

THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

FIRST PUBLISHED IN 1893

CONSTRUCTION • UTILITIES • TELECOMMUNICATIONS • MANUFACTURING • GOVERNMENT • BROADCASTING • RAILROAD

Printed in the USA

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Vol. 10 | No. 8 | August 2016

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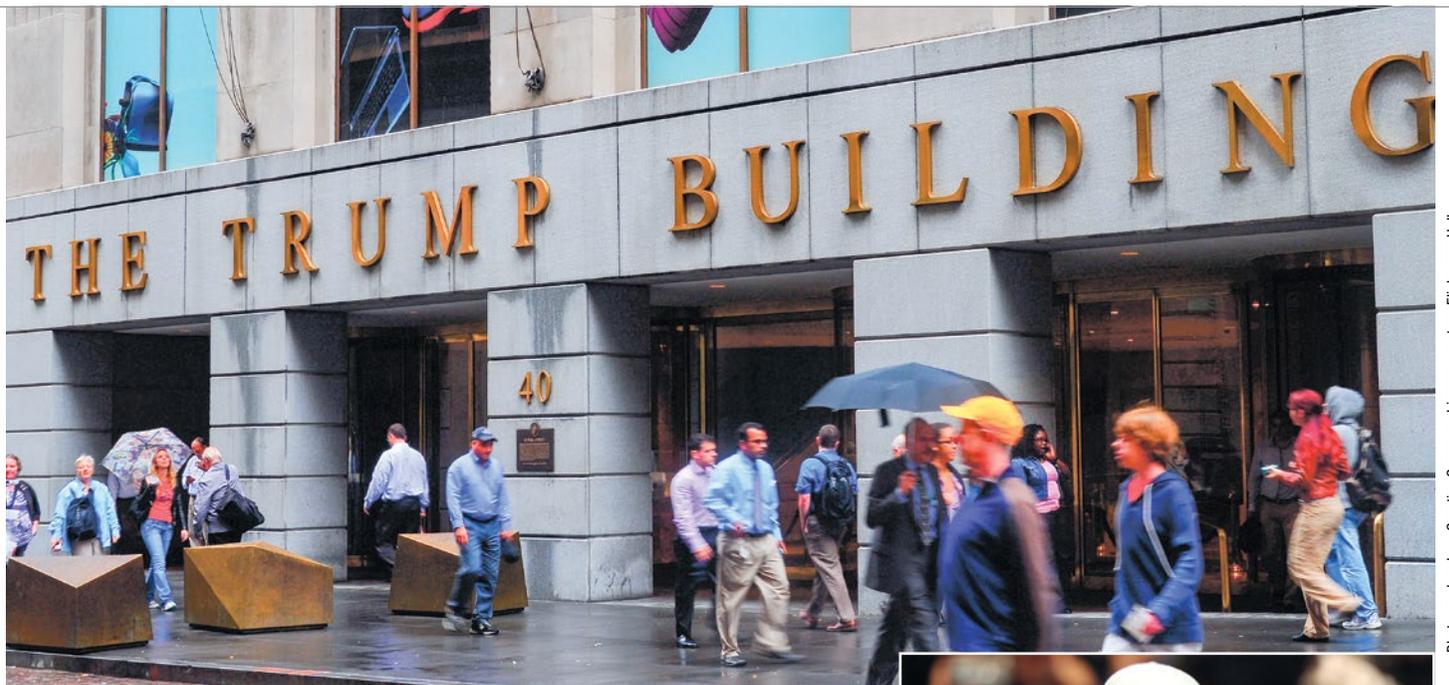
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Many of Trump's developments were built in New York City and New Jersey using IBEW contractors, but most in the rest of the U.S. and Canada were built nonunion.

Does Trump Build Union? AN IBEW INVESTIGATION

EDITOR'S NOTE: To assure members of the accuracy of the information included in this article, it contains endnotes. The rest of the information and quotes are from our interviews with IBEW leaders.

At the height of the real estate boom in 2005, Donald Trump announced a colossus would rise in central New Orleans. The 70-story Trump Tower would be the tallest building on the Gulf Coast outside of Houston and the highest point in the state of Louisiana.

The development ultimately failed. But before it did, New York City Local 3 Business Manager Chris Erikson hosted a meeting in Donald Trump's office to talk about the job. In Manhattan, Trump's home and the site of many of his developments, the building trades are strong and nearly every steel

beam and electrical wire was put in place by union hands.

Former Local 3 business representative Austin McCann — who was the shop steward on the original Trump Tower — arranged the meeting with Trump, not for Erikson, but for New Orleans Local 130 Business Manager Robert "Tiger" Hammond.

"We were pitching Trump on using the same union in New Orleans that he has been using for decades in New York City," Hammond said. "I went with good intentions and thought we had an honest chance."

Trump, Erikson, McCann and Hammond met in the executive suite of the Trump Tower on Fifth Avenue, and Hammond made his pitch. Local 130 did all the work on Harrah's \$1.6 billion casino on the waterfront and does every electrical job in the city over \$1 million. He had a stack of letters from customers saying Local 130 did its work on time and on budget. Would Trump consider a project labor agreement?

Trump's response: Why me?

"He said 'There are 10 projects on that block. Why do I have to be union? Why are you picking on me?'" Hammond said.

Trump, Hammond said, thought unions only did 10 percent of jobs in New Orleans.

"I told him that was a myth and a fallacy and I asked him to talk to our customers," Hammond said.



"Then Trump says it isn't his job, it is his son's and he turns to Erikson and said, 'You know I work union.'"

"It looks like you work union when you have to, but when you don't, you don't," Erikson said.

Trump's son, Donald Jr., was called into the meeting and said he would ask the general contractor to look into it. The meeting was over.

"I am glad Chris said what he did — what I was thinking and couldn't say," Hammond said. "We expected more. He pawned me off on his son and we left with a bad feeling."

Trump reportedly took 175 condominium deposits¹ on the property before Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and the real estate collapse and recession of 2008. In 2011 — six years after the meeting in Trump Tower — the lot was foreclosed on and sold to a parking lot company.

Hammond never heard back from Trump, his son or the general contractor in charge.

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Does Trump Build Union? AN IBEW INVESTIGATION

Why are You Picking on Me?

Donald Trump developed, owns, or licenses his name to at least 45 buildings in the U.S. and Canada in the jurisdictions of 17 IBEW local unions.

A review of the Republican presidential nominee's projects reveals that he hires union when project labor agreements or dominant market share force him to. But more than 60 percent of his projects developed outside New York City and Atlantic City — which includes most of his recent projects — were built non-union. When you exclude developments with project labor agreements, that jumps to nearly 80 percent built nonunion.

According to thousands of lawsuits filed against him and his companies, when union contractors were hired, Trump developed a reputation for ducking the bill on some, delaying payment on others and shorting workers on overtime and even minimum wage.²

The lawsuits included 60 for not paying his bills, 24 violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act³ and four corporate bankruptcies that left hundreds of contractors with dimes, nickels, even pennies on the dollar. He has been sued for hiring undocumented workers, presided over thousands of layoffs and acquired tens of millions of dollars in personal wealth while companies he owned failed.⁴ At least five of the companies he has owned have terminated health insurance for employees, ended retiree health insurance, canceled their pension plans or some combination of all three.⁵

Like all politicians, Trump has made statements, issued campaign promises and taken positions on policies. Trump has also been clear about his support for policies that have historically led to weaker unions.

He told the South Carolina Radio Network, for example, that he is “100 percent for right-to-work”⁶ and in December he said right-to-work states have an “advantage” because “you have the lower wage.”⁷

But Trump is the first major party candidate for president of the United States whose business is also the IBEW's business: construction.

Trump and his companies own dozens of developments in 11 states and two provinces that tell their own story about his position toward labor, small business and working people. It begins in New York City.

New York City

New York Local 3 and Donald Trump go way back. More Trump owned and developed buildings are in Local 3's jurisdiction than anywhere else. All 18 — from the massive Trump Place on Riverside Drive to the modest Trump Park Residences, a senior-living development in Yorktown, N.Y. — were built with IBEW members.

“There is a relationship that goes back to [former Local 3 Business Man-

ager] Harry Van Arsdale and Trump's father,” said Erikson, who is also chairman of the International Executive Council. “But it was not such a great relationship.”

Most of the work done on Trump owned or developed sites was done by members of the Building & Construction Trades Council of Greater New York. Most, but not all.

Trump Tower, where he announced his presidential campaign, was built on a site cleared by undocumented immigrant laborers from Poland.⁸

The tower was built on the site of Bonwit Teller, a landmark stone fortress that for decades was filled with fur coats, French dresses and fine jewelry. But in 1980, a platoon of 200 undocumented immigrants from Poland worked round the clock, seven days a week tearing it down in preparation for the black glass and marble tower to rise. Three years later, a member of the Demolition Workers Local 95 sued Trump for trying to avoid paying union wages and benefits.

After an eight-year trial, the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York wrote, “No records were kept, no Social Security or other taxes were withheld, and they were not paid in accordance with wage laws. They were told they would be paid \$4.00 or in some cases \$5.00 an hour for working 12-hour shifts seven days a week. In fact they were paid irregularly and incompletely, sometimes with [the subcontractor's] personal checks, which were returned by the bank for insufficient funds.”⁹

One of the workers told the New York Times they often worked in “choking clouds of asbestos dust without protective equipment.”¹⁰

Under oath, Trump denied that he ever visited the construction site and said he had no idea what was going on. It was a claim contradicted by sworn testimony and the court found that Trump's account was not credible.¹¹

Trump, the court wrote, “knew the Polish workers were working ‘off the books,’ that they were doing demolition work, that they were nonunion, that they were paid substandard wages with no overtime pay, and that they were paid irregularly if at all.”

Trump litigated the case for eight more years,¹² turning it into one of the longest in the court's history,¹³ ultimately settling with the workers 19 years after they had finished work.

In a Republican primary debate last February, Trump said it was “something from 30 years ago, it worked out very well. Everybody was happy.”¹⁴



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Two hundred undocumented Polish workers tore down historic New York department store Bonwit Teller in the 1980s, the home of Trump Tower. Trump fought their lawsuit seeking unpaid wages in court for nearly 20 years.



Photo used under a Creative Commons License courtesy Flickr user Brad_T

‘The Money I Took out of There was Incredible’

After New York City, Trump is most closely associated with the three casinos he built in Atlantic City. In 1976, New Jersey voters passed a referendum approving casino gambling for Atlantic City. Six years later, Trump broke ground on the Trump Plaza and Casino.

The construction business in Atlantic City was dominated, like in New York, by the building trades, and all of Trump's hotels and casinos were built using union contractors, said Folsom, N.J., Local 351 Business Manager Dan Cosner.

The Plaza was quickly followed by the openings of the Trump's Castle in 1985 (later renamed Trump Marina) and the Trump Taj Mahal in 1990. At 42 stories and more than \$1 billion, the Taj was the tallest building in New Jersey and one of the largest construction projects in the state's history.

“Every wire was our work, and there was a lot of work,” Cosner said.

The glory days were short for Trump in Atlantic City, and when Cosner recently spoke to contractors about working with Trump, they didn't think the glory days were really that great.

“They didn't have much good to say,” Cosner said. “He has a bad name.”

Trump got a reputation, Cosner said, for failing to pay his bills on time, and some cases, at all.

“It isn't enough to ask if unions got Trump's work,” Cosner said. “You also have to ask if they got paid.”

Cosner said nearly every contractor he spoke to called Trump a “slow pay.” Full payment only came “after a long process.”

“We controlled the city, so he built union, but he stiffed a lot of contractors and didn't pay others what they were due,” Cosner said. “And that is not usual. We don't run into that here.”

One contractor in particular, Cosner

said, had a story. Resorts International began construction on the Taj Mahal in 1983, but the company founder died three years later before the project was complete. Trump bought a controlling interest in Resorts International in 1987, renamed it Trump Resorts International and called in Taj Mahal contractors to sign new contracts with him.¹⁵

“Our guy had \$5 million in material — switchgear, lighting, all for the Taj — already in the warehouse,” Cosner said. “He said no to Trump. ‘I know your reputation. I already bid this job and if you don't like it, you can buy all this stuff again somewhere else.’”

Trump let the contract stand.

“That guy got paid, and our electrical contractors got paid but lots of others got stuck,” Cosner said.

The Taj Mahal filed for bankruptcy only a year after it opened.¹⁶ In 1993, Trump Plaza and Trump Marina filed for bankruptcy.¹⁷ The Trump World's Fair and



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All of Trump's Atlantic City, N.J., casinos, including Trump Plaza, were built with union contractors, but hundreds of small contractors 'got stiffed' when the Plaza, the Taj Mahal and Trump Castle went bankrupt, said Folsom Local 351 Business Manager Dan Cosner.

Trump's golf course and resort in Rancho Palos Verde outside Los Angeles was built nonunion. Trump's casino in Las Vegas, at left, is fighting a first contract for union service workers.

Casino closed in 1999 and was demolished the next year. In 2004, Trump Hotels & Casino Resorts' three casinos in Atlantic City and a riverboat casino in Gary, Indiana, stood at the bottom of \$1.8 billion in debt.¹⁸ It filed for bankruptcy,¹⁹ Trump lost his title as CEO as well as majority control. Five years later, Trump left Trump Entertainment Resorts for good²⁰ as the company stumbled into a third bankruptcy with \$50 million in assets and \$500 million in debt.²¹

In each of the bankruptcies, unpaid contractors were sent to the back of the line for repayment, according to USA Today.²²

The New Jersey Casino Commission reported 253 Taj Mahal contractors were not paid in full or on time. USA Today found 60 lawsuits against Trump for not paying his bills on time, including by a dishwasher in Florida, a New Jersey glass company, a carpet supplier, plumber, painters, 48 waiters, dozens of bartenders, a real estate broker, and, ironically, lawyers who represented Trump in lawsuits for non-payment sued for non-payment as well. Over 200 mechanic's liens have been filed against Trump properties for nonpayment since the 1980s.

Former Trump Plaza president Jack O'Connell told the Wall Street Journal this was not an occasional oversight.

"Part of how he did business as a philosophy was to negotiate the best price he could. And then when it came time to pay the bills," O'Connell said, Trump would say that "I'm going to pay you, but I'm going to pay you 75 percent of what we agreed to."²³

It was known as the "Trump discount," according to the Economist Magazine.²⁴

The 'Trump discount' only mattered for those who were paid. Hundreds of other contractors saw their contracts torn up in bankruptcy court.

For example, it took three years for

Trump's companies to settle up with Pennsylvania-based Triad Building Specialties after the Taj Mahal went into bankruptcy and then, the business only received 30 cents on the dollar.²⁵

Reuters reported that low-level investors, contractors, and small-time vendors were paid one penny on the dollar as Trump Resorts International went bankrupt in 2009.²⁶

When asked about it during a Republican primary debate last August, Trump said, "Let me tell you about the lenders. First of all, these lenders aren't babies. They're total killers. These are not the nice sweet little people that you think. OK? You're living in the world of the make believe."²⁷

"He put a number of local contractors and suppliers out of business when he didn't pay them," Steven P. Perskie, New Jersey's top casino regulator in the early 1990s, told the New York Times. "So when he left Atlantic City, it wasn't, 'Sorry to see you go.' It was, 'How fast can you get the hell out of here?'"²⁸

In that same time period, The New York Times reported Trump took \$160 million out of Atlantic City, often from refinancing he undertook in bankruptcy, paying off his personal debts and buying property in Manhattan. Trump left the casinos with the additional corporate debt, setting the stage for the next bankruptcy.²⁹

In an interview with Forbes Magazine, Trump said, "Basically I've used the laws of the country to my advantage and to other people's advantage just as [1980s corporate raiders] Leon Black has, Carl Icahn,

out before its demise? Timing."³¹

That same month, August 2014, the Associated Press reported that 6,000 former casino workers filed for unemployment in Atlantic City. More than 8,000 people lost their jobs that year.

Union Workers: Only When You Have to

Atlantic City was a union dense city where Trump developments used IBEW electricians. This was not an anomaly.

A building partly owned by Trump in San Francisco, 555 California St., has a maintenance contract with Local 6.

A project labor agreement was in

place for the Trump International Hotel and Tower in Chicago and NECA signatory contractors had the job, said Local 134 Recording Secretary Frank Cunningham. Trades other than the IBEW had issues on the project that resulted in a lawsuit.

The Trump International Hotel Las Vegas was a joint project between Trump and Ruffin Entertainment. Las Vegas Local 357 Business Manager Al Davis said the job, like the vast majority of projects on the Strip, was done by IBEW members.

(Trump is, however, currently stonewalling unionized casino and culinary employees looking for their first contract.)

The Old Post Office building on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C., is being renovated with the participation of members of Local 26, but in June, the Department of Labor announced an investigation after it was alleged that some workers on the project were being paid less than federal law requires³² and the Washington Post found multiple undocumented workers at the site of the \$200 million project.³³

Many of the buildings bearing Trump's name were developed by other companies that licensed it in the hopes of boosting the ultimate sales price of the condominiums or hotel. Some of those buildings were also built with union contractors.

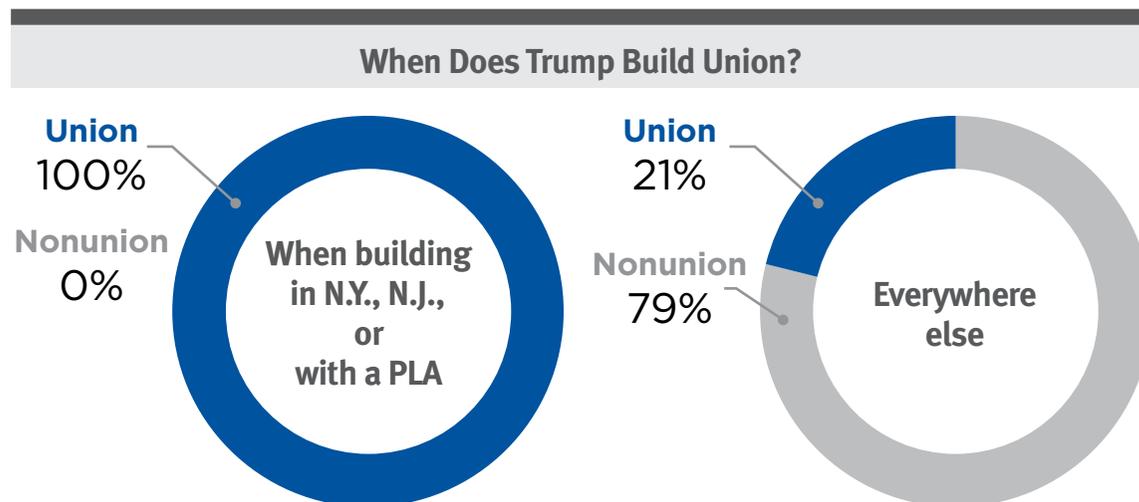
Trump Plaza Residences in Jersey City had a PLA because it received a tax abatement from the state. It was built entirely by members of the building trades, including electricians from Local 164.

"It was really good for us," said Business Manager Dan Gumble. "Trump had nothing to do with it, but it was a good project."

The Trump International Hotel in Waikiki had a PLA because one of the main investors was Ullico, a union-run investment company that required the work be done union. But while signatory contractors for Honolulu Local 1186, built it, the hotel itself is nonunion and Local 1186 does not have a maintenance contract.

In all, 26 of Trump's 45 buildings, were done with IBEW members, 18 by Local 3 (see infographic).

TRUMP continued on page 4



During his campaign, Trump repeatedly supported policies that would make the country look like the places he chose nonunion.

Continued from page 3

Does Trump Build Union? AN IBEW INVESTIGATION

Nonunion Preferred (Unless it is His Own House)

However, most of Trump's recent projects have been in southern strongholds that are historically antiunion and right-to-work.

Where the laws are different, Trump's choices have also often been different.

For every union-built development outside of New York and Atlantic City, Trump built nearly two nonunion, and if there is no PLA, Trump has hired union workers once for every four projects that go nonunion.

In Florida, for example, where Trump developed, or licensed his name to eight projects, only one used IBEW signatory contractors: his palatial home and private club at Mar-a-Lago in Palm Beach. Trump renovated Mar-a-Lago in 1986 soon after he bought it, and Local 728 has had the maintenance contract ever since.

"For everything he sold to other people, he went nonunion. But for his house, he went with us," said Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., Local 728 Business Manager Dan Svetlick.

Svetlick said Trump isn't the first Florida billionaire developer that uses nonunion everywhere but at home. Business tycoon Wayne Huizenga built three stadiums in the state when he owned the Miami Dolphins, Florida Marlins and Florida Panthers. All three jobs were nonunion, but IBEW electricians have worked on all his houses, and the houses of his children, Svetlick said.

"They want that to last," he said.

Further south in Miami, Trump has three projects. All nonunion, according to Local 349 Business Manager Bill Riley.

The same is true for Trump's golf course in Charlotte, North Carolina. Local 379 signatory contractors have had no work. And for his two properties in Virginia.

Even on the pro-union West Coast, more often than not, Trump projects are nonunion.



Five Trump developments outside N.Y. and N.J., including the Old Post Office in Washington D.C., were subject to project labor agreement and went union. The labor department recently launched an investigation into the post office project for wage law violations.

The Estates at Trump National Golf Club in Rancho Palos Verdes outside of Los Angeles was built nonunion.

"He works union when he has to, but when he doesn't, he doesn't."

— New York City Local 3 Business Manager Chris Erikson

"Not a bit of the work was built union and the unqualified workers that built the golf course went way over budget," said Local 11 President Richard Reed.

The Trump International Hotel in Vancouver, another licensed property, was also built nonunion.

In total, outside of New York City

and Atlantic City, nearly 65 percent of all Trump's holdings were built nonunion.

Which World Does He Want?

This is how Trump has responded as a businessman to the situations where he has built. Now, as the GOP nominee for president, he is making it clear how he would lead on issues important to unions.

"I can live with unions in certain locations," Trump told the South Carolina Radio Network, "My position on unions is fine, but I like right-to-work. My position on right-to-work is 100 percent."³⁴

In Las Vegas, after hotel workers voted to join the Culinary Workers Union and Bartenders Union, the company



A rendering of the Trump International Hotel and Tower in Vancouver, above. It is being built by nonunion electrical contractors.

refused to recognize the union and demanded a federal labor board throw out the vote. Trump then hired Lupe Cruz and Associates, a union-busting consulting firm that boasts of its ability to preserve "a union-free workplace."³⁵

His companies have applied for immigrant work visas more than 1,100 times since 2000, according to Reuters, for low-skill jobs like waitresses, cooks, vineyard workers and models.³⁶

When asked by Mika Brzezinski on MSNBC's Morning Joe how he would

make America more competitive Trump said, "We can't have a situation where our labor is so much more expensive than other countries that we can no longer compete. One of the things I'll do if I win, I'll make us competitive as a country."³⁷

"This is not complicated," said Miami Local 349 Business Manager Bill Riley. "Trump supports policies that are most common in those places where unions are weak, and where unions are weak, he hires nonunion. Except for his own house." ■

Endnotes

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The Diablo Canyon nuclear plant sits on a cliff overlooking the Pacific Ocean. In 2025, it is slated to close, leaving the state without nuclear power for the first time since 1957. Photo used under a Creative Commons license from Flickr user bikracer.

Nuclear Power On Path to Extinction in California

California's last nuclear plant will close in 2025, taking with it 600 IBEW jobs and robbing the state of its only source of zero-emission baseload power.

The announcement came June 21 from the Diablo Canyon nuclear plant's owner, Pacific Gas & Electric Co., who reached an agreement with Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245 and environmental stakeholders that provides nearly 10 years of lead time to prepare for the closure along with generous retention and severance programs for employees.

"We're obviously very disappointed with this outcome," said IBEW Utility Department Director Jim Hunter. Diablo Canyon is the latest in a series of recent nuclear plant closure announcements around the U.S. "We've got real concerns about the stability of the American power grid, and we continue to argue that shutting down clean, reliable baseload power sources is a wrong-headed approach."

Despite that, said Local 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell, Diablo Canyon's future faced some significant regulatory hurdles, and negotiations leading up to PG&E's announcement secured the best deal the plant's employees could have hoped for.

At issue was a planned environmental impact study exploring the effects of the plant's cooling water intake and output on local marine life in nearby tidelands. Environmentalists were gearing up for a fight that could have closed the plant when its land lease was up in 2018, but the new agreement likely puts that issue to rest.

While it still requires approval from California's Public Utility Commission, the plan to close Diablo Canyon Unit 1 in 2024 and Unit 2 in 2025, adds at least six years of life to the plant and gives PG&E and the state time to develop alternate clean energy

plans to replace the generation capacity that accounts for 6 percent of California's current output.

When the zero-emission San Onofre nuclear plant in Southern California closed in 2013, it was partially replaced by cheaper natural gas, which added carbon dioxide to the atmosphere. The plan to close Diablo Canyon involves investments in energy efficiency, solar, wind and storage to avoid a similar fate.

"This really was the best outcome from a terrible situation," Dalzell said, noting the seven year retention agreement will keep his local's members employed and well-paid for years to come. "Combined with the severance package and the potential for decommissioning work after the closure, the impact of this shouldn't be felt for a long time."

Still, the closure of California's last nuclear plant is yet another knock on an industry that has been on the decline in recent years. When 2025 comes, Diablo Canyon's two reactors will be the 13th

and 14th nuclear reactors to close since 2013. In that same period, only a handful of new reactors will have come online, including Watts Barr Unit 2 in Tennessee, which became the first new nuclear reactor in the U.S. in two decades when it opened in June. Only two more plants, one in Georgia and one in South Carolina, are slated to open in that same timeframe.

"It's a trend that really worries us," Hunter said. "Not only are our members losing these jobs, but there's a lot of uncertainty out there with oil and natural gas prices and the ability to generate the kind of baseload power the grid requires to function properly. Solar and wind can supplement that, but they're not a one-for-one replacement. Once these nuclear plants are gone, you can't just set up another one whenever you need it." ■

"Once these nuclear plants are gone, you can't just set up another one whenever you need it."

— IBEW Utility Department Director Jim Hunter

IBEW MEDIA WORLD

In addition to your monthly issue of The Electrical Worker, check out the wealth of IBEW-related information in cyberspace.

www.ibew.org

Visit the IBEW website for great news and stories on our members — and read the online version of the Electrical Worker!

And read *The Electrical Worker* online!

YouTube

It's not every day that an IBEW apprenticeship program is on TV, but Washington, D.C., Local 26 appeared on The Discovery Channel's "Innovations" show, highlighting its virtual reality technology. Watch our video here: bit.ly/IBEWInnovations

Vimeo

Solidarity. Inspiration. Together we can do



anything. Those were just a few of the takeaways from this year's IBEW women's conference. For more on our sisters in the Brotherhood, go to: bit.ly/IBEWWomensConference

HourPower

Oklahoma City Local 1141 members gave their time and expertise to help keep the lights on at the Apache Historic Museum, the oldest building in town. Watch it on [Hour Power](#)



ElectricTV

The NECA/IBEW team were involved with a project to light up the Irvine Spectrum Center's giant Ferris wheel in southern California with a new LED display. Watch it on ElectricTV.net



Las Vegas Local Aims for 'Gold Standard' Partnership with Utility

Jesse Newman believes the Code of Excellence is a win-win situation for both IBEW members and employers.

But the Las Vegas Local 396 business manager happily admits he didn't have to do any convincing when it came to NV Energy and Paul Caudill, its president and chief operating officer.

"He said many times, 'I value this relationship,'" Newman said. "We have to work together."

Local 396 and NV Energy, which provides electrical power to most of Nevada, adopted a Commitment to Excellence proclamation earlier this year to "project a positive attitude about who we are and the work we perform, on or off the job, while maintaining a relationship of respect and accountability."

"If someone from the outside looked at this, they would say, 'Holy cow, that's some dedication,'" said Local 396 President Shannon Skinner, a lead journeyman lineman for NV Energy.

The company also agreed to use IBEW members for all future contracted work, Ninth District Vice President John O'Rourke said. That likely means more work for Local 357, a construction local in Las Vegas.

"This is huge," O'Rourke said. "They see the value of the IBEW's professionalism, our expertise and the quality of our training. They know we're going to get the work done on time and on budget."

The proclamation sets standards for Local 396 members working at NV Energy and for company managers in the areas of customer service, commitment and excellence on the job, along with environmental, regulatory and financial matters. Workers are now wearing hard hats with stickers commemorating the partnership. Stickers also are affixed to NV Energy service trucks.

"NV Energy sees it as part of their



Las Vegas Local 396 President Shannon Skinner, left, stands in front of an NV Energy service truck with Business Manager Jesse Newman and company President Paul Caudill, top.

At right, NV Energy Vice President Frank Gonzalez looks on while Las Vegas Local 396 members J.R. Bailey, left, and Marc Orr affix a Commitment of Excellence sticker to one of the company's trucks.



business model," Newman said. "Why fight with the union when we can work with them on the challenges we face?"

Added Skinner: "This company recognizes what the IBEW is about. They like our core values, they like our standards and they like our work ethic."

Caudill said, "We all want to create a work environment that we can be

proud of and allows all of my colleagues to feel good about working for the power company."

"Local 396 leadership, including Jesse Newman and Shannon Skinner, should get most of the credit for creating this opportunity to continue this collaboration," he added. "The Commitment to Excellence will result in continued positive efforts in the community and being able to best serve our customers. This is not the end — but just another step along the way. We can only get better together."

The Code of Excellence was rolled out on a national level in the construction branch in 2007 and it's received positive reviews from members and signatory contractors ever since.

It has spread to other sectors in recent years. The agreement between Local 396 and NV Energy covers about 610 utility sector workers. It will be called the Commitment of Excellence as requested by NV Energy officials, who believe it better signifies the depth of the relationship.

"This is wonderful news not just for our members in Nevada, but throughout the country," International President Lonnie R. Stephenson said. "The Code of Excellence is a reminder the IBEW has the

best workforce anywhere and we back that up. To see an industry leader like NV Energy wholeheartedly embrace it is extremely gratifying and we hope convinces other utility companies to take a closer look at it."

NV Energy is known to most customers around Las Vegas as Nevada Power, the name of its subsidiary in the southern part of the state. The company was purchased in 2013 by Berkshire Hathaway, the multinational conglomerate made famous by Chairman Warren Buffett.

Local 396 had a difficult time developing a relationship with company management before that, said Ninth District International Representative Charlie Randall, Newman's predecessor as business manager.

"It's funny," Newman said. "When Berkshire took over, we were pretty nervous. Obviously with Paul, it's been a positive thing for us."

Caudill was hired in 2014. He took an interest in the Code of Excellence after hearing about an agreement the IBEW reached with Florida Power & Light to institute the code there, Newman said. Caudill also has visited Alabama Power, where the IBEW has had a particularly strong relationship with management for the last several years.

"He told us, 'I want to be the gold standard,'" Randall said.

Skinner has worked for the company for 22 years and has been part of the Local 396 contract negotiating team several times. She's noticed a change for the better during the last two years.

"I think it's mutual respect," she said. "We work together and we have a common goal, to serve our customers here in Nevada in a safe and productive manner. We're professionals, they're professionals. When we work together, it just doesn't get any better."

Last December, Randall and Tracy Prezeau, an international representative from the Education Department based in the Ninth District, led training sessions for both IBEW members and NV Energy management.

Prezeau said an executive from NV Energy asked about steward training conducted by the IBEW. She inquired about instituting some of those techniques into NV Energy's training for its managers.

"In my seven years of doing this, I've never heard an employer suggest that's something they would even consider," she said. "I was amazed and I told them that."

Newman said the agreement makes it easier for both sides to work together on important legislative issues, particularly ways to deal with the solar industry and the role public utilities might play in it.

"The most important work we're doing together removes barriers to more effective communication and teamwork, which is helping us in a time of unprecedented change in the energy markets, including competition for our services," Caudill said. ■

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Stilsing Electric joins the IBEW as a signatory contractor, bringing 45 new members to the Brotherhood.

New York Locals Win a New Signatory Contractor After 10-Year Effort

Good salary. Nice benefits. A decent boss. What more can you ask for in a job?

That was the challenge faced by IBEW organizer Frank Muia in 2005 when trying to convince 45 electricians at Stilsing Electric in Rensselaer, N.Y., to join Local 236.

Stilsing had earned a reputation as a solid contractor with a skilled workforce and a niche in municipal and transportation projects as well as traffic signal work. Its jurisdiction includes much of upstate New York: northern, central and eastern parts, as well as the Hudson Valley. The name “Stilsing” is known; the business dates back to the 1950s when owner Kathy Stilsing’s father-in-law founded it.

“Stilsing is a very good company,” said George Gipp, a journeyman wireman and employee. “They always take care of us.”

“When we first met, Frank would explain what the union had to offer, but I wasn’t buying it,” Stilsing said. “I needed to see that the union would not only provide me with quality labor but also support me as a contractor. And I needed our employees to feel comfortable taking the plunge with me.”

So Muia kept the conversation going.

“Whenever she had a question we’d answer it,” said Business Manager Mark Lawrence of Syracuse, N.Y., Local 1249, one of the three locals involved, along with New City, N.Y., Local 363.

“But she needed to make sure her employees were on board. She’s very devoted to them.”

“It’s the best job I’ve ever had,” said Jim Eitleman, a groundman and foreman who has been with the company for four

years. “It’s the beginning of a career for me.”

“Because of how Stilsing was doing business, already offering benefits and fostering loyalty, it didn’t make sense for this to be a bottom-up campaign,” said Third District International Representative Keenan Eagen. “This was going to be a top-down effort.”

The demands of the construction market in upstate New York also played a role. Stilsing wasn’t able to bid on larger projects because she didn’t have enough electricians.

“I saw where the labor market was heading,” Stilsing said. “If we wanted to stay on course with our current workload, I would have to make a change.”

When you’re nonunion, your workforce is the people on your payroll. With IBEW, you have a hiring hall of experienced wiremen.

“As a foreman for the company, I understand the stress of trying to make deadlines with a minimum of employees,” Gipp said. “And times get tight in the summer. With IBEW, we get as much help as we need.”

Eventually, there weren’t any more concerns. But Stilsing still needed to make sure everyone was with her. So Muia and staff from Locals 236 and 1249 put together a presentation. They would get pensions and each person was able to see their estimated retirement benefits based on their age. It was a personal touch that worked.

“As a younger guy, the pension looks great,” Eitleman said. “It’s phenomenal really. My dad works there too, and even his is good.”

Another factor that helped Stilsing was a long-time friend and fellow contractor, George Schupp, whose father and

Stilsing’s father-in-law started out in business around the same time. The families have always been close. Schupp joined IBEW as a signatory in 2014.

“We’ve had a great experience with the union,” Schupp said. “IBEW sends out the right people for the job. I can’t say enough about the training. And it’s given me more business.”

Schupp even attended the swearing-in ceremony for the Stilsing employees. He was joined by Local 236 Business Manager Mark A. Lajeunesse, Local 1249 Business Manager Mark Lawrence and International Vice President Don Siegel, who performed the swearing in for the new members. Of the 45, 20 joined Local 236 and 25 joined Local 1249.

“This win was a long time coming and it’s the product of a concerted effort by a lot of talented and committed people,” Siegel said. “And it will benefit everyone involved, the members, the IBEW and Stilsing Electric.”

“It was really a team effort,” Lajeunesse said. “It was a long process, but it paid off.”

“This campaign shows how organizing is a marathon, not a sprint. And you don’t stop running until you win,” said Local 363 Business Manager Samuel Fratto III. “This is also a good example of local unions working together for a common goal, and we all benefitted from that cooperation.”

In fact, it’s already started to pay off. Stilsing has put in calls for about seven journeymen and one apprentice so far, for projects at a wastewater treatment plant, a prison and Stratton Air National Guard Base.

“We all decided that this was the best move for the company, and so far it’s been a good one,” Eitleman said. ■

Yes, the Bureaucracy Matters to You. Here’s Why.

Elections matter. That’s the lesson from a string of labor-friendly decisions in the courts and at the National Labor Relations Board, and the timing, five months before an election, couldn’t be more important.

A May 31 NLRB decision limiting the use of permanent replacement workers during strikes was celebrated by the labor community just as two important board rules were upheld in the courts.

Those decisions, which affirmed the NLRB’s 2014 expedited union election procedures and upheld a 2011 directive that can require employers to reimburse unions for bargaining costs, were a reminder of the importance of political and judicial appointments in the lead-up to November’s elections.

“It can get lost in the chaos of a presidential election,” said International President Lonnie R. Stephenson, “but the people who are appointed to these important positions have a massive effect on the lives of working families, and the elected leaders who appoint them are just as critical.”

Presidents have the responsibility to make thousands of these appointments and through them, the ability to affect federal policy with a direct impact on labor and a host of other rules and regulations.

The NLRB, for example, is comprised of five members, nominated for five-year terms by the president and confirmed by the Senate. At present, the board has three Democrats, one Republican and a vacant seat, which helps to explain the recent pro-labor decisions.

The most recent involved a continuing care facility in California, where the NLRB protected striking workers from being displaced by permanent replacements. American Baptist Homes of the West sought to “teach the strikers and the union a lesson,” according to board evidence.

This victory will provide another layer of protection for future strikers, and allow working people to fight for greater concessions at the bargaining table.

The courts are no less important, and can be even more critical to the issues working men and women face every day. Earlier this year, the Supreme Court deadlocked on the Friedrichs v. CTA case, and the jurist appointed to the court’s open seat could determine whether every public sector shop in the country effectively becomes right-to-work.

On June 10, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals handed down another victory for working families. A business group challenged an NLRB ruling that significantly sped up the union election process, and the court rejected its claim.

The same day, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit upheld another NLRB ruling which held employers who negotiate in bad faith responsible for reimbursing union negotiating costs.

The Bush administration’s NLRB appointees heavily favored business interests over working families, and a Republican-dominated Congress for years made Obama’s job of filling the NLRB nearly impossible, and Republicans in the Senate effectively silenced the body by leaving it short of the members required to make decisions.

The courts have faced a similar struggle, from the Courts of Appeals all the way to the Supreme Court. The nomination of a labor-friendly Supreme Court justice to replace Antonin Scalia, who died in February, could influence labor law for decades to come.

“Judicial and NLRB appointments have a massive effect on working people’s lives,” Stephenson said, “and our president, our senators and our representatives are just the tip of the iceberg. They appoint and confirm an extensive framework of judges, board members, and committees that can protect working families.” ■



From the NLRB to the Supreme Court, executive appointments will affect the lives of working families for years to come.

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NORTH OF 49° | AU NORD DU 49° PARALLÈLE

B.C. Local Wins Contract on Province's Largest Hydro Dam Project

The Site C dam is one of the biggest energy infrastructure projects in Canada. When it's completed, it will be able to generate approximately 5,100 gigawatt hours of electricity each year and power more than 400,000 homes. And Kamloops, B.C., Local 993 is set to begin work on it.

"It's a great opportunity for our members," said International Representative Laird Cronk. "This project is going to supply us with clean energy for the next 100 years."

Site C, a \$9 billion project, is the third and last of several dams designed more than 50 years ago to harness the Peace River, reported *mrtimes.com*, a provincial publication. Site C will use water already stored behind Bennet Dam, which was constructed during the first project in 1967, or Site A, BC Hydro said.

The B.C. dam is on the same scale as another massive hydroelectric dam project on the East Coast at Muskrat Falls, also being built by IBEW members. According to Top 100, a list of Canadian infrastructure projects, Site C comes in at a higher price tag than its Atlantic counterpart, making it the second-largest infrastructure project in the country. Muskrat Falls ranks third.

"Site C and Muskrat Falls, two of the largest infrastructure projects in the country, are a testament to the skill and talent of IBEW working men and women," said First District Vice President William Daniels.

Portions of the massive project are being awarded over time. Local 993's piece is estimated to cost \$470 million and will involve transformer, generator and powerhouse work, Cronk said. The contract went to Voith Hydro, a German-based engineering company, which will design, supply and install six 183-megawatt, vertical axis turbines and generators.

Each turbine will have an output of 250,000 horsepower, equivalent to driving about 600 Ford Mustang GTs at maximum power, said the office of the BC premier in a news release. They're so large that the fuselage of a Boeing 747 could fit through the penstock, a channel used to carry water. At maximum discharge, the turbine-generator units combined could fill an Olympic-sized swimming pool in one second, the release said.

The turbine contract will employ about 140 members at peak for approximately four years, said Local 993 Business Manager Glen Hilton. Additionally, about 25 members are at the worksite running power and hooking up trailers.

Voith negotiated a labour agreement with the Bargaining Council of British Columbia Building Trades Unions, which represents construction craft unions. The agreement includes participation from 10 B.C. unions. Voith CEO Bill Malus said the company will have local training opportunities in the Peace region

and that it would rely on local subcontractors as much as possible, reported Business Vancouver.

But the project isn't all union, something that differentiates Site C from its older, companion dams. The rest of the project is an open shop. Hilton says Local 993 lost a contract to do temporary power and maintenance to a nonunion bidder. If it had got it, the project would have employed about 60 electricians now and 100 more for the next three to four years.

Voith, along with the rest of the generator construction industry in North America, are IBEW signatories, Hilton said.

Historically, the B.C. government has been union-friendly. BC Hydro, a Crown corporation, adhered to an allied hydro agreement dating back to the 1960s. All such work would be union and in return, unions pledged to not strike. This is the first time it's not being used on



a hydro project.

"The independent contractors had too much say," Hilton said. "They convinced the government to go open shop."

Hilton says that the province has been suffering from a "brain drain" in the

building trades and construction industry.

"They aren't cultivating their engineering staff," he said of the provincial government's hiring. "They don't know union construction."

Environmental concerns and First

The Site C hydroelectric dam is the third in a one-river series that will use water from the previously-built Bennet dam, pictured, and employ Kamloops, B.C., Local 993 members.

Photo credit: Andres M. Panti via a Creative Commons license.

Nation land disputes have dogged Site C. Some protesters even camped outside the BC Hydro headquarters. But they appear to be having little influence on the project, reported *Global News*.

"While this project has seen its share of controversy, the announcement that local, unionized workers will be utilized on this portion of the project was welcome news to IBEW B.C. local unions," said the IBEW Canada website.

Construction of the Site C Dam began in the summer of 2015 and will finish in 2024. ■

La section locale en Colombie-Britannique remporte le plus grand contrat de projet de barrages hydrologiques dans la province

Le barrage site C est l'un des plus grands projets d'infrastructures énergétiques au Canada. Il permettra de produire environ 5100 gigawattheures d'électricité par an et alimentera plus de 400 000 foyers une fois terminé. Et la section locale 993 à Kamloops C.-B. est prête à engager ces travaux.

« C'est une excellente occasion pour nos membres », dit le représentant international Laird Cronk. « Ce projet fournira de l'énergie propre pour les 100 prochaines années ».

Le projet site C est d'une valeur de 9 milliards de dollars et représente le troisième et le dernier des trois barrages qui ont été conçus dans les années 50 sur la rivière de la Paix dans le nord-est de la Colombie-Britannique, annonce la publication provinciale *mrtimes.com*. Le site utilisera l'eau accumulée derrière le barrage Bennet qui a été construit au cours du premier projet en 1967, ou Site A, selon *BC Hydro*.

Le barrage en Colombie-Britannique est de la même ampleur qu'un autre barrage hydroélectrique massif sur la côte est de Muskrat Falls, qui lui aussi a été construit par la FIOE. Selon *Top 100*, une liste de projet d'infrastructures au Canada, Site C coûtera plus cher que son homologue l'Atlantique, ce qui en fait le deuxième plus grand projet d'infrastructure au pays. Muskrat Falls occupe la troisième place.

« Le Site C et Muskratt Falls, deux

des plus grands projets d'infrastructure au pays, témoignent la compétence et le talent de nos travailleurs et travailleuses de la FIOE, » dit le vice-président William Daniels du Premier District.

Certaines parties de ce grand projet seront attribuées au fur et à mesure. Le coût estimé de la partie réservée à la section locale 993 est de 470 millions de dollars et elle comptera des transformateurs, des générateurs et des travaux dans la centrale, dit Cronk. Le contrat a été donné à une société d'ingénierie allemande Voith Hydro qui fera la conception, la fourniture et l'installation de six turbines à axe vertical de 183 mégawatts et des générateurs.

Chaque turbine aura une puissance de 250 000, ce qui équivaut à conduire environ 600 Ford Mustang GT à la puissance maximale, déclare le bureau du premier ministre de la Colombie-Britannique dans un communiqué de presse. Ils sont tellement larges qu'un fuselage d'un Boeing 747 peut passer dans la conduite forcée, un canal qui sert à l'écoulement des eaux. Au débit maximal, les générateurs à turbines combinés peuvent remplir une piscine olympique en une seconde, mentionne le communiqué.

Le contrat de turbine embauchera 140 membres à son apogée pendant environ quatre ans, dit le gérant d'affaires Glen Hilton de la section locale 993. Il y a ainsi environ 25 membres sur le chantier

qui font la mise en œuvre des lignes électriques et qui montent des roulottes.

Voith a négocié une convention collective avec le *Bargaining Council of British Columbia Building Trades Union*, qui représente le syndicat des métiers. Cette convention collective inclut la participation de 10 syndicats de la Colombie-Britannique. Le PDG Bill Malus de Voith mentionne que la compagnie va offrir des possibilités de formation locale dans la région de la Paix et veut se fier le plus possible sur l'engagement des sous-traitants local, mentionne *Business Vancouver*.

Cependant le projet n'embauchera pas seulement des membres du syndicat, une chose qui différencie le Site C de ses autres plus anciens barrages. Le reste du projet est un atelier ouvert. Hilton dit qu'ils ont perdu un contrat temporaire d'alimentation et d'entretiens à un soumissionnaire non syndiqué. S'ils l'avaient obtenu, le projet aurait embauché environ 60 électriciens maintenant et 100 de plus pour les trois ou quatre prochaines années.

Voith ainsi que le reste de l'industrie de construction de générateurs en Amérique du Nord sont des signataires de la FIOE, dit Hilton.

Le gouvernement de la Colombie-Britannique a toujours été dans l'intérêt des syndicats. *BC Hydro* qui est une société de la Couronne avait adhéré à une

entente hydroélectrique depuis les années 60. Tous les travaux devraient être syndicaux et en retour les syndicats s'engagent à ne pas faire la grève. C'est la première fois que cette voie ne sera pas utilisée dans un projet hydroélectrique.

« Les entrepreneurs indépendants avaient leur mot à dire, » dit Hilton. « C'est pour cela que le gouvernement a accepté l'atelier ouvert. »

Hilton mentionne que la province a souffert « d'un exode de cerveau » dans les métiers et l'industrie de la construction.

« Ils ne cultivent pas leur personnel d'ingénierie, » dit-il au sujet de l'embauche du gouvernement provincial. « Ils ne connaissent pas la construction syndicale ».

Les préoccupations environnementales et les disputes foncières des Premières Nations ont empoisonné le Site C. Certains manifestants ont même campé devant la centrale de BC Hydro, et semblent avoir un peu d'influence sur le projet, selon *Global News*.

« Alors que ce projet a généré une certaine controverse, l'annonce que des travailleurs syndiqués locaux seront embauchés pour travailler sur une partie du projet a été une bonne nouvelle aux sections locales de la FIOE en Colombie-Britannique, » comme mentionné dans le site web de la FIOE.

La construction du barrage du Site C a débuté l'été de 2015 et terminera en 2024. ■

CIRCUITS

Modesto Local Hears Call, Raises Flagpole Over Community Center

George Russell spent more than two years asking city officials in Modesto, Calif., to install a new flagpole in front of a city-owned community center. All he got in return was frustration.

But after Modesto Local 684 Business Manager Billy Powell read about the situation, the pole was retrofitted with new LED lighting by the local's members about a month later. And it came at no cost to city taxpayers.

"I appreciate everything they did," Russell said. "They stepped up to the plate."

Added Powell: "We have received many calls and thank-you letters for it."

Here is how it happened.

Russell served 21 years in the U.S. Navy. He now is a board member for the King-Kennedy Memorial Center on Modesto's west side. The center is named in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert Kennedy and opened in 1969, a year after the two men were assassinated.

The flagpole has been vandalized over the years and the American flag stolen on multiple occasions. The pole also didn't have lights for night display. Russell asked the city to install a new pole with lighting and a way to keep vandals from stealing the flag, such as running the cable to raise it on the inside of the pole.

As a veteran, Russell took it as an insult the flag wasn't being properly displayed, especially in front of a facility named for two prominent figures in American history. As someone active in the community, he thought political leaders were showing a lack of respect for the west side, an economically struggling area of the city.

"It gets neglected," Russell said. "I am a homeowner and I live in west Modesto. They keep cutting taxes and cutting services and keep asking the community to do different things."

Russell said elected officials stonewalled or told him it wasn't in the city's budget. The situation came to a head on March 3 when the Modesto Bee reported

on Russell's appearance before the city council two days earlier.

Russell asked council members why they wouldn't appropriate a few thousand dollars for the new flagpole. Some council members expressed sympathy, but most said it needed to go through the proper channels and sent it to a committee for more study.

"I put them on the spot," he said. "I asked them, 'Where is your priority?'"

Powell was among those who read about Russell's appearance. He noted that Local 684 members have a tradition of volunteering in the community.

"We didn't do it for the kudos, but it has been nice to be recognized for what the local has done."

— Billy Powell, Modesto, Calif., Local 684 business manager.

"Lighting a flagpole is our line of work," he said.

Powell met with representatives from the community center, who enthusiastically accepted the offer for help. The Local 684 management committee and executive board both unanimously approved the project within a few days.

A ceremony to dedicate the new pole was held on April 8, with Modesto Fire Fighters Local 1289 donating a flag and promising replacements as needed. Local 684 was honored by the council publicly on June 7.

"Once they said they were going to do this, it was like hallelujah," said Carole Collins, the center's program manager. "That meant it was going to happen. With the city, they may say they're going to do this, but you're always looking at at least a year or more down the road with all the

red tape and bureaucracy."

Collins also gave Local 684 members high marks for how they handled the construction. To top it off, they donated \$250 to a local Boys and Girls Club that meets at the center, she said.

"They were always here," she said. "They kept in contact with us, telling us what they had done, what they needed to do and what supplies they were waiting for to come in. Things moved so quickly."

"Even the cleanup when they finished, the lawn looked better than when they came in," Collins added. "They made sure to put the dirt back in and swept the sidewalk. They gave that extra attention you would expect at your home if you were paying for that service."

Local 684 inside wireman Matt Paine, who helped install the flagpole, noted the local's signatory contractors stepped up to cover the cost. That effort was led by Collins Electrical, for whom Paine works as a traffic signal superintendent. The project cost about \$2,500, Powell said.

"I'm proud I was able to help out in the community," Paine said. "I was proud that my company had no problem helping out in the community. That's what it comes back to for me."

Powell had one priority while building the flagpole: To make sure the LED light shining on the flag at night was American made. The flag itself also was made in the United States.

"We are not putting an LED light made in China on top of this flagpole," he said. "We found a manufacturer here in the United States. Everything turned out great."

Modesto had a local election earlier this year and Powell said the project allowed him to build a relationship with Ted Brandvold, the new mayor.

"That's been very positive," he said. "We didn't do it for the kudos, but it has been nice to be recognized for what the local has done at different events." ■

Boston Local Hosts First-Ever Trade Conference for Girls

Over 400 girls converged on Boston Local 103's headquarters recently for a first-of-its-kind opportunity to learn about the building trades, and how to get a job in one.

The event, organized by the Massachusetts Girls in Trade Advisory Group, involved 18 area high schools, local businesses and nearly 20 labor unions representing all the building trades, including Local 103 and Springfield Local 7.

The March 30 conference was spearheaded by Minuteman High School and Wynn Everett, a hotel and resort chain, as part of an effort to create a pipeline to encourage young women to join the trades.

"Too many women have been frozen out [of the trades]," said Frank Callahan, president of the Massachusetts Building Trades. "You should feel comfortable in a union hall or at a jobsite. Massachusetts Girls in Trade shows that many young women are interested in rewarding, high-wage careers in the trades."



Boston Local 103 hosted a first-of-its-kind conference to encourage girls to enter the trades. Among the attendees were students from Minuteman High School: Lola Clemente, left, Erica Grandon, Aibhlinn Moore, Lindsey Kelly, Haley Rice, Hannah English, Midalia Ramos, Kendra Hennigan and Kaylah Bennett.

Photo credit: Neeva Coovert, Minuteman student photographer

There are currently 3,000 high school girls who are enrolled in programs in the trades in Massachusetts, yet most do not end up working in the field, said Maryanne Nadeau Ham, school administrator for Minuteman High.

"We believe we can provide the necessary guidance to career and technical educators to help open pathways for their students to these high-paying careers in construction trades," Nadeau Ham said.

The attendees heard from women working in the trades and participated in workshops, including "Becoming a Union Tradeswoman." They also toured the Local 103 training center and visited an exhibition hall populated by 50 exhibitors.

"It was a great day and a great opportunity," said Local 103 Business Manager John P. Dumas. "I'm glad we could be a part of it."

One of the conference speakers was Amenyonah Bossman, assistant superintendent at Suffolk Construction.

"When you know what you want to do, stick with it," Bossman said. "You're going to find people here — men and women — who are supportive of your goals."

One of those supporters is Mark Kuenzel, Local 7's training director.

"It was excellent. I heard a lot of good questions from the girls," Kuenzel said of the event. "It was great to speak to the counselors as well."

Many high school counselors lack an education on what the trades can offer, Kuenzel said, like the college credit that comes with many apprenticeships. Oftentimes technical careers are overlooked in favor of four-year college degrees, despite those careers offering a pathway to college.

"The biggest thing is recruiting. We might even need to start sooner, in middle school," he said. "That way you have more time to try the trades out. It takes a certain kind of personality, and that's true for men and women."

Nygren, a telecommunications technician, teaches telecommunications and fiber optics at Madison Park Technical Vocational High School. She also sits on the alumni board for Wentworth Institute

of Technology and serves on the mentoring committee.

"At 15, it's hard to know whether they'll stay involved, but a lot of them seem interested," she said of her freshmen, six of whom are girls she recruited for an exploratory class, in part by sharing her experience and telling them how in demand women are in the field.

"I'm trying to show them a part of this industry and that you can make almost \$100,000 a year as a journeyman electrician," Nygren said. "And construction is booming in Boston. There are cranes on every corner."

"For the first time in my life, I really want something, and that is to join the IBEW and be a part of Local 103."

— Midalia Ramos, Minuteman High student

At least one of the attendees may well find herself a mentee of Nygren. Minuteman High School senior Midalia Ramos said the conference was rewarding, reported Patch.com, a local publication. And maybe even life-changing.

"One of my most memorable moments was speaking to one of the tradeswomen at the IBEW Local 103 booth," said Ramos. "She is now 10 years into her career and was really inspiring. I'm hoping she will be able to mentor me because we really hit it off. For the first time in my life, I really want something, and that is to join the IBEW and be a part of Local 103." ■

CIRCUITS continued on page 10



The dedication ceremony for a new flagpole outside the King-Kennedy Memorial Center on April 8. Modesto Local 684 and its signatory contractors donated money and labor to install it.

CIRCUITS *Continued from page 9*

Michigan Retirees Step Up to Miller Museum Challenge

In June's Electrical Worker, we checked in on progress at the Henry Miller Museum in St. Louis, the former boardinghouse where Henry Miller and nine other delegates founded the National Brotherhood of Electrical Workers in 1891.

Locals and individuals from across the U.S. and Canada have generously donated to the Electrical Workers Historical Society, so far raising more than \$2 million of the \$6 million it's expected to cost to restore and maintain the building.

But one local and its retirees are taking a unique and creative approach to raising money for the project, and they hope their effort will inspire others to do the same.

It all started when the former business managers for Muskegon, Mich., Local 275 (and Grand Rapids Local 107, which was amalgamated into the former in 1996) got together for their regular monthly breakfast in March. Local 275 had already donated \$10,000 to the museum project, but former business manager and retired International Representative Jim Rudicil wanted to do more.

"There's just so much history in the IBEW," Rudicil said, "and it seemed to the group of us like the retirees should be a part of preserving that too." So the six of them pledged \$2,500 and challenged their fellow retired brothers and sisters to match it, planning to purchase an inscribed 24-by-24 inch paver to be placed in Founders Park adjoining the museum.

The group approached Business Manager Sean Egan with their plan, and days later a letter went out to the local's retirees. Checks started coming in almost immediately, Egan said, raising more than \$700 in a week. A second letter in May finished the job, collecting another \$2,500 for the cause.

"That second letter really did the trick," Rudicil said. "We told the retirees, 'Let's spend some of these business managers' money,' and in it came." In the end, the effort will send more than their \$5,000 goal to the Henry Miller Museum, and a stone marker will commemorate the effort, reading "Generously contributed by the retirees of IBEW Local 275."

"We're really proud of our retirees for answering the call and our former business managers for taking the initiative on this," Egan said. "Preserving this important part of the IBEW's history is something all of us should have a stake in."



Retired business managers George Robinson Jr., Howard Leroux, Bill Tuinstra, Jim Rudicil and Ben Robinson hatched the fundraising plan, assisted by Local 275 Business Manager Sean Egan and Membership Development Coordinator Walter Christopherson.

For his part, Rudicil hopes Local 275's retirees can spur similar efforts in locals all over the U.S. and Canada. "The whole intent was to set an example," he said. "We're planning a letter to retired international representatives next."

In St. Louis, where electrical work is being completed and drywall being hung at the Miller museum, the money can't come soon enough.

"We're so grateful for the support of all of our members and locals," said International President Lonnie R. Stephenson, who is also chairman the Electrical Workers Historical Society. "Every little bit helps to make sure our great union's history is here for generations to come, and creative approaches like this one set a marker for others to aim for."

"Rebuilding this boardinghouse where the IBEW came into existence should be a real point of pride for all of us," Stephenson said, "and we're excited to open the doors in September."

Donations to the Henry Miller Museum can be made at nbeiw-ibewmuseum.org or by mailing checks to Electrical Workers Historical Society, c/o IBEW Local 1, 5850 Elizabeth Ave, St. Louis, MO 63110. ■

Eighth District RENEW Prepares for Election Season

Young workers can play an important role in the political process, and Assistant Business Manager Nate Gutierrez of Denver Local 111 wants to make sure they know that. With the election coming up, he is using his local's RENEW chapter as a gateway to get them involved.

"It is very important for young members to be active in politics," Gutierrez said. RENEW, or Reach out and Engage Next-gen Electrical Workers, is one way he hopes to get more young members at his local to do that.

Established at the 38th International Convention in 2011, the initiative seeks to engage young members and get them more involved with their union and in their communities, and statistics show there is plenty of room for improvement.

According to a report from the U.S. Census Bureau, less than half of the voting population between the ages of 18 and 29 participated in the 2012 election. All other age groups exceeded 50 percent participation.

This low level of participation is

nothing new among young voters. The same report shows that young people have always lagged behind, but Gutierrez does not want this to be the case when it comes to his peers at Local 111.

Their RENEW chapter has teamed up with the Colorado Young Workers, a politically active group of young union workers across the state, to assist with voter registration. At regular meetings, a member of the Colorado Young Workers comes to the union hall and registers members directly on an electronic tablet, making the process quick and easy.

Gutierrez is a member of Local 111's RENEW chapter and sits on the Eighth District's RENEW Advisory Committee, which covers Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana.

"In a region this diverse, young members have a lot of different issues that they care about," Gutierrez said. "Getting them to understand the issues that impact them is the struggle."

RENEW gives young members a forum for discussion. In Denver, matters such as living wage as well as the high cost of living within the city are important to young workers.

So far, Gutierrez believes the effort to engage Local 111's young members is taking hold. He hopes this will spread beyond the Mile High City, as other locals within the Eighth District have expressed their interest in starting their own RENEW chapters.

"I don't know why every local isn't getting involved with RENEW," Gutierrez said, "With the help of the International Office, it's spreading."

With RENEW on the rise, he hopes, so is the next generation of informed and politically active union members. ■



Be a Part of the IBEW's History

The renovation, restoration and maintenance of the house is expected to cost approximately \$6 million and is being funded through donations to the Electrical Workers Historical Society, a nonprofit that has filed for tax exempt status. Beginning at the \$100 giving level, donors may receive gifts, many of which are customizable and will decorate Founders' Park. Gifts include bricks, paver stones, commemorative plaques and benches, and even museum wings. All donors will receive a certificate of acknowledgement watermarked with an image of the Miller home.

How to Give
Donate online at nbeiw-ibewmuseum.org. Checks or money orders can be made payable to the Electrical Workers Historical Society: IBEW Local 1, 5850 Elizabeth Ave., St. Louis, Mo. 63110.

Individual and Local Union Contributions

\$100 Donation
Metal cast coin

\$500 Donation
Silver cast coin

\$250 Donation
Copper cast coin

\$1,000 Donation
8"x8" Personalized & Customized Brick

\$5,000 Donation
24" x 24" Personalized & Customized Paver

Local 1 is casting commemorative coins with an image of the boarding house on one side and a hand-drawn National Brotherhood of Electrical Workers flag with lightning bolts on the other.

Have a brick personalized to commemorate your family or local union. The bricks will be located in Founders' Park.

Stone pavers will be placed throughout the courtyard. These stone pavers will stand out, as will your message.

Items like custom coins, engraved bricks and pavers, even benches and light poles are available for sponsorship through the Electrical Workers Historical Society.

TRANSITIONS

DECEASED Joseph J. Penna



The IBEW regrets to report that Joseph J. Penna, former director of the Telecommunications Department, passed away on May 26. He was 72.

Born in Brooklyn in 1943, Brother Penna was initiated into the IBEW in 1966 with then-Newark, N.J. Local 827, now chartered in East Windsor, N.J. He worked for New Jersey Bell in Essex County. Penna served as a business agent from 1983-1998 and on the executive board, as well as the organizing, COPE and safety committees. He served in the U.S. Army from 1962-1965.

"It's like losing a brother," said Brian Brennan, Third District international representative, who knew Penna from his New Jersey Bell days.

In 1998, Penna was appointed international representative and in 2000 was assigned to the Telecommunications Department. A year later, he was appointed director.

During his tenure, Penna negotiated multiple contracts with many of the major telecommunications companies, including AT&T, Bell Atlantic, Lucent and Avaya. In 1992, he was at the national table for negotiations with AT&T that affected local unions across the country.

"When he was negotiating, he thought of the rank and file first," Brennan said. "He was relentless for the members."

He was also a driving force in the creation of the T-3 System Council, which he chaired, and played a role in the aftermath of the breakup of the Bell system

in the 1980s. The T-3 System Council is a coalition of local unions with members employed by AT&T.

"He helped with some hard negotiations," Brennan said. "He was there for a lot of change in the industry and his contributions to telecom are still being felt."

Even when he wasn't running the show, he made himself available to share his expertise. When Boston Local 2222 Business Manager Miles Calvey was dealing with Verizon, Penna was there to help.

"He was there every day with me," said Calvey, who is also a member of the International Executive Council. "He really took me under his wing. And he couldn't do enough for the membership."

Penna's success as a negotiator was due to his ability to read people, said Brennan and Calvey.

"He had a personality that you noticed right away. He was charismatic, a real people person," Brennan said.

"Nobody thought they knew Penna. You either knew him or you didn't," Calvey said.

In 2010 he retired, but continued to serve the IBEW. He was elected vice president of Local 827 that same year and remained in office until he retired in 2013.

In his spare time, he enjoyed golfing, hunting and fishing. He also volunteered with the New Jersey Heart Association, the United Way of Essex County and Operation Phone Home, a military service organization that helps deployed troops phone their loved ones in the U.S.

He is survived by his wife Katie; three children, Melissa Ann Penna, Joseph John Penna Jr. and Anthony Joseph Penna; a brother James Penna and four grandchildren.

On behalf of the IBEW membership and staff, the officers send our condolences to Brother Penna's family and friends. ■

In Memoriam

Members for Whom PBF Death Claims were Approved in June 2016

Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death
1	Delaney, R.	4/28/16	41	Peters, W. V.	5/11/16	134	Alberotanza, V.	4/8/16	295	Medlock, H. E.	12/23/14	569	Reyburn, L. F.	2/7/16	1141	Perry, G. L.	5/12/16
1	Hunt, M. J.	4/27/16	46	Bero, F. E.	5/11/16	134	Buzay, H.	4/30/16	300	Davis, B. G.	5/10/16	570	Kohler, D. D.	5/2/16	1186	Oshiro, C. N.	3/27/16
1	Meinberg, R. P.	4/3/16	46	Burruss, D. W.	2/28/16	134	Campbell, T. R.	4/21/16	302	Owen, M. E.	12/28/14	584	Silver, R. L.	4/15/16	1186	Oshiro, K.	3/17/16
3	Baker, L. O.	4/23/16	46	Sinclair, D. R.	4/27/16	134	Devaney, E. F.	1/25/14	302	Ward, C. R.	2/5/16	595	Baxter, D. W.	2/29/16	1186	Tsuru, R. I.	4/29/16
3	Defeo, L. A.	5/8/16	46	Syversen, S.	7/18/15	134	Duffy, J. P.	5/17/16	305	Tittman, D. P.	6/22/11	602	Bullard, V. L.	5/8/16	1186	Wachi, R. T.	4/16/16
3	Deyorgi, D. D.	4/19/16	48	Baulig, D. J.	4/25/16	134	Dutcher, R. J.	12/30/15	306	Rankin, W. S.	4/3/16	605	Russell, R. L.	5/1/16	1186	Wasa, J. K.	2/21/14
3	Fahey, T. J.	5/19/16	48	Cavin, M. J.	5/3/16	134	Hillegonds, J. R.	1/25/16	309	Payeur, M. L.	2/10/16	606	Horney, J. R.	5/9/16	1212	Spilich, G. J.	4/25/16
3	Fitzpatrick, J.	5/3/16	48	Cossu, J.	5/19/16	134	Jasnoch, J. J.	5/18/16	317	Crews, H. W.	5/9/16	607	Bassett, M. C.	7/7/15	1245	McGowan, W. D.	3/5/16
3	Friedman, J. W.	5/2/16	48	Lockard, S. W.	5/9/16	134	Kirk, H. J.	4/1/16	340	Newkirk, D. S.	3/6/16	611	Marquez, F. C.	4/19/16	1245	Sedgley, F. L.	1/24/16
3	Hartz, S.	2/17/16	48	Shepherd, J. W.	5/9/16	134	Matthews, W. C.	5/11/16	340	Walter, D. C.	3/21/16	611	Velasquez, J. B.	5/5/16	1249	Brigham, J. F.	5/12/16
3	Heckelman, A. J.	4/4/16	51	Hayes, H. H.	1/3/14	134	Mendez, J. C.	5/19/16	343	Ginapp, R. C.	2/15/16	613	Dockery, F. D.	5/10/16	1249	Finch, H. R.	4/10/16
3	Jackson, J. W.	4/20/16	53	Kendall, C.	2/28/16	134	Neville, M. D.	3/4/16	343	Roskos, C. C.	1/25/15	613	Martin, C.	3/25/16	1249	Martin, R.	3/29/16
3	Johnson, P. C.	5/25/16	57	McDonald, R. B.	5/4/16	134	Plumley, W. D.	4/15/16	349	Figurelli, F. J.	12/12/14	617	Gitschel, E. E.	5/9/16	1316	Henn, F. S.	5/1/16
3	Katergaris, S.	5/2/16	58	Bankovich, R. J.	5/7/16	134	Reed, G. T.	4/28/16	349	Hudgens, B. G.	4/29/16	639	Rodkey, J. W.	4/19/16	1379	Rath, C. E.	5/17/16
3	Kenduck, O.	5/8/16	58	Brand, J. L.	4/30/16	134	Rubin, H.	4/29/16	349	Townsend, R. D.	5/2/16	640	Santa Cruz, G. S.	5/14/16	1426	Frenette, J. C.	2/4/16
3	Kronyak, N. J.	2/10/16	58	Bronstein, M. I.	2/18/16	136	Hall, W. L.	4/28/16	351	Conover, J. R.	4/21/16	640	Vasquez, S. C.	5/12/16	1426	Nevin, R. C.	12/31/14
3	Layne, A. F.	4/28/16	58	DeCoopman, R. P.	5/25/16	136	Snyder, C. E.	3/6/16	351	Foy, L. F.	1/27/16	659	Johnson, J. R.	3/1/16	1547	Cloud, J. L.	12/13/15
3	Marsigliano, J. M.	2/22/16	58	Gilbert, W. E.	4/30/16	141	Cox, C. J.	5/9/16	351	Gallagher, M. C.	11/2/15	661	Harris, M. J.	4/24/16	1579	Fowler, J.	4/11/16
3	Metz, R.	5/6/16	58	Haglund, A. C.	5/18/16	145	Foale, C. R.	2/19/16	351	Moore, J. L.	11/29/15	666	Mitten, R. A.	5/4/16	1759	Perry, H. F.	4/16/16
3	Mitchell, J. K.	5/20/16	58	Lamere, W. J.	5/12/16	146	Lancaster, W. F.	4/19/16	353	Angelopoulos, E. L.	12/24/15	666	White, H. W.	5/28/16	1759	Updike, A. C.	5/12/16
3	Myron, E. L.	5/19/16	58	Soule, E. L.	5/11/16	153	Hickmott, M. V.	5/14/16	353	Fee, B. N.	2/25/16	666	Williams, L. T.	5/27/16	2150	Welke, L. J.	5/23/16
3	Nappi, A. H.	4/16/16	66	Bradford, J. A.	11/5/14	159	Smith, G. J.	12/28/15	353	Fidani, B. A.	5/23/16	683	Ring, R. P.	5/16/16	2166	Wade, W. G.	3/11/16
3	Nocera, M.	5/8/16	68	Mays, W. W.	5/1/16	160	Riendeau, C. G.	4/20/16	353	Lufniak, J.	5/2/16	683	Wallace, J. D.	5/26/16	I.O. (31)	Case, R.	4/13/16
3	Oakley, O.	3/27/16	68	Ross, R. J.	4/26/16	164	Payne, J. N.	5/9/16	353	Purdy, P. W.	5/8/16	684	Phillips, F. J.	4/19/16	I.O. (134)	Vorderer, W. D.	4/24/16
3	Piazza, D. M.	4/19/16	71	McMillion, G.	4/15/16	175	Dishroon, J. W.	4/22/16	353	Rozycski, S. C.	9/14/15	692	Stender, A. J.	5/17/16	I.O. (191)	Rozema, F. K.	4/19/16
3	Rodriguez, J.	5/26/16	76	Glasman, E. W.	4/28/16	175	Hamby, J. M.	4/14/16	353	Spendiff, H. R.	5/5/16	697	Gonzales, J. J.	9/7/15	I.O. (424)	Cameron, L. F.	5/12/16
3	Yodice, J. D.	4/11/16	76	Rasmussen, H. A.	1/9/16	176	Harris, R. K.	5/23/16	357	Degrace, G. T.	4/27/16	697	Kurowsky, J.	4/17/16	I.O. (2337)	Dartez, M. L.	3/31/16
3	Zayachuk, W.	4/5/16	77	Bornong, H. J.	5/22/16	176	Maclean, N. J.	4/22/16	363	Rathjen, H. A.	5/4/16	697	Shaw, S. A.	4/12/16	Pens. (613)	Wilson, W. E.	1/28/16
5	Dobson, J. D.	5/13/16	77	Hulbert, J. E.	5/13/16	177	Huggins, J. N.	12/11/15	364	Kiergaard, L.	4/29/16	702	Greenwood, R.	5/8/16	Pens. (640)	McLane, S. L.	5/3/16
7	Rossi, J. F.	12/5/15	77	Knudsvig, O. L.	5/9/16	191	Watt, J. L.	3/12/15	369	Akin, A. R.	4/24/14	702	Harner, E. W.	5/12/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Baker, E. B.	2/5/16
8	Cairl, D. R.	12/26/15	77	Pritchard, D. G.	4/24/16	193	LaRue, J. M.	6/6/15	369	Dahl, G. D.	4/12/16	716	Griffin, B. L.	5/14/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Ball, C. W.	11/12/14
9	Cecich, L. M.	3/24/16	77	Simpson, R. D.	4/3/16	194	Foreman, B.	5/15/16	388	Parrott, S. W.	3/19/16	716	Lavelle, P. T.	4/4/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Brown, R. E.	8/26/14
9	Maloney, J. J.	5/8/16	80	Huban, J. P.	5/18/15	206	McDonnell, T. A.	4/20/16	400	Constantine, A. E.	4/4/16	716	Ward, D. R.	4/1/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Clawson, K. C.	5/12/16
11	Fajardo, M.	4/27/16	86	Caufield, J. J.	3/30/16	212	Binder, M. W.	2/19/16	405	Mitchell, D. E.	3/17/16	716	Ward, H. G.	4/26/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Cothron, C. R.	4/7/16
11	Gasparini, R.	3/24/16	86	Ginevra, M. J.	5/19/16	212	Malott, M. J.	5/6/16	424	Cline, K. M.	5/2/16	725	Bounds, W. S.	5/3/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Coughlin, M. R.	4/15/16
11	Krout, W. L.	5/17/16	90	Papa, E.	10/22/15	212	Volk, M. T.	3/9/16	426	Ellsworth, H. C.	5/16/16	725	McPike, J. E.	4/27/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Dains, A. V.	2/20/16
11	Rawnsley, J. J.	5/11/14	96	Grimes, M. J.	4/18/16	213	Edwards, E. L.	2/26/16	426	Geier, R. C.	3/21/16	728	Feeney, J. R.	4/28/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Davis, C. A.	12/26/15
11	Sanchez, R.	3/25/16	98	Conover, J. R.	5/25/16	213	Kelly, W. H.	4/12/16	428	Brooks, M.	4/27/16	743	Stamm, G. T.	5/20/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Ford, R.	5/20/16
11	Schow, M. R.	3/8/16	98	Fischer, F. J.	5/25/16	213	Smith, G.	3/31/16	428	Hernandez, A.	4/25/16	756	Hicks, C. M.	5/21/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Gerard, R.	3/30/16
16	Barning, J. G.	5/16/16	98	Scheetz, C. E.	1/1/16	213	Vickman, C. J.	3/4/16	440	Jewell, S. F.	4/28/16	756	Sullivan, J. M.	5/18/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Guire, T. A.	2/14/16
17	Bishop, N. M.	4/9/16	98	Simmons, W.	5/5/16	222	Hill, J. T.	5/18/10	441	Williams, J. C.	4/23/16	760	Butturini, C. W.	11/26/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Haus, L. F.	5/23/16
17	Kenyon, H. R.	2/25/16	98	Tartar, J. R.	4/4/16	223	Bernardo, A.	4/30/16	453	Austin, L.	4/26/16	760	Craft, H. V.	2/7/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Hentschel, S. I.	9/2/15
18	Davidge, H. V.	3/4/16	98	White, J.	3/12/16	226	Gillette, D. W.	12/31/14	474	Burns, B. T.	5/21/16	760	Lay, B. B.	4/14/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Hren, A. V.	5/16/16
18	Ganser, J. E.	5/16/16	99	Irace, M. S.	5/2/16	229	Rodgers, E. H.	4/2/16	474	Davis, T. S.	4/22/16	760	Lowe, V. O.	4/11/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Kirley, W. J.	4/30/16
18	Wurzel, M.	3/17/16	100	Green, E. L.	6/6/14	236	Casella, W. J.	5/22/16	479	Elmore, N. J.	3/25/16	760	Rutherford, T.	1/6/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Lauria, S. J.	11/18/15
20	Davis, R. K.	5/15/16	100	Taylor, J. D.	11/24/14	236	McCormick, D. J.	4/27/16	479	Miles, W. C.	3/14/16	760	Webber, D. E.	5/31/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Marks, M.	5/7/16
20	Watson, J. T.	5/4/16	102	Antone, P. W.	4/27/14	236	Peterson, J. M.	3/11/16	481	Mabry, J. E.	11/2/14	763	Warren, D. Z.	4/24/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Merritt, D. A.	2/20/16
21	Hay, H. L.	3/7/16	102	Rosato, A. J.	10/31/15	237	Holka, H. D.	4/18/16	481	Payne, B.	5/13/16	772	Daniels, A. A.	4/13/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Mitchell, J. R.	1/9/16
21	Vanderjack, M. E.	12/8/15	103	Bent, A. L.	3/16/16	242	Krause, M. J.	5/4/16	481	Swearingen, G. V.	3/12/16	812	Engel, J. B.	5/6/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Montoya, J. L.	9/8/15
22	Scarpello, S. M.	4/26/16	103	Britner, F. R.	12/6/14	242	Park, C. L.	5/4/16	481	Wheeler, S. K.	4/29/16	816	Barnett, E. E.	3/9/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Pearce, D. L.	11/18/14
24	Lee, W. C.	3/10/16	103	Curley, J. R.	6/30/14	246	Defrank, J.	4/25/16	488	Currish, W. M.	4/1/16	855	Riddlebarger, D. T.	5/2/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Schoffer, L. G.	4/23/16
24	Richter, C. G.	4/18/16	103	Delaney, J. J.	3/17/16	246	Hogue, F. T.	2/13/16	490	Skinner, A. B.	2/22/16	861	Lanning, E. D.	3/23/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Suggitt, G. J.	5/6/16
25	Baumer, J. A.	1/31/16	103	Fay, A. F.	4/18/16	252	Quackenbuch, G. F.	4/30/16	494	Corrigan, D. J.	12/14/15	906	Retaskie, E. J.	5/6/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Traynor, W. F.	5/14/16
25	Gow, M. J.	1/8/16	110	Fransen, A. M.	12/31/14	257	Sullivan, J. L.	5/10/16	499	Harvey, J. D.	4/27/16	910	Malady, K. J.	4/22/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Walker, D. B.	4/10/16
26	Hawkins, H. S.	4/26/16	124	Johnson, J. R.	5/3/16	265	Becker, W. E.	3/21/16	505	Urban, R. R.	5/11/16	910	Perkins, S. W.	5/8/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Walker, W. R.	4/26/16
26	Long, E. S.	3/13/16	126	Miller, R. R.	5/20/16	271	Cupples, D. H.	3/2/16	508	Howard, K. L.	2/29/16	915	Long, G. T.	4/4/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Welling, J. A.	4/26/16
26	Peed, M. O.	1/25/15	126	Weiss, F. C.	5/20/16	271	Hall, W. R.	4/10/16	518	Smith, N. D.	4/30/16	915	Lowery, T. L.	5/7/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Worrell, G. E.	4/19/16
32	Boop, E. I.	1/9/15	129	Hill, A. A.	10/3/15	275	Misner, C. E.	12/16/15	527	Lange, B. M.	5/4/16	917	Tucker, J. W.	4/25/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Wright, R. H.	4/16/16
35	Firetto, S. J.	1/19/16	129	Piskuran, E.	5/30/16	278	Rinks, D. P.	2/8/16	527	Royder, F. A.	5/18/15	972	Given, R. K.	4/21/16			
38	Engelke, M. L.	4/19/16	130	Held, E. S.	3/30/16	292	Haga, J. L.	10/10/14	530	Dechet, F.	4/11/16	993	Hartl, E.	3/26/16			
41	Kuss, J. D.	12/14/15	130	Theriot, S. J.	4/7/16	292	Joseph, R. D.	2/7/15	558	Davis, J. W.	1/16/16	1003	Trickett, K. B.	3/19/16			
41	Meyers, K. J.	5/19/16	131	Robinson, D. L.	2/26/16	295	Hatch, G. E.	3/26/16	569	Dozier, E. R.	12/5/15	1141	Newcomb, D. D.	7/28/15			

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LOCAL LINES

Conferences & Training; Two Contracts Ratified

L.U. 2 (catv,lctt,o,t&u), ST. LOUIS, MO — 2016 is proving to be a busy year, starting with several IBEW conferences and training sessions. IBEW Local 2 members have also ratified contracts with CenturyLink in Jefferson City, MO, and with Macon Electric Cooperative.

At this writing, Local 2 is also in the process of planning upcoming training, including steward training, for later in 2016.

In addition to contract negotiations, conferences and training, the first five months of 2016 saw 15 members of IBEW Local 2 achieve journeyman status: Ben Williams, Connor Stumpe, Bryce Menne, Anthony Rogers, Matthew Martin, Corey Woods, Carl Brown, Cabot Long, Zachary Helms, Wesley Herron, Lee Bell, James Feuerborn, Jeremy Buckallew, Kaleb Loughary and Eric Besand. Congratulations and welcome to all.

In May, Local 2 supported the Central Missouri Master Gardeners with their largest fundraiser of the year. We provided assistance to move flowers and vegetables to the Jefferson City Jaycees Fairgrounds for the Master Gardeners' annual sale. This fundraiser helps support all of their garden projects and their scholarship program.

Greg Benton, A.B.M.



Newly graduated Local 2 journeyman Ben Williams (left), employed with Macon Electric Cooperative, receives an IBEW-engraved, folding pocket knife presented by Unit Chmn. Rick Farmer at March meeting.

'Active in the Community' — IBEW Volunteerism & Awards

L.U. 6 (c,i,st&u), SAN FRANCISCO, CA — The Local 6 membership showed up en masse for San Francisco's 165th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. We were honored to receive the first-place marching group award — with a "distribution system" float, dozens

of dedicated marchers, a decorated platform truck from the Traffic Signal Division, the Galileo High School Drum Corps, and a cable car for retirees who braved inclement weather for the event. Special thanks to inside apprentice Jolene Wong and the volunteers who built the terrific float.

In April, the local received a Legacy Award for our continued participation in the Annual César Chávez Parade. The Local 6 Latino United Society's contribution of classic "low-rider" vehicles was noted at the presentation. This year we had a career-information tent at the festival after the parade to extend outreach with the local Latino community.

"Rebuilding Together," a community service volunteer event, was coordinated by retiring apprenticeship director Steve Powers and newly appointed director Pete Chursin. Inside wiremen and apprentices donated labor to update electrical installations at Phatt Chance Community Center, Good Samaritan Family Resource Center, and Catholic Charities of San Francisco. Members also wired townhouses built for Habitat for Humanity.

Michael McKenna, Pres.

2016 Summer Picnic; Officers Elected

L.U. 12 (i,o&se), PUEBLO, CO — At the time of this writing, Local 12 was making plans for our 2016 Annual Picnic, scheduled for Aug. 6 this year. We have the park reserved in Pueblo West for volleyball, softball, horseshoes, swimming, kid's games, a watermelon carving contest, gifts, live music and more. Don't forget the food and drinks! We love to see the members come together for something other than work.

Our nominations for officers occurred in May and ballot results were tallied at the June meeting. Elected for a three-year term were: Bus. Mgr. Thomas Kelley and Pres. Jason Olds. These brothers, as well as the new Executive Board members — Ronan Carbajal, Michael DeGraeve, Tony Huskey, Kyle Martin, Cody Rheuff and Mark Secora — were all sworn in at the July meeting. Thank you to the candidates, the election judge and the tellers for participating in this year's election.

The work picture is steady in our area, with no big jobs on the horizon at press time.

Susan Johnson, P.S.

Trade Show a Success

L.U. 16 (i), EVANSVILLE, IN — On May 25, Local 16's JATC held another excellent trade show. There were 27 booths that gave out high-end door prizes including Milwaukee cordless drill motors, multi-meters,

\$100 gift cards, high-voltage hand tools, shirts, hats and more. This well-attended event helped showcase IBEW partnerships and innovations in the electrical industry. Vendors, staff and volunteers provided information and demonstrated their latest products and technology. JATC staff and volunteers grilled and served brats and burgers with all the fixings. Thanks to all who made the trade show possible.

[Editor's Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) rebranded in 2014 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.]

In southern Indiana, Deig Brothers Lumber & Construction Company Inc. has been saving customers money through a Small Business Energy Savings program. As the leading SBES trade ally, they have eliminated the waste of 1,588,068 kWh. This equals an annual savings to participants of roughly \$158,807. Deig's average customer has saved \$2,146 per year, and received \$5,132 in various incentives. Kudos to the IBEW Local 16 members employed by Deig Brothers for helping put the people they serve on a more cost-competitive basis.

Members continue to raise funds through donations to benefit our sick or needy. For more information, please contact the union hall.

Donald P. Beavin, P.S.

Election of Officers

L.U. 24 (es,i&spa), BALTIMORE, MD — On Saturday, June 11, Local 24 held its election of officers. Many brothers and sisters from across the jurisdiction came out to participate. The day was long and hot. Food and refreshments were enjoyed throughout the day by those in attendance.



Members turn out for the Local 24 election of officers on June 11.

Incumbent Bus. Mgr. Gary Griffin and his ticket were elected or re-elected by an overwhelming majority. Elected officers include both younger members and more experienced ones, allowing for continued growth and stability for our great union.

Officers elected for a three-year term are: Bus. Mgr. Gary R. Griffin, Pres. Carmen D. Voso, Vice Pres. John L. Rankin, Rec. Sec. David W. Springham Jr., Fin. Sec. Peter P. Demchuk, Treas. Timothy W. Medford; Executive Board members Norman B. Bage, Anthony A. Decint, Ellwood G. Hanks, Lester R. Starks III, Frank S. Voso; Examining Board members Charles S. Curreri, Jerome T. Miller and Cory M. Shifflett.

To all those who participated, whether as a candidate or as a voting member, thank you for getting involved and please stay involved.

A special thanks from all the candidates and members to the election judge and the election tellers for a job well done.

Michael Azzarello, A.B.M.

'DAD's Day' Golf Outing — 500 Golfers Participate

L.U. 26 (ees,em,es,govt,i&mt), WASHINGTON, DC — Summer in the city! Local 26 congratulates the 2016 graduates of our apprenticeship program and the "R to A Upgrade" program. There were 177 graduates. Graduation ceremonies were June 4, and it was a pleasure to see so many supportive family members and happy graduates! Best wishes to the new journeyman electricians!

The Dollars Against Diabetes golf outing was June 6, and it was another huge success. We spanned four golf courses with 500 golfers participating. A huge thank-you to everyone who sponsored, volunteered and participated for this worthy cause!

Submitting Local Lines Articles

Local Lines are printed monthly on an alternating even/odd schedule. They can be submitted by designated press secretaries or union officers via 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/media-center/IBEW-News-Media-Center/Submitting-Local-Lines. Please email or call the Media Department at (202) 728-6291 with any questions.

Trade Classifications

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

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

The Manassas, VA, picnic was June 18 and the Edgewater, MD, picnic is Aug. 6. Both picnics provide fun for the families of our members, and it is always great to have such a fabulous turnout for these events and the health fairs.

Several members passed away since our last article: Roger J. Chancellor, James M. Williams, Roger C. White, Herbert S. Hawkins and Michael J. Glumac III.

Best wishes to recent new retirees: James P. Guelig, Michael R. Shannon, Stephen J. Williams, Terry S. Vance, Campbell D. Cox, Elmer M. McConkey, Edward W. Johnson, Norman E. Knotts, Clarence E. Williams, Thomas L. Wilson, Bruce S. Wines, Robert C. Cranford Jr., Beswick B. Brown, Robert B. Kincaid, Stephen J. Lascola Jr., Jan Leszkiewicz, Mark T. McKnew, Kenneth W. Runkle, Vincent F. Schoenbeck and Marion H. Green.

Charles E. Graham

Newly Elected Officers

L.U. 34 (em,i,mt,rts&spa), PEORIA, IL — Congratulations to the newly elected officers of Local 34. The election took place June 11.

Re-elected to office are: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Paul Flynn, Pres. Tim Sprout, Vice Pres. Bob McKnight, Rec. Sec. Mark Picton, and Executive Board members Greg Rosenak and George Rudd. Officers elected for a first term are: Treas. Marc Burnap; Executive Board members Ray Fisher and Todd Holzinger; Quincy Executive Board member Robert Sheely; and Examining Board members Brain Bong, Dana Marie and Corey Platt. Convention delegates are: Dave Lowder and Dave Ramsay. Local 34 has a history of officers that go the extra mile for the local and I have no doubt that this class of officers will also do likewise.

The new first-year apprentices will be the first class to start and finish their apprenticeship in our new training facility. They are: Jeff Armstrong, Chad Atkinson, Isaac Davidson, Bryce Doubet, Robert Gunther, Kiel Hamm, Dawson Hammond, Matthew Kaps, Corbin Lenaway, Jeremiah Moser, Nehemiah Nickles, Brock Orwig, Beriah Quick, Noah Peterson, Coday Razo, Jon Troglia, Samuel Shumaker, Anton Sturgeon, Joseph Van Unnik, Grant Zimmerman, Brett Coons, Taylor Ivey, Matthew Schmidgall, Jakob Varnes, Tristan Bernhardt, Andrew Bloom, Chad Bordenkircher and David Hudson. Congratulations to all and welcome to the Brotherhood.

Marc Burnap, Treas./P.S.

'Keeping Lake Erie Clean' — Tunnel Pump Station Project

L.U. 38 (i), CLEVELAND, OH — Local 38 members are working to keep Lake Erie clean at multiple area jobsites. Currently at East 140th Street, just south of The Shoreway in Cleveland, an underground \$73 million construction project is nearing completion and will pump millions of gallons of sewage that otherwise might have been dumped untreated into the lake.

The Easterly Tunnel Dewatering Pump Station (TDPS) is a key component of Project Clean Lake, the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District's \$3 billion master plan to drastically reduce the amount of sewage entering local waterways.

The pump station occupies a 24-story chasm carved out of shale and filled with miles of giant pipes, wires, valves, mega-horsepower motors, and electronic control panels.

Our members' work on the project includes wiring a bank of 1,600-horsepower motors that will spin, creating a suction that propels sewage to the Easterly treatment plant, where more of our members are working on other related projects. Congratulations to all members who have worked on this project.

I also thank all of our members who worked on the new Hilton Hotel at the convention center. I



IBEW Local 38 members on the TDPS cavern crew working for ESI construction: front row, kneeling, Dean Sheppard, Kameela Al-Ruh; back row, Ed Radvansky, Ron Hullett, general foreman David Gum, foreman Matt Morris, Bob Carcioppolo, Matt Coyle and Sean Hopkins.

recently attended the groundbreaking ceremony on behalf of Local 38. The county executive reported that the project, which was done under a project labor agreement (PLA), was done on schedule and \$20 million under budget. The new 600-room hotel looks great and is a great asset for Cleveland.

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

The Skills of Tomorrow

L.U. 48 (c,em,i,rtb,rts,st&tm), PORTLAND, OR — The IBEW has supplied the skilled labor that built the electrical infrastructure in America. Those IBEW skills have been passed along both on the job, and in the IBEW apprenticeship training programs. The Local 48 Electrical Training Center began in 1929 and has had only three training directors during that time: Dan Faddis, Ken Fry and Rod Belisle. There are currently a record number of 610 Local 48 apprentices participating.

Current Training Dir. Rod Belisle is proud of the following accomplishments:

- Paying off the debt associated with the JATC training facility. This will happen in the summer of 2016!
- Interviews of apprentices regarding rotation by the JATC Labor-Management Committee.
- Many apprentice curriculum updates, including the online Learning Management System.
- Building Information Modeling, Instrumentation, and an updated programmable logic controller (PLC) curriculum.
- A new Foreman Development Series being offered to the entire membership.
- "Mentorship Matters," a new apprentice advisory program being administered and coordinated through Bridget Quinn, NECA-IBEW Electrical Training Center (NIETC) workforce development coordinator, and apprentice Melissa Farmer.

[Editor's Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) rebranded in 2014 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.]

What is the most rewarding aspect of Rod Belisle's job? Belisle says, "Working closely with the highly motivated students and staff," is particularly rewarding. "We have an opportunity to pass along longstanding IBEW skills, and to innovate the training for the skills that the IBEW will require tomorrow."

Bob Blair, P.S.

Work Picture Upswing; Summer Activities & Events

L.U. 58 (em,i,rtb,spa&t), DETROIT, MI — The Retiree Association held its Annual Pin Party on Saturday,

April 30, at the Training Center. Members with 50 or more years of service were honored.

The work picture remains good here, with the upswing expected to continue. Always be current with the MUST Safety Program and your Michigan Electrical License. In order to renew your electrical license in 2017, you must complete a 15-hour Code Update class, offered at the Training Center.

The Local 58 Annual Family Picnic will be at Camp Dearborn on Saturday, Aug. 6. Bring your family out for a great

event for kids of all ages.

March with us on Labor Day with the whole family. The parade kicks off at 9 a.m. at Michigan and Trumbull, with coffee and donuts at the hall before we march. Afterward, all are welcome back for a light lunch and a chance to see old friends. Celebrate and enjoy the fruits of your labor with family and friends.

Join us at our General Membership Meetings and Dinner with the Brotherhood, provided by the Entertainment Committee before each meeting. Our committees look for new faces to join them and participate in the activities and services they offer to our members, families and communities. Please join us and participate to make all of our lives better. More hands make the task easier.

Make sure you are registered and vote on Election Day. Please contact the hall for information about how to support labor friendly candidates by assisting with lit drops, phone banks, etc.

Jim DeLuca, B.R./P.S.

Workers Memorial Day; Gearing Up for 2016 Election

L.U. 68 (i), DENVER, CO — Greetings, brothers and sisters. Local 68's job calls have slowed down during the last couple of months, but there is light on the horizon with jobs coming up.

We completed our local union election, which was conducted entirely by mail-in ballot. Congratulations to all who won election to office, and thank you to all who participated.

At this writing, we were in negotiations for our Sign Unit. As of press time, the next step was mediation, as negotiations had stalled out.

The Denver Area Labor Federation and the Colorado AFL-CIO started the process for political candidates to seek endorsement from labor; the process

involved an application, interviews and apprenticeship tours. These steps, along with follow-up accountability measures, will hopefully help elect good friends of working people to office who will honor their commitments.

Local 68 hosted a Workers Memorial Day event here at the hall on April 29. We had a very good turnout for a solemn occasion of tribute. We are reminded: "Safety First." (Asking workers to overlook a simple safety violation would be asking them to compromise the value of their co-workers' lives.)

The Local 68 Retirees Club held their last meeting before summer break with a presentation of IBEW service pin awards. Retirees were honored for IBEW service ranging from 45 years to 65 years. Altogether, awards presented represented a total of 880 years of service. Wow! Congratulations to all honorees and their spouses.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the families of our recently deceased brothers: Charles C. Wilkes, Wilbur W. Mays, Raymond J. Ross and Craig A. Nevala. "Brotherhood — Pass It On."

Jack Cox, Pres.

Market Share Gains; Members Exhibit Excellence

L.U. 70 (lctt&o), WASHINGTON, DC — Bruce & Merrilees Electric has been a union contractor since 1948. B&M is headquartered in New Castle, PA, and located an office in Abingdon, MD, in 2013. The company has employed IBEW Local 70 members for more than 15 years.

Bruce & Merrilees utilizes Local 70 personnel for transportation related projects, such as traffic signal intersections, highway lighting and intelligent transportation systems, as well as for work at high-voltage substations.

B&M regularly competes with nonunion companies and has had success in gaining market share over the last several years.

Safety is a core value for Bruce & Merrilees and its commitment is that each worker goes home safely at the end of every day. The company continually updates and upgrades its fleet of equipment and tooling to ensure the safest and most productive fleet available. B&M also incorporates the latest technology for use in the field, including tablets for foremen and continual training for all personnel.

Local 70 and Bruce & Merrilees have maintained a great relationship and the local wishes to thank the company for its continued union support. We also thank our members for working long hours, maintaining an exemplary safety record, demonstrating excellence, and ensuring timely job completions.

Jimmy Horton, B.R.



IBEW service awards were presented at Local 68 Retirees Club meeting on April 29.

LOCAL LINES



Attendees enjoy the Local 82 Retirees Christmas Party in 2015.

Local Celebrates 100 Years; 2016 Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 82 (em,i,mt&rtb), DAYTON, OH — Thanks to everyone who helped put on the retirees' and children's Christmas parties last year. Much time and effort goes into planning and putting on such events. Thanks again to everyone involved!

The Local 82 softball team put on their Annual Charlie Toon Memorial fish fry — chalk up another successful night! There was a great turnout. Thanks to everyone who came out to help and support a great cause.

Congratulations to the 2016 apprenticeship graduating class on topping out! It has been a long five years but you made it, graduates! As graduates, you will train our future journeymen, so remember how you wanted to be treated and be patient — you were there once!

At the time of this writing, Local 82 was making plans to celebrate its 100th birthday on June 25! Happy birthday, Local 82!

The Local 82 softball and golf leagues have started. Come on out and support your local!

Doug Searcy, P.S.



NxtUp94 presents donation to Rise Community Services. Front row, Joe Checkley (left), Joe Buchmueller, Frank Brennan, Hightstown Mayor Lawrence Quattrone, Rise Community Services Exec. Dir. and Councilwoman Leslie Koppel, Matt Nee, Bob Sheppard; back row, Joe Davis, Art Anderson, Shawn Sawicki, Adam Neuman and Nicholas Alasandro.

'NxtUp94' Conducts Food Drive

L.U. 94 (lctt,nst&u), CRANBURY, NJ — On Friday, April 29, NxtUp94, the young workers' committee of IBEW Local 94, donated over \$6,500 worth of food to Rise Food Pantry, located next door to Local 94 headquarters in Hightstown, NJ. The young workers placed donation containers for the drive at every work location, in addition to collecting monetary donations from members, in lieu of food. This was the third annual food drive organized by NxtUp94.

"I am overwhelmed by how much our young workers' committee has accomplished in just four short years," said Local 94 Bus. Mgr./Pres. Buddy Thoman. "They are involved in social, political and community events all throughout New Jersey, which helps further the goals of our local union and the labor movement."

New Jersey Assemblyman Wayne DeAngelo, who is president of IBEW Local 269, commended his IBEW brothers and sisters for putting together this much-needed food drive. "This is a great way to get our young members involved, and to help our com-

munity at the same time," he said.

Rise Community Services Exec. Dir. Leslie Koppel, who is also a Hightstown councilwoman, noted that the food donated in the drive helped to feed 2,000 people for over a month, including 600 families and 700 children.

Frank Brennan, P.S.

Members Serve Community: Apprentices Active & Engaged

L.U. 96 (i), WORCESTER, MA — Local 96 recently held its graduation ceremony for fifth-year apprenticeship graduates. Congratulations to these new journeymen. The ceremony was held at Holy Cross College in Worcester. Speakers included: Worcester Building Trades Council Pres. Brian Brousseau, Worcester Interfaith Community Organizer Frank Kartheiser, and Massachusetts Building Trades Council Rep. Chelsea Feuchs. Words of advice for the graduates included encouragement to stay involved in the community and participate in Local 96 activities and events. Member participation in local and community activities will help carry the local into the future.

Local 96 apprentices from the first-, second-, and fifth-year classes joined community members from the City of Worcester to help clean Coes Pond and a neighborhood beachfront. Third-year apprentices also pitched in to help in the community by completing much-needed repairs for Aids Project Worcester. In addition, members rallied together and donated items to Veterans Inc., also in Worcester. The organizations that benefited from these efforts appreciate the time, hard work and donations provided by Local 96 members. Thank you to our members for giving back to the community.

Local 96 members participated in showing their support for fellow IBEW Verizon workers from Local 2325, who were on strike. Thank you to the members who walked the picket line to stand in solidarity with our fellow brothers and sisters.

For more Local 96 news and information, please visit us online at www.ibewlocal96.org.

Luke E. Carpenter, P.S.



At Local 96 apprenticeship banquet, from left: graduates Matthew Fant, Timothy Duval, Andrew Ochap, Kyle Walter, Carl Mellor, Patrick Sweet, David Karrmann, David delaGorgendiere, Michael Shaw, Paul Ladroga; and instructor Michael Capuano. Not pictured: graduate Eric Anderson.



Local 112 apprenticeship class of 2016 presents donation to Arc of Tri-Cities.

Service to Community — Apprentices Present Donation

L.U. 112 (c,i&st), KENNEWICK, WA — The IBEW Local 112-NECA Electrical Apprenticeship Class of 2016 donated \$5,000 to the Arc of Tri-Cities.

Judy Westik, executive director of the Arc, was present for the occasion to accept the donation. These funds will go toward support of the Arc's advocacy services section. These services help parents of special needs children navigate the system and gain access to support for their children.

Travis Sellers, Mbr. Dev. Rep.



At Local 130 Apprentice of the Year Competition, from left: Fred Scott, judge; Billy Buckel, apprenticeship chairman/committeeman; Bus. Mgr. Paul Zulli; Apprenticeship Dir. Sandy Theroit; apprentices Roy Moliere (contest winner), Ross Karraker and Brandon Billiot; and Rodney Wallis, apprenticeship committeeman, judge.

Hospitals in the Crescent City

L.U. 130 (i), NEW ORLEANS, LA — The VA Hospital is one of Local 130's largest projects and is now nearing completion. This project proved to be a very complex undertaking, and we congratulate the IBEW members involved on its success.

Such a large project created logistical issues in terms of handling and storage of materials and equipment. Safety concerns, inspections and building revisions were a normal daily routine for our foreman and journeymen. Our brothers welcomed the challenge and wore it as a badge of honor.

Every journeyman we encountered on our frequent tours was quick to display their work. The pride and quality of their craftsmanship was second to none.

This is the second major hospital project we completed in the last four years. The UMC (University Medical Center) Hospital was completed first and is

the VA Hospital's neighbor just across the street. The construction of these two major medical facilities has provided New Orleans a medical stability that had been lost since Katrina.

Our members and traveling brothers and sisters should be proud of their fine work and contribution to our city.

We recently held our Outstanding Apprentice of the Year Competition. Bros. Brandon Billiot, Ross Karraker and Roy Moliere displayed a professional performance throughout the event. The scoring was so close that the complete testing was reviewed a couple of times. Roy Moliere was chosen as this year's Outstanding Apprentice of the year. These three young men represent the finest qualities the IBEW has to offer. We are all proud of them.

Billy Buckel, P.S.

Rally at Illinois Capitol — Major Turnout for Workers

L.U. 134 (catv,em,govt,i,mt,rtb, rts,spa&t), CHICAGO, IL — On Wednesday, May 18, over 10,000 people from various religious, community and labor organizations throughout Illinois traveled by bus or personal vehicle to attend a rally at the state Capitol in Springfield.

The purpose of the rally was to preserve existing prevailing wage laws that our anti-union Republican governor's administration is attempting to change with a so-called "turn-around agenda."

Local 134 had 16 buses and over 1,300 members in attendance, all wearing bright lime green T-shirts and voicing opposition to so-called "right-to-work" measures.

The Shannon Rovers led our contingent as we all marched through the streets to the Capitol building, where we listened to various leaders from the organizations represented. Their message was heard and our presence was seen. The vote to preserve prevailing wage passed with the help of four dissenting Republican votes. This is just one of the many challenges facing all working people in our state and we will continue the struggle for as long as it takes.

In other news, our RENEW (Reach out and Engage Next-gen Electrical Workers) group hosted its first Retiree Breakfast on June 12. We all look forward to this becoming a well-attended annual event.

Frank Cunningham, R.S.



Local 134 contingent marches toward the Illinois state Capitol building.



Local 146 congratulates the class of 2016 apprenticeship graduates.

Apprenticeship Graduates; Community Service Volunteers

L.U. 146 (ei,i&rts), DECATUR, IL — Local 146 held its election of officers on June 7. Elected were: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Joshua Sapp, Pres. John Warner, Vice Pres. Jeffree Taylor, Rec. Sec. Steve Tilford, Treas. Myra Walters; and Executive Board member Chris Hays, Lynn Richards, Mary Sapp, John Shores Jr., Stephen Tomer, Jeff Westendorf and Chad Young.

Congratulations also to retiring Asst. Bus. Mgr./Dispatcher Ron Cummings on his retirement. Also, congratulations to Kenny Musick on his appointment to that position.

The local's annual golf outing took place in June. The weather was good, and it was a great day of golfing and brotherhood.

Members have also once again volunteered at the Macon County Fair and the Decatur Celebration. Thanks to all for participating.

With great sadness, we said goodbye to members Bill Lancaster and Harold Truxell, who recently passed away. These brothers and their service to the local will never be forgotten.

Congratulations to the class of 2016 apprenticeship graduates. Inside wiremen graduates are: Justin Moma, Austin Schultz, Ryan Kneller, Heath Righter, Andrew Rempe, Justin Baker, Brandon McCormick, Marc Stuart, Brandon Weiss, Ben Davis, Justin Probst, Sam Richardson and Clayton Walter. Telecommunications graduates are: Nathan Hilligoss, Joe Galvan, Bryan Newhouse and Derek Rodman. Kudos to these new journeymen on successfully completing the apprenticeship program.

Rich Underwood, R.S.

Job Fair a Success; Annual Anniversary Banquet

L.U. 158 (i,it,mar,mt&spa), GREEN BAY, WI — After a slow start to the construction season, calls for manpower from our books are steadily taking place. This is not unusual across the state. As of this writing, we expect to be looking for manpower by mid-summer.

For that reason, Local 158 held a job fair in May with the goal to organize potential electricians for



Local 158 Bus. Mgr. Don Allen receives plaque presented by member Marsha Nebel at the local's annual banquet.

membership. There was a good turnout for the fair and attendees showed interest. We were able to find experienced electricians as well as those who were inquiring about a career in the trades. We provided applicants with information about what the IBEW has to offer. The IBEW state organizers and coordinator, along with local members and staff, did an outstanding job for the event. Thanks to all.

Our local held its annual anniversary banquet in April. We celebrated our 97th year as IBEW Local 158. Over 270 people attended, an awesome turnout.

At the banquet, IBEW years-of-service pins were awarded to active and retired members; some members received retirement pins; and our apprentices were recognized for their achievements.

And as a surprise presentation, a plaque was presented to myself from the Apprenticeship Committee and the membership in recognition of our efforts in constructing a training facility for our members. It was very touching. Engraved on the plaque is a Benjamin Franklin quote: "Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn." It was a very nice evening indeed.

Donald C. Allen, B.M.

Election of Officers

L.U. 164 (c,em,i,o&t), JERSEY CITY, NJ — On June 2, Local 164 held its election of officers. On behalf of the membership, we would like to thank our election judges, Dana DiCrosta, Bruce Englebrecht and Russ Solleder, for their hard work and their professionalism. We also thank all of our election tellers, whose hard work helped make our election process a smooth and orderly one.

Officers elected for the upcoming term are as follows: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Dan Gumble, Pres. Tom Sullivan, Vice Pres. Warren Becker, Rec. Sec. Todd Heuer and Treas. Val McHale. Executive Board members: John Callari, Chris Cunningham, Rich Davies, Victor Docherty, D.J. Heal, Chris Larson and Jason Reiser. Examining Board members: Rick Anastasi, Vinny Colucci, Anthony Hall, Michael Sabarese and Eric Williams. Delegates to the I.O. Convention: Warren Becker, John Callari, Chris Cunningham, D.J. Heal, Todd Heuer, Chris Larson and Jason Reiser. Alternates to the I.O. Convention: Steve Clay and Kevin Marion.

Thank you to our outgoing officers, who served the local with pride and distinction. Also, we would like to thank all the members who ran for office in this election; it was good to have the expression of so many thoughts and ideas.

Warren Becker, V.P.

Kudos to New Linemen & Techs

L.U. 222 (o), ORLANDO, FL — Greetings, brothers and sisters. The "Sunshine State" is living up to its name as of this writing, with late May temperatures already in the 90s. Experts predict a very active summer weather-wise in the tropics, so everyone please be prepared for an eventful hurricane season.

Local 222 had six apprentices top out between January and May of 2016. They are as follows: jour-

neyman linemen — James Copen, Joshua Wilburth, Brian Latimer and Jerry Davidson III; and underground residential distribution (URD) technicians — James A. Sheppard IV and Michael Overturf. Congratulations and continued success to all.

The local wishes to thank Bro. Richard Helman for providing the accompanying photo of three IBEW father-and-son teams working on our south Florida distribution work — all six of whom are working for the same contractor. [See photo, below.] As Hank Jr. would say it's a family tradition.

Everyone stay safe.

William "Bill" Hitt, Pres.



Three IBEW father-and-son teams working for contractor Heart Utilities Inc. From left: Local 222 members Garrett Carlisle, Martin Carlisle, Pat O'Connor Jr. and Pat O'Connor Sr.; and Local 71 members Kaleb Helman and Richard Helman.

'Unionist of the Year' Award

L.U. 234 (i&mt), CASTROVILLE, CA — On April 29, the Monterey Bay Central Labor Council held its 16th Annual Labor Awards Dinner, where Local 234 Pres. Mike Ihnot was honored as Unionist of the Year. He and the other honorees were recognized for their many accomplishments and celebrated by our national, state and local leaders, including state Sen. Bill Monning.

Our 66th Apprentice Graduation Ceremony was held May 6 at the Hyatt in Monterey, CA. For Sound & Communications, Mohammed Garaan not only completed his program with perfect attendance but also was selected as overall Outstanding Apprentice for Northern California. Our four Inside apprenticeship graduates were: Andres Duenas, Jose Garcia Jr., Justin Petrie and Randyn Trybom. Bro. Trybom was selected as overall Outstanding Apprentice. Our industry will be stronger with the welcome addition of these newly minted journeymen arriving with their skills, ideas, professional attitudes, and eagerness to take on the ever-increasing jobsite demands. Congratulations, graduates.

Stephen Slovacek, P.S.



Local 234 inside apprenticeship graduates of 2016: José Garcia Jr. (left), Justin Petrie, Randyn Trybom and Andres Duenas.

Union-Built T3 Office Building Project in Minneapolis, Minn.

L.U. 292 (em,govt,i,rtb,rts&spa), MINNEAPOLIS, MN — The AFL-CIO Building Investment Trust has undertaken building a new, multi-tenant T-3 office

building constructed with union labor.

The T3 office building is one of the first modern structures of its size to be constructed of wood in this country. It is a 221,500-square-foot, seven-story building. The AFL-CIO Investment Trust-financed project is a reinvestment of trade union pension funds, employing union construction workers. We would encourage other locals to invest in lease space.

T3 stands for "Timber, Transit, Technology." Timber - promoting the old-school style of construction, using renewable resources. Transportation — for the location of the office building, which is accessible by light rail, bicycle paths and mass transit.

Technology - looking forward with the latest technology innovations.

This beautiful wood-structure building project in Minneapolis has generated an estimated 606,000 union construction hours. In addition, it will be maintained by union employees. The building is being funded, constructed, maintained and occupied by union people like ourselves.

To read more about the project, see article "Ground Broken for Union-Built, Eco-Friendly Office Building," at website

www.minnesotabuildingtrades.org/news/ground-broken-union-build-eco-friendly-office-building.

Eric Peterson, B.R.

Asplundh Negotiations

L.U. 300 (govt,i,mt&u), MONTPELIER, VT — At this early summer writing contract negotiations with Asplundh were underway for a first agreement for 104 members in Vermont. The negotiating committee is well-versed and proud to be part of the process. We are hopeful for a positive outcome. Stay tuned for future updates.

The construction season is underway and the rage for this year seems to be solar and battery (Tesla) installation. Commercial construction appears to be on an upward swing and we anxiously await the awarding process for these projects.

Safety in the industry and all work places needs to be raised a notch by our members. We cannot allow management to alter or change work practices arbitrarily to suit any need to create a speedy, less efficient and less safe work force.

Only we can be the voice of concern for all. And only we can watch out for our fellow sisters and brothers. Work hard, work safe, and go home to your family strong and sound.

Jeffrey C. Wimette, B.M./F.S.

2016 Graduation Ceremony

L.U. 306 (i), AKRON, OH — On June 3, a banquet and awards ceremony was held to honor the achievements of our 2016 apprentice graduates.

Opening remarks were given by Bus. Mgr. Michael Might. The invocation was given by commercial

graduate Marcus McHaney. Guest speaker was Bob Doherty, regional sales manager with Wolff Bros. Supply. Diplomas and awards were presented by Chmn. Larry Thompson and Training Dir. Paul Zimmerman, followed by closing remarks from Jason Walden, NECA chapter manager.

This year's graduates are as follows: Residential

LOCAL LINES

– Adam Boyd, Jordan Jenior, Christopher Rowland and Nicholas Sampson; Tele Data – William Dehil and Matthew DiChiro; and Commercial – Andrew Brown, Christopher Chaney, Kevin Cultrona, Brandon Foulks, Brian Friend, Zachary Glagola, Mitchell Griffis, Micah Herndon, Ronald James, Jason Laing, James Lockhart, Chad Lyons, Eric Markiewicz, Dayne Maynard, Marcus McHaney, Dean Miller, Brad Novotny, Jason Patterson, Scott Raberstein, Jeffrey Rager, Matthew Robinson, Daniel Rowe, Daniel Skeens, Brandon Talkington, Rosalee Terhart, Jason Thesing and Herbert Ward III.

Highest grade point average awards were presented to: Residential – Jordan Jenior, 91.73 grade point average; Tele Data – Matthew DiChiro, 93.73; Commercial – Brandon Foulks, 97.12. Graduates recognized for perfect attendance were: A. Brown, K. Cultrona, B. Friend, Z. Glagola, J. Lockhart, C. Lyons, E. Markiewicz, M. McHaney, S. Raberstein, J. Rager, M. Robinson, D. Rowe, D. Skeens and R. Terhart.

Congratulations to all our graduates on successfully completing their apprenticeship.

We end on a sad note in reporting the passing of retired Bros. Theodore Wands, Charles Engelman, William Rankin and Wilbur Repp. Our condolences go out to their families and friends.

Thomas Wright, P.S.



Local 352 Vice Pres. Maggie Rich (left) with veterans outreach coordinator Allyson Bolt, Advent House.

Season for Community Service

L.U. 352 (u), LANSING, MI – It's a busy year for us at Local 352! We have elections this year and our contract negotiations are underway, but we took time out recently to participate in the 13th Annual Stand Down for Veterans event. I wrote about this event last year when we began collecting donations for the homeless veterans in our area. We collected nine large boxes of assorted clothing, shoes, and personal hygiene items to distribute to veterans through the Volunteers of America and we were at the event handing out small bags to people we met. The bags contained toothbrushes, combs, travel-sized toothpaste, lotion, new socks, etc.

There were many vendors at the event offering free services like health screening, eye exams, haircuts, and other assistance. Free clothing and shoes were available and a meal was provided. We shared a booth with Advent House Ministries, a Lansing area nonprofit that offers transitional shelter, outreach services, GED programs, and regular meals for the local homeless population. We partner with Advent

House throughout the year to cook and serve meals for the homeless. There is nothing more rewarding than giving back!

Maggie Rich, V.P.



Local 364 inside wireman graduates, seated: Justin Sinkiwic (left), Brian Degenhardt, Alex Fisher, Chris Martenson, Zack Blackwell, Tyler Hartzell. Standing, back row: Bus. Mgr. Alan Golden, Asst. Bus. Mgr. Dave Cargill, Apprenticeship Sec. John Larson, committee members Jim Polsean and Chris Benson, Apprenticeship Pres. Jeff Schnaiter and committee member Jack Battel. Not pictured: VDV technician graduate John Garza.

Strong Showing at Rally; Apprenticeship Graduation

L.U. 364 (catv,ees,em,es,i,mt,rts&spa), ROCKFORD, IL – On Wednesday, May 18, several members of IBEW Local 364 attended the “Rauner is Wrong Rally” in Springfield, IL. The event was sponsored by the AFL-CIO and AFSCME. Over 10,000 people attended the rally and made it loud and clear that we will not stand for Gov. Bruce Rauner's anti-union, anti-middle-class agenda.

IBEW Local 364 held our Apprenticeship Graduation Banquet on Friday, June 10. Inside wireman graduates are: Zack Blackwell, Brian Degenhardt, Alex Fisher, Tyler Hartzell, Chris Martenson and Justin Sinkiwic. The VDV technician graduate is John Garza. Congratulations to our new journeyman wiremen and VDV technician as they begin their new careers. May they be safe and prosperous.

On Saturday, July 23, Local 364 held its 15th annual Electrical Workers Golf Playday. We had over 100 golfers attending this event, which featured a 55-inch big screen TV as a grand prize. All in attendance had a great time.

Brad Williams, P.S.

Apprenticeship Banquet; Distinguished Service Award

L.U. 494 (em,i,mt,rts,spa&t), MILWAUKEE, WI – On April 27, the Milwaukee Area Technical College hosted the 2016 Apprenticeship Banquet at the Italian Community Center. The electrical apprenticeship program is part of the group of 22 apprenticeship programs recognized that evening. Among honorees were 106 apprentice graduates from those programs. Additionally, several students were presented a Practical Skills Award. IBEW Local 494 was fortunate to have five apprentices receive the Practical Skills Award. Congratulations to all!



Local 494 apprentice graduates were among honorees at 2016 apprenticeship banquet at MATC. From left: Instructor Tom Kennedy; Bus. Rep./JATC member John Jacobs; Nathan Shevey, Practical Skills Award recipient; graduates Steven Rogers, Alex Kosinski, Zach Lovas, Kyle Gorecki, Patrick O'Hare; Milwaukee Electrical JATC Chmn. Henry Hurt; and Instructor Don Hoerke.

The icing on the cake for that evening was the 2016 Distinguished Service Award presented to the president of the Milwaukee Building & Construction Trades Council, Daniel J. Bukiewicz. Dan is a card carrying Local 494 member. He was recognized for his dedication to spreading the word about apprenticeship in the area schools. In his speech, Dan recognized the 18 affiliated trades/locals that actively participate in the apprenticeship programs. Congratulations, Dan!

IBEW Local 494 is proud to have recently celebrated our 110th anniversary! On May 21, we hosted an open house and ribbon cutting ceremony for our Local 494 Historical Museum. If you are in our area, please stop in to visit. Congratulations and thanks to all of our 494 members!

John Jacobs, B.R.

Tribute to a Brother – Life of Dedicated Service

L.U. 558 (catv,em,i,mt,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), SHEFFIELD, AL – It is with broken hearts and sadness that we report Local 558 lost a dear brother to an accident on April 11, 2016, while in the line of duty at work.

Brother Wendell Smith, initiated Sept. 24, 1990, tragically lost his life while doing routine maintenance at the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) Wilson Dam.

Brother Smith was a highly respected wireman and known by many as the “go to guy.” More importantly, he was recognized as a loving husband, father, and man of high integrity. Brother Smith was an avid deer hunter and car enthusiast. He was escorted to his resting place in a 1971 Chevrolet Truck that he recently restored.

His impact cannot be fully expressed in this article, however, it has been evident through the outpouring of love and support not only by members in this local, but also throughout the entire Brotherhood.

Brother Smith is survived by his dear wife, Lisa, and their two daughters, Jessica Joiner and Kendra Hanback.

On behalf of Brother Smith's family, his co-workers and the Local 558 staff, we thank the union membership for assisting each other in sickness or distress, as stated in the “objectives” of our IBEW Constitution.

Brother Wendell, you will be missed and forever remembered as a man of honor. We will forever speak your name in reverence.

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



Bro. Wendell Smith, late Local 558 member.

Election of Officers; Certificate of Honor Awarded

L.U. 568 (c,ees,em,i&o), MONTREAL, QUEBEC, CANADA – Local 568 is proud to honor one of our pioneers, a 60-year member. Brother Richard Courtemanche worked on various projects in the United States, including: the George Washington Bridge, the Panama Building, an International Expo in New York, Newark Airport and the World Trade Center. In Canada, he worked on the General Motors manufacturing plant in St. Thérèse and elsewhere. Bro. Courtemanche, age 95, received an IBEW certificate of honor and gold watch. We wish him well.

Following the May 5 election of officers, Quebec Local 568 wishes to introduce the new business manager and the executive committee members. Newly elected officers are: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. André Jean, Pres. Marc Thomas, Vice Pres. Nicolas Dorais, Treas. Steve Pouliot and Rec. Sec. Ronald Rousse. Executive committee members are Sylvain Jean, Vincent Lefebvre and Kenny Routhier. Guy Fournier was appointed assistant business manager.

Le Local 568 (MONTREAL) – est fier de honorer un de nos pionniers, membre en règle de la Fraternité depuis 60 ans. Le confrère Richard Courtemanche a travaillé sur différents chantiers aux États-Unis, pour en nommer quelques-uns: Pont Georges Washington, l'Édifice Panama, Expo international de N.Y. au pavillon Futurama de G.M., Aéroport de Newark et le World Trade Center; au Canada il a travaillé à l'usine de construction d'automobile Général Moteurs de St Thérèse et plusieurs autres. Le confrère Courtemanche, âgé de 95 ans, a reçu un certificat d'honneur et une montre en or de la part de la Fraternité. Nous lui souhaitons encore une longue vie.

Suite à l'élection tenue le 5 mai dernier, le local 568 du Québec désire vous présenter son nouveau Gérant d'affaires ainsi que les membres du comité exécutif. A été élu au poste de Gérant d'affaires monsieur André Jean, Marc Thomas à titre de Président, le vice-président Nicolas Dorais, le trésorier Steve Pouliot et le secrétaire/archiviste Ronald Rousse. En terminant, les 3 membres du comité exécutif sont Sylvain Jean, Vincent Lefebvre ainsi que Kenny Routhier. Guy Fournier a maintenant été nommé en tant qu'assistant Gérant d'affaires.

André Jean, B.M./F.S.



Local 568 retired member Richard Courtemanche receives IBEW certificate of honor.

2016 Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 570 (i,mo,spa&u), TUCSON, AZ – Congratulations to the apprenticeship graduating class of 2016. The recent apprentice graduates are: David Balich, Michael Burnside, Donald Casey, Thomas Cramer, Israel Gomez, Delbert Gum, Ryan Guthrie, Jeffrey Hixon, Forest Lohman, Enrique Martinez, Nicholas McGrath, Patrick McKnight, Daniel Palacio, Fernando Rangel, Miguel San Juan, Richard Solomon and Wesley Stark.

We are proud of these new journeymen. Graduates, you have completed the first leg of your journey – be the best wiremen you can be and pass on the knowledge to upcoming members. A big thank-you to the instructors, Bruce Carroll, Jim Redzinak and Ben

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Local 570 congratulates class of 2016 apprenticeship graduates, assembled with instructors.

White, and to the family members of the graduates for their support.

Scott Toot, Pres.

Apprenticeship Graduates

L.U. 576 (i), ALEXANDRIA, LA — Our apprenticeship graduation ceremony was held in May 2016 and hosted by Alexandria Electrical JATC Training Dir. Matthew Hennings. On behalf of Local 576 and NECA, we congratulate all the graduates on becoming inside journeyman wiremen. The 2016 graduates are: Justin Barrett, Jacob Ducote, Danny Laurent, Terrance Lofton, Christopher Nichols and Dominic Redd. Graduate Terrance Lofton was recognized as this year's outstanding apprentice.

[Editor's Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) rebranded in 2014 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.]

Matthew Hennings, Tr. Dir.



At Local 576 apprenticeship graduation ceremony: graduates Christopher Nichols (left), Terrance Lofton, Justin Barrett, Danny Laurent, Jacob Ducote and Dominic Redd.

'Work is Booming'

L.U. 606 (em,es,i,rtb,spa&u), ORLANDO, FL — Local 606 hosted the biannual retiree luncheon at the main hall with over 30 retired brothers attending. It was a chance for them to reminisce and be brought up to date on what the local is doing currently. If it were not for these hard working brothers and the skills and knowledge they have passed on, Local 606 would not be doing as well as we are. We honor their legacy and are grateful for their dedication to the IBEW and Local 606.

Work is booming right now with Book 1 essentially clear. We thank all the travelers who are filling

the calls that continue to come in. The Disney Animal Kingdom Avatar project has peaked with 200 electricians and is scheduled to be completed on time in early 2017. The long delayed airport people-mover project has finally started and calls are being filled there. A major organizing drive is scheduled for our eastern jurisdiction where a large project is planned that may employ up to 200 electricians. This will coincide with the grand re-opening of our satellite hall in Melbourne. We project that work will continue to remain steady, giving us the opportunity to not only put travelers to work, but also to organize new members into our great union.

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

Rally at State Capitol; Solidarity & Brotherhood

L.U. 702 (as,c,catv,cs,em,es,et,govt,i,it,lctt,mo,mt,o,p,pet,ptc,rtb,rts,se,spa,st,t,u,uow&ws), WEST FRANKFORT, IL — Over 300 IBEW Local 702 members spent the day with us "Rallying Against Rauner" at the Illinois state Capitol in Springfield on May 18, where our very own Local 702 Bro. Logan Hall spoke in front of over 10,000 about how the governor's so-called "turn-around agenda" would cut prevailing wage, eliminate collective bargaining rights for public employees, and hurt working families. Many thanks to all who went with us to the rally that day.

On April 27, our Newton Unit members raised over \$5,000 for the family of deceased member Jimmy Taylor, who passed away March 6 this year from cancer; proceeds will go directly to Jimmy's son for college expenses.

On June 3, our members held a BBQ Rib Sale to help Local 702 members Ethan and Elizabeth Robinson, whose twins (one girl, one boy) born May 13 at 24 weeks have been dealing with multiple issues that come with being premature. We were able to present the family with \$10,462, thanks to the generosity of our members who bought rib slabs or gave outright donations to the cause.

We have a new five-year agreement at Southwa-

ter, a rural water treatment plant and distribution system company, with no concessions.

As of this writing, our referral books are as follows: Inside Construction – 101, Outside Construction – 29, and Line Clearance – 1.

Mark Baker, B.R./P.S.



At "Rauner is Wrong" rally at state Capitol in Springfield, IL, from left: IBEW Local 702 members Dwayne Brookhouse and Logan Hall; Illinois AFL-CIO Pres. Michael Carrigan; and Local 702 Pres. Jimmy Sanchez.

'Challenges & Opportunities'

L.U. 760 (i,lctt,o,rts,spa&u), KNOXVILLE, TN — With many demographic changes hitting the job market, the IBEW will have many challenges ahead regarding market forces and the workforce, and we will look to the upcoming generation of members to help keep our union strong.

Wages, classifications, benefits, and even safety and training standards are sure to be affected if the demand for skilled workers is not met with conviction. The IBEW has addressed these challenges since 1891, and has always been a leader when it comes to training for all craftsmen. The U.S. military and the IBEW have trained more people with the highest standards than anyone else in the country.

So called "right-to-work" laws have always been about an employer holding the rights, and people without rights doing the work.

Local 760 here in Knoxville and the SELCAT/JATC programs have been training journeyman linemen/journeyman wiremen for generations. [Photo, below right.] With this kind of training, a union skilled craftsman can work anywhere in the country, and have the documentation to prove it, for a better future.

[Editor's Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) rebranded in 2014 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.]

Jason Leary, Organizer

Tribute to Lives of Service

L.U. 1116 (em,lctt&u), TUCSON, AZ — Local 1116 has lost an honored union sister and brother. Bus. Rep. Danell Carter lost her valiant battle with cancer in April. And Richard "R.C." Cavaletto passed unexpectedly in May.

In many ways, Danell and RC were a lot alike. Danell was a unique individual, full of joy and happiness, always looking out for and helping those around her. Danell was a recipient of the well-deserved Mother Jones Award. She spearheaded our internal organizing committee, and her efforts made our local a shining star within the IBEW.

R.C. was a dedicated union member who served on the Local 1116 Executive Board and as the local's press secretary for many years. He was always ready to help with whatever project was put in front of him.

Both Danell and R.C. worked tirelessly for the membership — organizing members, picnics and charitable donations, and doing all they could to share the benefits of the union and engage people around them.

We will continue to move forward in their absence, honoring their memory by carrying on with those things that meant so much to them. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to the Carter and Cavaletto families.

Sharon Williams, P.S.

Three-Year Contract Ratified

L.U. 1206 (mt), NEWARK, OH — With winter behind us, Local 1206 would like to wish an enjoyable and safe summer to all IBEW members.

Local 1206 recently ratified a three-year agreement in March with Owens Corning. Thanks go out to our negotiating committee, Dan Coakley, Eric Porter, and Deny Hogue as well as Rec. Sec. Eric Jones and Bus. Mgr./Pres. Rich Cady, for representing our local.

Local 1206 also welcomes our four newest union brothers: Don Santee, John Cullison, Ramiro Del Toro and Jason Santavica.

Congratulations to Bro. Mike Ashcraft on his retirement. Also, congratulations to Bus. Mgr./Pres. Rich Cady on his upcoming retirement from Owens Corning. We thank Bus. Mgr. Cady for his longtime, dedicated service.

Jeffrey A. Cady, Treas.

United Way Award; Sept. 24 Family Picnic

L.U. 1466 (u), COLUMBUS, OH — Local 1466 would like to remind all of our members and their families that our annual Fall Family Picnic will be Saturday, Sept. 24. We will, once again, be having gift raffles, kids activities, and a catered lunch. This is always a good chance to relax and reconnect with your fellow union brothers and sisters.

In other news, Local 1466 was awarded the 2016 United Way Impact Partnership Award for our joint effort with American Electric Power (AEP) to help those in need through the generous contributions of our members. We

thank all of you for your continued support.

We wish everyone a happy Labor Day. This is a day to honor you, as members of organized labor, as well as remember the struggles of those who came before us. Please, take the time to enjoy your day!

Jimi Jette, P.S.



Local 606 hosted a retiree luncheon at the union hall.



Local 760 members attend training class.



The Electrical Worker was the name of the first official publication of the National Brotherhood of Electrical Workers in 1893 (the NBEW became the IBEW in 1899 with the expansion of the union into Canada). The name and format of the publication have changed over the years. This newspaper is the official publication of the IBEW and seeks to capture the courage and spirit that motivated the founders of the Brotherhood and continue to inspire the union's members today. The masthead of this newspaper is an adaptation of that of the first edition in 1893.

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Fifth District
Michael Walter

Fourth District
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Fifth District
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FROM THE OFFICERS

Why We Endorsed Clinton



Lonnie R. Stephenson
International President



Salvatore J. Chilia
International Secretary-Treasurer

Earlier this summer, the international officers of the IBEW made a major decision, to endorse Hillary Clinton for president.

We have heard from many members who support that decision. We have also heard from those who disagree and question why we are supporting Clinton.

In the interests of clarity and transparency, we want to address those concerns here.

There will be two candidates on the ballot Nov. 8 with a chance of becoming our next president.

One of them is Hillary Clinton. As senator from New York she boasted a 94 percent lifetime score from the AFL-CIO. That means on the issues that matter to us as union members — from right-to-work to prevailing wage — she supported the labor movement 94 percent of the time.

She also voted for judges and regulators committed to preserving collective bargaining, workplace health and safety regulations and workers' rights on the job.

During her campaign she has called for the biggest investment in our industrial and energy infrastructure since World War II, a long overdue move that would result in millions of jobs, including many good construction and energy jobs.

And on economic policy, she has specifically called for strengthening unions and collective bargaining as one way she as president would help grow the middle class.

The other candidate is Republican nominee Donald Trump.

As we report in this issue, he has had, at best, a mixed record working with unions as a real-estate developer. We also know that he praised right-to-work laws and once said that American workers "make too much money."

But here is the biggest reason why we think Trump does not deserve any IBEW members' vote.

Last spring he issued his list of potential Supreme Court nominees endorsed by conservative, anti-union groups like the Federalist Society. Judges like Wisconsin's Diane Sykes, a close ally of Gov. Scott Walker.

Just before Justice Antonin Scalia's death, the court was on the verge of making a ruling in the Friedrichs case that would have made the entire public sector right-to-work.

The next justice to replace Scalia will be the swing vote on the court. It just takes one bad decision to set a precedent that could set back the labor movement decades.

Can you imagine the damage someone like Sykes or any of Trump's picks would do to this country?

It is not just bad politics to endorse someone like Trump. It is suicide.

Sen. Bernie Sanders had the support of many IBEW members and for good reason. He put pro-worker issues front and center, from opposing bad trade deals to raising wages and cracking down on big money in politics.

We are pleased he entered the race and support his efforts to make sure the Democratic Party keeps its focus on those issues in this fall's campaign.

But Democratic voters made their decision and nominated Clinton. And that means you all have a big choice to make.

You only need to look at what happened in Wisconsin or West Virginia, two states that have gone right-to-work recently, to understand that elections have consequences.

Your vote is your decision and your decision alone.

But one of our responsibilities as officers of this union is to study where each candidate stands on the issues and make a recommendation on who to support.

It is not about partisanship or personalities. It is about who will make it easier to collectively bargain, to organize and grow.

A vote for Trump is a vote to put a union-buster on the Supreme Court — simple as that.

A vote for Clinton is a vote for a candidate who has stood by unions in the past and sees us as partners in the future.

The IBEW has provided so many good things for ourselves, our families, and our nation.

We can't risk a president willing to throw that all away. ■



HOW TO REACH US

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

Send letters to:

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

Or send by email to: media@ibew.org

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The Electrical Worker (print)
ISSN 2332-113X

The Electrical Worker (online)
ISSN 2332-1148

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Electrical Worker*, 900 Seventh Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001.

The Electrical Worker will not be held responsible for views expressed by correspondents.

Paid advertising is not accepted.

Publications Mail Agreement No. 40011756.
Canada Post: Return undeliverables to P.O. Box 2601,
6915 Dixie Rd, Mississauga, ON L4T 0A9.



“LETTERS TO THE EDITOR”

Election 2016: The Debate

Donald Trump is a scab, plain and simple. He's for national right-to-work, he builds scab on his jobs, he hires undocumented workers, he outsources jobs to China and Mexico, he thinks we make too much money, he doesn't pay his contractors and obviously, he's a general [jerk.]

If you're union and you're for Trump, I'm sorry but you're [making a mistake]. There's no other way to put it: You need to either get your head [examined] or get out of our union. Because when you vote for him, you're saying that you don't give a damn about yourself or any of us. You are saying that our predecessors, who fought and DIED for the benefits we receive, did it all for nothing and their sacrifices were in vain.

You don't deserve the protections the union offers.

Yes, Hillary Clinton is the bland, boiled chicken next to the filet mignon that is Bernie Sanders but Donald Trump is [poison.]

You don't eat [poison] because you can't have the steak.

Eat the chicken.

*Christopher J. Stermel Local 98 member
Philadelphia*

Here's a fact we as union brothers and sisters may want to consider:

Either Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump (or another anti-union Republican) is going to be president.

We need to put aside our hatred for Clinton or you'll be lovin' the Donald from the unemployment line (if he doesn't eliminate that).

Bernie has started something. Continue to support the revolution the best way you can. VOTE DEMOCRAT.

*Danny Cox, Local 648 member
Hamilton, Ohio*

I'm proud and grateful to be an IBEW member. I would like to thank the countless locals that endorsed Sanders. These acts of solidarity gave me sincere hope.

I am, however, beyond dismayed and highly discouraged that our I.O. turned its back on a man who walked our picket lines and stood behind our podiums countless times.

With this endorsement we betrayed a candidate that voted against NAFTA, CAFTA, PNTR with China, a candidate who was the most outspoken critic of the TPP, a man with a lifetime grade from the AFL-CIO of 98 percent!

For the first time in my life I had the opportunity to vote and campaign for someone who was not a lesser of two evils in any regard. And I did so proudly during the primary. The lesser of two evils has gotten us nowhere. Twenty-six right-to-work states and 11 percent national market share.

I agree with Sanders, "It's too late for establishment politics." I'm still with Sanders. If I'm robbed the opportunity to vote for him in the general election I will be voting for Green Party nominee Jill Stein.

I write these words with no intention of disrespect and with absolutely no joy. This is an instance where I truly don't want to be right but how can anyone truly examine Clinton's record and say I'm wrong? Our own internal scorecards say this was the wrong choice. I'm disillusioned here.

*Brian Thomas Alden Parker, Local 332 member
San Jose, Calif.*

Who do all you people complaining support? Because if it's not Bernie Sanders you might as well just tear your union card up and go be a scab. I hate Hillary as much as the next guy, but do you think that Trump is going to do anything for us? He already has over 240 lawsuits from subcontractors — our employers — for refusing to pay them and putting them out of business. He filed injunctions to stop HIS casino from organizing and he had a bunch of undocumented workers working on his last high-rise.

Is he going to help unions? I think not. He's already said that he supports national right-to-work so that pretty much sums up his thoughts on unions. If he had the chance, he would get rid of prevailing wage and project labor agreements so other rich guys like him could pay people whatever they want and get rid of us. Get your heads out of the sand!

*Dan Brown, Local 1 member
St. Louis*

Hillary Clinton is a strong, well-qualified candidate: She was the first lady of Arkansas and the United States of America, where she fought for universal health care. She was a popular twice-elected senator and, don't forget, secretary of state.

Hillary supports labor unions and working families and the Donald does not.

*Karlene Knisley, Local 51 member
Springfield, Ill.*

WHO WE ARE

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

Trailblazer Still Opening Doors for Others

Now, today, it seems like a good story. But in the late 1970s, it was a reminder that nothing would be easy for Jeri Porter, a first-year apprentice in training and the only woman in her class.

She was working on her first jobsite when she realized the workers' bathroom was for men only.

"They didn't know what to do with me, so they sent me into the office to use that bathroom," she said. "The secretaries leaped up and started screaming bloody murder that a dirty construction worker would sully up their bathroom."

So much so that office staffers called police, thinking a man was using a restroom reserved for women after they saw work boots from underneath a stall.

Despite the embarrassment of being the cause of an uproar, Porter quietly went back to work. It's the attitude she used during her 30 years as an active IBEW member. It was one she took while becoming the mayor of Roslyn, Wash., her hometown.

And it's one she tries to pass on to female electricians today. Porter spends much of her time in retirement mentoring young women as they make their way in the industry.

"She was there in the forefront to break up the misconceptions people had for the women behind her," Portland, Ore., Local 48 journeyman wireman Carole Cobb said. "She gave us a better name."

Or as Atlanta Local 613 apprentice Candice Edge put it: "I think it's her destiny to share her legacy. She does that through each person that she reaches out to."

Porter grew up in an era that if she was a "Jerry" instead of a "Jeri," she likely would have been viewed as a typical candidate for apprenticeship.

Her father, a member of the United Mine Workers, died when she was 10. Porter said she was always eager to help when uncles and other friends came by to help with household projects, such as fixing electrical outlets or laying a linoleum floor. She excelled in science and math in school.

"Instead of getting dolls, I always wanted an Erector Set," she said. "That wasn't considered appropriate back then."

Thus, Porter took her mother's advice and pursued becoming a teacher. Off she went to Central Washington University.

Money was running low by her junior year, however. A friend who was a union painter suggested the trades, so Porter applied for the Longview, Wash., Local 970 (amalgamated into Local 48 in 2011) apprenticeship program in 1978. She was the first woman in its jurisdiction to become an inside wireman when she topped out in 1982.

Partly because work was scarce in



Retired wireman Jeri Porter still mentors young members.

the area, and partly because of her sense of adventure, Porter decided to become a traveler. She worked on projects in Florida, California, Massachusetts and Texas, where she met her husband, David Porter, also a journeyman inside wireman.

"I would come to a new jurisdiction and be accepted at face value," David Porter said. "She would go on the same job and have to prove herself all over again."

Take what happened when Jeri was named a foreman during a stint at the Diablo Canyon power plant in southern California. Most of the 10 employees who reported to her — all males — walked off the job in protest.

"I thought they were stupid," Jeri Porter said. "What's wrong with you guys? But I just took it in stride. I didn't get mad at them. They started trickling in when they found out how ridiculous they were."

That might have discouraged some women. Not Porter.

"She doesn't see them as roadblocks," Edge said. "She sees them as challenges with the potential to build her career. That's one of the most amazing qualities about her."

Added her husband: "That was the early years. After she had been around a little bit, when she was accepted and she was known, she would go on the job and see that other people supported her."

Jeri remained a traveler until she became an active member of Local 970 in 1995 after taking a maintenance job at Central Washington, the school she left nearly 20 years earlier.

"She always held her head high," said Sue Harris, former office manager for Local 970 who now works in membership development for Local 48. "She was always kind. Anytime she experienced hatred and jealousy, she took the high road."

The insults gave way to respect. Porter was named the Eastern Washing-

ton Tradeswoman of the Year in 2000 by the state's Women in Trades organization. She became active in her hometown, being elected first to the city council and serving as mayor from 2004-11.

Porter said working as a union steward taught her how to have difficult conversations and to build a consensus among parties with differing views.

"I tried to be a good leader, to get people together to talk out their differences," she said. "When you get people working together, even at opposite ends, there's an understanding not to be disagreeable."

The back and neck injuries Porter suffered during a 2007 fall forced her to take a medical retirement. It didn't slow her involvement with the IBEW.

She already had been serving as a mentor to young women entering the trades. The combination of more time and the advent of social media allowed her to do so with women from across the country.

"We're family," she said. "We take care of each other. That's what a union is all about."

Edge will complete her apprenticeship later this year. She met Porter in 2010 during an IBEW reunion in Leavenworth, Washington, that Edge attended. Porter has been her mentor ever since.

"It's still a difficult role [as a woman going through an apprenticeship], but it's easier for me than those that came before us," Edge said. "She cares a lot about the younger generation and maintaining the integrity of the IBEW."

Cobb, who said she often associated more with men on the job because they usually are more established in their careers, was convinced by Porter of the importance of reaching out to women, especially those who might be struggling.

"She says we all have our own struggles and we have to help each other out," said Cobb, who has worked as a foreman on some jobs. "We have to teach them. We're in the brotherhood and we have to do our part."

Porter doesn't deny there were difficult times along the way, but those turned into positives. She fondly recalls a former supervisor she used to call "Grouch" because he was so ornery toward her, but eventually turned into a good friend.

"Those are the things that I'm proudest of," she said.

Blazing a path for others was something to be proud of, too.

"She has always pushed that the only limitations we have are the ones we set on ourselves," Edge said. "Your abilities are unlimited. As a woman, you have to hear that. You have to have those reinforcements that you're 100 percent capable." ■

Novel Billboard Use for a Brother in Need

Delaware Local Seeks Kidney

Build Union. Buy American. Save a Life. That's the message on display each day to six lanes of traffic outside Wilmington, Del., Local 313's union hall, where the high-visibility marquee could help an IBEW brother find a desperately-needed kidney donor.

Dave Amalfitano, 46, approached Business Manager Douglas Drummond in April about using the sign to advertise his condition, hoping the extra attention might finally connect him with someone willing and able to change his life. "Saying 'yes' was one of the easiest decisions I've had to make in this job," Drummond said.

Amalfitano, an inside wireman and single father of three, suffers from polycystic kidney disease, or PKD, a genetic disorder that causes the kidneys to develop cysts and grow many times their normal size, usually necessitating their replacement. In extreme cases, PKD-afflicted kidneys have grown to a massive 25 pounds.

"My father died a few years ago from this disease after years of dialysis, and my brother has it too," Amalfitano said. "This effort to find a donor is just part of my fight to make sure I'm around for my kids."

While Amalfitano has been dealing with the disease for years, the wake-up call came early this year when an infection caused him to switch from at-home peritoneal dialysis to the more invasive hemodialysis, which requires him to spend three days a week at a clinic having his blood circulated through an artificial kidney machine.

"I had to stop working, and being at the clinic takes a lot of time that I used to spend helping with homework, cooking meals and being with my kids," the 12-year IBEW member said. Anna, 14, and twin boys, Matthew and Leo, 11, are his driving factor now. "I've got to be there for them. I'm only 46, and we've got a lot of time left to spend together."

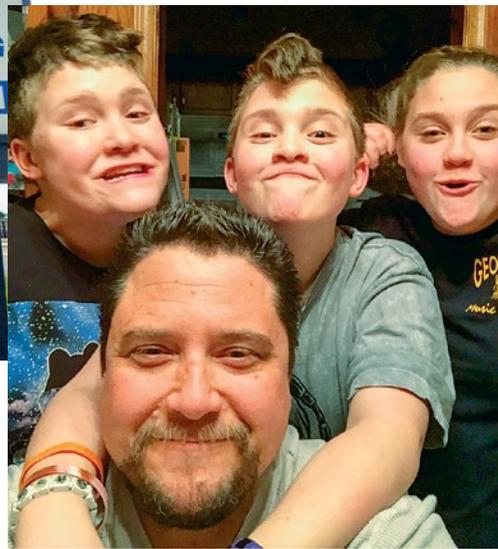
Since putting the sign up, Amalfitano has been overwhelmed by the response from the public. Local newspapers and television stations from as far away as Philadelphia have covered his plea, and more than 20 people have been in contact with his transplant coordinator. Of those, four or five have returned the initial questionnaire, and four have submitted bloodwork for early-stage testing.

"It's been unbelievable," he says of the response, but he knows it's a numbers game. It often takes as many as 20 or 25 people to make serious offers before a suitable donor is found. Without a donor, Amalfitano is consigned to the national organ donor waiting list, which was 100,791 people long as of January. Needy patients typically wait five years for a donor.

According to the National Kidney Foundation, 3,000 new patients are added to the waiting list each month, and 13 people die each day while waiting for a transplant. Nearly 8,500 people each year either die or become too sick to survive the transplant surgery.



Located on a high-traffic street, Local 313's billboard has attracted positive attention and potential donors. Below, Dave Amalfitano with his three children, Matthew and Leo, 11, and Anna, 14.



That's the fate Amalfitano hopes to avoid by finding his own donor. A few years ago, he exhausted the usual friends and family list for lack of a proper match, so it's up to a stranger or an IBEW brother or sister now.

"I know it's not like asking for a cup of sugar," he said, "but it doesn't hurt to ask. I've been blown away by people's kindness and generosity through all of

this, and I owe it to my kids to do everything I can."

Amalfitano is looking for a donor with blood type O+ or O-, and anyone interested in finding out whether they can help should contact him at (302) 757-3238.

As for Local 313's sign? "We're plan-

ning to keep it up there as long as it takes," Drummond said. ■

Congress Working to Protect Donors

While living donors count for about one-third of the 17,000 kidney transplants performed each year, donors often have few legal protections.

Introduced in Congress in February, the bipartisan Living Donor Protection Act of 2016 and its dozens of co-sponsors aim to change that.

The law would:

- Prohibit insurers from denying or limiting life, disability and long-term care insurance for kidney donors.
- Prevent insurers from charging higher rates to kidney donors based on their generosity.
- Allow donors time off provided under the Family and Medical Leave Act for recovery.
- Educate Americans about living kidney donation.

Water, Rest, Shade

OSHA Warns Workers About Heat-Related Hazards

Heat can kill," warned the head of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, David Michaels, as he kicked off the agency's summer campaign raising awareness of heat-related illnesses. "Dozens of workers die from heat exposure every year. Every heat-related death we investigate was preventable."

Climate scientists announced May 2016 was the 13th consecutive warmest month on record. On the ground, that means workers need to know how to stay safe while working in extreme heat.

Each year, over 200 workers are hospitalized while working in hot conditions and in 2014 alone more than 2,600 reported suffering from heat stroke or exhaustion.

"Sometimes workers are unable to realize that they're suffering through a heat-related illness," IBEW Director of Safety and Health David Mullen said. "When they finally realize it, it's too late."

OSHA's Heat Illness Prevention Campaign aims to remind workers to drink water every 15 minutes and rest in the shade to cool down.

Symptoms of heat stroke include red, hot and dry skin, high body temperature, confusion and body convulsions. Indicators for heat exhaustion include dizziness, headaches, weakness, cramps and nausea.



With temperatures on the rise, IBEW members are advised to look out for themselves and their co-workers when working outdoors this summer.

"When you can identify the symptoms, you're not only keeping yourself safe, you're keeping all of your co-workers safe," Mullen said.

These warning signs can afflict anyone who works in extreme heat, with the most at-risk group being new workers.

"Fatalities most often occur to workers that have been on the job only a few days or less," Michaels said, because it takes time to become acclimated to work environments.

Those working outdoors, in spaces where temperatures are not regulated and around hot machinery are most susceptible, though workers who frequently move between hot and cool environments can experience the adverse effects of heat as well.

The IBEW's Safety and Health webpage, ibew.org/Safety-Health, contains a list of ways to protect members from heat-related illness. OSHA's water-rest-shade campaign site, osha.gov/heat,

also offers information along with training modules and worksite posters. The site also contains a Heat Safety Tool app for the Android and iOS platforms, which calculates the heat index for individual worksites and displays a risk level to outdoor workers.

Every heat related death is preventable. Stay safe this summer by arming yourself with the knowledge to prevent heat-related illnesses. ■