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?

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

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

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

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?

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

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.  

The lawsuits included 60 for not paying his bills, 24 violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act 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.  

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.  

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” and in December he said right-to-work states have an “advantage” because “you have the lower wage.”

— from the massive Trump Place on River Side Drive to the modest Trump Park Residence, 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 Manager Larry 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.

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.”

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

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.  

Trump, the court wrote, “knew the Polish workers were working off the books,” that they were doing demolition work, that they were not unionized, that they were paid substantial wages with no overtime pay, and that they were paid irregularly if at all.”

Trump litigated the case for eight years, “turning it into one of the longest in the court’s history,” ultimately settling with the workers 11 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.”

‘The Money I Took out of There was Incredible’

After the 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 Folson, 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 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 payer.” Full payment only came “after a long process.”

“We controlled the city, so he built union, but he stiffer 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.

“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 electricians got paid but lots of others got stuck,” Cosner said.

The Taj Mahal filed for bankruptcy only a year after it opened. In 1993, Trump Plaza and Trump Marina filed for bankruptcy. “The Trump World’s Fair and
The Electrical Worker | August 2016

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 a $1.8 billion in debt.4 It filed for bankruptcy.43 Trump lost his title as CEO as well as majority control. Five years later, Trump left Trump Entertainment Resorts for good42 as the company stumbled into a third bankruptcy with $30 million in assets and $50 million in debt.4

In each of the bankruptcies, unpaid contractors were sent to the back of the line for repayment, according to USA Today.42 The New Jersey Casino Commission reported 243 Taj Mahal contractors were not paid in full or on time, including a dishwasher in Florida, a New Jersey glass company, a carpet supplier, plumber, painter, 48 waiters, dozens of bartenders, a real estate broker, and, ironically, lawyers who represented Trump in lawsuits for nonpayment sued for nonpayment in Atlantic City. More than 8,000 casino workers filed for unemployment for the next bankruptcy.4

For example, it took three years for Trump’s companies to settle up with Pennsylvania-based Trad Building Specialties after the Taj Mahal went into bankruptcy and then, the business only received 30 cents on the dollar.43

Reporters found that low-level investors, contractors, and small-time vendors were paid one penny on the dollar as Trump Resorts International went bankrupt in 2009.43

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.”42

“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?’”

In that same time period, The New York Times reported Trump took $600 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.43

“Basically I’ve used the laws of the country to my advantage and to other people’s advantage just as [1980s corporate raider] Leon Black has, Carl Kahn, Henry Kravis has, just as many, many others on top of the business world have.”42

At the end of August 2014, Trump tweeted “What is happening in Atlantic City, casino closures, is very sad — but does anybody give me credit for getting out before its demise? Timing.”43

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 stone-walliong 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 requires44 and the Washington Post found multiple undocumented workers at the site of the $200 million project.44

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 condominums 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 Uliussa, a union-run investment company that required the work be done union. But while signatory contractors for Honolulu Local 136, built it, the hotel itself is nonunion and Local 136 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).

When Does Trump Build Union?

| Union 100% | Nonunion 0% |
| When building in N.Y., N.J., or with a PLA |

| Union 21% | Nonunion 79% |
| Everywhere else |

During his campaign, Trump repeatedly supported policies that would make the country look like the places he chose nonunion.
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 282 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 282 Business Manager Dan Swetlick.

Swetlick said Trump isn’t the first Florida billionaire developer who 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 were nonunion, but IBEW electricians have worked on all his houses, and the houses of his children, Swetlick 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 349 signatory contractors have had a network. And for his two properties in Virginia. Even on the pro-union West Coast, more often than not, Trump projects are 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 Las Vegas, 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 that I’ll make us competitive as a country.”

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. **(Note: This is not compensated,)** 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**

15. www.clrpr.com/trump-transcript/
18. www.nytimes.com/2016/07/05/nyregion/donald-trump-atlantic- city.html?_r=1
19. www.twincities.com/business/local/stories/20160317-trump-tower-was-trumped-n397821
22. www.nytimes.com/2016/07/05/nyregion/donald-trump-atlantic- city.html?_r=1
27. www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/donald-says-controversy-over-his-tower-was-trumped-n397821
29. www.nytimes.com/2016/07/05/nyregion/donald-trump-atlantic- city.html?_r=1
31. www.waitFor.com/trumpstatus/5060578942299534
36. www.reuters.com/article/usa-election-trump-bills-specialreport- IDUSKCN0B321320151113
37. www.nytimes.com/2016/06/12/nyregion/donald-trump-atlantic- city.html?_r=1
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 Diablo Canyon nuclear plant, built in 1957, 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 alternative 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 Bar 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.”

Nuclear Power On Path to Extinction in California

“Once these nuclear plants are gone, you can’t just set up another one whenever you need it.”

– IBEW Utility Department Director Jim Hunter
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 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 650 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 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.
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 363, 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 grandman 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 on her side. 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 benefited 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.
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 500 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 Bennett Dam, which was constructed during the first project in 1967, or Site A, B.C. 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 $240 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 353-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 la al office of the B.C. 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-motion system is so powerful it could fill an Olympic-sized swimming pool in one second, the release said.

The turbine contract will employ about 120 workers at peak for approximately four years, said Local 993 Business Manager Glen Hilton. Additionally, about 25 members are at the worksite 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 said 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 200 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 hybrid 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 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. A

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

Le barrage de site C est l’un des plus grands projets d’infrastructure hydroélectriques au Canada. Il permet la production d’environ 330 gigawattheures d’électricité par an et alimentera plus de 400 000 foyers une fois terminé. Et la section locale 993 à Kamloops-C, est prête à engager ces travaux.

"C'est une excellente occasion pour nos membres," dit-il, représentant l'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 plus grand projet d'infrastructure au Canada. Il permettra de produire environ 330 gigawatt-heures d'électricité par an et alimentera plus de 400 000 foyers une fois terminé. Et la section locale 993 à Kamloops-C, est prête à engager ces travaux.

Cependant, 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 d'environ 250 millions de dollars et elle comprendra 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 livraison et l'installation de six turbines à axe vertical de 183 mégawatts et des générateurs.

Chaque turbine aura une puissance de 250 000 kilowatts, 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 peuvent remplir une piscine olympique en une seconde.

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'entretien et d'entretien à un sous-traitant non syndiqué. S'ils l'avaient obtenu, le projet aurait embauché environ 600 électriciens maintenant et 100 plus de plus pour les trois ou quatre prochaines années.

Voith ainsi que le reste de l'industrie de construction des générateurs en Amérique du Nord sont des signataires de la FOIE, 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'ingénieur, 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 empêché le Site C. Cependant, les ministres ont même campé devant la centrale de BC Hydro, et semblent avoir peu d'influence sur le projet, selon Global News.

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

La construction du barrage du Site C a débuté l'été de 2015 et terminera en 2024.
The Electrical Worker  | August 2016

March 3 when the Modesto Bee reported budget. The situation came to a head on walled or told him it wasn't in the city's community to do different things. “Cutting services and keep asking the com-

Modesto. They keep cutting taxes and area of the city.

ican history. As someone active in the insult the flag wasn't being properly dis-
cable to raise it on the inside of the pole.

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.

“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.

“That lighting a flagpole is our line of work,” he said.

Powell met with representatives from the community center, who enthusi-

astically 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.

“One of the ways we do things, this was not a big deal, 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 mem-

bers high marks for how they handled the construction. To top it off, they donated $50 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 fin-
ished, 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.”

Russell’s campaign manager 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 Electric, 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 build-

The attendees from high school working in the trades and participated in workshops, including “Becoming a Union Tradeswoman.” They also toured the Local 103 training center and visited an exhibi-
tion 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 Amenporah Bossman, assistant superin-
tendent at Suffolk Construction.

“When you know what you want to do, stick with it,” Bossman said. “You’re going to have moments where it’s hard to know whether your voice will be heard or whether you should go on, whether you belong in a certain kind of personality, and that’s true for men and women.”

“I’m hoping she will be able to mentor me into her career and was really inspiring,” she said of her fresh-

men, 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.

“My goal is to show them a part of this industry and that you can make almost $100,000 a year as a journeyman electrician,” Nagy said. “And construc-
tion 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 Nagy. Min-
uteman High School senior Midalia Ramos said the conference was reward-

ing, reported Patch.com, a local publica-
tion. 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.”

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: Luis Clemente, left; Erica Grondon, Abhilin Moore, Lindsey Kelly, Haley Rice, Hannah English, Midalia Ramos, Kendra Hemmigan and Kaylah Bennett.

Photo credit: News Everett, Minuteman student photographer

WWW.IBEW.ORG

The Electrical Worker  | August 2016

CIRCUITS continued on page 10

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: Luis Clemente, left; Erica Grondon, Abhilin Moore, Lindsey Kelly, Haley Rice, Hannah English, Midalia Ramos, Kendra Hemmigan and Kaylah Bennett.

Photo credit: News Everett, Minuteman student photographer

WWW.IBEW.ORG

CIRCUITS continued on page 10

The Electrical Worker  | August 2016

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 community-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 1965, 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 dis-

played, especially in front of a facility named for two prominent figures in Amer-

ican 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.

“Just tell 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.

Mock Free 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.

Located by the Mas-

achusetts Girls in Trade Advisory Group, involved 18 area high schools, local busi-

nesses and nearly 20 labor unions repre-

senting all the building trades, including Local 103 and Springfield Local 7.

The March 30 conference was spear-

headed by Minuteman High School and Wynn Everett, a hotel and resort chain, as part of an effort to create a pipeline to the trades.

The students heard from women educators to help open pathways for their students to these high-paying careers in construction trades,” Nadeau Ham said.

The attendees from high school working in the trades and participated in workshops, including “Becoming a Union Tradeswoman.” They also toured the Local 103 training center and visited an exhibi-
tion 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 Amenporah Bossman, assistant superin-
tendent at Suffolk Construction.

“When you know what you want to do, stick with it,” Bossman said. “You’re going to have moments where it’s hard to know whether your voice will be heard or whether you belong in a certain kind of personality, and that’s true for men and women.”

“I’m hoping she will be able to mentor me into her career and was really inspiring,” she said of her fresh-

men, 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.

“My goal is to show them a part of this industry and that you can make almost $100,000 a year as a journeyman electrician,” Nagy said. “And construc-
tion 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 Nagy. Min-
uteman High School senior Midalia Ramos said the conference was reward-

ing, reported Patch.com, a local publica-
tion. 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.”

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: Luis Clemente, left; Erica Grondon, Abhilin Moore, Lindsey Kelly, Haley Rice, Hannah English, Midalia Ramos, Kendra Hemmigan and Kaylah Bennett.

Photo credit: News Everett, Minuteman student photographer

WWW.IBEW.ORG

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.
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 boardhouse 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 $50,000 to the museum project, but former business manager and retired International Representative Jim Rudicil wanted to do more.

“[Joseph J.] Penna from his New Jersey Bell days. 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.”

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

In 1996, 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, Sprint and Avaya.

In 2002, 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. "Nobody thought they knew Penna. You either knew him or you didn't," Calvey said.

On behalf of the IBEW membership and staff, "It is very important for young members to be active in politics," Gutiérrez 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.

"Rebuilding this boardhouse 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 nbew-ibewmuseum.org or by mailing checks to Electrical Workers Historical Society, c/o IBEW Local 1, 5850 Elizabeth Ave, St. Louis, MO 63110.

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

Eighth District RENEW Prepares for Election Season

Young workers can play an important role in the political process, and Assistant Business Manager Nate Gutiérrez 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's very important for younger members to be active in politics," Gutiérrez 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 workers 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 Gutiérrez 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 recent 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.

Gutiérrez 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,” Gutiérrez said. “Getting them to understand the issues that affect 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, Gutiérrez 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,” Gutiérrez 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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maloney, J. J.</td>
<td>5/8/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yodice, J. D.</td>
<td>4/11/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rodriguez, J.</td>
<td>5/26/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boop, E. I.</td>
<td>1/9/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawkins, H. S.</td>
<td>4/26/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee, W. C.</td>
<td>3/10/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis, R. K.</td>
<td>5/15/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wurzel, M.</td>
<td>3/17/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schow, M. R.</td>
<td>3/8/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Layne, A. F.</td>
<td>4/28/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marasigan, I. M.</td>
<td>2/22/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metz, R. L.</td>
<td>5/6/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mickeal, J. K.</td>
<td>5/27/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myron, E. L.</td>
<td>5/19/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nappi, A. H.</td>
<td>4/16/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nocera, M. C.</td>
<td>5/6/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oakey, J.</td>
<td>3/27/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pizao, D. M.</td>
<td>4/19/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rodriguez, J. R.</td>
<td>6/18/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yodice, J. D.</td>
<td>4/15/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zaychik, W.</td>
<td>4/7/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dobson, J. D.</td>
<td>5/13/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ross, J. F.</td>
<td>12/15/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carl, D. R.</td>
<td>12/26/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cecchi, L. M.</td>
<td>3/24/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maloney, J. J.</td>
<td>5/8/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fajardo, M. J.</td>
<td>4/27/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gasparini, R.</td>
<td>3/24/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kroot, W. L.</td>
<td>5/17/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rasmussen, J.</td>
<td>5/11/14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanchez, R.</td>
<td>3/25/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schow, M. R.</td>
<td>3/6/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banning, J. G.</td>
<td>5/16/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bishop, N. M.</td>
<td>4/25/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenyon, H. R.</td>
<td>2/25/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davidson, H. V.</td>
<td>3/4/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ganster, J. E.</td>
<td>5/6/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wurzel, M.</td>
<td>3/27/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis, R. K.</td>
<td>5/15/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watson, J. T.</td>
<td>5/4/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hay, L. H.</td>
<td>3/7/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanderhay, J.</td>
<td>12/25/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scarpetti, S. M.</td>
<td>4/26/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee, C. M.</td>
<td>3/10/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richter, G. C.</td>
<td>4/18/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baumer, J. A.</td>
<td>1/31/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gow, M. W.</td>
<td>1/8/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawkins, H. S.</td>
<td>4/26/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long, E. S.</td>
<td>3/13/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peck, M. D.</td>
<td>12/3/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boop, E. I.</td>
<td>1/9/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engeke, M. J.</td>
<td>4/19/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuss, D. J.</td>
<td>12/14/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meyers, K. J.</td>
<td>5/19/16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LOCAL LINES

Conferences & Training; Two Contracts Ratified
L.U. 2 (ctv,kct,ctv,kt), 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 Monroe, Anthony Rogers, Matthew Martin, Corey Woods, Carl Brown, Cabot Long, Zachary Helms, Wesley Herron, Lee Bell, James Feuerborn, Jeremy Buckkawell, 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 journeymen Ben Williams (left), employed with Macon Electric Cooperative, receives an IBEW-engraved, folding pocket knife presented by Unit Chairman Donald P. Beavin, P.S.

Locally, two contracts were ratified:

L. U. 2 (ctv,kct,ctv,kt), ST. LOUIS, MO — May 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 Monroe, Anthony Rogers, Matthew Martin, Corey Woods, Carl Brown, Cabot Long, Zachary Helms, Wesley Herron, Lee Bell, James Feuerborn, Jeremy Buckkawell, 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.

Active in the Community — IBEW Volunteering & Awards
L.U. 6 (ctv,ctv,ctv,ctv), 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 Community’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 Churwin. 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 (ctv,kt), PUERLO, 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. Mrs. Kelly and Pres. Jason Ols. These brothers, as well as the new Executive Board members — Ronan Carbajal, Michael DeSereve, Tony Huskey, Kyle Martin, Cody Rheff 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 layoffs scheduled.

Susan Johnson, P.S.

Trade Show a Success
L.U. 26 (ctv,ctv,ctv,ctv), 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.

Annual Golf Tournament
L.U. 26 (ctv,ctv,ctv,ctv), BALTIMORE, MD — Summer in the city! Local 26 congratulates the 2016 graduates of our apprenticeship program and the “R to R 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!

Michael Azzarello, A.B.M.

‘DAD’s Day’ Golf Outing — 500 Golfers Participate
L.U. 26 (ctv,ctv,ctv,ctv), BALTIMORE, MD — Summer in the city! Local 26 congratulates the 2016 graduates of our apprenticeship program and the “R to R 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!

Michael Azzarello, A.B.M.

Trade Show a Success
L.U. 24 (ctv,ctv,ctv,ctv), 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.

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.


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 tellers for a job well done.

Michael Azzarello, A.B.M.
Working to keep Lake Erie clean at multiple area job sites. Keeping Lake Erie Clean — Newly Elected Officers

Guelig, Michael R. Shannon, Stephen J. Williams, Terence 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 Ramos. Lake 38 has a history of officers that go the extra mile for the local and I have no doubt that this class of officers will 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 Ham; Dawson Hammond, Matthew Kaps, Conor Lenawey, Jeremiah Moser, Nehemiah Nickles, Brock Orwigh, Beriah Quick, Noah Peterson, Coday Razo, Jon Troglio, Samuel Shumaker, Anton Sturgeon, Joseph Van Umm, Grant Zimmerman, Brett Coons, Taylor Ivey, Matthew Schmidgall, Jakob Varnes, Tristan Bernhardt, Andrew Bloom, Chad Bordekinshier and David Hudson. Congratulations to all and welcome to the Brotherhood.

The Skills of Tomorrow

The IBEW has supplied the skilled labor that built the electrical infrastructure in America. Those IBEW skills have been passed along on the job, and in the IBEW apprenticeship training programs. The Local 48 Electric Training Center began in 1959 and has had three training directors during that time: Dan Faddis, Ken Fry and Rod Belisle. There are currently a record number of 60 Local 48 apprentices participating.

The Local 48 Apprenticeship Committee has had the following accomplishments:

• Paying off the debt associated with the JATC training facility. This will happen in the summer of 2020!

Mentorship Matters,

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 2020!

• Interviewing 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).]

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.”

Workforce Upswing; Summer Activities & Events

The Easterly Tunnel Dewatering Pump Station construction: front row, kneeling, Dean Sheppard, Kameela Al-Rih; back row, Ed Radavsky, Ron Hallett, general foreman David Gum, foreman Matt Morris, Bob Carioppo, Matt Coyle and Sean Hopkins. 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-housepower horses, and electronic control panels.

Our members’ work on the project includes wiring a bank of 6,600-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. IBEW service awards were presented at Local 68 Retirees Club meeting on April 29.

• We also thank our members for working long hours, maintaining an exemplary safety record, demonstrating excellence, and ensuring timely job completions.

Learning with the Brotherhood — Pass It On.

Market Share Gains; Members Exhibit Excellence

L.U. 70 (Ottawa), WASHINGTON, DC — Bruce & Merrilies Electric has been a union contractor since 1954. 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 & Merrilies 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 & Merrilies 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 & Merrilies 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 HARTON, B.R.
At Local 134 Apprentice of the Year Competition, from left: Fred Scott, judge; Billy Buckel, apprenticeship chairman/committee member; Bus. Mgr. Paul Zulli; Apprenticeship Dir. Sandy Therold; apprentices Ray Moller (contest winner), Ross Karnakker and Brandon Billiot; and Rodney Wallis, apprenticeship committee, judge.

Hospitals in the Crescent City

L.U. 130 (lctt,ntsk,catv,em,govt,mt,rtb,rb), 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 also a normal daily routine for our foremen and journeymen. Our brothers welcomed the challenge and were able to rise 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 Kar- naker and Ray Moller displayed a professional performance throughout the event. The scoring was so close that the complete testing was reviewed a couple of times. Roy Moller 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,mt,rtb,rb), 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 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.

At Local 172 apprenticeship class of 2016 presents donation to Arc of Tri-Cities.

Service to Community — Apprentices Present Donation

L.U. 112 (l,cb,kt), KENNEWICK, WA — The IBEW Local 112-NECA Electrical Apprenticeship Class of 2016 donated $5,000 to the Arc of Tri-Cities.

Judy Westlik, 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.

Billy Buckel, P.S.

Rally at Illinois Capitol — Major Turnout for Workers

L.U. 134 (catv,em,govt,mt,rtb,rb), 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 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.

At Local 172 apprenticeship banquet, from left: graduates Matthew Fant, Timothy Duval, Andrew Ochap, Kyle Walter, Carl Mellor, Patrick Sweet, David Karrmann, David delaGargendiere, Michael Shaw, Paul Lodraza; and instructor Michael Capuano. Not pictured: graduate Eric Anderson.
Apprenticeship Graduates; Community Service Volunteers

L.U. 146 (6,146,159), DECATUR, IL — Local 146 held its election of officers on June 7. Elected were: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. John Warner, Vice Pres. Jefferie Taylor, Rec. Sec. Steve Tillford, 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 Macou 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 Callari, Chris Cunningham, Rich Davies, D.J. Heal, Chris Larson and Jason Reiser. Telecommunications graduates are: Nathan Hilligoss, Joe Galvan, Bryan Newhouse and Derek Rodman. Kudos to these new journeymen on successfully completing their apprenticeship program. Rich Underwood, R.S.

Job Fair a Success; Annual Anniversary Banquet

L.U. 158 (6,158,160,169), GREEN BAY, WI — After a slow start to the construction season, calls for manpower by mid-summer... For that reason, Local 158 held a job fair in May with the goal to organize potential electricians for 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.

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.

L.U. 222 (6,222,239), JERSEY CITY, NJ — On June 2, Local 224 held its election of officers. On behalf of the membership, we would like to thank our election judges, Dana DiCosta, Bruce Engelbrecht and Russ Soleder, 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.


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 (6,222,239), 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: journeyman Linemen — James Copen, Joshua Willburth, Brian Latimer and Jerry Davidson III; and underground residential distribution (URD) technicians — James A. Sheppard IV and Michael Oertuff. 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” Hilt, Pres.

Un ion-Built T3 Office Building Project in Minneapolis, Minn.

L.U. 292 (6,292,303), MINNEAPOLIS, MN — 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-en 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-built-eco-friendly-office-building.

Asplundh Negotiations

L.U. 300 (6,300,307), 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 both 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 (6,306), AARON, 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 McLaren. Guest speaker was Bob Doherty, regional sales manager with Wolff Bros. Supply. Diplomas and awards were presented by Chona. Larry Thompson and Training Dir. Dr. Paul Zimmerman, followed by closing remarks from Jason Walden, NECA chapter manager.

This year’s graduates are as follows: Residenta...
Local 352! We have elections this year and our comprehensive performance of the IBEW.
Season for Community Service

L.U. 352 (ue, sem, es, lmt, rts & spa), ROCKFORD, IL — On Wednesday, May 18, several members of IBEW Local 352 attended the “Rauver’s 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.


Strong Showing at Rally; Apprenticeship Graduation

L.U. 364 (at,c,e,es,em, lmt, rts & spa), ROCKFORD, IL — On Wednesday, May 18, several members of IBEW Local 364 attended the “Rauver’s 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.


Apprenticeship Banquet; Distinguished Service Award

L.U. 364 (at,c,e,es,em, lmt, rts & spa), ROCKFORD, IL — On Wednesday, May 18, several members of IBEW Local 364 attended the “Rauver’s 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.


Apprenticeship Banquet; Distinguished Service Award

L.U. 364 (at,c,e,es,em, lmt, rts & spa), ROCKFORD, IL — On Wednesday, May 18, several members of IBEW Local 364 attended the “Rauver’s 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.


Apprenticeship Banquet; Distinguished Service Award

L.U. 364 (at,c,e,es,em, lmt, rts & spa), ROCKFORD, IL — On Wednesday, May 18, several members of IBEW Local 364 attended the “Rauver’s 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.


Apprenticeship Banquet; Distinguished Service Award

L.U. 364 (at,c,e,es,em, lmt, rts & spa), ROCKFORD, IL — On Wednesday, May 18, several members of IBEW Local 364 attended the “Rauver’s 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.


Apprenticeship Banquet; Distinguished Service Award

L.U. 364 (at,c,e,es,em, lmt, rts & spa), ROCKFORD, IL — On Wednesday, May 18, several members of IBEW Local 364 attended the “Rauver’s 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.

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

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

Apprenticeship Graduates

L.U. Local 576 (0), 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 journeymen. 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 Apprentice-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.]

The Electrical Worker | August 2016
WWW.IBEW.ORG

Apprenticeship Graduates

L.U. 576 (0), 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 journeymen. 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 Apprentice-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.]

The Electrical Worker | August 2016
WWW.IBEW.ORG

Apprenticeship Graduates

L.U. Local 576 (0), 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 journeymen. 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 Apprentice-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.]
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.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Lonnie R. Stephenson
International President
Salvatore J. Chilia
International Secretary-Treasurer

INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Chairman
Christopher Erikson
First District
Joseph P. Calabro
Second District
Myles J. Culvee
Third District
James Burgham

Fourth District
William W. Riley
Fifth District
Michael Walter
Sixth District
Chris J. Wagner
Seventh District
Patrick Lavin
Eighth District
Ross Gaubraith

THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

Editor
Lonnie R. Stephenson
Mark Brunggenjohann
Malinda Brent
Carol Fisher
Alex Hogan
Curtis D. Bateman
John Sellman
Erin Sutherland
Asifa Haniff
Ben Temchine
Sean Bartel
Colin Kelly
Curtis D. Bateman
Alex Hogan
Michael Pointer
Rix Oakland

HOLDY 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 to a maximum of 500 words. 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

©2016 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.
The Electrical Worker (print)
ISSN 2332-113X
The Electrical Worker (online)
ISSN 2332-1148
All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A. on Union-made paper.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM THE OFFICERS

Why We Endorsed Clinton

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 Fried- richs 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 aunion-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.


### 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 lov’n 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, highly disappointed that I.O. turned its back on a man who walked our picket lines and stood behind our pickets countless times.

With this endorsement we betrayed a candidate that voted against NAFTA, CATFA, 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

PNTR with China, a candidate who was the most outspoken critic of the TPP, a man with

Hillary Clinton is a strong, well-qualified candidate: She was the first lady of Arkansas with a lifetime grade from the AFL-CIO of 98 percent.

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 2,000 lawsuits from subcontractors — our employers — for refusing to pay them and putting them out of business. He lied revelations to stop HSP 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!

Eat the chicken.

Christopher J. Stermel  Local 98 member  Philadelphia

Karlene Knisley, Local 51 member  Springfield, Ill.

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 Dandall does not.

Karlene Knisley, Local 51 member  Springfield, Ill.

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

### Trailblazer Still Opening Doors for Others

**N**ow, 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 female 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 Rosyln, 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 in the forefront 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 63’s apprentice Candice Edge puts 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 uncle and other friends came by to help with household projects, such as fixing electrical outlets or laying a linoleum floor. She remembered him being a band in school.

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

Porter, like 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 enter an inside wireman when she topped out in 1982.

Partly because work was scarce in the area, and partly because of her sense of adventure, Porter decided to become a traveler. She worked 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 Washington-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 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 passion she viewed her jobs to do 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 me,” 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 gymnast toward her, but eventually turned into a good friend.

“These are the things that I’m proud 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 ourselves,” Edge said. “Your abilities are unlimited. As a woman, you have to hear that. You have to those reinforce-ments that you’re 100 percent capable.”

### WHO WE ARE

Christopher J. Stermel  Local 98 member  Philadelphia

Karlene Knisley, Local 51 member  Springfield, Ill.

Danny Cox, Local 648 member  Hamilton, Ohio

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 2,000 lawsuits from subcontractors — our employers — for refusing to pay them and putting them out of business. He lied revelations to stop HSP 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 Dandall does not.

Karlene Knisley, Local 51 member  Springfield, Ill.

If you have a story to tell about your IBEW experience, please send it to media@ibew.org.
Novel Billboard Use for a Brother in Need
Delaware Local Seeks Kidney

B
duild 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 marque 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-affected 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 plight, 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 100,795 people long as of January. Needly 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.

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 planning to keep it up there as long as it takes,” Drummond said.

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 37th 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.

“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 any one 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.