Five years ago, Fresno, Calif., Local 100 was in deep trouble.

“We were looking at Depression-era unemployment, 35-40 percent of our 800 members were on the bench and most of the ones working weren’t seeing a full 40 hours in a week. We lost more than 100 members,” said Local 100 Business Manager Kevin Cole. “The economy around here was devastated. Solar saved this local.”

In the last two years, Cole said, total hours worked are nearly back to pre-recession levels and solar projects have accounted for nearly 80 percent.

Across Southern California, grid-scale solar projects—those larger than 50 megawatts, often much larger—have been going up at an unprecedented rate, buoying the fortunes of nearly a dozen construction locals. The state now has enough solar capacity installed to power more than 2.25 million homes, nearly all of it built in the 10 counties south of San Luis Obispo in the last three years.

The abundant sunshine and thousands of square miles of desert range have held out promise since photovoltaics were first commercialized 40 years ago, but three forces have come together to bring that promise to fruition. First, the price of solar panels has been falling rapidly: more than 75 percent since 2006. Second, the 30 percent federal investment tax credit that debuted in 2006 and was extended in 2008, provided an automatic, reliable incentive that made multibillion dollar solar projects more attractive to lenders and investors.

Finally, in 2011, Gov. Jerry Brown assigned an expansion of California’s renewable portfolio standard, increasing the amount of energy the state’s utilities had to source from solar, wind, geothermal or hydroelectric from 20 to 33 percent by the year 2020. The state’s utilities went on a buying spree, locking in decades-long power purchasing agreements with solar developers at fixed prices, removing a great deal of risk for developers and investors.

“The IBEW up and down the state had a large presence in Sacramento advocating for the RPS expansion,” said San Diego Local 569 Business Manager Johnny Simpson. “I won’t say it wouldn’t have passed without us, but we worked very hard to get it done and I think it has paid off for the state and for our members.”

Membership in Local 569 jumped from 2,100 in 2011 to 3,300 in 2013. The eastern half of 569’s jurisdiction is the sparsely populated Imperial County. In 2012, there were only 60 members in a county about the same size as Connecticut. One year later there were more than 800.

“Solar has been a wonderful industry for us,” Simpson said.

Some of the largest solar projects in the world have been built by IBEW members, including the 392 mw Ivanpah plants—built by members of San Bernardino Local 477—which produce enough power for nearly 400,000 homes, and the 500 mw Topaz projects, still under construction by members of San Luis Obispo Local 639.

Riverside Local 440 has seen similar success.
Business Manager Bob Frost said membership has grown nearly 50 percent since 2011 to almost 1,200 members, and nearly 60 percent of their work in recent years has been solar.

Perhaps no local has been as dramatically affected by the solar boom as Bakersfield Local 428. In six years the local has grown 40 percent, and gone 75 percent unionized.

“Because we’ve had so much work in the solar fields we can take our time and more successfully target nonunion contractors doing other kinds of work. Romance them a bit,” Elrod said. “If solar is a fad, we’ll be more diverse and bigger than before.”

San Bernardino Local 477, for example, has a PLA in hand to build a 1,200 mw project—four times larger than the largest solar plant in the world, Ivanpah, which was also built by Local 477.

“With all this green energy has been very, very good to the IBEW,” said San Diego Local 569 Business Manager Simpson.

Nevertheless, the Solar Energy Industry Association reported that California will build as much solar capacity in the next year as was built in the last 30 years combined and nearly 19,000 mw is under development in the state. San Bernardino Local 477, for example, has a PLA in hand to build a 1,200 mw project—four times larger than the largest solar plant in the world, Ivanpah, which was also built by Local 477.

“With all this green energy has been very, very good to the IBEW,” said San Diego Local 569 Business Manager Simpson.
The oil and energy boom in the United States in many ways parallels what happened north of the border a decade ago.

In the early 2000s, drilling in the oil sands region of Northern Alberta took off, fueling an energy boom that kept Canada’s building trades busy, even during the worst of the 2008-2009 global recession. Alberta added nearly a half million jobs between 2003 and 2013, the highest growth rate in the nation. And construction jobs lead employment growth, accounting for 31 percent of Alberta’s job gains, according to provincial statistics.

But just as America’s energy boom is heating up, a global drop in oil prices may slow Alberta’s down. Petroleum prices dropped more than 20 percent in October from just a few months ago, reported Politico.

“If world prices remain low, we may see a slowdown in new oil sands development,” says Edmonton Local 424 Business Agent Ken MacKenzie.

That month, the Calgary Herald reported on a survey of energy infrastructure companies that revealed an increasing negativity about future investment in the region.

Alberta is particularly susceptible to a drop in prices, as tar sand oils sell at $20 to $30 (U.S. dollars) less than conventional crude, reported Public Radio International.

The challenge, says Vancouver Local 213 Business Manager Tim Smillie with the Canadian building trades, is heating up, a global drop in oil prices but the natural gas industry is experiencing a slowdown due to low oil prices, but the natural gas industry is expected to see major growth in British Columbia, where provincial officials, below, are scooping new jobs for liquefied natural gas facilities.

The IBEW’s top-notch training makes it a natural partner for both businesses and government officials in finding solutions to Canada’s skills trades crunch. IBEW members can fill the gap leads to increased capital costs and slashes profits.

“Canada is faced with finding economic demand and retirements over the next 10 years,” he wrote at the Huffington Post. “I can think of no better source country for skilled workers than the United States while we are busy training our young people and refocusing our education system.”

First District Vice President Bill Daniels says that the IBEW’s top-notch training and commitment to on-the-job excellence makes it a natural partner for both businesses and government officials in finding solutions to Canada’s skills trades crunch. The projects represent a huge opportunity for the country and the economy, but they can’t be done without the experience and know-how that comes from quality union labor,” he said.

The oil sands in Alberta, left, are experiencing a slowdown due to low oil prices, but the natural gas industry is expected to see major growth in British Columbia, where provincial officials, below, are scooping new jobs for liquefied natural gas facilities.

The following is the second of a two-part series on how the changing energy landscape is affecting IBEW members across North America.

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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
Watch our new national ad, “IBEW: Lighting the Path.” Featuring clips of smiling members and a montage of construction jobs across the U.S., the 30-second spot shows what IBEW members can do for customers.
YouTuber.com/ibeew

Vimeo
The IBEW is on Vimeo. Watch, download and share your favorite IBEW videos in crystal-clear high definition.
Vimeo.com/ibeew

HourPower
Check out what's new in the construction trade with our popular videos at IBEWHourPower.com!

ElectricTV
On ElectricTV we've got the latest videos and news spotlighting the excellent work of the IBEW-NECA team.
ElectricTV.net

Want to Be a Contractor?
IBEW Offers Top-Notch Training

Pittsburgh Local 5 member Jody Bradley says IBEW's class has given him a solid foundation to start his own shop.

Jody Bradley had already started his own business when he arrived outside of Washington, D.C., in May, alongside 23 other members to attend the union’s first market-driven contracting class.

Bradley is among the inaugural class designed for IBEW wiremen and linemen to go from the dispatch hall to the employer side of the business with hands-on instruction from the best in the electrical contracting business, over two staggered weeks of classes.

Another class will be starting in February.

With his slogan, “Plugging You into the Future,” Bradley looked for JOBE Electric, his new company, to pick up lighting retrofits, solar systems, new construction projects and residential services.

But the 27-year Pittsburgh Local 5 journeyman inside wireman knew he and his wife, Cheryl, needed all the support they could garner to survive the catastrophic attrition rates that challenge small businesses over their first five years.

Could his instructors, with years of experience in electrical contracting management, help the entrepreneur master the requirements of learning, how to better locate and estimate jobs and get off the ground without creating an unmanageable overhead?

“The caliber of the instructors and the course material brought me to a level far above my expectations,” Bradley said.

He plans to return frequently to the thick binders of information he brought back home, along with contact information for instructors who offer to mentor students beyond the end of class, and fellow students for brainstorming.

“With any new program, much of its success depends on the class dynamics, and not only did the participants want to be contractors, they want to be strong union contractors,” says IBEW Education Department Director Amanda Pacheco. “President Hill’s vision for this program; she says, “to add one more tool to our toolbox for strengthening the IBEW. And I think these union contractors will do that.”

Fred Sargent is encouraged by Bradley’s optimism and openness to a changing market. President of Sargent Electric, a longtime signatory contractor based in Pittsburgh, he helped design the course with the IBEW Education Department.

“We want to help people who are going to start electrical contracting business to attack sectors of the marketplace that most traditional contractors have bypassed or stepped away from,” he says. That includes residential services and small commercial work.

Applications Being Accepted for New Contractor Training

Applications and a list of frequently-asked questions can be found on the IBEW Education Department Web page: www.ibew.org/IBEW/departments/education.htm.

If you have questions, please contact IBEW Education Department Director Amanda Pacheco at (202) 728-6104 or at Amanda_Pacheco@ibew.org.
This is a summary of the annual report for the National Electrical Annuity Plan, #52-613737, for the year ended December 31, 2013. The annual report has been filed with the Employee Benefits Security Administration, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

**Basic Financial Statement**

Benefits under the plan are provided by a trust. Plan expenses were $68,703,792. These expenses included $12,375,287 in administrative expenses and $55,327,505 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries. A total of 94,379 persons were participants or in beneficiaries of the plan at the end of the plan year, although not all of these persons had yet earned the right to receive benefits.

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was $3,873,765,842 as of December 31, 2013, compared to $3,937,283,740 as of January 1, 2013. During the plan year the plan experienced an increase in its net assets of $837,506,902. This increase includes unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan's assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year or the cost of assets acquired during the year. The plan had total income of $1,005,479,449, including employer contributions of $767,673,781, gains of $5,256,654 from the sale of assets, earnings from investments of $623,746,646, and other income of $76,378.

**Minimum Funding Standards**

Enough money was contributed to the plan to keep it funded in accordance with the minimum funding standards of ERISA.

**Your Rights to Additional Information**

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

- an accountant's report;
- financial information and information on payments to service providers;
- assets held for investment;
- transactions in excess of 5 percent of plan assets; and
- information regarding any common or collective trusts, pooled separate accounts, master trusts, or 103-12 investment entities in which the plan participates.

To obtain a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, write or call the office of the Trustees of the National Electrical Annuity Plan, who are the plan administrators, 2400 Research Boulevard, Suite 500, Rockville, Maryland 20850-3166, (301) 596-3100. The charge to cover copying costs will be $24.50 for the full annual report, or $2.50 per page for any part thereof.

You also have the right to receive from the plan administrator, on request and at no charge, a statement of the assets and liabilities of the plan and accompanying notes, or a statement of income and expenses of the plan and accompanying notes, or both. If you request a copy of the full annual report from the plan administrator, these two statements and accompanying notes will be included as part of that report. The charge to cover copying costs given above does not include a charge for the copying of these portions of the report because these portions are furnished without charge.

You also have the legally-protected right to examine the annual report at the main office of the plan at 2400 Research Boulevard, Suite 500, Rockville, Maryland 20850-3166, and at the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C., or to obtain a copy from the U.S. Department of Labor upon payment of copying costs. Requests to the Department should be addressed to: U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration, EBSA Public Disclosure Room, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room N 5133, Washington, D.C. 20210.

Edwin D. Hill
Salvatore J. Chilla
John M. Grau
D. R. Borden, Jr.
NEAP Trustee
NEAP Trustee
NEAP Trustee
NEAP Trustee

President Hill Honors WWII Vet, 77-Year Member

Jimmy Kice, 95, was honored at the World War II memorial by International President Edwin D. Hill, who presented him with his 75-year pin.

Local 124 retiree Jimmy Kice

If you are married and die before retirement, NEAP will provide your spouse with a Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit. Your spouse will receive this benefit if: (i) you have satisfied the minimum eligibility requirement of 160 hours of service; (ii) you have a balance in your Individual Account; (iii) you die prior to receiving a pension benefit; (iv) you were married; and (v) you have not previously declined the Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit. If you are entitled to a Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit, NEAP will purchase an annuity contract from an insurance company for your spouse. The annuity contract will pay your surviving spouse a monthly benefit for life. Monthly payments will start within a reasonable period of time after your death. The amount of the monthly benefit depends upon (i) the amount in your Individual Account; (ii) your spouse's age (and, therefore, his/her life expectancy and prospective benefit payment period); and (ii) the insurance company's price for annuity contracts.

**Elections/Consents**

If you are under age 35, your spouse will automatically receive the Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit upon your death (unless your spouse selects a lump sum payment instead of the annuity). You may not decline the Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit unless you have permanently stopped working in Covered Employment. However, beginning the year you reach age 35 and at any time thereafter, you may decline the Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit. Your spouse must consent in writing and the consent must be witnessed by a representative of NEAP or by a notary public. Consent given by a spouse is not effective as to a subsequent spouse. You may revoke your election to decline under the Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit at any time. You may again decline the Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit at any time by executing the appropriate form and obtaining your spouse's consent. Your spouse may also revoke his/her consent at any time. Contact the Plan Administrator's Office for the appropriate forms.

**Notice to Participants in the National Electrical Annuity Plan**

**Explanation of Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit**

- Lump Sum

If you decline the Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit, your Individual Account balance will be paid to your designated surviving beneficiary in a lump sum. If your designated surviving beneficiary is not your spouse, your spouse must also consent to that as well, in order for it to be valid. If you have not designated a beneficiary (or your designated beneficiary is not living at the time of your death), the balance will be paid to the following persons, if living, in the following order of priority: (i) your spouse; (ii) your children, (iii) your parents, or (iv) your estate. The total amount of money received as a lump sum may ultimately be different (either greater or lesser) than the total amount of money your spouse would have received under the Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit. This is because the Preretirement Surviving Spouse Benefit is an annuity and depends on the time value of money and how long your spouse lives. Addition al information is available from the Plan Administrator's Office.
FairPoint Strikers Win Community Support

In the midst of tight November polling between candidates running for public office in New England, another survey of citizens showed overwhelming support for nearly 2,000 members of the IBEW and CWA on strike at FairPoint Communications. As the strike entered its third week and FairPoint raced to cut off health care benefits for striking workers, thousands of citizens expressed exasperation at the company’s approach to bargaining.

FairPoint rejected a proposal containing more than $200 million in savings from the union, then declared an impasse on August 27.

“We’re not looking to get rich, we’re just looking to sustain our families,” said Mike Gaucho, a FairPoint service technician and member of Montpelier, VT, Local 266.

“We offered the company a compromise that would save them millions in health care costs, but they refused. We’ve got to stand up for our families and for good jobs.”

Anyone looking to support the striking workers is encouraged to donate to the strike fund set up by IBEW System Council T-9 and CWA Ports-

FairPoint communications. All the money raised through the website at http://bit.ly/FairpointFund will be distributed to striking workers. [1]

Calif. Members Sharpen Skills with Safety Training

“Be prepared.” It’s not just the Boy Scouts’ motto—it’s a good life philosophy. Especially for workers in the electrical trade.

At signatory contractor Par Electric in Santa Ana, Calif., Diamond Bar Local 47 member Mario Tapia says his company goes above and beyond to ensure that employees have critical life-saving skills such as CPR and first aid training.

“You never know what can happen in your work or in your day-to-day life.”

Par electricians get retrained every year in CPR and first aid. While Tapia has never had to use his life-saving skills on the job, “I’ll be ready to go” if the need arises, he said.

Over 360,000 sudden heart attacks occur each year, the American Heart Association reports. “Effective bystander CPR provided immediately after sudden cardiac arrest can double or triple a victim’s chance of survival,” the group stated on its website. [1]

EWMC Young Workers Aim High for Jan.

Training, Service

Young workers who are a part of the IBEW’s Electrical Workers Minority Caucus are setting an ambitious goal for the upcoming EWMC conference in Atlanta Jan. 13-18, before Martin Luther King Day.

As part of the conference, young workers will participate in a daylong summit sponsored by the EWMC’s Reach out and Engage Next-gen Electrical Workers—or RENEW—initiative to sharpen their communication, technology and leadership skills.

“Last year, we had about 70 young members involved,” said New York Local 3 member Wendell Yee, who is president of the EWMC young workers group and sits on the RENEW advisory committee. “This year, we’re hoping to get at least 150.”

Each annual EWMC conference includes workshops and trainings, along with a day of community service. “At last January’s meeting in Kansas City, our young workers group helped with five projects across the area,” said Yee, such as retrofitting an area school with fluorescent lighting, wiring a greenhouse at an after-school recreational center and more. The EWMC overall performed 19 projects.

With greater attendance comes greater participation in helping the wider community, Yee said, encouraging interested members to talk to their business managers about attending. “Let EWMC RENEW help invigorate your young worker members to take an active role in your local union and community.”

For more information, visit www.ibew-ewmc.com, and “like” the EWMC’s young workers Facebook page at bit.ly/EWMC-RENEW. The link is case-sensitive. [1]

New IBEW Ad Premiere

Three years ago, the IBEW launched a national television advertising campaign with a simple goal: tell America who we are and what we do. Since then, hundreds of millions of people have seen the seven 30-second spots created by the IBEW Media Department during NFL games on CBS and Fox, 60 Minutes on CBS and throughout the day on CNN, Headline News and MSNBC.

This month, the eighth spot will begin running—first on CBS and, a month later, on Fox—and International President Edwin D. Hill said it marks a shift in the story the IBEW wants to tell America.

“In the beginning, the purpose was to introduce ourselves to the American people,” he said. “Now, instead of just telling people what we do, we’re telling people what we can do for them.”

The new ad shares the look of some of the earlier ones, focusing on the smiling faces of IBEW members from across the country. As their images pass by, the narrator talks about those smiles “lighting up a room.” Very quickly, however, the ad makes this promise about the IBEW, “Working with a Code of Excellence that guarantees the job will be done right, on-time and safely.”

“We know it makes good business sense for a contractor to hire IBEW members. This is about making sure everyone else knows it too,” Hill said.

The ad can be seen at https://vimeo.com/108915014, and began airing during NFL broadcasts on CBS Nov. 2 and is set to air on Fox in December. [1]

ORGANIZING WIRE

Calif. Manufacturing Workers Score First Contract

At Sacramento-based company Sunoptics, employees craft products that are ahead of their time—high-tech skylights that can help replace most electric lighting with natural sunlight for offices and homes.

Companies from Coca-Cola and Siemens to local school districts and police departments are using the systems to cut energy bills, slash carbon emissions and natural sunlight for offices and homes. [1]

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But while Sunoptics is making huge strides toward a greener future, many of its policies regarding its work-

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Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245 members at Sunoptics ratified their first collective bargaining agreement in September.

Under the new contract, all Sunoptics workers will see a wage increase, lump sum payment, or both over the next two years.

Unfortunately, the company’s wage proposal in the first contract offer in July, employees voted “no” by a slim margin. Local 1245’s negotiating committee members doubled down on their efforts to help secure the second vote, which was 62-37.

“The feedback we get from the employees was very positive,” said Local 1245 business representative Cruz Serna, who teamed with assistant business manager Ray Thomas and Sunoptics workers Todd Davis, Chris Hanh, Mauricio Centroso and Pamela Pendleton for negotiations.

“They acknowledge the major changes and improvements to their working conditions, and even though they did not get all of the wages they had hoped for, what is more important right now is to have a contract in place and to look forward to the future.”

Grace said she was happy with the wage increase and better job security. “Plus, we get to have a voice in the company,” she said.

Grace recently traveled to San Antonio to attend the 2014 Women’s Conference. During a caucus meeting for the Ninth District—which includes Alaska, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon, Washington and the Pacific Islands—retiring Ninth District International Vice President Michael Mowrey officially swore Grace into the Brother-

hood, to applause and cheers from the delegates.

“I’m excited because I know there are many opportunities to come,” Grace said. “I know this is just the beginning.”

Read more reporting and learn about specific contract gains at www.ibew1245.com. [1]
### Members for Whom PBF Death Claims were Approved in October 2014

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Surname</th>
<th>Date of Death</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Cotter, J. R.</td>
<td>4/7/13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Myers, E.</td>
<td>10/14/14</td>
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<td>1 Petzoldt, F. W</td>
<td>8/23/14</td>
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<td>1 Bryant, D. A.</td>
<td>9/9/14</td>
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<td>1 Arroyo, T.</td>
<td>8/10/14</td>
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<td>1 Baker, H. P.</td>
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<td>1 Blaschti, T.</td>
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<td>1 Carlton, J.</td>
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<td>1 Chiefer, P.</td>
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### In Memoriam

**The Electrical Worker** | December 2014
Local 6 instructor Bob Bourdet (right) receives Service Award presented by SFJATC Dir. Steve Bourdet (left) talks with retired member Jack Bogliotchi at union picnic.

Longtime Instructor Retires

L.U. 6 (c,i,sta), SAN FRANCISCO, CA—Bro. Bob Bourdet started his apprenticeship in 1961. He began teaching apprenticeship classes in 1968 and has elected to retire 46 years later. In his years as an instructor, Bob has taught 1,229 apprentices. Beginning in 1980, Bob also taught estimating for SFECA (San Francisco Electrical Contractors Assoc.), for 110 members in December. Unit meetings are scheduled as well as the Member’s Christmas Party and the Local 6 bus. Local 6 retired Bro. William Diehl (right) greets Tom Kelley and family. Work is slowly improving in our area. I thank the volunteers—without you, it would not have been the success it was. Everyone I spoke with, young and old, raved about the wonderful time they had. The children enjoyed games and activities while adults visited with many families and friends. The food was plentiful and the beverages cold. It all had a good time. Work is slowly improving in our area. I thank the volunteers—who have employed our members during these slow times. I also thank our traveling members. It’s not easy being away from your family. Your traveling not only helps your family but also helps maintain the funds here at home. Remember, you are representing Local 24 as well as yourself while out there. Please try and make us proud. Hopefully the time reaches your door Baltimore will have a World Series team. Go O’U!

Gary R. Griffin, B.M.

submitting local lines articles

Local Lines are printed monthly on an alternating even/odd schedule. They can be submitted by email (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/journal/deadlines.htm. Please e-mail or call the Media Department at (202) 728-6293 with any questions.

Trade Classifications


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.

Officers and staff wish everyone happy holidays.

Charles E. Graham, B.M.

Annual Awards Banquet
L.U. 34 (em,un,ts&sp), PEORIA, IL—This year’s annual awards banquet was held Nov. 15 at the Itoo Building in Peoria. Approximately 500 people attended. The food, drink and fellowship were abundant.

Congratulations to 65-year service pin recipients Walter Eisele and Bernard Lange. The awards start with 10 year pins; subsequent awards recognize each additional five years served. Over 300 members received service awards. Thank you to the entire staff for the event planning and set-up. The banquet serves not only as an awards ceremony, but also as a holiday party. The event grew each year and might have to be moved next year because the room was packed for this year’s banquet.

Thanks to all the brothers and sisters who came out and made the event one to remember.

At this writing, the November midterm election was up in the air. The Local 34 conference room has been a beehive of activity. Phone banking and member-to-member talks have been underway nonstop for three months. We have worked hard to get out the union vote. Thank you to all the volunteers who donated their time. You are the backbone, the heart and soul of this union. I hope and pray that when I read these words in the Electrical Worker, Illinois will have re-elected Gov. Pat Quinn. [Editor’s Note: On Nov. 4, Gov. Quinn lost his bid for re-election.]

Don Easy, B.R./Organizer

Work Picture Gains
L.U. 38 (i), CLEVELAND, OH— Picketing will continue at the Strongsville Middle School, since Hammond Construction decided to award the electrical contract to an out-of-area, non-IBEW contractor. We will continue to inform the taxpayers and voters that workers are being shuttled in from the south to take jobs away from local area residents. We have attended school board meetings to let elected officials know how we will vote next time they are up for re-election and how we will vote for the next school levy.

Work will pick up for local members, as the 2016 Republican National Convention will be held in Cleveland. Several hotel projects have started construction, including the 600-room Hilton being wired by Lake Erie Electric, and the Kimpton Hotel being wired by Gateway Electric. Others such as the Le Meridien and Drury hotels are working to complete their financing.

Work has started at the Crocker Park Complex, which includes the American Greetings building. Several electrical contractors are on-site including Lake Erie, Zenith, Ullman and Contemporary Electric. Herbst Electric and Lake Erie recently were awarded sizable sewer district projects.

Dennis Meaney, B.M./F.T.

Calif. Film & TV Job Retention & Promotion Act of 2014
L.U. 40 (em,tnnts&sp), HOLLYWOOD, CA— Thanks to the hard work of so many within the motion picture and television industry, as well as support from the public and business owners throughout the state, the Calif. Film and Television Job Retention & Promotion Act of 2014 (AB 1573) is now law and will ensure the industry has a robust pipeline of well-trained, skilled electrical workers.

Activities & Events
L.U. 42 (ctv,em,gtt&b), HARTFORD, CT—On Saturday, Aug. 23, Local 42 held its Annual Family Picnic at the High Meadow Resort. Members and their families enjoyed a fun-filled day with a wide variety of activities for all ages, music, and all the delicious food you could eat. We thank the Referee Club for doing the 50/50 raffle. Thanks also to all those who donated raffle prizes. The picnic could not have been so successful without such great participation.

On Saturday, Sept. 27, we held our annual deep-sea chartered fishing trip on the Francis Fleet. The boat departed at 7 a.m. from Point Judith, R.I., and returned at 4 p.m. Members had a fun-filled day of fishing. Congratulations to Mark Larson for catching the biggest fish.

At press time, plans were underway for a second trap shoot on Saturday, Oct. 18, 2014, (weather permitting) at the Tin Fin Feather Club. Members were looking forward to a day of shooting clay pigeons and a BBQ buffet at the end of the day.

On Thursday, Dec. 11, we will hold our annual Christmas Smoker at our monthly union meeting. After the meeting members will enjoy the buffet and the fellowship. Have a safe and happy holiday.

Jacqueline Moffitt, P.S.

‘A Great Turnout’
L.U. 68 (i), DENVER, CO—Things are still extremely busy here at the Local. We’re still putting people to work off Book II, and organizing efforts continue.

At press time, we were still pushing to make our voices heard on the political scene for the November 2014 midterm elections. By the time you read this, we will know if our efforts were in truth adequate.

Aug. 16 saw a great turnout at our Local 68 Summer Picnic. Approximately 570 adults and 245 kids were at the Westminster Elks for food, drinks and games for all. This year’s horseshoe tournament was won by Nick Shelton. Think Wayne Shelton is trying to keep it in the family (he won last year). Ha!

The 2014 Labor Day parade in Louisville was Sept. 1. Local 68 had a good turnout in one of the Den- ver area’s remaining few true Labor Day celebrations.

Sept. 16 was the most recent date for the local’s Code of Excellence class, with 55 recent grads. Thank you to Eighth District Rep. Ben Danner for helping with the training.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the fami- lies of recently deceased members: Edward J. Gates Jr., Karl Schuessler, Gene A. Franck, Kevin D. Stagg and Jack W. Busey. Stay safe out there and take care of your union brothers and sisters.

Jack Cox, Pres.

New Leadership
L.U. 70 (ltttk), WASHINGTON, DC—Local 70 has a new staff in the office. Leading the way is our new Bus. Mgr. William “Tip” Tipton Jr.; and our new presi- dent, Paul Carter.

The local also held a picnic get-together on Aug. 30 at Mayo Beach Park for members, their families and friends. We thank everyone who attended that special occasion.

Additionally, we thank all the members for their hard work throughout the year.

Jimmy Horton, B.R.

Pan Mass Challenge Benefit—L.U. Officers Raise $26,000
L.U. 104 (lttt,oka), BOSTON, MA—In January 2014, local union Pres. Ryan Dementi approached Asst. Bus. Mgr./Treas Hugh Boyd with a motivational chal- lenge. Not just for himself, the Pan Mass Chal- lenge (PMC). This is a 162-mile bike ride to raise mon- ey for the Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston. The event would take place Aug. 2-3.

Former business manager Charles “Mickey” Rooney, now retired, has been doing the PMC for 30 years and, at 76 years young, he was looking to do one last ride and pass the baton to someone a little young- er to continue the legacy of local IBEW Local 104’s participa- tion in this event. Our three “bicycle brothers” trained for months. Bros. Rooney, Dementi and Boyd raised a combined total of over $26,000. Bro. Rooney has raised over $300,000 during his years participating in PMC. For the last eight years, Bro. Rooney was riding especially in memory of his beloved wife, Dorcie, who lost her battle eight years ago.

We hope to have an even larger Local 104 team ride next year. If you are interested in participating in next year’s PMC, please contact Pres. Ryan Dementi for details.

Hugh Boyd, A.B.M.

Responsible Contracting Law
L.U. 110 (em,un,ts&sp), ST. PAUL, MN—The Minne- sota state legislature recently passed an important statewide “Responsible Contractor” bill, which was signed into law May 23.

The new law requires all contractors bidding on public jobs to comply with workplace laws and regu- lations, including workers’ compensation, wage and overtime pay. If contractors fail to pay pre- vailing wage on a state project, they cannot work on any publicly funded project for three years! We could not have gotten this bill passed if we had not elected labor-friendly candidates. For more information, see article “Minn. Passes Responsible Contracting Law,”.
Local Lines

Over 50 apprentices, joined by their families, attended the Local 110 Young Union Members Day and enjoyed a St. Paul Saints game.

L.U. 164 (c,em,i,mar,rts), JERSEY CITY, NJ—2014 has been an even better year ahead! L.U. 164 (c,em,i,mar,rts), JERSEY CITY, NJ—2014 has been an even better year ahead!

IBEW members and guests gather to ride in 2014 Labor Day Bike Run in Florida.

Annual Labor Day Bike Run

L.U. 222 (m), ORLANDO, FL—The 2014 Labor Day Bike Run was a great success. Over $2,000 was raised for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

IBEW brothers and sisters from across Florida came to celebrate Labor Day and support a worthy cause. [Photo, above.] I will forever cherish the friendships and the camaraderie shared during this day filled with brotherhood, bikes and BBQ.

The wheels of labor rolled through miles of open road spanning Florida’s beautiful terrain.

Special thanks go out to Locals 915 and 756. Local 915 kicked-started the day providing breakfast to all the riders. Local 756 greeted the riders at the end of the day with an exceptional BBQ. This event would not have been possible without the support of our generous contractors.

Marketing and branding of the IBEW and Local 280 have been a priority here within our jurisdiction. Jobsite signage, radio and print ads, event sponsorships, as well as handed delivered flyers to local business.

We look forward to next year and hope this event will continue to grow. Until then, God Bless the IBEW.

special thanks go out to NTL this year. Derek Webster, first-year instructor, and Stephen Slovacek, third-year instructor, learned how best to provide the most advanced industry training instruction. A beneficial part of their week in Michigan was the opening trade show—where industry’s leading vendors sponsored booths and trainings, showcasing state-of-the-art technologies as well as glimpses of the future.

[Editor’s Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) has rebranded this year and transitioned into the Electrical Training Alliance. See “NJATC Transitions into the Electrical Training Alliance,” The Electrical Worker (Sept. 2014), and www.ibew.org.] Again, our gratitude goes out to NTL and we eagerly look forward to its next 25 years. Thank you, NTL.

Stephan Slovacek, P.S.

Marketing & Job Opportunities

L.U. 280 (c,em,i,rtb,rts), SALEM, OR—As winter arrives in the Willamette Valley and Central Oregon, work has been relatively steady. Our signatory contractors have been able to pick up significant projects in both the Valley and in Central Oregon that have kept our members working and our man-hours up. We see this trend continuing into 2015 and hope for a prosperous year ahead.

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nesses, are all being used to promote our local and provide more work opportunities for our members. It takes time and resources, but pays dividends and is well worth the effort.

At this year’s picnic in September, Local 280 participated in the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge and donated $5,000 to help with treatment and research for a cure for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. Apprentices poured ice water over executive members and representatives attending the picnic. Bus. Mgr. Tim Frew challenged the locals in the states of Oregon and Washington to do the same. The full video can be viewed at our website www.IBEW280.org.

Local 280 wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday season!

Nate Albertson, P.S.

Home for a Wounded Warrior

L.U. 292 (em, gov, L.U.292, stksp), MINNEAPOLIS, MN—For two days in early September, IBEW Local 292 had nearly 40 volunteers working at the Jared Allen’s Homes for Wounded Warriors volunteer build project in Minnetrista, MN, for veteran Colin Faust. In 2010 while on foot patrol in the northern Helmand Province of Afghanistan, Sgt. Faust stepped on an improvised explosive device; he lost his left leg and severely injured his right leg and left arm. In cooperation with the Labor Management Committee, NECA Minneapolis Chapter, J. Becher Electric and the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus, IBEW members helped donate 100 percent of the electrical systems in the new, accessible residence for Sgt. Faust.

As of this writing, Local 292 has fewer than 400 members on the out-of-work book for the first time in over a decade. This is clear proof that there is a bright future for construction in the Twin Cities. To continue its organizing drive, Local 292 will be stripping key members of nonunion electrical shops. Nonunion electricians are calling us and learning about the benefits of working union. We have an active organizing campaign throughout the Local 292 jurisdiction. Earlier this year, E2 Electrical Services with its 12 employees signed a letter of assent, and the company's trade show was added for members to see new products and tools and meet directly with product representatives. With the help of our local supply house, it was not have been possible without the support of their families, friends, journeymen, foremen and dedicated instructors. The Steve Malinowski Leadership Award recipient was Kellen T. Hartz. Perfect attendance awards for the fifth-year class went to Rusty Brink, Keith Hogan and Dale McKeel. The award for perfect attendance for all five years went to Daniel Hockenbrock. The third-place overall achievement award went to James Pickens, and second place to Daniel Hockenbrock. The first-place James W. Mayall Award recipient was Rusty Brink.

‘Our Legacy of Success’

L.U. 302 (L.U.302), MARTINEZ, CA—Our Annual "Old Timer’s" Dinner was, once again, a huge success. It is always good to see those who came before us—some known personally, and some only as legendary names, immortalized in job titles. It’s good to see their proud families look on as retired members are honored for their years of service.

I love the often-told tales and work stories. They tell us where we came from. The part I love the most is the simple act of shaking hands—grasping the hands that crafted and shaped our community. Strong, work-hardened hands, with a grip that can control heavy loads yet be supple enough for surgical-like precision. Good handshakes make good friends. But they also command respect, just in case you misjudge their resolve.

Some folks dream about buildings. Some folks put those dreams on paper. And some folks—who look just like you and me—actually go out there in the rain and the heat, the mud and the cold, and build those dreams. They live and work on the sharp, cutting edge of the future. It’s good to check in with them from time to time.

Bob Lillby, A.B.M.

Recognition of Achievements

L.U. 301 (govx, L.U.301, MONTPELIER, VT)—Local 301 celebrated the life and accomplishments of Bro. John Krupp, who passed away unexpectedly in October. John was a 27-year IBEW member and an employee of Green Mountain Power. He was a longtime advocate for the IBEW and a fellow steward. His personality, work ethic and love for his family will be missed forever.

Local 301 also celebrates the accomplishments of the members at Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant. Vermont Yankee, owned and operated by Entergy Nuclear, will start its decommissioning phase of the plant in January 2015, following 40 years of operation. The battle to continue operation for another 20 years was lost. I wish the members at Vermont Yankee well in their future endeavors. Keep the faith.

Best wishes to all IBEW members for a happy holiday season and a great new year. We have a long way to go in our pursuit for equality for working-class people in our country. I continue to see hope at every corner; however, we must re-examine our own beliefs and attitudes and encourage more people to march to the IBEW drum. Reach deep to educate and better yourselves. Only through knowledge, caring and continuous drive can we accomplish our goals. Be safe and be well—cheers.

Jeffrey C. Winette, A.B.M./T.S.

Pin Presentation Luncheon

L.U. 340 (L.U.340, SACRAMENTO, CA)—In August we held a Pin Presentation luncheon for the local’s 50-, 55-, 60- and 65-year members. Many of these brothers went through some real “lean times,” just as we members have in the past few years—but they stuck with IBEW Local 340 and got through those times and now enjoy the good life they enjoy today. They are greatly missed. Presenting the retirees with their certificates and pins is a great honor and pleasure for me as business manager. Special thanks to Int. Rep. Michael Meals, who gave up part of his weekend to talk to our retirees and help with the presentations.

These informal pin presentation/luncheons are also attended by retiring and file members, while they attend to honor the award recipients. It is always great talking and listening to these retirees while they reconnect with journeymen and former apprentices they mentored. The stories they share are so rich in history, as well as humor.

I am saddened to report Local 340’s recent loss of several brothers: Tony Bates, John Buno, Jim Harris, Delmar Lindsay and Alan Vandeboegert. Rest in peace, brothers.

Tom Okumura, B.M.

At Local 340 service award luncheon: Bus. Mgr. Tom Okumura (far left) and Vice Pres. Matt Steinneman (for right, standing) congratulate service award honoraries.

2014 Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 380 (ies, IJKL), NORRISTOWN, PA—Local 380 celebrated the accomplishments of this year’s apprenticeship graduates at a JATC banquet for the class of 2014. The graduates’ achievements would not have been possible without the support of their families, friends, journeymen, foremen and dedicated instructors. The Steve Malinowski Leadership Award recipient was Kellen T. Hartz. Perfect attendance awards for the fifth-year class went to Rusty Brink, Keith Hogan and Dale McKeel. The award for perfect attendance for all five years went to Daniel Hockenbrock. The second-place overall achievement award went to James Pickens, and second place to Daniel Hockenbrock. The first-place James W. Mayall Award recipient was Rusty Brink.

Editor’s Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) has rebranded this year and transitioned into the Electrical Training Alliance. See “NJATC Transitions into the Electrical Training Alliance.” The Electrical Worker (Sept. 2014), and at www.IBEW.org.

Local 380 also recently held its 33rd annual Journeymen vs. Apprentice Softball Game & Cookout. This event for members and their families is a great way to get together and see old friends and have some fun outside of work.

This year along with the softball game, an electrical trade show was added for members to see new products and tools and meet directly with product representatives. With the help of our local supply house, we had over 20 vendors attend. The trade show was a great success and we hope to expand it next year.

Scott R. Sheldon, P.S.

Candidate Thanks Members

L.U. 388 (em, L.U.388), STEVENS POINT, WI—Local 388 members recently held their annual picnic at Jordand Park. We had a great turnout, and a big thank you goes to members Mike Jensen and Andrew Jensen for a great job on the roasted pig. Thanks also to all those members and their families who helped with setting up the picnic and the clean-up afterward. It is greatly appreciated.

Members at the picnic also welcomed a surprise visit from then-Democratic candidate for governor Mary Burke, who stopped by to personally thank IBEW members for their support in her run against incumbent Gov. Scott Walker. Walker has shown that he is no friend of labor. At this writing, as we approached the November midterm election, members were encouraged to help defeat Walker and the Republican plan to push anti-worker, “right-to-work” legislation. Thank you to volunteers for phone calling, going door to door, putting up yard signs, etc. [Editor’s Note: On Nov. 4, Walker won the mid-term election.]

Guy LePage, P.S.

Local 412 mechnic apprentices graduate, with Mechanic Coordinator Terry McNabb (back, row, center). From left: Nicholas Wooster, Daniel Lindsey, Todd Smith, (McNabb), Jeff “CJ” Myers, Tyler Allen and Jeremy Blanchard.

Mechanic Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 412 (L.U.412), KANSAS CITY, MO—On Sept. 5 this year, Local 412 honored six mechanic apprentices on their graduation.

The new journeyman mechanics are as follows: at Sibley Power Plant—Nicholas Wooster, Daniel Lindsey, Todd Smith and Jeff “CJ” Myers; at Hawthorn Power Plant—Tyler Allen; and at Lake Road Power Plant—Jeremy Blanchard. Congratulations to you all!

Deli Kidwiler, P.S.


www.IBEW.org
Local 494 members lead 2014 Labor Day parade in Milwaukee. (Photo courtesy of Jan Jante.)

**Positive Work Picture**

**Local 530 (Lo,krtb), SARNIA, ONTARIO, CANADA—Local 530 is currently experiencing a temporary work high. A few small shutdowns and new construction jobs are keeping our members as well as some travelers employed. A thank-you goes out to our brother and sister locals for supplying us with workers during our need. Local 530 also thanks Edmonton Local 429 for employing our members during our times of need, now and in the future.**

Kurt Jante, B.R.

**New Signatory Contractor**

**Local 530 (Lo,krtb), SHEFFIELD, AL—Work this year is at a rapid pace and has been very productive for our local, as well as many other locals with some calls going to Book 2. We have several members at the Toyota Engine Plant project in Huntsville, AL, and several calls for projects at the Tennessee Valley Authority. We are excited to announce that American Electric has become a signatory contractor and we look forward to a productive partnership.**

A recent benefit held in honor of our Bro. Chris Williamson raised over $25,000 to help less fortunate children in north Alabama. It is humbling to see the legacy of our dear brother resonating throughout our area. This is an example of how we should invest in our own community.

We are proud to congratulate Bus. Manager Ralph Mayes, who received the Labor Person of the Year award at the Shouls Central Labor Day festivities.

Congratulations to the class of 2014 apprenticeship linen graduates. These new linenmen graduated in May. [See photo below] Chuck Joiner was selected as Apprentice of the Year. Best wishes to all for a merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.

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

Local 494 members lead 2014 Labor Day parade in Milwaukee. (Photo courtesy of Jan Jante.)

Local 606 congratulates graduating inside construction class (group at top) and graduating Disney maintenance class.

**Kudos to Class of 2014**

**Local 606 (em,rs,rtb,spak), ORLANDO, FL—In August, Local 606 held a graduation banquet for the apprenticeship graduating class of 2014. [Photo at top, right] There were 22 graduates from the Inside Construction program, and 14 graduates from the Disney Maintenance program. Outstanding Apprentice Award recipients of the year were: Brighten Hoyt and Sean Donnelly, for Inside Construction; and Randall Hammond Jr. and Suzanne Lochhead, for Disney Maintenance. Many thanks go to Local 606 signatory contractors and all other sponsors who made the banquet a huge success. We congratulate all the graduates and encourage them to become productive employees and active union members with the local.**

With great sadness we announce the deaths of two members, Thomas C. Phillips Sr. and Robert A. White. They will both be sorely missed.

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

**Graduation Class of 2014**

**Local 640 (em,gov,lm,mt,rtf,spak), PHOENIX, AZ—This year’s apprenticeship graduation ceremony was held at the Local 640 meeting hall on Sept 19. We had 38 graduates: Kavon Alapour, Damon Biddix, Hubert Brown, Fabian Cahué, Sergio Castro, Luis Daubetere, Jeremy Dirker, Adrian Embury, Ruben Galindo Jr., April Harris, James Hunt Jr., David Kepke, Shauwiny Lu, George Mota, Joshua Mylo, Dan Rodarte, Phillion Sellers, Elsy Solano, Emanuel Vances, Kyrene Woppper, Michael Begody, Jerome Black, Pablo Bustamante, David Cano, Jorge Chavez, Rick Engelhardt, Kirk Hamilton, Jonathan Hofelich, Kevin Jordan Jr., Michael Lemmon, Alejandro Molina, James Myers, Elaine Nez, David Santiago, Austin Shaw, Francisco Valadez, Jose Varela and Travis Yazzie. Congratulations to all the graduates. This year’s outstanding apprentice award went to Kirk Hamilton. Perfect attendance awards went to Hamilton and Shauwiny Lu.**

Local 640 extends condolences to the families and friends of our members who recently passed away: Ovid G. Bennett, Clyde I. Ryal, John J. Hill, Sam K. Richardson, Louis Kadil, Howard Simpson and Milen L. Scoblic, They will be missed. We welcome our newest signatory contractor, D-2 Electric. We look forward to working with the contractor. Remember to attend your local meeting, work union, buy union and stay safe.

Jeff Sears, P.S./Mbr. Dev.

**Voter Turnout is Key**

**Local 654 (L), CHESTER, PA—As of this printing, 2014 midterm elections will have taken place. Two of the very important races in our area will already have been decided—the race for governor and the race for the Pennsylvania Senate 26th District seat, considered one of the most important in the state, because it likely will be among those that determine whether Democrats regain control of the state Senate.**

Incumbent Gov. Tom Corbett has been a thorn in the side of union members in Pennsylvania, attacking us on every front—from attempts at do-called “right-to-work” legislation, privatization of liquor stores, and HB-1507 (known as the “paycheck deception act”) to cutting school funding by a billion dollars, leading to massive teacher layoffs, and more. Although at this writing, Gov. Corbett was trailing by more than 20 points in the polls, we cannot ever assume an easy victory. We remember what the turnout was like for...
primary elections in May, when only one in five registered Democrats in Pennsylvania made it to the polls. Our future depends on our members getting out to vote! [Editor’s Note: Democrat Tom Wolf defeated incumbent Republican governor Tom Corbett. For the 26th District State Senate seat, the incumbent beat the Democratic challenger in a close race.]

Members enjoyed a deep-sea fishing trip in September aboard the Cape May Lady. The fish were biting, the beverages were cold, and everyone went home happy and full. Upcoming events include our annual Crab Feast and the Christmas Party.

Remember to be involved, vote and buy American.

James E. Thompson Jr., P.S.

**Service Awards & Graduates**

L.U. 666 (Unite), RICHMOND, VA—This year our local awarded over 100 service pins, ranging from 25-year pins to a 75-year pin. Bro. John N. “Nick” Ware received his 75-year pin, as reported in the August issue. Many of these members showed up for our annual awards dinner in September and had a great time seeing old friends and 20 new journeymen.

Special congratulations to David M. Rasnic and Brian K. Wright, the outstanding apprentices for their respective classes. We expect great things from all of our newest journeyman wieners! They are: Derek Mason, Gabriel Rod and Daniel Webb. Congratulationst to all!

As of this writing, work in our jurisdiction is slow, but appears to be improving slightly. As of Oct. 1, Robert Humphries, our newest organizer, is in the field working to improve our market share!

Thanks to all of the locals that have worked our members this year. Locals 776 and 80 deserve special recognition for the numbers they put to work.

Charles Skelly, P.S.

**Operation Green Flag & New Membership Growth**

L.U. 684 (CatV, Mt&Spa), MODESTO, CA—Local 684 experienced a very productive year for membership growth. Operation Green Flag kicked off earlier in the year and our local is proud to say we have experienced a 12 percent increase in new membership.

We have welcomed several new signatory contractors into the local and continue to reach out to both nonunion contractors and electricians alike.

We especially wish to thank the following individuals for their incredible dedication and long hours spent to advance the Green Flag drive and our organizing efforts: Bro. Hank Lewis, state organizing coordinator; Int. Rep./Organizer Greg Boyd; and Local 684 Organizers Bobby Stutzman and Marcos Salas. Thank you also to the many other participants from area locals who contributed to helping us launch this new campaign.

We are also very excited about two large solar projects, a 135 megawatt project in Santa Nella and a 20 megawatt project in Los Banos. At press time, both are just about to get underway.

Dave Jones, P.S.

**‘Holiday Greetings to All’**

L.U. 692 (Unite&Spa), BAY CITY, MI—As of this writing, the 2014 midterm election season was peaking. Local 692 members have been walking door to door to support the campaigns of labor-friendly candidates at least three times a week. We are hopeful that the effort we’ve put in will have paid off with election wins for working people. We thank all the members and their families who volunteered their time. When it comes to elections, we all must stand and work together, or divided we will fall.

Our photo (below) shows several Local 692 volunteers gathered at the dock site of the historic USS Edison naval ship. The Saginaw Valley Naval Ship Museum was formed as a nonprofit organization with the intent to bring a historic naval vessel to Bay City’s riverfront. The Edson served in the U.S. Pacific Fleet, earning a reputation as a Top Gun ship and the nickname “The Destroyer.” Her ship’s crest included a skull copied from the shoulder patch worn by then-Col. Edison’s First Marine Raider Battalion. Local 692 members are donating labor for the ship museum.

With no real big projects underway at press time, we have maintained employment with smaller projects. This is thanks to hard work of Business & Membership Development.

We are sad to report the passing of Local 692 member Bro. Colin B. Schultz. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

We wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Tammy Gottliebe, P.S.

**Daytona Speedway Project**

L.U. 756 (Spki, Dstn), DAYTONA BEACH, FL—What do former Pres. Jimmy Carter, Starksy & Hutch and disco music have in common? They were all current events happening in the 1970s—the last time Local 756 worked on Daytona International Speedway property.

In early October 2014, signatory contractor Giles Electric rolled gang boxes and a crew of workers inside the home of the epic NASCAR track and began working on the massive renovation underway there. This is a very big project that will not be fully completed for a couple of years. Giles Electric was awarded a small scope of work, which we anticipate will grow over the course of the project.

The local’s commercial work is holding steady and looks to continue through the new year. Industrial work at the NASA Space Center is not at the levels we previously enjoyed; however, space flight is not dead and signatory contractors continue to bid on projects there.

We sealed a new class of first-year apprentices in August, and interviews for next year will begin in January.

The Local 756 Executive Board has held very well-attended cookout/fundraiser/yard workdays throughout the year. These events are days of hard labor, but even more, of hard fun. Look for more of these brothers. They will be remembered.

**IBEW Community Service**

L.U. 702 (Spki, CatV, Mt&Spa, Em&Sls, Gov, L.U. 309, Mo, Mt, P., pet, ptc, rb, t61, st, o., sala, s, t. u.), WEST FRANKFORT, IL—Our Local Unit members recently engaged in a local fundraising effort to support a young girl in the community who is battling cancer and has entered her fifth round of chemotherapy. Members at the Power Station took advantage of a one-year anniversary of no lost-time incidents to raise $2,450 for Emma and her family. Our hearts and prayers go out to her and others like her who face health issues.

On Sunday, Aug. 24, our Local 702 Tug-of-War team prevailed over other union teams for the second year in a row, becoming back-to-back champions at the annual SEMO Labor Picnic. [Photo of top, right.]

We have new agreements at Pemiscot Dunklin Electric Cooperative as well as the Lineworker’s Group at SEMO Electric Cooperative.

A delicious pre-game tailgate was enjoyed by over 200 of our members on Oct. 4, at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, IL.

Our Outside Construction and Line Clearance work continues to be strong, and as of this writing, our referral books are as follows: Inside Construction—54, Outside Construction—3, Line Clearance—6.

To stay up on the latest Local 702 news and information, please visit us at www.ibewlocal702.org.

Mark Baker, B.R.

**Craftsmanship & Volunteerism**

L.U. 934 (Katv, Loc&K), KINGSPORT, TN—On July 11, members of our local and their families represented Local 934 at the Annual Fun Fest Parade. The Local 934 contingent walked in the parade and proudly displayed our banner with the theme, “Made in America with Pride and Tradition.”

The new Bristol, TN, Bass Pro Shop held its grand opening Aug. 26. This BPS houses a bar and grill as well as a themed bowling alley. Come see the wonderful craftsmanship put in by our IBEW Local 934 brothers and sisters.

Our second-year apprentices continued the tradition of giving back to their community by volunteering to spend a day helping the Holston Habitat for Humanity with its mission to provide affordable housing for needy families.

Join me in thanking Bob Weber for his many years of dedicated service with the IBEW and Local 934. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, brother, during this time of struggle.

We will be sponsoring the Salvation Army in its Angel Tree project. Anyone interested in participating may contact the PR committee; we have open meetings at 7 p.m. on regular meeting nights.

Jan Van Bremen, Treas.

**2014 Annual Picnic**

L.U. 968 (Katv, Unite, Mt, Rts, Sp&K), PARKERSBURG, WV—IBEW Local 968’s annual picnic was Sept. 6. Once again we had very good attendance. Boy Scout Troop 129 and troop leader Alan Lloyd (a Local 968 member) with his wife, Denise, did an excellent job conducting the kids games and cake walk. A special thank-you goes to this exceptional Boy Scout troop.

Shown in the photo are some of the Local 968 retired brothers in attendance for the picnic. It was a great turnout and it was good to see everyone there.

With regret we report the passing of Bros. Harold “Skip” Ballenger and Ira P. Wood Jr. We have great memories and stories of times shared with these brothers. They will be remembered.

Syrinth C. Lovell, B.M.
End of Year Review

L.U. 116 (em, Littk), TUCSON, AZ—What a year it’s been for our local. We purchased and moved into our new building, negotiated new contracts for Trico Electric Co-op Inc. and Southwestern Energy Solutions, and held our election of officers.

Thank you to all of our union stewards for the time and energy they give to address any challenges our workforces may come across.

We also thank those members who stepped up during the Labor Day picnic this year: Bros. Jon Aguirre, Richard Malagon, Greg Carter and Sameer Mendez.

Journeyman Linemen Lucas Cummings, Mike Hallur and Leander Johnson competed at the International Lineman’s Rodeo in Bonner Springs, KS, in October. Way to show your craftsman skills, brothers!


Best wishes to recent retirees: John Pedrazza, Mike Kaiser, Tony Callaway and William Swartzter.

Working safely is not only a company goal, but also an IBEW Local 116 goal. Have a happy and safe holiday season.

Richard “R.C.” Cavalletto, P.S.

IBEW Golf Tournament

L.U. 1160 (cav, rbb), MASON, MI—Our local’s 53th Annual Golf Tournament was Saturday, Sept. 6, at North Star Golf Course in Ithaca, MI. More than 50 active members and retirees enjoyed this four-person scrambles event. Congratulations to the winners: Glen Marks, Bill Marks, Jeremy Moongen and Rocky Studley. The day included golf, lunch, a 50/50 raffle and many door prizes. Thanks to Ed Brush for organizing another great golf outing.

Dave McCarthy, V.P.

LOCAL LINES

Fall Fundraiser

L.U. 1324 (f), SPRINGFIELD, MA—IBEW Local 1324’s second annual Fall Fellowship & Fundraising Golf Tournament was Oct. 5. This event was to both raise money for the benevolent fund and to get members together, and it was a good time.

Five teams plus one participated in the event, held at The Donnybrook Country Club in beautiful Berkshire County in Massachusetts. The Local 1324 Benevolent Fund aids local charities and those in need. Some of our upcoming projects include collecting food for needy families during the holiday season, hanging wreaths on the graves of veterans, and conducting a winter clothing drive.

Christine Casino, Exec. Brd.

Greetings from St. Louis

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. I, ST. LOUIS, MO—Holiday greetings from Local 1 retirees in St. Louis.

The annual Labor Day parade was a great success and the weather was beautiful. The IBEW barbecues after the parade gave us retirees a chance to reminisce with active and retired members. The atmosphere at the Labor Day parade festivities is always uplifting.

I hope all who attended made it to the Health Fair In October, which offered free medical tests and flu shots.

During this season of giving please remember our brothers and sisters who are unemployed, and donate to Local 1’s Relief Committee.

Many thanks go to Bro. Donald Applebaum for his informative retiree meeting reports. The next Retirees Club meeting will be March 18, 2015.

I hope and pray everyone has a happy new year.

Neal McCormack, R.S.

Local 3, North New Jersey Chapter, Retirees Club gathers at Educational Center in July 2014.

An Eventful 2014 Summer

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, MASSAUCHUSETTS CHAPTER—As is now a tradition, our club’s September meeting began with a reading of the names of the 17 IBEW Local 3 members who lost their lives on Sept. 11. “We will never forget.”

We had many happy things happen over the summer, and some not so happy.

Our chapter enjoyed four great days at the Educational Center in July. The weather was perfect.

Our annual picnic was well-attended, and again the weather was great. The trip to “Sight and Sound” in Pennsylvania to see the production of “Moses” was enjoyable. That trip also included a dinner together.

Capping off a good summer, Local 3 Bus. Mgr. Christopher Erikson was grand marshal of the New York City Labor Day parade, a great honor indeed.

Again our chapter will be involved in the collection of toys and funds for the Michael Negro Foundation to support cancer care for children at Winthrop Hospital. Our participation is in memory of our past vice chairman Joy Terino.

The sadness we have is the loss of members who have passed away. Especially notable is the passing of Thomas “Tommy” Doyle, who was chairman of the Queens Chapter retirees. All those who have passed will be remembered.

Bob Cooper, P.S.

After hurricane hit Hawaii, an area family raised a banner to thank IBEW members from HELCO for disaster relief assistance.

IBEW Members Answer the Call

L.U. 1260 (cat, vtes, mr, rbl, tt, spak), HONOLULU, HI—Hawaii’s summer hurricane season was especially busy this year, as evidenced by a run back in August that saw two hurricanes threaten the state in the span of five days. Fortunately, the second of the two Hurricane (Julio) veered just north of the islands, but the other (Heceta) made a direct hit on the Big Island of Hawaii causing extensive damage to the southwestern side of the island.

Thousands were left without power in the storm’s aftermath and the members of IBEW Local 1260 answered the call to aid in disaster relief efforts.

Members from across the state joined forces to clear debris, rebuild infrastructure and get the power back up and running—even with the threat of a second hurricane hurrying toward them.

Many union members left their own families to assist those more in need of assistance and the result was a deep sense of gratitude for the responding Local 1260 members. It prompted at least one affect-
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NYC Labor Day Parade

RETIREES CLUB of L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY—WESTCHESTER/PUTNAM CHAPTER—On Saturday, Sept. 6, we all applauded with great pride as the grand marshal of the New York City Labor Day Parade, IBEW Local 3 Bus. Mgr. Christopher Erikson, led the procession accompanied by Local 3’s Sword of Light Pipe Band.

Following Bus. Mgr. Erikson in the parade was one of the largest contingents of Local 3 members, waving their flags and banners, to ever parade up Fifth Avenue. The marchers represented every division of Local 3.

To our amazement, after arriving at 64th Street, Bus. Mgr. Erikson walked back downstairs to lead the rank-and-file Local 3 members in their march. The turnout was incredible! Local 3’s officers and members sent a clear message that the union labor movement is alive and well in New York City. It was a proud day for all of us.

Marching with Bus. Mgr. Erikson were: IBEW Int’l. Pres. Edwin D. Hill; Thomas Van Arsdale, former Local 3 president; Pres. Edwin D. Hill; Thomas Van Arsdale, former Local 3 president; Mario Cilento, president, New York State AFL-CIO; John J. Lattanzio, member of the New York City Council; and Local 3 staff and members too numerous to mention individually.

Sandy Rogers, P.S.

2015 Cruise to Hawaii

RETIREES CLUB of L.U. 26, WASHINGTON, DC—Our 2015 cruise will be to Hawaii! We leave on May 5, 2015, and our destination will be Honolulu! The cruise is open to Local 60 retired persons. Please join us.


Retirees Recognition Ceremony

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 35, HARTFORD, CT—On Sept. 20, Local 35 hosted a dinner in honor of those who retired from 2012 through 2014. The dinner was held at Chuders Pot N’ Ivy. IBEW watches, jackets and service pins were presented.


Wounded Warrior Project

Retirees Recognition Ceremony

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 35, HARTFORD, CT—The Retirees Recognition Ceremony was held on Oct. 10, 2015, at the Plumbers and Pipefitters Training Bldg., 3630 Belmont Ave., in Hartford. The dinner was held at Clarion Hotel & Conference Center. The event was hosted by retired members of Local 35. Attendees enjoyed a good buffet lunch as well as a silent auction fundraiser. A check of $1,100 was raised, which will be donated to the Veterans Administration.

Welcome Extended

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 42, HARTFORD, CT—The Retirees Recognition Ceremony was held on Oct. 10, 2015. The attendees were joined by friends and family to celebrate the accomplishments of Local 42.

Recent Retirees Honored

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 90, NEW HAVEN, CT—On Oct. 9, our local honored some gentlemen who officially retired from IBEW Local 90. The dinner was held at the Groton Motor Inn where the following retirees were honored: Daniel Lacroix, Robert Mordecai, Edward Czapiga, James DeBridgitta, Philip Gonzalez, John Johnstone, and Frank Pugacuolo. The retirees were presented with plaques and certificates of recognition. The event was attended by over 100 people.

Guest Luncheon Speaker

RETIREES CLUB of L.U. 114, KANSAS CITY, MO—The September Retirees Luncheon had over 50 retirees in attendance. It is always great to see longtime friends, share stories of the past and hear what new and exciting things our brothers and sisters are doing.

Richard Lauder, P.S.
ance and its work to promote economic justice for all retired Americans. Judith stressed the importance of standing up for ourselves as retired Americans by voting for elected officials who are responsive to the needs of retired persons.

We wish to thank newly elected Local 124 officers—Bus. Mgr. Enrique “Rick” Rodriguez, Pres. Rudy Chavez and Fin. Sec. Bryant “B. Z.” Pantalee—for their presentations at the luncheon and their continued support of the Retirees Club.

Quarterly Meeting Event

RETIREEs CLUB of L.U. 130, NEW ORLEANS, La.—On Sept. 25, we held our quarterly meeting, and it was also our club’s 67th anniversary. As always we had the event catered (fried chicken) and plenty of refreshments. We had a crew of all 70-year-olds to enjoy the food and company. Let’s give a big thanks to Duke Legendre along with Mike and Janet Dupuis for a job well done! Duke made sure we had door prizes and 50/50.

A friendly reminder to all: Please remember the monthly casino trips. They are lots of fun.

At press time, our annual Christmas party was scheduled for Dec. 4. We hope everyone marked their calendars for that event.

With deep regret we report the loss of several brothers: Marlon D. Bennett, Stephen R. Gauthier, Thomas C. Miller, Dave A. Nicholson, Thomas A. Ottaway, Andrew V. Petit and Numa L. Pedeau Jr. May their souls rest in peace.

Until our next meeting, bless America.

George Clesi, Pres.

2015 Events Planned

RETIRees CLUB of L.U. 134, CHICAGO, Ill.—2015 events for the Local 134 Retirees Club will include: Three $1 catered luncheons (March 11, June 10 and Sept. 3). Also at the June meeting the local will honor 50-, 55-, 60- and 70-year members and feature live music and entertainment. Our annual Christmas party will be at the Irish American Heritage Hall on Dec. 9, 2015. An 18-hole golf outing will be offered in August or September. Also planned are Lake Michigan Shoreline Tours, Drury Lane Theatre outings, and tours of Chicago. Details will be listed in upcoming Retirees Newsletters and at www.local134.org.

Our Club has many terrific members, and I’d like to recognize some who are very active. To name just a few, Bob Mersch, who has passed theater events planning to Walter Feld; and Hugh O’Connor, who has passed the annual golf outing to Kevin Gibbons. We thank all of these guys for their work on behalf of the club. Also a big thank-you goes to Gerry White, longtime event planner and coordinator, and her support and helpmate, Al. Although space does not allow mention of all those who help make our club so great, please know that we appreciate each of you for keeping our club vital, successful and strong.

Next year, our club will alternate sites for some club meetings. Watch upcoming newsletters for info.

Best wishes to all for a better 2015!

Louis Rodriguez, P. S.

Anniversary Celebration

RETIRees CLUB of L.U. 197, BLOOMINGTON, Ill.—Local 197 retirees came out on Oct. 21 for coffee and cake to celebrate the local’s 50th birthday. It was a nice get-together for everyone and stories of yester-year were exchanged. Thanks to the retirees for hav- ing the foresight to start our pension plans and insurance plans, and for shaping our local to become what it is today. We feel fortunate that they have helped lead the way through some tough times.

As the November midterm election approached, retirees were busy getting out the vote, providing information about early voting and absentee ballots. At press time, retirees were taking part in sev- eral events. Every year retirees volunteer their time in November to light up the Festival of Trees, which ben- efits a local charity, The Baby Fold. Retirees set up the lighting displays for the event and then take it all down after. Another local charity looking for help is the Homes for Hope, which some of the retirees will be involved with. We wish everyone a safe and healthy holiday season!

Mike Roakes, Pres.

In Tribute & Remembrance

RETIRees CLUB of L.U. 212, CINCINNATI, OH—As we age, it sometimes seems that we spend more time at doctors’ offices, hospitals and paying our respects to the families of those we have lost. According to the latest Local 212 information, I count 12 members who have passed away during the most recent quarter—from 71-year member James Peters to eight-year member LeShan Mills.

Perhaps working on the Memorial Plaque for the last 65 years has made me more aware of the pride that Local 212 members take in this Brotherhood. Per- sonally, I’ve tried to attend the funerals of deceased members and speak to the spouse and family mem- bers. I continually hear about how proud the departed loved one was to be an IBEW Local 212 member. When we as fellow IBEW members make a special effort to join together for a final time to honor one of our own, the bereaved families greatly appreciate our effort.

We wish all IBEW members a merry Christmas and a healthy, happy New Year!

Bob Schafer, P.S.

Sarnia Happenings

RETIRees CLUB of L.U. 530, SARNIA, ONTARIO, CAN-ADA—I wish to write this month about a longtime member of our Retirees Club, Wally Cavan. Wally joined the Canadian Navy in 1949 and was posted to Cornwallis for new entry training. He was then sent to H.M.C.S. Stadacona for an Electrical Mates Course in 1950 and subsequently posted to H.M.C.S. Huron for patrol duty in Korea. In 1952, he was again posted to H.M.C.S. Stadacona to take Electrical Gunnery 3 train- ing. In 1953, he was posted to H.M.C.S. Magnificent for Queen Elizabeth II coronation and fleet review. Additionally, Wally played football for Stadacona Navy for five seasons, in the Maritime College Football League. He concluded military service in 1955.

Wally joined the IBEW in Sudbury in 1957 and became a member of Local 530 in 1976. He has been retired 25 years.

In August 2013, I Wallace “Wally” Cavan was presented with a Certificate of Recognition, which in part reads: “On behalf of a grateful nation … in recog- nition of your selfless acts of service and sacrifice,” signed by the ministers of Veterans Affairs and National Defense.

On behalf of all our members we too thank you, Wally, for your service to our country.

Nancy Strinon Philbin, P.S.

Local 570 retirees receive service pins: Walter Wylie (left), Arthur Comalli, William Turner, Roy Iley, Horace Bounds and John Baumer.

Service Awards Presented

RETIRees CLUB of L.U. 570, TUCSON, AZ—Retirees Club meetings started back up in October, with Local 570 providing a lunch and Bus. Mgr. Mike Ver- bout presenting service pins.

Service pin recipients included: Horace Bounds, for 65 years of service; Arthur Comalli and John Baumer, 60 years of service, Roy Iley and Walter Wylie, 55 years; and William Turner, 50 years. Thank you to all for your longtime service and dedication to the IBEW.

Scott W. Itoo, P.S.

Local 527 retiree volunteers receive certificates from Linn State Technical College: Emil Fischer (left), Bob Kaufmann, Herb Bruemmer, Jerry Rebagen, Bill Jurgensmeyer, Herman Grathoff, Ron Holthausen, Ken Schulte, Larry Jones and Jim Bride.

Local 615 Bus. Mgr. Carl Condit (left) is sworn in by his brother, Brian Condit, director of special projects for the local.

Local 530 retiree J. Wallace Cavan (center) receives certificate presented by Canada’s Minister of Veterans Affairs Julian Fanting (left) and Member of Parliament Pat Davidson.

Recording Union History

RETIRees CLUB of L.U. 611, ALBUQUERQUE, NM—Local 611’s 100th anniversary celebration and 2014 are winding down, but collection of local union histor- ical data must continue.

I am requesting that several members, espe- cially younger retirees, volunteer to assist with con- tinuing to record the history of our local and the IBEW. It’s an easy task for two or three people to keep up with current events, attend union meetings and record data on a flash drive occasionally. Contact the local if you are interested in this worthwhile project.
The Electrical Worker | December 2014

Important for future generations. I’ll continue to help as long as my health holds up. Note: Please contact the local for a free 100th anniversary book.

We cancelled the Christmas buffet this year because of a shortage of volunteers and funds. We hope to have a buffet and get together for all the retirees next spring. If interested in volunteering, please call the hall.

I regret to announce that retired Bro. Joe Hill, who built and installed our new south anniversary showcase, passed away Sept. 22. Our condolences go out to his family and to the families of several other recently deceased retirees: Villani Torn Jr., Jake M. Perea, Chris Padilla, David M. Otero, Maxwell D. Simmons, Lawrence H. Laube and John W. Stanhope. Our brothers will be missed.

We wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year!

Tracy Hall, Pres.

Excellent Turnout

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 640, PHOENIX, AZ—On Oct. 17, the Golden Age Road Runners began our eight-month series of monthly meetings. The turnout was excellent, and we enjoyed another fine breakfast prepared and served by Maggie and her crew.

At the October meeting, our newly installed vice president, Dan Pollard, offered some recommendations as to political candidates running for office. Dan has been involved in the political arena since he became a journeyman wireman in 1974, as a way to give back and in appreciation for the education he received as an apprentice. He has held many offices in the local, from board member to president, and since retiring has continued as a member of the Central Arizona Labor Council.

At the conclusion of the meeting, many attendees lingered to discuss their summer activities with their buddies. We held our 9-10 a.m. meetings on the third Friday of the month at the union hall, and we always welcome new members. [Photo at bottom, left]

Lastly, the Golden Age Road Runners wish all IBEW members a safe and happy holiday season, and the best start possible in the New Year!

Daryl Knupp, P.S.

Recent Club Meetings

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 702, WEST FRANKFORT, IL—The Local 702 Retirees Club met Aug. 7 at the Golden Corral in Carbondale, with 23 members (four new) and two guests present. Pres. Gary King called the meeting to order. The membership approved affiliating with the Illinois Alliance for Retired Americans. A question was raised about interest in attending a meeting in Fairview Heights. Charlie May responded. Help was requested for the DuQuoin Fair pavilion. It was noted that a complimentary meal at Golden Corral would be included in the raffle at the October meeting.

The next meeting was Oct. 2 at the Golden Corral in Carbondale, with 14 members (three new) and six guests present. Pres. Gary King thanked everyone for attending. The Aug. 7 meeting minutes were read and approved, along with the financial report. Thanks were extended to members who staffed the booth at the DuQuoin Fair. It was decided that the Christmas dinner would be at Bennie’s Italian Restaurant in Marion, Ill. Jr. Marlow won the 50/50 and Mrs. Mandrell won the complimentary Golden Corral meal. Business was completed and the meeting was adjourned.

Mark Baker, P.S.

Pin Ceremony

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 756, DAYTONA BEACH, FL—We had a great many service pins to present this year, and at a recent gathering three recipients were present to accept their awards in person. Congratulations to all on their lifetime IBEW service.

We started off our year with a very crowded room.

With sadness, we report the recent passing of two members: Dominick “Rusty” Stellitano and Roy Norris. Bro. Stellitano was head of the apprenticeship program for many years, and Bro. Norris was a loyal member of Local 756. Both were active members of our Retirees Club and will be missed. We send our condolences to their families.

We invite any retired members and their spouses, as well as unemployed members, who are in the area to come and join us. Our meetings are the second Thursday of each month, 11:30 a.m., at the Local 756 union hall, Port Orange, FL.

Diane Gibbs, P.S.

Local 756 retirees receive service pins. From left: 60-year members Pete Davies and Dan Carter; and 55-year member Joe Gardner.

Dec. 13 Holiday Party

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 955, BATON ROUGE, LA—The Local 955 Retirees Club at its meeting in August decided to participate with regular members in their Annual Christmas Party. This will take place on Dec. 13, 2014. The meal will be from 6-8 p.m. with a dance to follow from 8-11 p.m. Everyone is to bring at least one of these items: a vegetable, a salad or a dessert. The meat will be furnished and the music will be furnished by our own in-house band, composed of local members. I hope to see you all there to wish each and every one a merry Christmas and happy New Year on behalf of the Retirees Club.

It is with regret that I report the recent loss of several of our dear retirees: Leslie Mitchell, Joseph Rispone, John Roshto and Clarence Zimmerle.

W. Roland Goetzman Sr., P.S.

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 linenman’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.

Enter Today! Deadline: Dec. 31

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

PHOTO CONTEST!

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.

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PHOTO CONTEST!
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 expressed by correspondents.

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

Send letters to:
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FROM THE OFFICERS

Few Silver Linings

I’m not going to pull any punches. The 2014 midterm elections were about as close to a disaster for working families as you can get.

Republicans won control of the Senate, choking off pro-worker allies like Kay Hagan in North Carolina and Mark Begich in Alaska. And governors like Scott Walker in Wisconsin and Rick Snyder in Michigan, who spent much of their first term attacking collective bargaining rights, managed to win re-election in highly contested races.

We did everything we could this election season. All over the country, IBEW members were knocking on doors, making phone calls and talking with their neighbors in support of union-endorsed candidates—and that made the difference in the few victories we celebrated Nov. 4 in places like Minnesota, Connecticut and Pennsylvania. And IBEW members scored a big victory in southern New Jersey, where voters overwhelmingly elected Local 351’s assistant business manager, Donald Norcross to Congress.

But despite these silver linings, Nov. 4 was a bad night for working people as elected officials hostile to organized labor seized control of the Senate and many statehouses.

The midterms weren’t a mandate for the tea party’s extreme agenda. Exit polls reveal that Americans—who rated the economy as their top issue—are frustrated with their own continuing financial insecurity. Unemployment may be down and the stock market up, but 70 percent of voters say the economy is still in bad shape. And more than 60 percent think the government is to blame, saying it only serves the interests of the wealthiest Americans. But they voted for candidates whose agenda benefits primarily those at the very top of the economic heap.

Take a look at Arkansas. At the same time voters sent extreme right winger Tom Cotton to the Senate, they overwhelmingly approved an increase in the state’s minimum wage. Same thing happened in South Dakota and Alaska—despite the national GOP’s opposition to raising the federal wage.

Years of stagnant paychecks and too many dead-end Walmart jobs has Americans scared about their future—and angry at elected officials. This year they took it out on President Obama and Democrats.

Looking on to 2016, we need to make sure our endorsed candidates fight unapologetically for working families’ bread and butter concerns and keep the focus on what’s most important—good jobs, shared prosperity and a rebuilt path to the American dream.

Until then we’re going to keep the heat on politicians who think they have a green light to further attack our rights on the job, slash investment in jobs and education, and threaten vital programs like Social Security and Medicare. The 2014 election is over, but for working families the fight has just begun.

Lessons from the Golden State

The United States has a long way to go before renewable energy sources like solar and wind can realistically replace coal and other carbon-emitting energy sources.

But as we report in this issue, California is giving America a glimpse of how we can get there.

Nationwide, renewables make up less than 5 percent of the energy mix. In the Golden State, it’s 15 percent, with half of all the state’s solar capacity installed in the last year alone.

This has translated into new jobs for IBEW members—lots of them. San Diego Local 69 has added more than 1,000 new members to its rolls, thanks in large part to the explosion of renewable power projects, while Riverside Local 477 has nearly doubled its membership, with 60 percent of their work coming from solar.

This is a tribute to the skills and expertise of the IBEW, but more than anything, California’s booming green power industry shows how well thought out, bipartisan public policy can result in job growth, affordable energy and a balanced energy portfolio that reduces carbon emissions.

In 2022, the state passed an ambitious renewable energy portfolio standard requiring that 20 percent of the state’s power come from solar, wind, geothermal or hydropower by 2030.

The law was signed into effect by Democratic Gov. Gray Davis. His successor, Republican Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, not only upheld the law but helped expand on it, increasing the requirement to 33 percent. He said that renewable standards aren’t just good for the environment, they are good for business and jobs as well.

Look at the results. Thousands of new jobs and companies have sprung up, while solar prices continue to fall, benefiting consumers.

There is a big gap between both parties on Capitol Hill on a whole host of issues, but energy is one area lawmakers from both sides must find common ground.

We are critical of EPA regulations issued over the summer that would shutter more than 40 gigawatts of coal-generated power by 2020. Climate change is a real issue, but these rules would cost thousands of jobs and threaten grid reliability.

This could have been avoided if Congress had passed a balanced energy plan that invested in renewables and nuclear while setting up a more realistic timeline for the retirement of aged coal plants.

America’s energy future can’t be decided by regulatory boards or federal judges—we need public policy that balances the needs of the environment and the economy, which can only come from Capitol Hill.

Good jobs and affordable, clean power shouldn’t be a Democratic or Republican issue. California shows how it can be done—let’s hope the incoming Congress and President Obama will learn from its example.
I'm an electrician in Detroit and I work with women electricians all the time and have no problem with that. My problem is that whoever took the photo (See “Union Program Opens Up Opportunities for Women in the Trades,” October 2014) didn't tell the woman that her harness was on backwards and that whoever checked the story didn't catch it.

We have enough fights to keep our jobs. Don't give them more ammo.

Michael Olsonzewski, Local 58 member Detroit

[Editor's Note: We spoke with Safety Director David Mullen regarding Brother Olsonzewski’s concerns. “Some harnesses are manufactured specifically with a front ‘D’ ring,” he said. “The sister in question is wearing her harness correctly.”]

Grief and Gratitude

The following is a letter from the parents of Syniusce, N.Y., member Aaron Huggins, 31, who was killed following an assault after work hours. Huggins, a six-year member, left behind a wife and two-year-old son.

We cannot express enough how grateful we are for all the support and generosity bestowed by all of Aaron’s union brothers and sisters. As part of the American labor movement, we have been honored to celebrate our brother’s life and to remember him as a man who loved his family, respected his colleagues, and gave his all.

Local 25 member Richard Williams has dedicated much of his retirement to helping students develop their science and technology skills.

Long Island, N.Y., Local 25 member Richard Williams is a man who literally wears many hats. When the 71-year-old first steps in front of one of the many crowds of students he frequently addresses, he proudly dons his bright red ball cap with the words “U.S. Marine Veteran” emblazoned across the front.

“I always wear that hat,” said Williams, who served for six years in the early 1960s. “It’s to symbolize my support for our young people—people who are around the world putting themselves in harm’s way for us.”

Next, he puts on what he wore for the next 32 years—an electrician’s hard hat. “It protected me on the job—me and my hard head,” he laughs, eager to show students one of the tools of his lifelong trade.

Since he and his wife moved to Las Vegas in 2004, Williams—or “ Corporal Wil-lie”—has been a local champion of technology education for students young and old. Not only does he serve as an adjunct instructor for engineering courses at the Col-lege of Southern Nevada, but Williams has volunteered countless hours to help school children learn the basics of science, technology, engineering and math, or “STEM” as it’s known in the education world.

“That’s what I teach kids to be creative,” he says. “What I can teach in class is what the industry needs now. We can’t even fill up our engineering schools in this country. So that’s the whole name of the game—trying to get youngsters interested in technology.”

Local 25 member Richard Williams’ abiding philosophy is “scientia potentia est,” Latin for “knowledge is power.”

Who We Are

Williams also volunteers time to help girls and young women further their interests in technology. He has worked with area Girl Scouts councils to bring more science into their activities. Williams also spent a few years teaching at an engineer-ing summer camp for girls, sponsored by the local Society of Women Engineers group. The gap between men and women in technology-related careers remains sig-nificant, with women comprising less than 30 percent of the country’s science and engineering workforce, according to the National Science Foundation.

It’s clear to see where Williams got his drive for hard work. His ancestors migrated from Italy to New York in the ear-ly 1900s and took the kinds of nose-to- the-grindstone jobs that helped build the city. “Our fingerprints are on a lot of large bridge construction. The activities give students a jump start on understanding the why’s and hows of big mathemati-cal, mechanical and scientific facts. Living in North Palm Beach, Fla., partly to rehabilitate after his injury, he made the most of his imposed downtime, which allowed him the freedom to pursue burgeoning interests in science and technology. “I also missed working with all those fellow hardhats and apprentices,” he said. That was when the light bulb went off: help teach the next genera-tion the kinds of technology skills they’d need to succeed in school and find good-paying, middle-class jobs.

Williams got his bachelor’s in mechanical engineering from West Virginia University in 1985 and his master’s in nuclear engineering from the University of Florida in 1990. He started working in the trades at the age of 40 and was later part of a long list of graduates from the IBEW’s first program for nuclear engineers.

“Abilities come with knowledge. For those who never challenge themselves to use their brains or their backs, nothing will be gained. But if you sacrifice time to learn something to get paid for, you’re going to be good in the long run. I learned it, my brothers learned it, and my kids learned it. And guess what? We’re all doing well.”

To hear more from Williams and to watch him at work in his shop, visit bit.ly/CorporalWillie. The link is case-sensitive.
The songs of legendary songwriter, singer and composer Jimmy Webb, whose first commercial recording was performed by the Supremes in 1965, evoke everyday people and universal themes. In “Galveston,” a soldier in Vietnam cleans his gun wondering if he will live to come home. In “The Highwayman,” a construction worker digs in cement. But none of Webb’s songs resonate more powerfully with workers, especially IBEW members, than “Wichita Lineman,” recorded in October 1968.

Rolling Stone lists the song, originally sung by Glen Campbell and covered by artists as diverse as Johnny Cash and REM at No. 59 on the magazine’s list of the “500 Greatest Songs of All Time.”

In a 1997 article in the Dallas Observer, Webb says Glen Campbell had called him in 1968 and asked for another hit to follow Webb’s blockbuster “By the Time I Get to Phoenix.”

Webb had just returned to California from a trip to visit his family in Oklahoma. On a drive through the state’s panhandle near the Kansas border, he passed a seemingly endless line of telephone poles in the “shimmering mirage.”

“I was drivin’ along there, just blinkin’ and tryin’ to stay awake, and all of a sudden there was somebody on top of one of those telephone poles—out of thousands of telephone poles, there’s one that has a guy on it, and he had one of those little telephone hooks into the wires,” Webb said.

Webb says he didn’t know whether the lineman was “talkin’ or listenin’ or doin’” something else with this telephone. “But the seeming loneliness of the man on the pole fused with Webb’s own angst, leading to the now indelible line, “I hear you singin’ in the wire, I can hear you through the whine.”

Webb says he didn’t know whether the lineman’s song would hit the nail on the head about being away from my family working as a lineman,” says Tulsa, Okla., Local 1002 member David Crary, a lineman and musician who was quoted at length and sang the song on the BBC’s “Soul Music” radio show three years ago.

Crary has recorded his own song about linemen, which was played at one of my concerts. He said his father was a lineman who had just passed on. “I wish he had called me. I would have been there.”

Today, Glen Campbell, 78, is suffering from Alzheimer’s. Jimmy Webb, 68, who has produced music for Broadway, film and dozens of artists and a book on songwriting, is still performing.

While the song mixes the work of a telephone lineman talking on a phone with that of utility lineman “searching for overloads,” the tune nevertheless resonates with everyone who climbs poles for a living, says IBEW Utility Department International Representative Don Hartley, a Richmond, Va., Local 50 lineman.

“It’s the song for all linemen. How many jobs have their own song?”

The IBEW’s Interview with Jimmy Webb

EW: You have said that no one should assume that one’s job has anything to do with how deeply they understand or feel about their surroundings and life. Wichita Lineman exhibits that respect for average workers. Where did that respect come from?

JW: I came from a middle-class home. My father served in the Marines in the South Pacific during WWII before he became a Baptist minister. We worked on my grandpa’s farm in Oklahoma. We picked cotton and threw hay up on a trailer. I was plowing wheat the day I heard Glen Campbell’s recording of “Turn Around Look at Me” and found a sound I could identify with, an American life and a blue-collar voice.

Later, my friends included singer-songwriters like Warren Zevon and Harry Nilsson, guys who had pretty rough and interesting childhoods and came from real-life situations, not mansions and privileged educations.

Everyone should respect average workers. We shouldn’t turn into a country where only get excited about celebrity and wealth.

EW: Linemen like Tulsa, Okla., member David Crary, interviewed on BBC, say Wichita Lineman speaks profoundly to the loneliness of working away from their homes and families. The song has become an anthem for a profession. How do you feel about that?

JW: This ratifies my instincts about what was the right thing to write. I was inspired when I wrote the song. I was getting paid. I felt like I was being told to do this. So, it’s very meaningful to know that the guys feel good about the song. I feel honored when linemen say they like my song. That’s all I could hope for as a writer. A writer, a guy came up to me after a concert. He said his father was a lineman who had just passed on. Before he died, he said the last thing he wanted was for someone to play Wichita Lineman for him. I wish he had called me. I would have been there.

Being appreciated by folks in the electrical trade is similar to how I felt when a Vietnam Vet came up after one of my concerts and thanked me for my song. They were never recovered and are part of the dam. On my original acrylic disc of The Highwayman, I had a special sleeve with a huge shot of Hoover Dam. It was my way of paying tribute to the guys who fell in. Everything has a human component and an emotional component. I don’t know why, but I like songs like Gordon Lightfoot’s “The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald” (about a freighter carrying iron ore that sank on the Great Lakes). I am embarrassed by human beings at their best. We already see plenty of stories about human beings at their worst.

EW: As a vice president of the American Society of Composers, Authors, Publishers (ASCAP), you have been outspoken about the piracy of songs and writings. Your concerns are similar to those expressed by IBEW and our manufacturing partners about unfair competition from counterfeit electrical devices like circuit breakers. What should be done?

JW: A patent is the same as a copyright. The guy who worked to design his music is the same as a guy who designs a pump. If somebody else is getting paid, I want to get paid. If Google is getting paid for music being distributed on illegal sites, I want a seat at the table. They are an industry that has a very cavalier attitude toward “what belongs to you” and “what belongs to me.” Business and money should not be allowed to change the fundamentals of democracy. If a man gives an honest day’s work, he should be paid for it.

EW: Thanks for taking the time to talk.

JW: It’s my pleasure and my honor.

Tulsa, Okla., Lineman David Crary says ‘Wichita Lineman’ reminds him to work safely.