting with workers who contacted Local 387. The campaign started strong, but as soon as the company found out, it fired all the

members of the organizing committee.

“It stopped the drive in its tracks,” Sample said. “It created an atmosphere of fear.”

The IBEW filed unfair labor charges with the National Labor Relations Board, winning a quarter of a million of dollars in back pay. But the fear persisted, effectively quashing the organizing campaign.

Guerrero says he couldn’t believe the news when the court issued its decision. “I’m still sitting here with a smile on my face,” he said.

Negotiations on a first contract have yet to begin as of press time, but Guerrero says the culture at ELM has already changed for the better. “It’s a different era around here,” he said. ■

Texas Nuclear Workers Unite to Win Improved Health Care

About 350 IBEW members working at the South Texas Project nuclear facility cheered in February when their new contract took effect.

The biggest gain? Unionized employees switched from the company’s health care plan to the IBEW’s Family Medical Care Plan, which will save half of the workers about \$500 a month in costs—or \$6,000 each year.

For STP employees not covered by the agreement, the possibility of shifting over to the IBEW plan inspired a quick organizing campaign this summer when about 100 workers voted to be represented by Houston Local 66.

“It was a very light, very easy campaign,” said Local 66 business representative Bruce Bettilyon, who led the effort at the facility southwest of Houston.

The workers include maintenance planners and chemical technicians—with an NLRB ruling pending on reactor operators who voted for the IBEW. Employees voted in three separate NLRB-sponsored elections spanning from July to August.

Bettilyon is on something of a winning streak with campaigns at STP. In 2011, he helped organize a crew of performance

technicians looking for the same rights as their IBEW-represented co-workers.

This time, like the last, attitudes between the company and workers looking to organize remained on a relatively even keel, Bettilyon said.

“STP had normal captive audience meetings, saying that the company could better look out for the workers than the IBEW could,” he said. “But there were no union busters, no attorneys, nothing like that. It truly was not an adversarial campaign.”

Talks between the workers and IBEW leaders began last October, after employees facility-wide began asking each other about upcoming changes in health coverage.

“Internal organizing is different than other campaigns,” said Bettilyon, who worked with spokespeople from each group, tapped the resources of existing activists like Local 66 members Tyson Blakeburn and Mark Griffin and held evening meetings for employees looking to organize. “When you already represent some employees at a facility, talking to the nonunion people is easy. You don’t need to do house calling. You just have to keep interest going and have daily conversations with folks.”

In voting, the workers participated in what the NLRB calls an Armour-Globe self-determination election. Rather than form their own unit and negotiate a completely separate contract, the new members will soon bargain to be included in the existing agreement that already covers IBEW plant workers. After that, all represented employees will negotiate future issues as a single group.

In an ironic twist, Bettilyon said STP is now looking at broadening the IBEW’s health plan to cover even more employees. The FMCP also covers retirees, which shifts costs away from the company.

“They originally said, ‘No we don’t want this insurance.’ But now they’re looking at how to get everyone on it—management, supervisors, everybody,” he said.

Bettilyon said that plant management had warned the facility’s owners—NRG Energy, San Antonio municipal utility CPS Energy and Austin Energy—that the



Asplundh workers in West Virginia and Michigan are choosing IBEW to gain a voice on the job. Photo credit: Big Dream Photo Works

union’s health care plan could be a potential organizing tool. “But the owners recently said, ‘We don’t care if it’s an organizing tool, as long as it saves us money.’”

The IBEW and the National Electrical Contractors Association established the Family Medical Care Plan in 2005. Thousands of union participants and their dependents receive medical, dental, prescription drug and vision benefits through the FMCP.

“Providing good benefits has been a bedrock principle of this union since 1891, and the growing strength of the FMCP ensures that we will continue to uphold this commitment for generations to come,” IBEW International Secretary-Treasurer Sam Chilia wrote in a 2012 editorial in The Electrical Worker. Chilia is a trustee of the plan.

Bettilyon said that even more employees at the 1,200-person facility might be looking to organize.

“I don’t expect this momentum to stop,” he said. “Other groups at the plant are looking to see what happens with these new IBEW members. I’m sure I’ll be getting some more contacts.” ■

Asplundh Trimmers Vote ‘Yes’ in W.Va.

With 30,000 employees and revenues totaling more than \$1 billion a year, Asplundh Tree Expert Co., one of the nation’s largest family-owned businesses, has negotiated 80 collective bargaining agreements with unions, including dozens covering units of the Brotherhood.

However, more than 1,000 Asplundh trimmers who clear vegetation for Appalachia Power and Kentucky Power, subsidiaries of American Electric Power, are unorganized, as are 20,000 others at the company.

On Sept. 17, by a vote of 32 to 4, Asplundh tree trimmers in Walgrove, W.Va., near Charleston, voted to be represented by Huntington Local 317.

The Walgrove victory was followed by another on Sept. 30, as Asplundh trimmers at the South Williamson, W.Va., lot voted 14 to 3 for IBEW representation.

“These guys were interested in winning the same kinds of wages, benefits and protections as trimmers working under collective bargaining agreements,” says Lead Organizer Dale McCray.

The Walgrove workers came togeth-

er and jumped at the chance to wear Local 317 T-shirts early in the campaign to show Asplundh their support for collective bargaining and a voice on the job.

More representation elections are scheduled soon at Asplundh lots across West Virginia, where crews of 30 to 50 trimmers shape up for daily duty. McCray expects more success as a growing wave of trimmers opts for representation.

“More trimmers have latched onto the necessity of having a collective bargaining agreement to gain a greater voice in their pay and conditions. And those who have already voted ‘Union Yes,’ are excited about their futures,” adds McCray.

“We are hopeful that bringing more Asplundh employees under the union umbrella will not just be good for the workers, but good for the company, too,” says IBEW’s Special Assistant to the President for Membership Development Ricky Oakland.

Asplundh is currently the largest single contributor to the National Electrical Benefit Fund, a retirement fund for IBEW members supported by collectively-bargained hourly contributions from employers for each hour worked by members. ■

Chicago Local Wins at SimplexGrinnell

On Sept. 18, by a vote of 57 to 39, inspectors and technicians at a regional facility of SimplexGrinnell, the world’s largest fire protection company, voted for representation by Chicago Local 134.

Bert Rodríguez, a 21-year technician at the shop in Addison, serving Northern Illinois, said his respect for IBEW grew during the union’s campaign.

“The union never made this a smear campaign and never made false promises,” says Rodríguez.

SimplexGrinnell workers first contacted Local 134 organizers last May after hearing that a similar-sized unit of technicians had voted for IBEW representation in the province of Manitoba, Canada.

Before Tyco International, a \$10 billion a year giant, acquired Simplex Time Recorder Co. in 2001 and joined it with Grinnell Fire Protection in 2002, Rodríguez says technicians worked in a “family atmosphere,” characterized by open communication and

trust. Those qualities have often seemed lacking at SimplexGrinnell, he says.

While they know the clock cannot be turned back to another day and time, Rodríguez says he and his co-workers hope that by negotiating a mutually-satisfactory contract with the company, they will gain a stronger voice on the job.

Those are the same aspirations that have led nearly 2,000 home and small business security system workers to opt

for IBEW representation as part of the multi-union ADT Coordinating Council. Members work under 30 collective bargaining agreements across the U.S.

ADT’s commercial security installation services currently operate under the brand Tyco Integrated Security.

Abe Rodríguez, Local 134 organizer (who is not related to Bert), said some inspectors and technicians had experience working side by side with 21 co-workers

who belong to the Sprinkler Fitters union.

Many have also worked with Local 134’s inside electricians and voice-data-video technicians who install SimplexGrinnell’s fire alarms, nurses’ call stations and time clocks in public schools and other buildings.

“They’ve seen the benefits of a union,” says Abe Rodríguez. The IBEW decided to project a positive message even in the face of misinformation spread

by union avoidance lawyers hired by Tyco. The campaign was aided by Bob Parrilli, a former Local 134 business agent who is now employed by seven area locals for special organizing.

The local hosted meetings on Saturdays leading up to the representation election to answer questions and refute mischaracterizations.

“We persevered and won by a respectable 18-percent margin. There

was only one employee eligible to vote who did not cast a ballot and he is a staunch supporter who was out of the state on vacation,” says Illinois State Organizing Coordinator Charles Laskonis.

Laskonis said a strong volunteer organizing committee whose members used email and text messages to quickly dispel erroneous claims about the IBEW and union membership was key to the campaign’s success. ■

CIRCUITS

ETA Appoints New Director

Todd Stafford was appointed executive director of the Electrical Training Alliance (formerly the National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee)



Todd Stafford

He replaces Michael Callanan, who is stepping down.

“Todd and I have worked together for the past 19 years and I believe that the trustees of the Electrical Training Alliance have selected a proven leader who will skillfully guide the ETA for many years to come,” Callanan said.

Stafford has been with the ETA since 1995. His responsibilities included renewable power, including wind and solar and distributed energy.

He joined Baton Rouge, La., Local 995 in 1982. He holds an engineering degree from Louisiana State University.

“I am very excited to have this opportunity,” he said. “Our industry is facing extraordinary challenges and the Electrical Training Alliance is fully committed to doing our part to ensuring that the IBEW and NECA have a world-class electrical training program to produce the safest, most productive and best trained electrical workers in the world.”

The ETA, which transitioned from the National Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee this year, is the joint training arm for the IBEW and NECA, training tens of thousands of electrical workers at 300 training centers across the United States.

“Brother Callanan has kept our training program innovative, comprehensive and always ahead of the curve and I wish him well,” said International President Edwin D. Hill. “I welcome Brother Stafford and his leadership as we work with our partners at NECA in meeting the challenge of building and maintaining the top electrical workforce in the nation.” ■

Calif. Member Helps Spur AFL-CIO’s Youth Engagement

Activists at the AFL-CIO aren’t just talking about improving the lives of young workers. They’re walking the walk.

With the federation’s “Next Up” young workers program, veteran labor leaders are working more closely than ever with the younger generation to help take action on issues facing workers aged 18-35.

Now, IBEW member Rachel Bryan, 34, will serve as the first-ever Young Workers Advisory Council representative to the AFL-CIO’s general board. The board advises the federation’s Executive Council, which includes the AFL-CIO’s top officers and 55 vice presidents from all of the organization’s affiliates.

Bryan was unanimously elected by fellow advisory council members. “As part of the Young Workers Advisory Council, we help bring the message of full inclusion to the table,” said Bryan, a journeyman wireman by trade and the community liaison for Dublin, Calif., Local 595. “Everyone wants to be able to make a decent living and feed their families.”

Some of Bryan’s new responsibilities for the general council will be to help advise the AFL-CIO on issues affecting young workers, assist in strengthening central labor councils nationwide, help craft trainings and plan mentoring and community outreach.

The Young Workers Advisory Council will host a summit in Chicago next March. For more information on the AFL-CIO’s youth outreach, visit aflcio.org/Get-Involved/Young-Workers. ■



Dublin, Calif., Local 595 member Rachel Bryan, center, with International President Edwin D. Hill, right, and Senior Executive Assistant Brian Baker at this year’s Ninth District Progress Meeting in Maui, Hawaii.

Biden Shows Maine Shipyard Some Love

“I’ve traveled a million miles around the world as vice president and I traveled a million miles before that and the fact of the matter is you’re the best in the world. It’s true.”

Those were the words of Vice President Joe Biden in a September visit to the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, staffed by the Metal Trades, including Portsmouth, N.H., Local 2071. Biden was introduced by Paul O’Connor, president of the Metal Trades Council and former business manager of Local 2071.

Apprenticeship and training programs at the facility are a model for private enterprises and for America’s path to revitalizing the middle class, Biden said.

O’Connor says the unions’ Declaration of Excellence, a commitment to high standards on the job, has helped promote dignity, integrity, improved relationships and productivity in the yard. ■

High School Students Going Green in Spam’s Hometown

The sun and TV were shining on Austin, Minn., home to Hormel and Spam, as the Go Green Club at Austin High School helped install solar panels on the school’s roof in August.

The project and Le Sueur Local 343 journeyman inside wireman Peter Jacobs, who worked on the array, were featured on a local television news segment. Students learned how resources and money can be saved with solar power, but the lessons went deeper. “Sometimes you can look at a moral return, a good feeling that you’re doing something to better the ecology,” Jacobs said. ■

Nigerian Utility Workers Visit International Office

A delegation of union members from Nigeria toured the International Office and visited the Broth-

erhood’s museum in September.

“The biggest problem facing utility workers in Nigeria is the privatization of our distribution and transmission services,” says Aneke Chimaobi, a deputy president of The National Union of Electrical Employees. Most members have between 10 and 20 years of seniority and are concerned about their employer’s downsizing moves. ■

Recruiting for Diversity in St. Louis

Building trades unions, including Local 1, are partnering with the St. Louis Agency on Training and Employment using a \$300,000 grant from the state of Missouri to establish pre-apprenticeship classes to boost participation of women and minority workers in the trades.

After drug tests and OSHA training, 15 participants spend time at each of seven trades’ apprenticeship training centers.

Apprenticeship coordinators will rate the readiness of each student to enter training. Additional state funds will be used to help retain workers in the program. ■

Saving Hawks in Ill.

Shad Etchason, business manager of Decatur, Ill., Local 146, had received prior requests for volunteer work on residences. The local has participated in Habitat for Humanity and other efforts.

But then Etchason, president of the Decatur Building and Construction Trades Council, received a call from the state’s Department of Natural Resources for assistance building an elaborate residence to help restore habitat for osprey, a fish-eating hawk on the endangered species list. The osprey population began falling in the 1960s when widespread use of the pesticide DDT had made bird eggs thinner and vulnerable to breaking.

Jason Drake, training director of Mid-state Electrical Training Center, using all volunteer union labor, helped design a hacking tower, a shed 12 feet off the ground on poles where young birds imported from Joint Base Langley-Eustis near Newport,



Decatur Local 146 member helped build a tower to shelter young osprey, on the state’s list of endangered species.

Va., could reside until they left the new homes for good, having adopting the region as their own.

“Our partners provide additional expertise and help us make the best use of funds entrusted to us to help bring back endangered species,” says Illinois Department of Natural Resources Director Marc Miller. With the help of the trades’ expertise, IDNR hopes to remove the osprey from the endangered list within 20 years. ■

San Francisco 49ers Stadium: Built IBEW Strong

When the San Francisco 49ers needed a team to build their new stadium, they drafted the IBEW. Over 300 members of San Jose, Calif., Local 332 constructed the new \$1.3 billion facility. Levi’s Stadium in Santa Clara opened in July with a number of unique features: stadium-wide Wi-Fi, two colossal HD scoreboards and over 50,000 square feet of solar panels.

The stadium will host Super Bowl 50 in 2016.

Check out members on the job in our original video, which hit the Web last March and has garnered more than 4,000 views. ■



LOCAL LINES

'Unions Built this City'

L.U. 1 (as.c.ees,ei,em,es,et,fm,i,mt,rts,s,se,spa,st&ws), ST. LOUIS, MO—On Labor Day, hundreds of IBEW members marched in solidarity with numerous other unions and organizations in the St. Louis Labor Day parade. [See photo, at bottom.] This year's theme, "Unions Built This City," reminds our neighbors and leaders of the critical role organized labor and working families play in the success of our communities.

Once again this year, 18 Local 1 volunteers helped set up temporary electric power for the Overland Lions Club Charity Fair. Several St. Louis NECA members also provided support. Sanderson Electric pulled the permits; Sachs Electric also provided a service truck; and Schaeffer Electric provided a bucket truck. Money raised at the fair is donated to local food banks, veteran honor flights, international efforts to help children, and more. Last year, the event raised over \$12,000 for charities.

Local 1 is proud to have helped sponsor lighting for the St. Louis Science Center's Planetarium building for this year's Fair St. Louis. The cutting-edge LED lighting system in red, white and blue was sponsored by the Electrical Connection, a partnership between IBEW Local 1 and the St. Louis Chapter of NECA.

We mourn the death of several members: Clint Potter Sr., Robert Metzger, Bernard Trentmann Jr., Jack Seamans, Ronald Ervin, William Carlyle, Glenn Obermark, Ernestine Thompson, John Fortune, Donald Lansche, Marshall Baker, Vernon Wischmeyer, Dale Rosenkoetter, Matthew Francher, Gary Reimann, Floyd Petzoldt and Edwin Hirzy.

John Moyle, P.S.



A view of the construction phase of the new IBEW Local 9 training facility.

ed and much needed goal of Local 9 has finally come to fruition. The facility will provide Local 9 the ability to properly train our members on the safety, maintenance and operation of various cranes and directional boring and excavation equipment utilized in all facets of our industry. We know that this operating school and the classes being offered to our membership will only help in protecting the IBEW's interests and the jurisdiction of Local 9.

The local wrapped up its outside agreement with a 3.5 percent wage increase for each year of the three-year agreement. Additionally, at press time, the local is in the process of negotiating a successor line clearance contract for the 700+ hard-working and dedicated tree trimmers in northern Illinois.

Local 9 wishes all IBEW members and their families a happy Thanksgiving, a safe and joyous holiday season, and a prosperous New Year.

Mary Beth Kaczmarek, P.S.

New Training Facility

L.U. 9 (catv,govt,lctt,o&u), CHICAGO, IL—It is with great pride that Local 9 and the Middle States Electrical Contractors Association announces the opening of their new operating training facility, which sits on just over 12 acres in University Park, IL. A long await-



IBEW Local 1 members march in 2014 St. Louis Labor Day parade.

Submitting Local Lines Articles

Local Lines are printed monthly on an alternating even/odd schedule. They can be submitted by designated press secretaries or union officers via e-mail (locallines@ibew.org) or U.S. Mail. We have a 200-word limit. We make every effort to assist local unions in publishing useful and relevant local union news; however, all final content decisions are based on the editor's judgment. Our guidelines and deadlines are available at www.ibew.org/articles/journaldeadlines.htm. Please e-mail or call the Media Department at (202) 728-6291 with any questions.

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

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

room areas for our Health Fair, and the kids had a safe, fenced-off area with plenty of jumpers, slides and games. More than 25 vehicles owned by members were entered into this year's Knights of Labor car show. Thanks to the Picnic Committee, volunteers and all who helped make this event a great success.

Our director of veterans affairs, Mike Kufchak, will lead IBEW Local 11 as team captain for the United Way Homewalk 2014 on Saturday, Nov. 15. Unfortunately, more than 40,000 homeless people sleep in our streets at night, and approximately 6,000 of them are veterans. Please join us by walking, running and fundraising to help our communities fight homelessness. Contact Kufchak@joinlocal11.org for more information.

We are saddened by the loss of former business manager Homer Lee on July 29. Homer was initiated into Local 11 in 1962 and served in numerous capacities within our industry. His commitment and service to our local will not be forgotten.

Diana Limon, P.S.



IBEW Local 11 picnic at the Rose Bowl, Pasadena, CA. (Photo courtesy of Downtown Exposure.)

Utility Local Update

L.U. 15 (u), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—Local 15 wishes everyone a happy Thanksgiving and a great holiday season!

We reached an agreement with Exelon on a Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MAPDP). This plan goes into effect Jan. 1, 2015, and covers members who retired after March 30, 1995. The agreement should help keep the costs stable for affected retirees.

In the fossil division, employees at Kincaid Generating Station, currently owned by Energy Capital Partners (ECP), were notified that KGS is being sold to Dynegy. The sale is scheduled to take place in the first quarter of 2015. ECP was preparing to hold an initial public offering (IPO) and instead accepted a purchase offer from Dynegy.

NRG announced its plans for the four Midwest Generation coal-fired stations it owns. Waukegan and Powerton will get environmental upgrades and continue to burn coal. Joliet will have all three units converted to burn natural gas. Will County will shut down one

unit (No. 3) by April 1, 2015, and will continue to run the other unit (No. 4) as long as it meets environmental limits. These changes will benefit Illinois in meeting the proposed U.S. EPA Clean Power Rules.

Doug Vedas, P.S.

Bargaining Begins at DirectSat

L.U. 21 (catv,govt&t), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—Our recently organized members working at DirectSat USA in Mokena, IL, are beginning to gain a voice with their employer.

Since organizing earlier this year, the members started exercising their Weingarten Rights and began airing grievances with management. The National Labor Relations Board ruled in our members' favor on a charge that management withheld wage increases paid on service upgrades during the organizing drive (the same increases that were given to all other DirectSat employees).

That NLRB decision helped to level the playing field as our members headed into bargaining in early September. In preparation, members completed their bargaining surveys. Several attended a weekend negotiation training session in July. We were impressed by their turnout and their eagerness, participating on their only day off. They put in a full day learning about the bargaining process, and we feel we learned a lot from them too. On their first day of negotiations, members came prepared and passed 16 proposals for management to consider. With the first day behind them as of press time, it will be interesting to see how management responds. Management signaled throughout the organizing campaign that they intend to make bargaining difficult, at best.

Our new members need to continue to stand strong and understand that they have the power to achieve their ultimate goal, which is to obtain a first contract with DirectSat.

Bob Przybylinski, R.S./P.S.

Annual Softball Tournament

L.U. 25 (catv,i&rts), LONG ISLAND, NY—The 44th annual William J. Lindsay Softball Tournament was a great success. The tournament was hosted by IBEW Locals 25, 3 and 1049. The event took place the weekend of Aug. 22-24 in Baldwin, NY. Friday night, Aug. 22, was home run derby.

On Saturday and Sunday, 24 IBEW teams from

the East Coast competed in different brackets. Hundreds of IBEW members and their families showed up in force, and we all had a great time. Long Island, NY, Local 1049 won the upper bracket championship, and Toronto, Ontario, Local 353 won the lower bracket championship. They are two great teams.

Local 25 was awarded the brotherhood trophy for all their hard work at this event. Special thanks to John Guadagno, newly elected Local 25 president, and all of the other volunteers who showed up in force to help make the tournament a success. We had great weather and everyone enjoyed the fun and fellowship. We look forward to next year for another successful tournament weekend.

Tom Lawless, P.S.



At softball tournament hosted by New York Locals 25, 3 and 1049: The upper bracket champs from Local 1049 gather for a team photo.

Local 37 Election Results

L.U. 37 (em,o&u), FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA—Local 37 held our election this past June, and the officers for 2014-2018 are: Pres. Steve Hayes, Vice Pres. Michael Gould, Rec. Sec. Scot Hale, Treas. Gaetan Chiasson and myself, Ross Galbraith, as Business Manager. Other members elected to the Executive Board were: Richard Arbeau, David Brown, Harley Claveau, Jason Dewar, Jonathan Friars, Glenn Hubbard, Bernie Lynch, Jim Melvin, Mel Morin, Ted Robertson and Gordon Simpson.

I'd like to extend thanks to all candidates who stood for office. People who are willing to step up and take a leadership role are doing it because they truly want to help others—they care about their fellow workers, our workplaces and our communities, and they want to help us move forward. We all should be grateful for their willingness to make such a commitment to the members of this union.

With elections completed, we held a two-day orientation session where everyone had a chance to get to know one another. IBEW Int. Rep. Brian Matheson attended in order to swear in the new Executive Board and give an orientation about the duties and responsibilities involved with being an Executive Board member.

Ross Galbraith, B.M.



IBEW Local 37 officers are sworn in by Int. Rep. Brian Matheson (right).

Stadium Renovation

L.U. 41 (em,es,govt,i,se&spa), BUFFALO, NY—Another summer has passed us by. Our weather was not as ideal as we would have liked, but our work situation sure was. Many projects were completed this summer, and the renovation of Ralph Wilson Stadium was



Local 41 members from Ferguson Electric and Frey Electric at Ralph Wilson Stadium.

the largest. Over 150 electricians worked on the project to upgrade the stadium with new scoreboards, locker room, weight room, power distribution system, concessions, lighting, data, a new team store and many other features.

With work slowing down, please don't forget that with a journeyman wireman's ticket you are able to work anywhere in the country. Sitting at home waiting for a call is much easier, but getting your benefit money reciprocated back home is a lot more important and you will not regret it in retirement. To all the traveling brothers and sisters who worked here this year, we know it is not always easy to be away from home and we thank you.

Throughout the summer, many members gathered at our various events, my favorite being the Fantasy Island family picnic. It's a pleasure to watch all the active and retired members and their families spend the day together enjoying the food, the rides, swimming, laughing and telling stories. Getting to know one another outside of work makes our bond stronger and develops lifelong friendships.

Gregory R. Inglut, A.B.M.

Annual Retirees Dinner & Service Awards Presentation

L.U. 43 (em,i&rts), SYRACUSE, NY—Local 43's annual retirees dinner was held after the September union meeting, honoring recent retirees as well as those who have reached a milestone for years of service to the IBEW.

Service pins and certificates from Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill and Int. Sec.-Treas. Salvatore J. Chilia were presented as follows: For 60 years of service—Clifford Bielby, Terrance Lindsey and Samuel Sugar. For 55 years of service—Lloyd Barnes, William Gramith, Robert Johns and David Sullivan. And for 50 years of service—Arthur Grady, John Hogan, Patrick Ryan and Kent Snyder.

Congratulations to all award recipients.

Gene Townsend, P.S.

Illinois Utility Industry

L.U. 51 (catv,lctt,o,ptc,rtb,t,u&uow), SPRINGFIELD, IL—Congratulations to our Campaign Unit for placing runner-up at the AFL-CIO Campaign Labor Day Softball Tournament. Our brothers at Local 601 captured first place. It was enjoyable to have the championship game consist of all IBEW members. We hope all our members enjoyed their respective Labor Day festivities.

Local 51 is participating in two proceedings that will impact our membership. One is being conducted by the Illinois Commerce Commission and the Illinois Department of Agriculture concerning the permitting and citing process for several new high-voltage transmission lines.

The other proceeding is being held by the ICC and the Illinois EPA. Those meetings are gathering

The 'Kilowatt Chasers'— IBEW Community Service

L.U. 97 (u), SYRACUSE, NY—In June, members of the Kilowatt Chasers continued to provide community support by volunteering their time and skill in providing the Utica Zoo with public lighting to assure a safe, visitor friendly environment. The Kilowatt Chasers were established in 1960 in the Mohawk Valley and consisted of IBEW linemen from that region. Throughout time, the organization has taken on new members, consisting of linemen, underground and service, who meet bimonthly to discuss potential new projects where they could show gratitude by volunteering time within their community. The people within the Mohawk Valley are very grateful for their enthusiasm and we are honored to have IBEW Local 97 members be a part of such an organization.

In August, we ratified a six-year contract extension with Exelon Generation for our Nine Mile Nuclear Plant in Oswego. Highlights include yearly general wage increases, lower costs in medical pricing and newly developed retiree medical savings accounts for those members who previously had no retiree medical coverage.

Jim Zabinski, V.P.



The Kilowatt Chasers include Local 97 members Louis Paciello (left), Glen Hopsicker, Terry Anweiler, John McGuire and Mike Klosek.

New Two-Year Contract

L.U. 53 (lctt,o,rt&u), KANSAS CITY, MO—Members attended a special meeting on Aug. 21 to vote on a two-year outside construction agreement that would offer a 3.5 percent wage increase the first year and a 3 percent increase the second year. Members ratified the contract, and our work outlook appears to be strong! Bus. Mgr. Steve White personally thanked Bros. Jody Kapp, Ron Head Sr. and everyone on the Negotiating Committee for their help on the agreement.

On Monday, Sept. 1, several members participated in the greater Kansas City Labor Day parade and festival. It was reported that all had a great time.

The local welcomes new Bus. Reps. Eric Williams and Kyle Neuenschwander.

As of this writing, the Missouri public service commission is holding hearings across the state regarding the Grain Belt Express clean line project—a 750-mile overhead direct current line that would create jobs across the Midwest.

Be safe and spend it where you make it!

James Burks, V.P.

Officers Elected

L.U. 99 (govt&i), PROVIDENCE, RI—IBEW Local 99 held its election of officers June 9. Congratulations to all who were elected. Bus. Mgr. Michael Daley and Pres. James Jackson were re-elected to office for a second term. Also re-elected were Rec. Sec. John DiBiase and Treas. Sal Masi. Elected to the Executive Board were: Bros. Mike D'amico, Robert Furlong, John MacDonald, Joseph Manzi, William Smith, Paul Stromberg and Eric Wineman. Good luck to all, and may your time in office be successful, brothers.

On Aug. 10, the local held its Annual Clambake at Kempenaar Farms in Middletown, RI. Bro. Mike D'amico and members of the Activities Committee did their usual outstanding job, and everyone had a great time. Thanks to all who generously donated prizes for the post-meal raffle.

William Smith, P.S.

Pin Night & Scholarships

L.U. 103 (cs&i), BOSTON, MA—In June, Local 103 held its 37th Annual Pin Night at our union hall. There were 259 members in attendance who received service pins for years of service ranging from 20 to 72 years. The first pin of the night was presented to Bro. Robert W. Baker, who has been a member for 72 years. William E. Cormay, also a longtime member, received his pin for 71 years of service. Congratulations and thank you to them both and to all the pin recipients for their years of commitment.

LOCAL LINES

Local 103 also presented 10 scholarships on Pin Night to children of Local 103 members. These students are entering their first year of college this fall. After reviewing over 100 applications, the 10 students were chosen based on their academic achievements and the application process. Each recipient received a \$10,000 scholarship.

The scholarship recipients are: Elizabeth Boyer, of Mansfield; Sara Crane, of Abington; Colin Golden, of Mansfield; Matthew Griffin, of Hanover; Paul Hanlon Jr., of Rockland; Timothy Lo, of Braintree; Zachary Morelli, of Everett; Allison Steele, of Billerica; Marissa Stierli, of North Billerica; and Gabrielle Wood, of San Marcos, CA. Congratulations to the recipients and their parents.

Kevin C. Molineaux, P.S.

2014 Labor Day Parade

L.U. 109 (u), ROCK ISLAND, IL—At the 2014 East Moline Labor Day parade, the IBEW was well-represented. There was a great turnout by our membership and their families. We were glad to see many future members in our group as well!

Thanks to all who participated and helped make the day a great success.

Denise Newberry, R.S.



IBEW Local 109 members and their families gather for Labor Day parade.



Tri-State Vice Pres. Barry Ingold (left) with Craig Station Chief Steward Jim Nicoletto and Safety Steward Paul Perez of Local 111.

Safety Milestone Achieved At Tri-State G&T Station

L.U. 111 (em.govt,lctt,mt,o,rtb,spa&u), DENVER, CO—Congratulations to our Tri-State G&T bargaining unit members. On July 15, Tri-State Generation & Transmission headquarters honored the Craig Station workers with a plaque for reaching a safety milestone of more than 1 million work hours without a lost-time accident. That record represents a period of over 19 months.

The employees enjoyed the plaque presentation ceremony. Tri-State vice president of generation, Barry Ingold, presented the plaque to Craig Station Chief Steward Jim Nicoletto and Safety Steward Paul Perez in honor of the workers and their safety achievement.

A barbecue celebration was provided by the company. Congratulations to all, and keep up the great work!

We also congratulate the 2014 Vinc Perry-Ellis Scholarship winners! Receiving 2014 scholarships of \$1,500 each were: Emily Booth, daughter of Charles Booth, SLF Unit 30; Derek Burns, IREA Unit 18; Kasey Kostelecky, son of Mike Kostelecky, PSCO Unit 28; Cameron Payseno, son of Dave Payseno, PSCO Unit 2; and Kersten Buck, daughter of Margaret Buck-Ruybal, PSCO Unit 3.

This year's essay topic was "How can organized labor expand its influence to promote social justice?" Winning essays are posted on the Local 111 website at www.ibew111.com.

Mike Kostelecky, P.S.

Benefit Golf Classic Supports Burn Center

L.U. 125 (lctt,o,t&u), PORTLAND, OR—The 18th Annual Benefit Golf Classic was June 28 in Hood River, OR. The tournament supports the Oregon Burn Center's Education and Prevention Program. Twenty-five volunteers supported the 128 golfers who competed. With the backing of volunteers, generous sponsors and the golfers, \$65,000 was raised. The total donation amount since the tournament's inception is \$1,027,811.

A core group of Local 125 members work the tournament each year—and the efforts of two members started it all. After serving on the advisory council of the Oregon Burn Center, Bill Quimby approached Gene Daily about hosting a tournament. With Bill's knowledge about the Burn Center's needs and Gene's experience planning golf tournaments, the two got busy. Every year, many Local 125 members volunteer and compete in the event.

"This tournament is an important part of the local's ability to serve our community," Bus. Mgr. Travis Eri said. "To raise a million dollars is a phenomenal accomplishment that could never have been achieved without the commitment and effort" of all involved.

The 2014 Sponsor of the Year is Henkels & McCoy.

The team of Michael Connors, Dean Hackney, Russ Scholl and Brian Ringer were this year's first-place winners. Second place winners: Jon Gannon, Dennis Griffith, Nick Graiff and Tim Clouse. Third place: Pat Reiten, Dick Reiten, Mike Richards and David Anderson. Fourth place: Bob Corwin, Patty Corwin, J.D. Marr and Dan Krebs. And fifth place: Mark Franger, Mike Mason, Kerry Shampine and Lance Cheely.

For more information, please visit www.benefitgolfflclassic.com. Mark your calendar for next year's event, scheduled for June 27, 2015.

Marcy Grail, A.B.M.



IBEW Local 193 members and their families walk in Labor Day parade in Springfield, IL.

Construction Projects

L.U. 193 (l,cltt,o,rs,spa&u), SPRINGFIELD, IL—The Nehemiah Housing Initiative, led by Local 193 electrician Bro. Silas Johnson, pastor of the Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, is getting a big 193 "thank you" for the construction project for 30 new houses on the east side of Springfield that were wired 100 percent union. Bro. Silas Johnson knows that his Nehemiah Homes deserve the very best.

Local 193 thanks the school districts in the local's jurisdiction that chose Local 193 contractors and wiremen for renovations at area schools. We all liked the results: 100 percent IBEW Local 193 work!

At press time, contract negotiations with City Water, Light & Power (CWLP) have begun.

The annual golf outing to benefit the Members' Memorial & Scholarship Fund was held Oct. 11 at Piper Glen.

The Christmas Dance will be Dec. 13 at Erin's Pavilion in Southwind Park.

With the 2014 November midterm elections bearing down upon us at press time, utmost attention must be paid to all candidates for state and national office who support Local 193 and working people. For governor, incumbent Gov. Pat Quinn is the far better candidate for working families and organized labor.

Another Habitat for Humanity Project was completed. Thank you to the Local 193 journeymen and apprentices who did another outstanding job for Springfield, Illinois!

Condolences go the families of two members



Local 139's class of 2014 apprenticeship graduates: Tim Alington (left), Rob Stinson, Dave Hiney, Jason Gaige, Kevin DeMott, Tim Rexford, Anthony Burchard and Aaron Soles.

Seattle Local 46 once again combined their picnics. There was a great turnout with lots of fun and activities. The two locals squared off in tug of war and watermelon eating contests. There were also lots of activities for the children.

Local 191 will move its retirees dinner to the spring, allowing more time to plan for the local's Christmas parties. This year the Christmas parties will be on Dec. 13 in Everett, and Dec. 20 in Wenatchee. Call the hall or check the website for details.

As of this writing we still have open calls on the east side of the mountains with more work coming on both the east and west sides of our jurisdiction. We should have lots of opportunities for our traveling brothers and sisters with Washington State licenses to find work through the winter and beyond.

Tim Silsbee, P.S.



Carrying the Local 197 banner: young Oliver Goar (left), Bro. Jake Goar and Bro. Dale Glasscock.

who recently passed away: Damien Crews and Donald E. Craddock. They will be missed.

Don Hudson, P.S.

Labor Day Festivities

L.U. 197 (em&i), BLOOMINGTON, IL—At press time, voting season was winding up.

We celebrated Labor Day by marching in the McLean County Labor Day parade and having a picnic at the hall afterward. Thank you to all who attended. Judging from all the smiles, everyone enjoyed the festivities. Candy was tossed to the youngsters and families who gathered along the parade route to support working families and the labor movement. Good food and cold drinks were served at the picnic, and lots of stories flowed. The kids had fun tie-dyeing T-shirts and playing games; adults played bingo and participated in the Bags Tournament. Jake Goar and Mike Raikes took first place in the first annual Bags Tournament.

In July, we held our 26th annual golf tournament at Fair Lakes Golf Course in Secor. The trophy was back at home this year after Local 197 members Don Armstrong, Steve Batty, Maury Judd and Todd Kellar posted a 15 under par. Congratulations to them! We also had a hole-in-one for the first time, fired in by Luke Brown. Thanks to the golf committee—retirees Jack Roberts, Robin Roberts, Dan Uhlir and Dick Thompson—for another fine job.

Please remember to vote this election season. This election will drastically affect the union movement in Illinois, and it's important to get labor friendly candidates elected or re-elected. Please get involved in the local and stay involved!

Mike Raikes, Pres.

70-Year Service Award

L.U. 213 (c,catv,em,i&u), VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA—Local 213 retired member Thomas Dick received a standing ovation upon receiving his IBEW 70-year service pin award earlier this year at the Annual Local 213 Electrical Workers' Pension Plan Banquet and Dance. [See photo, below.] The banquet took place June 20 in Vancouver.

Darcy Biln, Pres.



Local 213 Bus. Mgr. Adam Van Steinburg (left), service-award recipient Thomas Dick, and Pres. Darcy Biln.

Infrastructure & Economics

L.U. 269 (i&o), TRENTON, NJ—Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG), New Jersey's largest supplier of electrical power, recently held a joint presentation with Rutgers University to discuss the potential economic impact of the proposed upgrade to the state's entire electrical grid.

Local 269 members in attendance were: Bros. Sean Madsen, Walt Kimiski, Jim McMahon, Jeff Johnson, Asst. Bus. Mgr. Wayne DeAngelo and Press Sec. Brian Jacoppo.

The members, along with fellow brothers from surrounding locals and members of the press, heard the results of a study conducted by Rutgers University's Bloustein School of Planning & Public Policy, headed by Prof. Joseph Seneca.

After hearing opening remarks by New Jersey Senate Pres. Steve Sweeney and PSEG Pres. Ralph LaRossa, Prof. Seneca described how the study tracked the projected income and expenditures of employees during the initial phases of the proposed project.

The study showed the positive economic effects that would be experienced by the surrounding communities when people employed by the upgrade projects spend their income. It demonstrated that when people earn a fair rate of pay with a fair package of benefits, everyone from the bagel shop owner to the travel agent experiences an uptick in business.

With the creation of 6,000 jobs a year, \$4.3 billion in personal income, \$367 million in state taxes generated over the span of the project, and the creation of a state-of-the-art electrical grid, it's hard to imagine any logical opposition to this greatly needed infrastructure improvement.

Brian Jacoppo, P.S.



IBEW Local 269 Asst. Bus. Mgr. Wayne DeAngelo (right) with Public Service Enterprise Group Pres. Ralph LaRossa.

Excellence in Training Award

L.U. 317 (i,o,rs,t&u), HUNTINGTON, WV—Local 317's apprenticeship training program was recently awarded the national Excellence in Training Award at the IBEW Fourth District Progress Meeting. The award is for IBEW-NECA apprenticeship training centers that provide journeyman education classes to more than 75 percent of the local's membership.

Our apprenticeship training center has also received the attention of industry leaders and elected public officials. West Virginia Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin



Local 351 Picnic Committee: Tim Carew (left), Don Morgan, Dan Cosner, Bill Hosey, Bob Ridgeway, Buddy Blatcher, Joe Trumbetti, Ray Listman, Dawn Clementz, Chuck DellaVecchia, Wayne Bumm, Ed Reiser and Sean Newlin. Not pictured: Jim Fletcher.

recently visited the training center, as did U.S. Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia.

Our training facility provides world-class training to both apprentices and journeymen. We continue to work on enhancing the program to ensure the future of the IBEW work force. Since lifelong learning is the mark of a true craftsman, all IBEW members are encouraged to participate in the classes their local apprenticeship training center offers throughout the year.

We invite our members as well as all IBEW members to follow IBEW 317 on Facebook (www.facebook.com/ibew317) to keep up to date on local events and issues.

James Stacy, P.S.



West Virginia Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin (left) with IBEW Local 317 Bus. Mgr. Jim Gillette.

123 Years and Growing

L.U. 343 (i,spa&t), LE SUEUR, MN—There was great fun at the annual Local 343 summer picnic. In the picnic photo below, Bro. Jim Backus, "entertainment director of the day," leads uninhibited members and families in the always fun (and sometimes embarrassing) YMCA song. Over 200 people attended and no member left without winning at least one raffle prize.

In the spirit of giving, approximately two dozen members and retirees volunteered labor over several days to install a 40-panel, 10 kilowatt solar array on the rooftop of the Austin public high school. The Local 343 membership previously voted to also donate funds to the project.

Our day school now has a second full-time instructor, due to the increased number of first-year apprentices. There are 33 first-year cubs divided into three classes, and 24 third-year apprentices in two classes. The remaining second-, fourth-, and fifth-year apprentices and test-prep apprentices make a total of 108 in the program.

This month we give thanks for what we have, and also for the opportunities to achieve more. The

National Brotherhood of Electrical Workers was formed Nov. 21, 1891, with the goal of achieving more. With 123 years behind us, what can we do to continue the legacy?

This Christmas, give "Made in USA."

Tom Small, P.S.

'Thanks to Volunteers'

L.U. 351 (c,cs,i,t,lctt,mt,o,se,spa&t), FOLSOM, NJ—Local 351's annual union picnic was Saturday, Aug. 2, at Morey's Pier in Wildwood, NJ. Despite a bit of rain, the day was a great success. Over 1,800 people came through the gates. Thanks to all who participated and to those who donated door prizes. Special thanks to all the picnic committee members for another successful picnic and a great day. [Photo at top, right.]

As of this writing, we were gearing up our get-out-the-vote (GOTV) activities for the very important November midterm elections. Starting in September, we began running phone banks and conducting labor walks on Saturday mornings in four different locations in our jurisdiction. Thank you to all our members who volunteered their time to come out and help. Our members realize the importance of electing the candidates who support the goals of organized labor.

Dan Cosner, P.S.



Local 357 member Robert Zuehlsdorf (right) with son Josh, a Little League champ, wife Tracey and daughter Jessica.

Health Fair & Union Picnic

L.U. 357 (c,i,mt&se), LAS VEGAS, NV—What a great turnout at the Local 357 Annual Picnic. It was great to see all our brothers and sisters and their families there. A big thank-you goes out to all who volunteered their time to help make the picnic such a great success.

Also, thank you to all the volunteers at the health fair and Halloween bash. It just keeps getting better every year.

We proudly congratulate Bro. Robert Zuehlsdorf. His son's team, Mountain Ridge, made it to the Little League World Series in Williamsport, PA. Way to go!

Jennifer Tabor, P.S.



At Local 343 summer picnic, Bro. Jim Backus conducts enthusiastic group of songsters.

IBEW MERCHANDISE



IBEW Pocket Knife \$24.00

3" wood handle with brass accents and etched with IBEW initials. 2.25" stainless steel blade.

IBEW Playing Cards \$2.50

Plastic coated playing cards with IBEW logo.

Black Beanie Hat \$5.00

100% acrylic knit hat with embroidered 1" IBEW initials.

These items and more are now available at your IBEW Online store.

www.ibewmerchandise.com

LOCAL LINES

Tribute to Service

L.U. 363 (catv,em,govt,i,t,u&ws), NEW CITY, NY—As you read this, we are either getting ready to vote or have already voted. If it's before Election Day, the best thing that can happen is that reading these words will remind you that you need to vote. If it's after Election Day, the worst thing would be if you missed it all and didn't vote, or if you weren't even registered. We always need your support to help elect the candidates that our local has approved as labor friendly to IBEW Local 363. Let's make sure we push to elect friends of working people.

Happy Veterans Day to all of our veterans! And a special thank-you to our IBEW military veterans! You gave a part of yourself that no one can ever match. You gave yourself for your country and your fellow Americans! Your service, dedication and commitment exemplify the character that we want to instill in our entire membership. Thank you.

Sam Fratto, B.M.



Local 441 Organizer John O'Neill at COPE interviews for candidate endorsements by the Orange County Labor Federation.

2014 Apprenticeship Graduates

L.U. 441 (as,j&rts), SANTA ANA, CA—Local 441 congratulates all recent apprenticeship graduate. They are as follows:

Inside journeyman wiremen graduates—Jonathan Alvarez, Erik Ellingson, David A. Martinez, Norman Schisler, Rashid Aman, Craig Fua, Alex Mejia, Steven Sherman, Michael Arellano, Jerardo Garcia, Juan Carlos Molina, Christopher Shuster, Kristofer Bakhos, Daniel Gibson, Michael Montgomery, Roberto Sosa, Earl Barton, Nhan Huynh, Jorge T. Nava, Rick Taloa, Bradley Caldwell, Ryan Jaramillo, Matt Northrop, Ricky Van Auken, Anthony Campas, Richard Kay Jr., Juan M. Ramirez, Alfred Vandermade, Adam Cargo, Steven Kennard, William Rilik, Shane Wade, Eric Clease, Leonardo Leal, Mark Rindahl, Robert Weinrauch, Geoffrey Dionne, Donald Lloyd, Randall Ristine, Jeramie Zabel and Joel Donjuan.

Sound & Communications graduates—Uriel Aguilera, Jamal Mollamohammad, Lucky Relator, Justin Staiger, Justin Green, Antonio Palacios, Angel Rodriguez and Emily Stens.

Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) graduates—Michael Aguirre, Corey Britt and Naim Yanie.

Best of luck to you all, graduates! At this writing, November elections are fast approaching. Local 441 is proud to have a Local 441 member running for a city council seat. At press time, Organizer John O'Neill, a 29-year IBEW member, is running for a council seat in the city of Garden Grove. Your local is behind you all the way, John!

Rich Vasquez, B.R.

'Excited for the Future'

L.U. 449 (catv,em,i,o,rb,rts,spa&u), POCATELLO, ID—With a busy summer season behind us, the positive steps that the local worked on all summer leave our local excited for the future!

With the help of the staff and the membership, we have come a long way getting our new Residential Agreement signed, with hopes of gaining market share where we previously have had little impact.

At this writing, we have also started to re-work our low voltage agreement to make it more applicable for the local and the contractors.

The fifth-year apprentice class, along with apprenticeship training Instructor Colby Averett, Organizer James Smith and Cameron Evans of Evans Electric, volunteered to wire a Habitat for Humanity project. Fifth-year apprentices who worked on the community service project include: Richard Curzon, Forest Gibson, Thomas Hale, Jeffery Hall, Brent Mashburn, Bobbie Richmond, David Stanislawski, Kevin Widmer and Derek Wood. The IBEW volunteer effort resulted in a nice article in the local newspaper. With all of these efforts, we also help promote a positive public perception of the IBEW in surrounding communities.

Local 449 mourns the passing of Bro. Bill "Heavy" Macfarlane. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family.

James Smith, Mbr. Dev. Rep.

New Leadership & Apprenticeship Graduates

L.U. 481 (ees,em,i,mt,rt,s&spa), INDIANAPOLIS, IN—Our local union election was held June 11. Congratulations to Local 481's newly elected officials: Bus. Mgr. Steve Menser, Pres. Chad Bowman, Vice Pres. Kenny Chapman, Rec. Sec. Blake Andrews, Treas. Jeff Wheeler; Executive Board members Henry Burks, Dominic Collins, Stan Corson, Ryan Donovan, Chad Ison; Examining Board members Mike Hopkins, Pat Jenkins, Jeff Means; and Convention delegates Henry Burks, Bob Cadwell, Mike Donovan, Jon Hooker, Mike Hopkins, Mike Hunter and Jeff Wheeler.

Congratulations to the 35 graduates from the last two inside apprenticeship graduating classes and to the telecommunication apprentice graduates for a job well done. The committee recognized their efforts on Aug. 9.

Apprentice of the Year award recipient for the December 2013 class was Matt Selby; Apprentice of the Year for the May 2014 class was Justin Elliott; and the Telecommunication Apprentice of the Year was Stephen Sanner.

Winning the Solidarity Award for their commitment to the Brotherhood during their time as apprentices were: Chris Grider (December 2013 class), Jason Frazier (May 2014 class) and Melody Dempsey (Telecommunications).

Solidarity Honorees were Curtis Grady, Keith Smith and Tom Lovitt.

Best wishes to all of our new journeymen!

Blake Andrews, R.S.



Local 481 congratulates recent apprenticeship graduates.



Local 595 scholarship recipients with Bus. Mgr. Victor Uno (front row, right), scholarship committee Chmn. Vic Rolita (back row, right) and Pres. Greg Bonato (far left).

LIRR Contract Ratified

L.U. 589 (rr), JAMAICA, NY—Local 589 is proud to announce that our long fight with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and many years of hard work have paid off. The Local 589 membership employed at Long Island Railroad ratified a new contract agreement this past summer!

Our local worked hard for the past 4½ years to settle this dispute with the transit agency's management. We reached a tentative agreement with the agency on July 17, just three days before a looming strike at Long Island Railroad, a major commuter rail system.

Notably, 95 percent of our membership came out during an unprecedented storm to cast their votes in support of the agreement; we expect nothing less from our members.

Our contract is settled, thanks to the solidarity of our members and other union activists. Without the hard work and dedication of our members and the union staff, especially our General Chmn. Ricardo "Rick" Sanchez and our Pres. Jeffrey Klein, we wouldn't be where we are today.

Congratulations and thank you to all of our members for their support.

Augie Maccarone, R.S.

Scholarship Award Ceremony

L.U. 595 (c,cs,govt,i,mt,o,se&st), DUBLIN, CA—Local 595's annual Thomas J. Sweeney Scholarship Award ceremony took place at a general membership meeting. We were honored to have Ninth District Int. Vice Pres. Michael S. Mowrey and northern California Ninth District international representatives in attendance. Scholarship committee Chmn. Vic Rolita and committee members awarded a total of 20 scholarships to recipients who met all required qualifications.

Scholarship recipients included: 10 high school graduates, seven collegians, and three Local 595 apprentices (Kevin Affleck, Max Hayashi and Sean Hyland). Congratulations to all. Special congratulations to Vic Rolita, who after 35 years of IBEW service is now enjoying a well-deserved pension with his wife, Kathy, and will remain as chairman of the scholarship program.

Work hours for 2014 fell below our normal amount. However, work opportunities remained available as our members continued to be employed in primary markets throughout Alameda County. We have also continued to aggressively pursue new mar-

kets, while attempting to bring back those we have lost. Thanks to our neighboring locals around the Bay Area, many Local 595 members are able to travel and still return to their families the same evening.

Bob Tieman, B.R.



Local 611 member Chuck "Zero" Garcia (right) presents donation to shelter director Jeremy Reynolds.

Donation to Shelter

L.U. 611 (catv,es,govt,i,lc,t,o,spa,t&u), ALBUQUERQUE, NM—Greetings, brothers and sisters. As of this writing, there is not a great deal in the way of breaking news to report.

During the Seventh District Progress Meeting, Local 611 member Chuck "Zero" Garcia was asked to offer the opening prayer, and he was presented a check for \$125 to make a donation to a charity of his choice on behalf of the local. The charity that Chuck chose was a homeless shelter, Joy Junction, in Albuquerque.

This is an election year, and at press time the November elections were fast approaching. We have a governor's race in addition to congressional races, so we hope everyone gets out and votes.

Local 611 extends condolences to the families of several recently deceased members: Jake M. Perea, Chris Padilla, David Otero, Maxwell D. Simmons, Lawrence H. LaRue and John W. Stanhope.

Remember to attend your local union meetings on the third Saturday of the month.

Darrell J. Blair, P.S.

Brotherhood & Solidarity

L.U. 625 (c,ees,em,i, it,mar&mt), HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA—Congratulations to Alex Welton on becoming a journeyman construction electrician in July.

Bro. Darrell Croke retired in April, and Bros. Mike Mosher and Gary MacKenzie retired in September. Congratulations and best wishes to these brothers in retirement.

Tom Griffiths, A.B.M.



Local 627 members and their families attend "Community Night with the St. Lucie Mets."

'Smiles All Around'

L.U. 627 (u), FORT PIERCE, FL—The summer season ended on a positive note for our members.

In August, the local celebrated its inaugural "Community Night with the Class A St. Lucie Mets," with smiles and cheers from our members and their children in attendance.

Also in August, Local 627 members ratified a new three-year contract agreement with Florida Power & Light. The membership approved the contract by a 64 percent majority. A special mention goes to the election officials—Marshall Smith, Andy Watts and Scott Reinhardt—for their efforts in this endeavor.

The Adopt A Street program continues to show our union members' commitment to the community, with Port St. Lucie Boulevard never looking cleaner.

Please think "safety" in every aspect of your life.

Ray Vos, P.S.

more difficult for our local. In Ohio we have to deal with the prospect of a Republican-controlled state for years to come. This has necessitated approaching, and dealing with, some elected representatives we have traditionally opposed. While it is hard to call these officials our friends, we must continue to educate them on the issues that affect our members. We hope we have made some progress in our fight against so-called "right to work."

We are fortunate to have an educated, well-informed membership willing to step up to do what it takes to promote our cause. Our volunteers continue to make a difference at the polls. Hopefully we can stop this constant attack on workers and begin to improve our opportunities through legislation. We hope everyone makes sure to vote on Nov. 4!

James Braunlich, P.S.



Local 673 member Mike Kubacki works on lighting retrofit at union hall.

Topaz Solar Farm Project

L.U. 639 (i&rts), SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA—The 20,000 acre, 500 megawatt Topaz Solar Farm, located on the Carrisa Plains in San Luis Obispo County, is one of the largest photovoltaic solar plants in the world.

Owned by MidAmerican Renewables, the \$1.6 billion project labor agreement secured with First Solar has employed over 500 journeyman wiremen and 1,000 construction wiremen since the start of the project in early 2012. Slated for completion later this year, the project utilizes 9 million First Solar thin-film modules to produce enough renewable green energy to power 160,000 California homes.

Shown in the photo (at bottom, left) taken at the Topaz Solar Farm jobsite are Local 639 members employed by Michigan-based Conti Electric Inc., managed by Rich Dolsen of IBEW Detroit Local 58.

Kurt McClave, P.S.

Politically Active Membership

L.U. 673 (catv,i,rts,spa,t&u), PAINESVILLE, OH—Bro. Mike Kubacki is pictured here putting the final touches on the outdoor portion of our union hall's lighting retrofit. [See photo at end of article.] We also thank Craig Egeland, Jim Howard, Lloyd Brannon and Terry Wyse for their help on the project.

At this writing, we are deep into midterm election season and the process has become more and



Local 639 members employed by Conti Electric Inc. at Topaz Solar Farm jobsite.



Local 827 holds 4th Annual Bobby Blanco Memorial Motorcycle Run.

'Thanks to Fellow Locals'

L.U. 697 (c,es,i,mt&se), GARY AND HAMMOND, IN—Work in Local 697's jurisdiction has slowed markedly upon completion of the BP-Whiting Modernization Project. Along with a slowing demand for our services in the steel industry, we have seen a significant increase in the number of members looking for work. I thank all locals that have been able to help us with providing employment opportunities for our members.

At press time, the Nov. 4 midterm election was fast approaching. I can only hope that all of labor did their part by casting votes. Especially votes that favored the best choice for labor! If you did, thank you! If you didn't, well... Regardless of the Nov. 4 outcome, we fully expect a full blitz on the building trades from the statehouse in the upcoming session. Please keep abreast of the legislation. Updates will be on our website.

Be safe, stay warm, and enjoy the holidays!

Dan Waldrop, B.M.

our ranks. He also swore in the recently elected Local 915 officers, including Bus. Mgr. Randall King and the Executive Board.

Congratulations to the local officers, elected for a three-year term (2014-2017). They are: Bus. Mgr. King, Pres. Jonathon Dehmel, Treas. Bruce Barrow, Vice Pres. Roco Simpson, Rec. Sec. Theresa King; Executive Board members Clyde Tucker, Graham Hadley, John Scheel, Charles Gartley, Carl Whitt, Shawn McDonnell, Leon Ward; Examining Board members David McCraw, Mike Weeks and Tom Bedwell. We look forward to working together with each of you in advancing this local union for the future.

Our RENEW committee is up and alive in Local 915. Their volunteer projects to date have included adopting a road with the Keep Tampa Beautiful program, complete with signage announcing that the road was cleaned by IBEW union labor. They have volunteered at the cookouts and anywhere they can find a need and advance their local. Congratulations to all and keep up the good work.

Theresa King, P.S.

Tribute to a Brother

L.U. 827 (catv&t), EAST WINDSOR, NJ—Local 827 members and friends gathered on Sunday, Aug. 10 for the 4th Annual Bobby Blanco Memorial Motorcycle Run. [Photo, top right.] Bro. Blanco died tragically in a motorcycle accident en route to picket duty during the 2011 Verizon strike. Attendees included: Blanco's widow, Maria; his daughter Annette; his son, Local 827 steward Rob Blanco, along with wife Daisy and their daughter Kaylee, Bobby Blanco's granddaughter.



Local 1015 members and their families attend Labor Day picnic.

Labor Day Picnic

L.U. 1015 (em&i), WESLACO, TX—As part of Local 1015's tradition, on Aug. 30 we held our annual Labor Day Picnic.

This picnic is a great time for all longtime members, along with their families, to reunite—and for new members and their families to meet the rest of the Local 1015 family. It is a time for everyone to relax away from the usual jobsites and construction project sites. Here, everyone comes together united as family and enjoys a break from our daily routine. At the picnic, all the brothers get to enjoy the fellowship in a new setting.

The children in attendance have fun playing



Fifth District Int. Vice Pres. Joe S. Davis (fifth from left) with Local 915 officers. From left: Graham Hadley, Shawn McDonnell, Carl Whitt, Randall King, [Davis], Clyde Tucker, Bruce Barrow, Mike Weeks, Jonathon Dehmel, Charles Gartley and Roco Simpson.

LOCAL LINES

games and meeting other kids. At the picnic, everyone enjoys seeing old friends, making new connections and often lifelong friendships. Each year Local 1015 members look forward to this annual event, which is always filled with fun, laughter and enjoyment!

Thank you to Jessica Luna for providing information for this article.

Sergio A. Salinas, B.M.



IBEW Local 1245 members capped the gas line to this Napa residence after a 6.0 magnitude earthquake knocked it off its foundation. From left: Brad Matlock, Ron Knepper and Joe Goldstein.

Supporting Organizing Efforts

L.U. 1245 (catv,em,govt,lctt,o,pet,t&u), VACAVILLE, CA—Local 1245 members at PG&E responded quickly when the Napa, CA, area was hit with a 6.0 earthquake on Aug. 24. Gas workers responded to hundreds of calls about gas leaks; PG&E electric workers restored power to everyone—70,000 customers had lost power—within a day.

The IBEW Ninth District recognized our local as a “Henry Miller Local” for our support of other locals’ organizing efforts. The California Labor Federation granted our local the Solidarity in Labor’s Campaigns Award.

We intensified our efforts during the fall election campaign and made plans to deploy some 30 members to campaigns in California, Nevada and key races elsewhere.

Members won back pay retroactive to October 2013 when an arbitrator ruled that the Western Area Power Administration acted improperly when it failed to honor pay raises negotiated by the IBEW Government Coordinating Council #1.

Our local recently bargained agreements with the City of Lodi, Silicon Valley Power, and AC Transit.

Line clearance tree trimmers met in a Peer Safety Summit to explore additional ways to promote safety awareness. The local produced a tree trimmer safety video called “Keep the Clearance.” See it on YouTube at www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ldlhq6-RoKk.

Our members at PG&E and Turlock Irrigation District won awards at the Pacific NW Lineman Rodeo, and also performed well at a regional rodeo. The IBEW 1245 team at the Ninth District Softball Tournament also made a good showing. Several local members accepted a northern California IBEW ocean fishing challenge and caught some whoppers.

Local 77 expressed interest in building a peer safety program modeled on our local’s Hold the Pull initiative. Several of our members met with Local 77 in SeaTac to work on that.

Local 1245 organizing stewards assisted a Teamsters organizing drive at an area food plant.

Visit our website to download our educational “comic posters.” Go to: www.ibew1245.com/library/comics/.

Eric Wolfe, P.S.

IBEW Tree Trimmers

L.U. 1249 (catv,lctt,o,t&u), SYRACUSE, NY—That was a fantastic article on IBEW Local 42 tree trimmers published recently in the IBEW newspaper.

Editor’s Note: To read the article referred to see, “Connecticut IBEW Climbs with Tree Trimmer Wins: Local Brings Safety, Job Security in Line Clearance,” published in the July 2014 issue of *The Electrical Worker*. The article can also be read online at: www.ibew.org/articles/14ElectricalWorker/EW1407/TreeTrimmers.0714.html/

Here in upstate New York, we have one nonunion contractor that employs a crew of about 35 who work on line clearance on Rochester Gas & Electric’s property. We continually try and educate these men on what the union is about and what it has to offer. This effort has resulted in stripping two of their men in the last year, and with persistence we hope more will follow.

Local 1249 continuously has full employment in our Tree Trimming Chapter. They trim thousands of miles of line a year, and also take down and remove thousands of trees each year.

Keep up the great work Local 42!

Ed Moreira Jr., A.B.R.



Local 1547 officers and board members include: Jesse Young (left), Vince Beltrami, Laura Bonner, Allen Wiggs, Cecil Colley, Mike Hodsdon, Knute Anderson, Sven Westergard and Charlie Breitenstein.

At press time, the November midterm elections are upon us. The political environment is getting tough in Missouri with legislators attempting to push anti-worker bills in the state House and Senate. It is important for our members to exercise their right to vote, and support those candidates who support us.

The Annual Christmas Party will be Friday, Dec. 12. All active and retired members are invited to attend. Dinner and refreshments will be served, beginning at 11 a.m. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Remember to attend your monthly meetings.

Matt Curry, R.S./P.S.

members employed by Amtote are working to make sure that the para mutual machines are working flawlessly to guarantee another good meet. State fairs are an important part of our American culture, and Local 1501 is proud to be part of Maryland’s State Fair.

Thomas J. Rostkowski, R.S.

Officers Elected

L.U. 1547 (c,em,i,o,t&u), ANCHORAGE, AK—Local 1547 recently held our statewide election for officers.

Elected to serve for three-year terms were: Bus. Mgr. Mike Hodsdon, Pres. Knute Anderson, Vice Pres. Vince Beltrami, Treas. Charlie Breitenstein; Executive Board members Cecil Colley III (Unit 101), Allen Wiggs (Unit 102), Jesse Young (Unit 103) Sven Westergard (Unit 104); Examining Board members Jon Medaris (Unit 101), Tim Estesen (Unit 102), Jacob Soboleff (Unit 103) and Jared Anderson (Unit 104). Laura Bonner was appointed recording secretary. [See photo at top, right.]

Melinda Taylor, P.S.



Local 1501 member Nathan Allen (right) at Goddard Space Flight Center is interviewed by I.O. Media Dept. journalists/video crew for a video and article about NASA, posted on IBEW website www.ibew.org.

Utility Local Reports

Sierra Lobo Contract Ratified

L.U. 1501 (ees,em,mo,pet,rt&st), BALTIMORE, MD—Our members employed at NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, MD, experienced a change of contractors when Sierra Lobo outbid Team Analax, NA and gained the contract with NASA for the next five years.

Sierra Lobo honored the agreement that Team Analax had with our local. When that contract was up for renewal, our negotiating committee, headed by Bus. Mgr. Dion F. Guthrie, worked hard in contract negotiations with company representatives. As of press time, a contract has been signed with Sierra Lobo extending the collective bargaining agreement for one year (from October 1, 2014 to October 1, 2014). The agreement was ratified by the membership.

As I write this report, the Maryland State Fair is in progress—and horse racing is a part of it. Our

L.U. 1759 (u), CASPER, WY—Greetings, brothers and sisters. First off, Local 1759 would like to congratulate Ken Tuttle from the Canyon Ferry Power Plant on his recent retirement. He will be missed by all.

We also congratulate Jake Elwell for completing his apprenticeship and becoming a journeyman substation electrician. Congratulations, Jake!

As of this writing, I am pleased to report that members employed by Western Area Power and the Bureau of Reclamation have won their wage arbitration suits and are tentatively expected to receive their much-deserved raises. Thank you to the brothers who serve on the GCC1/arbitration committees that have fought for the members of Local 1759.

Local 1759 members wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season!

Jason Mengwasser, F.S.



Local 1759 craft crews from Gering, NE, install a mobile transformer outside of Kimball Substation.

In Memoriam

Members for Whom PBF Death Claims were Approved in August 2014

Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death
1	Campbell, R. L.	6/10/14	17	Head, T. R.	6/14/14	68	Rhodes, L. A.	4/28/14
1	Carlyle, W. R.	7/21/14	18	Baldwin, L. O.	7/11/14	68	Varn, L. G.	7/21/14
1	Chisholm, G. J.	6/27/14	18	Potter, A. H.	6/2/14	71	Daniels, T. J.	10/28/13
1	Dauphin, K. L.	5/22/14	19	Hyppio, K. M.	7/4/14	71	Shaver, J. F.	6/12/14
1	Erder, N. F.	3/31/14	20	Black, L. F.	7/21/14	72	Masopust, R.	7/17/14
1	Ervin, R. C.	7/16/14	20	Ferguson, G.	1/4/14	72	Ridgell, R. C.	7/6/14
1	Metzger, T. R.	7/10/14	24	Burton, G. C.	7/15/14	73	Peterson, S. A.	12/30/13
1	Obermark, G. L.	7/28/14	24	Eveson, J. S.	7/24/14	73	Smith, C. D.	10/25/12
1	Potter, C. J.	7/3/14	25	Dropkin, S. M.	6/27/14	76	Asbjornsen, N. A.	11/17/12
1	Rehling, R. F.	6/21/14	25	Friend, G.	5/15/14	76	Bergman, R. B.	6/8/14
2	Pfenenger, J. L.	7/12/14	25	Haubrich, G. C.	3/18/13	76	Blanchard, D.	6/21/13
2	Powellson, W. E.	6/24/14	25	Kain, F. R.	7/17/14	76	Hemstreet, D. R.	7/17/14
3	Alexander, C. R.	5/10/14	25	Larsen, P.	6/28/14	76	Reynolds, K. W.	6/10/14
3	Berrios, E.	6/9/14	25	Perez, M. W.	7/10/14	77	Fitch, V. R.	6/28/14
3	Calcasola, A.	5/8/14	26	Allen, R. A.	6/18/14	77	Grandlund, D. E.	5/8/14
3	Calise, M. F.	6/21/14	26	Ashley, J. M.	7/11/14	77	Rennie, R. L.	7/4/14
3	Carmichael, D. J.	12/24/13	26	Hammett, G. L.	7/23/14	77	Tews, J. A.	6/28/14
3	Collins, W. J.	9/3/12	26	Nguyen, K. V.	7/22/14	77	Voigt, T. P.	5/3/14
3	Cullen, P. J.	7/24/14	26	Ricker, T. A.	6/12/14	80	Adamee, S. A.	5/27/14
3	Deutscher, B.	6/29/14	31	Burton, R. D.	7/28/12	81	Janssen, B. F.	7/3/14
3	Dorn, F. J.	5/18/14	34	Fraboni, L. R.	6/9/14	82	Krug, C. E.	6/12/14
3	Gruber, T. R.	2/9/14	34	Nutt, R. J.	8/3/14	84	Carter, J. L.	6/26/14
3	Kaner, M. L.	7/10/14	38	Armstrong, K. R.	7/24/14	86	Phelps, R. M.	8/25/12
3	Kilgallen, R. G.	6/1/14	38	Gerak, C. T.	6/25/14	90	Monterosso, R. M.	7/18/14
3	Lia, J. S.	6/29/14	38	Humbert, J. C.	8/1/14	90	Wysocki, D. T.	6/28/14
3	Morales, A.	5/23/14	38	O'brien, T. J.	7/18/14	96	Sirard, A. D.	5/17/14
3	Newman, S. S.	7/7/14	38	Papcum, P.	7/21/14	98	Cunningham, F. J.	7/14/14
3	Norwood, C. P.	2/17/14	40	Samm, B. J.	5/29/14	98	Kerr, P. J.	7/23/14
3	Olinto, L. T.	5/6/14	41	Malicki, W. S.	7/27/14	98	Leszczynski, J. W.	6/30/14
3	Petrocelli, R. M.	8/22/13	41	Ruhland, W. A.	6/15/14	98	Maxwell, G. A.	7/17/14
3	Phelan, M. P.	5/31/14	41	Scudder, E. M.	7/12/14	98	Merrick, J. A.	7/1/14
3	Putignano, A.	7/13/14	42	Lindquist, L.	7/19/14	98	Monaghan, J. N.	8/28/12
3	Richardson, N. J.	2/24/13	42	McDermott, W. J.	7/16/14	98	Schroeder, C. R.	3/29/14
3	Rodriguez, W.	7/10/14	43	Bush, J. F.	12/14/13	98	Townsend, S. J.	3/16/14
3	Salamone, P.	5/25/14	47	Aguilar, E.	7/7/14	98	Venturo, H. R.	5/10/12
3	Sasonkin, I.	9/27/13	47	Ramos, J. F.	9/12/13	99	Chisholm, W. A.	6/16/14
3	Satterfield, R.	6/3/14	48	Johnson, M. J.	7/26/14	100	Marvin, S. S.	3/31/13
3	Scott, M.	7/22/14	48	Lumsden, E. W.	6/24/14	102	Alsobrooks, D. S.	6/8/14
3	Shaw, A. W.	7/23/14	48	Meyers, E. G.	6/7/14	102	Hopkins, K. G.	5/1/13
5	Fidanzato, D. J.	6/22/13	48	Rachkofsky, B.	3/7/14	102	Kloos, R. J.	9/23/12
5	Hilf, K. F.	7/4/14	48	Palston, L. G.	5/5/14	102	Kroegman, F.	5/1/12
6	Lee, S. K.	10/12/13	48	Ray, T. K.	7/16/14	102	Wigley, J. L.	9/30/12
6	Lynch, J. D.	6/8/14	48	Schweitzer, P. L.	1/19/14	103	Askia, K. A.	5/24/13
7	Mannix, J. M.	6/17/14	48	Sherman, C. H.	4/30/14	103	Caouette, L. A.	7/11/14
7	Whitmire, W. F.	2/10/14	48	Waterman, D. W.	1/27/14	103	Daigle, J. D.	3/14/13
8	Jaquay, G. M.	11/30/13	51	Pruett, G. D.	8/23/13	103	Denehy, F. D.	7/16/14
8	Patchen, R. K.	5/16/14	51	Stover, J. K.	6/16/14	103	Foster, R. E.	6/14/14
8	Penn, C. D.	4/11/14	53	Curtner, H. L.	7/3/14	103	Goodwin, T. A.	6/12/14
8	Steffy, W. E.	4/27/14	56	Gehrlein, G. R.	7/7/14	103	Maciariello, P. J.	9/22/12
8	Waller, C. R.	4/28/14	57	Weaver, M. L.	6/28/14	103	Manning, J. E.	8/20/13
9	Gibson, J. J.	7/1/14	58	Beaton, R. A.	7/3/14	103	Turner, P. H.	5/4/14
9	Warner, V. F.	7/26/14	58	Bellomo, J. M.	7/20/14	103	Williams, R. A.	6/28/14
11	Benefield, D. D.	7/10/14	58	Brown, T. R.	5/12/14	110	Jensen, J. F.	6/14/14
11	Burakoff, I. G.	7/25/14	58	Brunner, P. A.	5/21/14	110	Johnson, D. G.	10/1/11
11	Burkhart, G. E.	3/15/12	58	Carpinelli, R. A.	7/24/14	110	Kuschner, G. S.	5/4/12
11	Duncan, O. D.	4/3/14	58	Damian, G. A.	7/28/14	110	Pieper, W. A.	5/31/14
11	Franklin, C. E.	9/8/13	58	Magness, R. G.	7/10/14	111	Billig, L. E.	7/21/14
11	Heinly, L. A.	6/30/14	58	Penn, J. J.	7/21/14	111	Pietras, F. J.	7/1/14
11	Lee, H. J.	7/29/14	58	Schultz, C. J.	7/20/14	112	Schubert, C. A.	8/4/14
11	Monzingo, S. T.	9/24/13	58	Szabla, N.	7/15/14	120	McWhinney, R. J.	4/21/14
11	Penn, D. R.	7/12/14	58	Thrasher, E. W.	7/27/14	124	Dick, W. C.	6/14/14
11	Sime, P. W.	4/3/13	58	Tinsley, W. D.	6/29/14	124	Roberts, W. R.	6/23/14
11	Warfield, K.	8/27/13	58	Wilson, W. C.	7/27/14	124	Sadler, A. G.	7/5/14
13	Fuson, G. D.	6/22/14	66	Holub, L. W.	5/17/13	125	Herod, P. M.	3/17/14
14	Jorgensen, C. H.	6/17/14	66	Windham, C. G.	6/19/14	127	Lahti, J. G.	2/13/14
16	McKibben, G. E.	9/15/13	68	Blanchard, L. L.	6/6/13			
17	Degrazia, A.	6/25/14	68	Jeannelle, J. D.	7/27/12			

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Enter the IBEW’s 2014 PHOTO CONTEST!

Perhaps nothing speaks as elegantly to the dignity and white-knuckled effort of the worker as a well-composed photograph.

Now, it’s your turn to try your hand at capturing art in the electrical trade for the IBEW’s annual photo contest. For more than 15 years, thousands of members just like you have submitted their best shots illustrating what makes our union one of the most skilled and highly-respected across the U.S. and Canada.

Among linemen working in punishing conditions, members performing storm repair, clever takes on the everyday and more, contestants have helped foster an added sense of pride in the work they do as part of the Brotherhood.

Enter Today! Deadline: Dec. 31

- 01 1st Place: \$200
- 02 2nd Place: \$150
- 03 3rd Place: \$100
- H Honorable Mention: \$50

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 8x10. For more guidance on electronic photo sizes, go to www.ibew.org. Click on the Photo Contest button, and see the “Contest Rules and Photo Guidelines.”
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 linemen’s rodeo, a union meeting) can be submitted in place of individual names.
7. Photos previously published in IBEW publications or the website are not eligible for submission.
8. The preferred method of entry is through the Photo Contest application on the IBEW website at www.ibew.org.
9. If entering via U.S. mail, 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 an upcoming issue of the Electrical Worker.

Contest Entry Form

Name _____

Address _____

City and state _____

Zip code _____

Phone number _____

E-mail address _____

Local union number _____ IBEW card number _____

Photo description _____

In Memoriam continued from page 15

Members for Whom PBF Death Claims were Approved in August 2014

Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	
127	Preston, R. V.	7/19/14	236	Anderson, C. T.	6/28/14	359	Thomas, C. R.	7/19/14	577	White, W. R.	6/9/12	812	Miller, D. W.	7/19/14	I.O. (41)	Manno, J. P.	6/3/14				
129	Wise, J. J.	11/26/13	237	Moreland, E. J.	6/25/12	363	Jenkins, G. R.	7/6/14	586	Povilonis, A.	7/1/13	812	Slusher, L. W.	7/18/14	I.O. (134)	Condon, W. J.	7/22/14				
130	Nicholson, D. A.	7/24/14	242	Gustafson, D. A.	6/29/12	363	Johnson, W. W.	5/20/11	586	Scissons, J. H.	7/5/14	852	Hall, M. D.	5/19/13	I.O. (134)	Kundit, J. M.	11/20/12				
130	Ottaway, T. A.	7/22/14	245	Dauer, S. K.	6/27/14	369	Carpenter, L. G.	6/17/14	595	Jensen, P. S.	4/29/14	861	Winfrey, H. O.	7/21/14	I.O. (222)	Griffis, J. J.	4/10/13				
130	Saladino, P. J.	7/16/14	245	Keller, J. P.	6/24/14	369	Muench, W. E.	3/27/14	595	Morgan, G. L.	6/25/14	862	Maurer, G. T.	7/13/14	I.O. (441)	Shubert, T. L.	1/21/13				
131	Awe, F. S.	1/6/13	246	Heath, R. W.	6/30/14	369	Prater, W. C.	4/4/14	595	White, D. H.	6/7/14	870	Dunn, T. J.	3/14/14	I.O. (910)	Toney, J.	7/14/14				
131	Hammill, F. L.	8/13/12	253	Daniel, T. W.	6/21/14	369	Skaggs, R. L.	7/4/14	595	Williams, R. L.	5/29/14	873	Lowdermilk, M. K.	1/13/13	Pens. (1)	Burrows, W.	2/5/13				
131	Howe, R. C.	6/6/14	258	Livenspire, D. G.	5/9/14	369	Thompson, F. C.	3/12/12	601	Weber, C. W.	9/4/13	876	McCandless, J. L.	7/22/14	Pens. (16)	Klimecki, T.	7/11/14				
134	Brennan, T. P.	7/17/14	258	Nickerson, A. M.	8/18/13	369	Willard, B.	8/11/13	605	Hill, J. E.	10/22/11	903	McMurray, J. R.	3/27/14	Pens. (323)	Davis, R. D.	7/18/14				
134	Carey, P. J.	7/9/14	269	Wilson, S. A.	3/31/13	375	Sabo, M. H.	4/25/14	606	Rizer, J. E.	7/22/14	915	Hoffman, G. L.	7/12/14	Pens. (637)	Childress, J. L.	7/15/14				
134	Cernek, J. J.	12/30/13	270	Clevenger, D. L.	5/31/14	375	Schul, E. C.	6/14/14	611	Whitmore, P. L.	2/27/14	934	Funk, J. F.	8/17/12	Pens. (637)	Clark, L. W.	6/28/14				
134	Cummins, J.	7/18/14	271	Classen, A. H.	5/28/14	379	Godfrey, B. G.	7/17/14	613	Branch, G. W.	10/6/13	934	Greene, R. L.	2/28/14	Pens. (637)	Scruggs, J. H.	5/30/14				
134	Donegan, J. M.	7/28/14	271	Garcia, P. A.	9/15/13	387	Garcia, S. F.	6/30/14	613	Hamre, R. A.	7/28/14	949	Hamre, S. F.	7/12/12	Pens. (814)	Cline, W. H.	6/23/14				
134	Efrosinis, D. G.	11/10/13	275	Worst, W.	5/31/14	388	Suchowski, D. P.	6/19/14	613	Thompson, R. E.	7/1/14	952	Spencer, H. R.	7/4/14	Pens. (986)	Caudy, J. W.	3/11/13				
134	Galus, S. A.	7/2/14	278	Savage, R. T.	6/26/14	396	Herzberg, L. W.	4/21/13	622	Hart, C. J.	12/27/13	953	Padesky, T. P.	6/18/14	Pens. (1095)	Gellatly, J.	6/2/14				
134	Glub, J. T.	7/11/14	280	Bowman, W. G.	4/24/14	400	Ridge, H. E.	8/1/14	625	Ross, J. E.	6/25/14	968	Ballengue, H. E.	6/12/14	Pens. (1095)	Ribout, J. E.	1/30/14				
134	Kasprzewicz, C.	7/9/14	280	Curin, J. A.	7/17/14	400	Ryan, J. J.	6/13/14	640	Runcan, A. B.	5/2/14	972	Spencer, C. R.	7/21/14	Pens. (1788)	Munro, J. C.	6/27/14				
134	Mansk, W. E.	7/16/14	280	Simpson, R. L.	3/4/14	401	Brethauer, C. D.	4/8/14	640	Kalaf, L. M.	6/27/14	978	Hatfield, T. W.	5/12/14	Pens. (1788)	Ward, N.	8/21/07				
134	Massari, M.	9/4/13	292	Hansen, D. C.	7/16/14	412	Barton, W. R.	10/14/12	640	Scoblic, M. L.	6/21/14	995	Joiner, J. H.	7/7/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Baker, L. I.	4/15/14				
134	McJohn, R. J.	7/30/13	292	Horsch, T. J.	7/9/14	413	Ellis, R. L.	3/2/14	640	Simpson, H. G.	6/25/14	995	Le Bourgeois, N. J.	8/9/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Beaty, O. L.	7/2/14				
134	O'Hara, J. B.	7/23/14	292	Knutson, R. N.	7/18/14	413	Rhew, A. L.	6/16/14	640	Spitler, H. W.	5/28/13	995	Waddell, T. H.	12/6/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Bicknell, W. J.	3/3/12				
134	Petrucci, E. R.	6/3/14	292	Newton, R. K.	7/9/14	424	Garrett, A. H.	5/15/14	649	Stutz, E. P.	7/31/14	1066	Brooks, L. W.	10/12/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Bizzaro, C. A.	7/18/14				
134	Romanow, A.	8/15/11	292	Quinn, J. D.	5/16/14	428	Mahan, J. D.	6/30/14	666	Bowman, C. H.	7/11/14	1105	Hermey, J. R.	8/25/11	Pens. (I.O.)	Bruner, R.	5/23/14				
134	Rosenberg, D. M.	6/25/14	292	Reasoner, G. M.	7/24/14	428	Moore, D. W.	4/2/14	666	Cheek, G. S.	7/12/14	1141	Kidd, C. E.	7/1/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Carley, R. L.	4/7/14				
134	Terlecki, H. R.	2/23/13	292	Wallen, T. F.	4/6/13	429	Eledge, J. B.	10/28/13	666	Perry, W. E.	8/3/14	1151	Wicks, B. C.	6/23/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Cullen, L. H.	6/15/14				
134	Tziforos, D. S.	7/20/14	294	Torgerson, E. W.	6/4/14	429	Fleming, G. R.	7/5/14	666	Thomas, R. T.	6/27/14	1186	Gonzales, A.	3/24/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Eccleston, R.	5/24/14				
134	Williams, D.	4/28/14	295	Howard, D. H.	5/8/14	429	Tripp, P. P.	7/16/14	666	Warren, H. B.	7/11/14	1186	Higa, R. S.	7/2/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Eisinger, K. J.	7/6/14				
134	Wisniewski, E. J.	6/12/14	295	Phipps, G. D.	6/29/14	430	Olson, J. G.	5/28/14	668	Cooper, J. B.	9/3/12	1186	Hirasaki, J. M.	5/2/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Farris, L.	5/15/13				
136	Alexander, W. W.	6/10/14	301	Elliott, K. S.	5/2/14	440	Lugo, F.	6/7/13	668	Klinker, A. R.	7/8/14	1186	Kurosu, E. H.	5/7/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Fosmo, F. E.	6/26/14				
136	Plaice, R. W.	5/17/14	301	Veal, R. K.	6/26/14	440	Malette, G. S.	5/13/14	682	Hall, B. F.	1/31/14	1186	Miyaji, D. M.	6/25/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Hiles, W. O.	7/12/14				
143	Lauver, E. W.	1/1/14	309	Cannady, L. R.	7/26/14	440	Morales, A.	6/19/13	682	Tucker, C.	6/29/14	1186	Nascimento, K.	6/11/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Hill, C. R.	8/6/14				
145	Collier, J. C.	6/22/14	317	Cassidy, J. D.	7/10/14	441	Beaty, J. C.	2/7/14	683	Haubiel, C. W.	6/15/14	1186	Ogata, H.	10/30/12	Pens. (I.O.)	Farr, H. D.	6/27/14				
146	Delaney, J. S.	3/22/14	317	Rice, D. O.	10/3/12	441	Davis, O. V.	8/30/12	684	Siglin, W. A.	4/30/14	1191	McGowan, D. A.	7/19/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Hovatter, D.	3/31/14				
150	Swan, D. C.	6/9/14	322	Beitel, R. W.	7/13/14	441	Ormes, E. C.	9/26/12	692	Martin, R. S.	6/7/14	1205	Corbett, J. E.	8/4/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Humensky, E. H.	1/29/14				
153	Knappen, R. E.	7/8/14	322	Paxton, D.	7/26/14	446	Mann, M.	4/11/14	697	Schmaltz, D. J.	5/31/14	1205	Laird, C. R.	7/26/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Hyck, W. L.	6/26/14				
159	Bullock, M. A.	5/11/14	325	Heath, W. P.	7/2/14	456	Nicholas, J. R.	11/4/12	702	Krug, A. R.	3/29/14	1205	Osteen, J. F.	5/22/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Jawansky, N. H.	8/21/12				
160	Kirkeide, D. L.	5/31/14	332	Berry, G. W.	5/8/13	466	Hypes, J. A.	6/14/14	712	Dilley, H. J.	7/10/14	1206	Bennett, R. V.	7/20/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Jackson, H. W.	6/30/14				
164	McQuiston, J.	5/13/14	332	Maraldo, J. F.	7/10/14	474	Anderson, P. P.	6/23/14	712	Policaro, F. P.	3/23/13	1245	Gilsar, R. C.	5/31/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Kinsella, E. M.	7/1/14				
164	Peters, E. W.	6/14/14	340	Knadler, A. C.	3/27/14	479	Gager, B. O.	5/1/14	714	Brunner, J. J.	6/14/14	1245	Smith, C. R.	6/24/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Lee, W. D.	6/20/14				
164	Reiser, D. A.	7/10/14	340	Smith, B. L.	3/1/14	481	Evans, J. W.	4/12/13	716	Esposito, J. E.	4/21/14	1245	Smith, E.	6/30/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Loman, J. F.	8/28/12				
164	Talbot, V. M.	5/20/12	340	Sorn, R. R.	4/18/14	481	Jackson, R. L.	6/17/13	716	George, K. R.	7/3/14	1249	Irwin, F. W.	7/14/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Mace, P. W.	6/13/14				
175	Cole, G. K.	4/7/14	340	Westlake, G. R.	7/7/14	481	Prout, R. J.	6/22/14	716	Gum, T. W.	7/22/14	1289	Vannatta, L. R.	5/30/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Martiny, V. A.	5/17/14				
175	Fincher, B. E.	8/4/14	349	Duplissey, R.	8/19/13	483	Schumacher, R. J.	6/30/14	716	Haley, R. W.	7/7/14	1377	Haynick, A.	7/7/14	Pens. (I.O.)	McDonald, J. B.	5/6/14				
175	McDaniel, B. J.	6/20/14	349	Engelbright, D. G.	6/30/14	488	Bigham, K. L.	3/6/14	716	Kerr, E. A.	6/1/13	1377	Vondruska, D. J.	7/1/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Miser, E. J.	11/19/12				
175	Sartain, H. T.	5/1/13	349	Irvin, M.	6/19/14	488	Blake, R. K.	10/12/13	716	Purnell, A. S.	4/14/14	1393	Fox, E. J.	4/17/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Nomellini, J.	5/8/14				
175	Tarpley, D. L.	11/23/13	349	Perez, E.	7/4/14	488	Dattellio, A. F.	5/27/14	716	Strother, B.	6/28/14	1393	Mauck, D. D.	7/3/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Norsworthy, R. C.	4/19/14				
175	Taylor, C. D.	7/8/14	350	Fletcher, H. L.	7/10/13	488	Parente, F. C.	5/28/14	721	Akin, H. D.	6/1/13	1405	Wilson, A. C.	5/17/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Powell, R.	6/10/14				
176	Wassman, T. F.	6/29/14	351	Novak, E. M.	7/20/14	490	Benkosky, B. A.	8/15/13	721	Claud, K. M.	7/8/14	1547	Littlefield, J. H.	5/24/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Rapp, J. W.	4/21/14				
177	Jenkins, T. J.	5/23/14	353	Andresen, E. M.	6/25/14	494	Frankenberg, M. M.	5/6/14	725	Prose, R. T.	6/30/14	1547	Lyons, B. J.	6/18/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Rieger, J. R.	10/13/11				
177	Newman, R. J.	7/31/14	353	Black, W. E.	10/1/12	494	Mueller, A. E.	7/10/14	728	Dean, M. H.	7/27/14	1547	McBride, L. C.	7/6/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Shockey, R. C.	4/11/12				
177	Van Aken, B. K.	5/4/14	353	Corp, N. H.	7/5/14	495	Sams, H. N.	6/27/14	728	Haizlip, D. C.	4/20/14	1547	Sibold, R. I.	6/19/12	Pens. (I.O.)	Sides, L. B.	2/1/13				
180	Feigel, J. D.	6/19/13	353	Grinberg, Z.	5/31/14	499	Widaman, H. G.	10/3/13	733	Burns, M. D.	12/26/12	1687	Grandmaison, C.	7/28/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Slife, V. H.	8/3/14				
180	Voshall, M. R.	7/20/14	353	Jazic, V.	1/25/13	505	Johnson, K. P.	7/9/14	738	Grigsby, T. E.	7/4/14	1687	Therrien, A.	7/11/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Spoor, W. A.	6/10/14				
191	Lloyd, E. M.	5/25/14	353	King, D.	11/15/13	508	Moore, P. C.	7/6/14	753	Coonrod, C. L.	7/28/14	1701	Baker, J. W.	7/16/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Steen, J. B.	6/11/14				
193	Moakley, R. E.	6/8/14	353	Koscielniak, M.	5/11/14	518	Dalmolin, M. T.	5/22/13	756	Free, P. P.	7/12/14	1710	Garcia, X.	8/4/12	Pens. (I.O.)	Walls, R. E.	11/17/11				
204	Schonhoff, M. P.	6/6/13	353	Liu, L.	1/31/14	520	Tanzini, W. R.	7/31/14	756	Severance, G. G.	7/2/14	2085	Perrault, U. M.	6/27/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Willert, T. E.	3/24/14				
212	Keller, J. D.	7/10/14	353	Loranger, P.	5/21/12	531	Dodrill, G. E.	11/18/13	760	Armstrong, C. S.	7/6/14	2113	Green, L. A.	2/16/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Winton, R. E.	5/29/14				
212	Overberg, M. B.	6/22/14	353	Marziano, A. T.	6/20/14	540	Vandever, T. J.	5/16/14	760	Brnkham, L.	2/13/14	2166	Andrews, C. J.	7/2/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Wright, B. L.	5/14/14				
212	Peters, J. E.</																				



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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HOW TO REACH US

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

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

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

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FROM THE OFFICERS

A Good Jobs Boom?



Edwin D. Hill
International President

As we report in this issue, the construction industry is making a comeback—a comeback fueled in large part by a resurgent oil and gas industry.

From the Rust Belt to the Great Plains and Canadian Prairies down to the Gulf Coast, North America's energy boom is translating into new jobs for tradesmen and contractors, breathing life into many communities hit hard by 2008's Great Recession.

The steady growth of renewable energy, such as solar and wind, means billions of dollars worth of work for skilled electricians now and into the future.

It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for the United States and Canada. Not only can it potentially guarantee energy independence for generations, it could help reverse the "Walmartization" of the economy—the trend of too many low-wage, no opportunity jobs.

Skilled blue-collar labor was once the foundation of the middle class, providing decent wages and benefits, lifting up working families and their communities.

Outsourcing, union busting and government deregulation helped seal off this pathway to the middle class for millions of Americans and Canadians, but the ongoing energy-based construction recovery provides the IBEW and other building trades unions with a unique opportunity to make sure that these jobs are good ones, providing careers for thousands now entering the workforce.

But it won't happen if we don't seize this chance to grow.

From the oil fields of North Dakota to offshore rigs in Texas, too many energy companies are taking the low road, ignoring regulations and relying on low-skilled, low-paid workers to get the job done. It's not a surprise that an oil and gas worker is more likely to be killed on the job than a coal miner. Or that payroll fraud is running rampant in the industry, according to a recent labor department investigation.

What might seem like a money-saving shortcut in the rush to drill can result in poor workmanship, expensive delays and potentially disastrous accidents that place workers and the environment at risk.

We have a lot to offer the industry: the best trained and most competent electrical workforce on the continent. And we have what's needed to attract the right kind of workers in this increasingly labor-strapped market: good wages, benefits and opportunities for advancement.

But only by aggressively promoting ourselves and the work we do to industry stakeholders and the wider community can we guarantee that the energy boom results in a good jobs boom as well. ■

Chutzpah

It is simple. It is frugal. It is just and obvious, and sadly—but not surprisingly—the opponents of organized labor are fighting against it.

"It" is an executive order signed by President Obama in July that will make it much more difficult for companies to win federal contracts if they have violated federal wage, safety and civil rights laws. (See more on page 20.)

Simple decency provides all the justification necessary: if one part of the government is busy fining you for breaking the law, another part of the government shouldn't be hiring you to do more of the same. What could be more obvious? If you steal wages or endanger the health and safety of taxpayers, their money should be off limits to you.

As I see it, the only reasoned criticism is that it took until 2014. After more than 50 years in the labor movement, I do not usually underestimate the cynicism and greed of anti-worker organizations like the Associated Builders and Contractors. I figured they wouldn't like it but would have the good sense to stew in silence. They surprised me.

ABC officials told *The New York Times* they were "deeply concerned." The order was "heavy handed... may lead to additional costs and blacklisting" and they were "prepared to fight in Congress and the courts." A vice president from the National Association of Manufacturers said companies would be sanctioned "for even minor violations of complex labor laws." The president of the International Franchise Association said it held business to "an unreasonable standard of perfection."

There is a great Yiddish word that came to me as I read this shameful litany: chutzpah. It means gall or nerve, as in, "You've got some nerve." The classic way to explain chutzpah is a person who kills both his parents and begs the court for mercy because he is an orphan.

This is what they are defending: between 2007 and 2011, 49 federal contractors were fined nearly \$200 million for 1,776 wage and safety violations. Included in that list are violations—not unforeseeable accidents, but violations of the law—that resulted in the death of 42 workers. These companies still received federal contracts worth \$89 billion. In 2012. A single year.

They should be embarrassed. That's chutzpah. ■



Salvatore J. Chilia
International Secretary-Treasurer

“LETTERS TO THE EDITOR”

All in the Family

As I reflect the fact that my son, Paterson, N.J., Local 102 member Peter Pagano, will soon retire after 40 years of service, I think about all the time my family has been members of the IBEW. My father, Pete Pagano, was a member of Local 1950 from 1942 until he retired in 1969. He faithfully delivered and sold electrical supplies to our union contractors, who built the plants that supplied our country during World War II, such as General Motors in Linden, N.J., and the Exxon refinery that supplied the fuel for our armed forces.

My own career was with Local 675 (later Local 102) for 40 years, 30 years as recording secretary and delegate to the N.J. state building trades and general superintendent for a large union contractor for 20 years. I retired in 1992.

My son Peter chaired the executive board at Local 102. He worked for a large contractor and became general foreman working on large electrical projects. His son, my grandson, Chris Pagano, just completed his apprenticeship and will become a journeyman, just as his father retires.

My other son, Robert Pagano, has been a member of Local 102 since 2000. He works for as a project superintendent for a large union contractor building substations in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. His son, Jeff Pagano, is a second-year apprentice.

We are all proud union members and would like to thank the IBEW for giving us a good quality of life, and helping us to build a strong America.

*Joe Pagano, Local 102 retiree
Paterson, N.J.*

Coal and Jobs

I just got the *Electrical Worker* paper. I was a little concerned about the biased words you chose against the Republicans. The Democrats seem to be doing a good job out here in Colorado in getting rid of our coal plant jobs. How come you do not talk about that? It would be nice to hear a more balanced approach in your articles.

*Curtis Scott, Local 111 member
Denver*

[Editor's Note: Brother Scott is right; despite its good intentions, the Environmental Protection Agency's misguided, ad hoc coal policies could do tremendous damage to our members and the reliability of the entire grid. We are using every tool we have to oppose the EPA's clean power plan. We have made our position clear at rallies, in Electrical Worker editorials, and even an op-ed by President Hill in the Wall Street Journal, as well as in public and private meetings. But the only way to support good, middle-class jobs and build a sustainable future for our children would be a bipartisan energy plan and there is no evidence that some lawmakers are interested in that. Our commitment is and always will be to our members and working people and our support goes to whoever carries their banner.]

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

Where She Belongs

As a daughter, sister and niece of IBEW members, it only felt right to go into the field. My brothers have treated me well. As a traveler in the '90s, I was taken in by families of brothers and made to feel at home. I found that everyone was there to help each other and learn. THANK YOU, IBEW, and my brothers and sisters.

*Christine Matarese, Local 313 member
Wilmington, Del.*

WHO WE ARE

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

First Nation Member Brings Passion to Manitoba Local

Chief White Eagle of the American Indian tribe, the Ponca, once said, "When you are in doubt, be still and wait; when doubt no longer exists for you, then go forward with courage."

Growing up in the '70s in The Pas, a town in Northern Manitoba, Carolyn Smeltzer, a member of the Opaskwayak Cree Nation, today a unit chair in Winnipeg Local 2034, was not one to stay still and wait. But courage, a trait inherited from her mother and grandmother, has defined her accomplishments.

After she was diagnosed with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder at age 6, Smeltzer's mother and grandmother enrolled her in figure skating, a costly sport that enjoyed scant participation by aboriginals.

By age 12, Smeltzer made the Manitoba Team. The only aboriginal and its second-youngest member, she traveled far beyond the reserve, all the while paying close attention to the language, behavior and intricacies of Canada's dominant culture. "I wasn't afraid of taking chances," says Smeltzer, whose family history spurred her to become an advocate for aboriginal rights.

When Carolyn was two years old, her mother narrowly escaped kidnapers who later, on the same day, murdered Helen Betty Osborne, a young high school student who had left her home in Norway House Cree Nation to attend high school in The Pas. It took seventeen years for two local white men to be charged in the case, which drew a formal apology from the Manitoba government for racial and gender bias in the investigation.

"Aboriginals learned they needed to become politically savvy and educated in order to help others who faced obstacles," says Smeltzer, who, in 1989 at age 18, attended an Aboriginal Youth Conference in Ottawa.

Four years later, Smeltzer, a single mother with three children, heard about a community college program to train computer programmers and systems analysts. She applied and was accepted, but was told she would have to wait two years to qualify and was placed on a waiting list for sponsorship. She nevertheless continued to attend class alongside 31 other students in the program, carrying her infant son on her back until the school approved her grant.

By the program's second year, only four students were left. Smeltzer was the only aboriginal female. Working nights as a network administrator and attending classes during the day, she sent her resume out to dozens of employers.

In April, 1995, Smeltzer was hired by



'I didn't really understand my rights as a worker until I became an IBEW member,' says Winnipeg, Manitoba., Local 2034 unit chair Carolyn Smeltzer.

Manitoba Hydro. For the next 10 years, she traveled throughout the province's vast northern quadrant helping to set up computers. "I had to leave my home community if I wanted to leave a life of poverty behind," says Michelle Sentenac, a co-worker. Smeltzer, who is involved in charitable donations and other activities in The Pas,

has increased from an average of two or three to as many as 18. Politics is frequently on the agenda.

"Carolyn even cooks and bakes on her own time to get members to meetings," says Michelle Sentenac, a co-worker. Smeltzer, who is involved in charitable donations and other activities in The Pas,

"I continue to be more and more amazed at the lengths IBEW will take to educate and empower their members."

—Carolyn Smeltzer

In 2005, Smeltzer returned home to The Pas, where she could also help care for her aging mother and grandmother. Previously a member of one of the smaller unions at the Manitoba Hydro, she joined the IBEW, becoming one of 600 members of Local 2034 with First Nations' backgrounds.

"I didn't really understand my rights as a worker until I became an IBEW member," says Smeltzer, who attended the IBEW Women's Conference in San Antonio, Texas, in September and served on a panel about leadership.

"I continue to be more and more amazed at the lengths IBEW will take to educate and empower their members," says Smeltzer. She is carrying on the tradition.

"I plan each meeting for our 34-person unit to ensure that it is well-organized with presentations and handouts to make it more worth everyone's while to attend," she says. She invites Local 2034 Business Manager Mike Velie or the local's northwest area representative to address members. Average meeting attendance

"always goes above and beyond," says Sentenac.

As some Canadian politicians promote anti-union legislation similar to measures supported by the U.S.'s right wing, Smeltzer recalls a quote she brought back from the Women's Conference, "Our cause is the cause of human rights and justice for all workers." How, she asks, can something so simple be so controversial?

She compares the lack of public discussion on a bill to make it harder for unions to win representation elections to the secrecy surrounding an involuntary immunization program that targeted aboriginal youth in government-established schools in the early 1900s.

"I come from the part of society in Canada where we had no say and where the government was our caretaker as in a parent-child relationship," says Smeltzer. "It amazes me still to this day how secretive laws [like anti-union measures] can be put forth, which should not happen in a true democratic society." ■



Executive Order Strikes Blow Against Crooked Federal Contractors

Federal contractors who steal their employees' wages, tolerate unsafe working conditions or fail to pay their taxes may soon be iced out of future federal contracts.

The Fair Pay and Safe Workplaces Executive Order requires agencies to weigh corporate compliance with not only wage and safety, collective bargaining, family

and medical leave and civil rights laws. Under the order, the companies themselves must include all fines, penalties and judgments against them in their bids.

"I praise the president for issuing this executive order. It is long past time a president took action to ensure fair pay and working conditions for federal employees covered by the Service Contract Act," said the IBEW's Government Employees Department Director Dennis Phelps.

Despite a 2008 law requiring federal contractors stay in compliance with federal law, a study issued by the U.S. Senate's Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee in December found that from 2007 to 2012, 49 federal contractors were cited 1,776 times for wage and safety violations and paid almost \$200 million in fines, yet those same companies won more than \$80 billion in federal contracts in 2012 alone.

Even safety violations resulting in the deaths of workers were not a bar to more federal work. The report cited seven companies that were fined for Occupational Safety and Health Administration violations that killed 42 workers won additional federal work.

"Even repeated and serious violations of federal labor laws... do not factor into contracting decisions," wrote the study's author, Iowa's Sen. Tom Harkin.

The most common violation was wage theft, including non-payment of overtime, not giving workers their last paycheck, not paying for all the hours worked, not paying minimum wage, and not paying workers at all. Wage theft has become a prominent issue in Washington recently and is finding political traction in both parties. At the end of July, about the same time as the executive order, the Republican-led Congress approved a Democrat-sponsored amendment to the defense appropriations that would immediately bar contractors that violate federal wage and safety laws. The bill has not been taken up yet in the U.S. Senate.

"For Obama's whole first term, the economic conversation was about debt ceilings and austerity. A bunch of factors, from [the] 'Occupy' [movement] to low wage workers rising up across the country, have made the second term very different," said Change to Win Federation's

Communications Director Paco Fabian. "This executive order is the direct result of individuals taking action together and getting income inequality, not the debt ceiling, on front pages."

"This executive order is the direct result of individuals taking action together..."

— Paco Fabian, Change to Win Federation's Communications Director

Hundreds of IBEW members covered by the Service Contract Act will be directly affected by the executive order, but if the final rule is written broadly, all IBEW government employees might feel changes.

For example, Phelps said that thousands of IBEW members work at privately owned shipyards, contracting with the Navy at Huntington-Ingalls in Pascagoula, Miss., Bath Iron Works in Bath, Maine, and Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine. They are not covered by the Service Contract Act, but their employers are competing against nonunion shipbuilders like Austal, which has had multiple accusations of unfair labor and unsafe working conditions filed against it.

President Obama signs an executive order making it more difficult for companies that violate labor and safety laws to win federal contracts.

Because all federal acquisitions are included in the scope of the executive order, Austal could be prevented from doing future work.

"One of the intentions of this order is that upstanding, good actors will take work away from the ones that successfully underbid and then cut corners on safety and wages," Phelps said. "If Austal is found guilty, and there is reason to expect that may happen soon, that work would shift to more reputable contractors like Ingalls and Newport News, which are both union organized."

Nevertheless, there are voices opposing the change. The International Franchise Association's president, Steve Caldeira, said the new requirements would require an "unreasonable standard of perfection" and would create a "blacklist."

Geoff Burr, vice president of federal affairs for the Associated Builders and Contractors—an alliance of antiunion construction companies—said the order was "heavy handed... red tape [that] may lead to additional costs and the blacklisting of some federal contractors."

Even before the start of the public comment period, Burr said ABC had "focused a lot of our energies on how we can roll back these things" and said they would fight the rule in Congress and the courts. In the last year, ABC has also announced it would fight executive orders raising the minimum wage for federal contract employees to \$10.10 an hour, prohibiting discrimination against disabled construction workers and new rules requiring companies to disclose spending on union-busting consultants.

The executive order will now go through a multiyear drafting process overseen by the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council that Phelps expects will take until 2016.

"We will push for the strongest possible rules so that only companies that do right by workers and taxpayers see money from the federal government," Phelps said. ■

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

It's the largest rooftop solar power project in the country — and it's being built 100-percent IBEW. Check out members of Las Vegas Local 357 as they help turn the city's abundant sunshine into green energy for the bustling tourist destination.

YouTube.com/TheElectricalWorker

Vimeo

For AEP linemen in southern Ohio, challenges with management over a safety issue didn't break their spirit.



Instead, they voted to join Columbus Local 1466. "It brings a comfort to you, knowing that you're in a brotherhood, and knowing these guys have got your back," says member Eric Madden. Vimeo.com/ibew/OhioAEP

HourPower

Pardon the pun, but "watts new" with electrical products? We have the skinny in a new segment on IBEWHourPower.com!



ElectricTV

With the NFL season in full swing, check out the Jaguars' newest, biggest LED video boards — installed by the NECA-IBEW team, on ElectricTV.net.



By the Numbers: WAGE THEFT

- ▶ **1 in 5** American workers are employed by a company that does business with the federal government
- ▶ **1 in 5** federal contractors failed to pay overtime and **1 in 10** forced their employees to work off the clock
- ▶ **1 in 3** of the largest penalties handed down for violating federal labor laws from 2007-2013 were given to federal contractors
- ▶ **35%** of the **100** largest federal contractors violated both wage and worker safety laws between 2007 and 2012.
- ▶ **\$2,634** — Average amount lost by low wage workers due to wage theft, nearly 20 percent of their annual income

Sources: U.S. Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee; National Employment Law Project; Economic Policy Institute

The Worst Thieves in America Aren't Who You Think

