

# THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

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## IBEW News



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## At Long Last, a Monument to Canada's Worker Rises

Ottawa Local 586 apprentices Sam Lapierre, Christian Smith and Amanda Kelly help Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau cut a wire to mark the opening of the Canadian Building Trades Monument in May.

**O**n May 16, side cutters in hand, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau snipped the No. 4 bare copper wire marking the opening of a permanent monument to the men and women of Canada's building trades.

"Let this memorial inspire us to always push for progress and never forget the importance of the building trades in shaping the country we know and love," Trudeau said to the assembled crowd, which included Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour Patty Hadju, International President Lonnie R. Stephenson, First District International Vice President Bill Daniels and International Executive Council member Ross Galbraith.

## A TRIBUTE TO THE TRADES



to host this monument in our nation's capital to celebrate the work of the building trades in creating our communities, to remember sacrifices made and to inspire a better future."

That sentiment, said Robert Blakely, chief operating officer for Canada's Building Trades Unions, is what inspired his organization to seek a permanent monument to tradespeople nearly a decade ago.

"This was a long time coming," Blakely said. "We have worked hard and long to create a national monument in Canada's capital that will celebrate the contributions made to society by the women and men who work in the building and construction trades and commemorate the losses they have endured in carrying out their work."

The monument's prominent location just across the canal from Parliament Hill was the product of years of work behind the scenes. About a dozen sites were considered, but Blakely said the Major's Hill Park site, situated between Parliament, the National Gallery of Canada and the U.S. Embassy,

Located in Major's Hill Park, just a stone's throw from Parliament Hill in Ottawa, the Canadian Building Trades Monument is the result of a near-decade-long effort to erect a tribute to Canada's working men and women.

Featuring two oversized plumb bobs carved from Quebec-quarried black granite, the 11.6 meter by 7.5 meter (38 feet by 24 feet) plaza is surrounded by benches featuring etchings of tools from each of the 14 represented trade unions. Plumb bobs are among civilization's oldest-known builder's tools, tapered weights that, when attached to string, serve as the vertical equivalent of a level. For its bench, the IBEW selected a pair of old-style side cutters representative of the early days of the electrical trade.

"Tradesmen and women built this country," Trudeau said at the unveiling, "and we are so proud

MONUMENT continued on page 2

THE IBEW'S  
**2017 PHOTO CONTEST**

**DEADLINE: OCT. 31**  
See page 3 for details

Continued from page 1

# At Long Last, a Tribute to Canada's Worker Rises



*Top: The monument features black granite plumb bobs on a plaza dedicated to each of the 14 represented trade unions. Above: Prime Minister Trudeau, center, joins International Representative Tom Reid, left, First District IVP Bill Daniels, President Lonnie R. Stephenson, Senior Executive Assistant Brian Baker and Eighth District IEC member Ross Galbraith.*

offered the most visibility. That was important because members of the CBTU wanted the monument in part to raise the profile of working people.

"If you look around Ottawa, there's a monument to the firefighters, there's a monument to the Famous Five [suffragettes] and there's a monument to a number of other people. But the people who actually built every darn thing there is, there's no monument to," Blakely told the Ottawa Citizen.

The IBEW was a part of the process from the early stages, from assisting in site selection to fundraising to planning the unveiling event.

First District Political Action/Media Strategist Matthew Wayland, who escorted the prime minister into the ceremony, brought up the idea for the unique "ribbon" cutting after attending the opening of the Henry Miller Museum during the IBEW's 39th International Convention last September in St. Louis. CBTU leaders tweaked the wire-cutting from that event to include other trades as well, having the prime minister and union apprentices cut a board, glass and copper pipe, snip a wire and break bricks to open the monument.

Ottawa Local 586 fifth-year apprentice Sam Lapierre was one of three IBEW apprentices to participate in the wire-cutting with Trudeau. "This means a lot, not just for us working now, but for everyone who paved the way for us," he said. "It's exciting to know a part of me will always be there at that site for when my kids grow up and visit it." The other Local 586 appren-

tices included Christian Smith and Amanda Kelly, all of whom used Greenlee side cutters manufactured by members at Rockford, Ill., Local 364.

Singer/songwriter Marion Brown, who works at Kitchener, Ontario, Local 804, was selected to perform an original song, "Standing Together," which she co-wrote with her husband, Robert. Brown spoke of her union plasterer father, who died of asbestos-related cancer, and said she wrote the song to acknowledge "the contributions and sacrifices made by men and women in the building trades every day."

"It was an honor and privilege to participate in the unveiling of the monument," said Daniels, who led the First District effort for the IBEW. "IBEW Canada members

played an integral role in making the monument a reality, and we're extremely proud of all of their many contributions."

Fredericton, New Brunswick, Local 37 Business Manager Galbraith marveled at the new monument's prime location. "You could look out over the crowd there and see Parliament on one side and the National Gallery on the other," he said. "This monument will get a lot of traffic. It was a great day to recognize the work and sacrifices of the building trades."

Stephenson, who joined a dozen other trade union general presidents for the ceremony, said the effort to erect a memorial to tradesmen and women is one he's proud the IBEW was able to support.

"Our members and the working men and women of Canada's building trades deserve this monument," he said. "Our work is right there for everyone to see, but it's easy to forget whose blood, sweat and tears are in every stone, every wall and every wire. I hope this monument helps those outside of the trades remember our members' contributions to this fantastic country." ■



*Stephenson and Daniels with Local 586 fifth-year apprentice Sam Lapierre. Apprentices from several different building trades were on hand at the ceremony.*

## Ever Thought about Being an IBEW Contractor?

*Sign up for the Fall 2017 New Contractor Training*

### Applications now being accepted

The IBEW New Contractor Training is a comprehensive class for those who are ready to take the next step in their electrical career. The course consists of two week-long sessions — separated by six weeks of at-home preparation activities — covering the complete range of subject matter designed expressly for IBEW electrical workers who are interested in going into business and becoming electrical contractors.

The course provides the critical fundamentals and the break-through strategies of market-driven contracting.

The fall session is limited to 25 class members and will take place at the Painter's Union Finishing Trades Institute and Residence Suites in Hanover, Md.

### The dates for the fall training program are:

- Week 1: September 25-29
- Week 2: November 13-17

### Week 1 Curriculum

During Week 1 of on-campus instruction, students gain in-depth exposure to accounting, financial and legal subjects encompassing business administration concepts that every contractor should know.

### Return Home to Start the Business

Then, students will return home for six weeks to complete take-home assignments to start their new businesses, including the research for filing for incorporation, setting up an accounting program, contacting legal and insurance firms, beginning a banking relationship and developing a business plan.

### Week 2 Curriculum

Students come back to class, where instructors concentrate on best practices in pre-construction and construction activities, with an overarching theme of balancing material management with the effective use of multiple classifications of electricians.

### Cost

The program will start on Monday morning and conclude on Friday at noon. The cost per attendee is \$1,000 per week for a total of \$2,000. Included in the cost are food and lodging at the IUPAT Conference Center. Travel costs will be the responsibility of each attendee.

### Application

Applications and a list of frequently-asked questions can be found on the IBEW Education Department web page: [ibew.org/Education](http://ibew.org/Education). Applications are due on Friday, Aug. 25.

If you have questions, please contact IBEW Education Department Director Amanda Pacheco at (202) 728-6186 or at [Amanda\\_Pacheco@ibew.org](mailto:Amanda_Pacheco@ibew.org).



# Sirens Blazing, Law Enforcement Races to Join IBEW in Iowa



Linn County Sheriff's Sergeant Steve Erceg was instrumental in organizing his own unit into the IBEW in 2014.

In Iowa, they had the power to put criminals behind bars, but Linn County Sheriff's Department sergeants didn't have a seat at the bargaining table.

That's why late in 2012, Sgt. Steve Erceg approached his old friend, Mike Knox, a lead organizer in the IBEW's membership development department, with questions about the union.

"We're the second largest county in the state," Erceg said, "but we were making less than the sergeants at five or six other departments, and we needed help getting it fixed."

The problem, he said, wasn't with the sheriff or any of the command staff, but with county officials who weren't allocating the funds to properly compensate the 21 sergeants on staff. That meant very few deputies, who were well paid and happy with their representation, were taking the sergeant's exam required for promotion — a problem for the sheriff, who needed to groom the next generation of leadership.

In good faith, the sheriff tried to make things work, convincing county officials to give each of his sergeants a \$10,000 raise at the time, and everyone agreed to try to make a go of it without a union.

"I told them at the time, if you're talking about a union now, you'll be talking about it again," Knox said. Two years later, he was proven right. Having not had a raise since, Erceg said one of his fellow sergeants asked about talking to the IBEW again.

"I told him we'd go back to Mike [Knox] on two conditions," Erceg said. "Everyone had to be on board, and the sheriff had to know about it." So Knox approached Cedar Rapids Local 204. At the first meeting, all but three of the 21 sergeants signed union cards immediately, and the remaining hold-

outs followed soon after.

After a lengthy fight with the county, which considered the sergeants to be supervisors ineligible to form a union, in September 2014, the group voted 19-1 to join the IBEW. By February 2015, they had a first contract, assuring them a 21-percent raise over the next five years, and bringing their pay in line with what they should have been making from the start.

"It was a huge victory for us," Erceg said. "All we ever wanted from the start was to be compensated appropriately for a county our size. We loved our jobs, and we didn't feel like we were asking for a lot."

Local 204 Business Manager Dave George said, "They knew what they wanted, they stuck together, and we were able to help them get it. You can't ask for a better outcome than that."

The local news covered their successful effort, and before long, Knox and Local 204 began hearing from other law enforcement units interested in learning more about the IBEW.

First, they heard from the bailiffs in nearby Scott County. Then, Local 204 got a call from the assistant prosecutors in Linn County, who were concerned about the widening gap between their own salaries and those of County Attorney Jerry Vander Sanden and his top deputies.

"It's not hard to figure out why these groups want the benefits of a union," said Local 204 Assistant Business Manager Matt Fischer. "In the public sector, they can see what their colleagues are making both at home and in neighboring counties."

For both groups, Knox and Fischer asked Erceg to join them at the initial meetings. "I was honest with everyone," he said. "I told them it's a long process, but you have to stay together. More

importantly, you have to want it. I said you're not going to get everything you want the first time, but in the end, you'll have a seat at the table."

Both units voted overwhelmingly to join Local 204 — the bailiffs, 11-1 in February 2015 and the attorneys, 13-2 in May. By the end of June, both groups signed their first contracts.

"We were able to get both done quickly because of our previous experience with the sergeants," Fischer said, "and we think everyone came away happy with the results."

The positive press surrounding those two organizing efforts brought Fischer and Knox yet another group of officers, the Cedar County sheriff's deputies, whose department had done away with step raises, disadvantaging newer deputies who had no way to gain ground on the higher salaries of their more experienced co-workers.

In May 2016, members of the group voted 10-0 for union representation and reached a first contract in February of this year. That three-year agreement took effect on July 1.

At the Linn County Sheriff's Department, applications for sergeant are up as much as 500 percent, and there are sergeants working with the sheriff to move to more flexible 12-hour shifts.

"The sheriff's happy, the sergeants are happy. We couldn't be any more pleased with our decision," Erceg said.

Knox and Fischer have had preliminary conversations with even more public safety employees who have been closely following the success stories around Local 204. "We're hopeful we can keep this momentum going," Knox said. "People in Eastern Iowa who need a voice in their workplace know where to come for help." ■



## THE IBEW'S 2017 PHOTO CONTEST

A lot goes into a good photo: light, contrast, composition. But more than that, it needs to tell a story. And who better to tell the stories of the IBEW than its membership?

For almost 20 years, members from all over the U.S. and Canada have submitted the pictures that tell those stories. In the space of a few pixels, these images show who we are, what we do, and how well we do it. Now it's your turn. What's your story?

**ENTER TODAY!  
DEADLINE: OCT. 31**

- 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE: \$200
- 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE: \$150
- 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE: \$100
- HONORABLE MENTION: \$50

### Photo Contest Rules:

1. The contest is open to active or retired IBEW members only. The person submitting the photo must be the person who took the photograph. Members may enter more than one photo.
2. International Officers and staff are not eligible.
3. Photos can be submitted as digital files of at least 300 dpi, in color or black and white, on slides or prints. The preferred print size is 8"x10". For more guidance on electronic photo sizes, go to [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org). Click on the Photo Contest button, and see the "Contest Rules and Photo Guidelines."
4. All submissions become the property of the IBEW Media Department.
5. Photo entries must have an IBEW theme of some sort, with IBEW members at work, engaged in a union-related activity or subjects conveying images of the electrical industry or the union.
6. If members are featured in the photo, they should be identified. If large groups are pictured, the name of the group or the purpose of the gathering (e.g. a safety committee, a linemen's rodeo, a union meeting) can be submitted in place of individual names.
7. Photos previously published in IBEW publications or on the website are not eligible for submission.
8. The preferred method of entry is through the Photo Contest application on the IBEW website at [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org).
9. If entering via U.S. mail, please fill out the contest entry form and affix it to each photo you submit for the contest and mail it to the **IBEW Photo Contest, 900 Seventh Street NW, Washington, DC, 20001**.
10. Fifteen finalists will be selected and posted on [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org) for final judging by the public. The winners will be featured in an upcoming issue of the Electrical Worker.

### Contest Entry Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City and state \_\_\_\_\_

Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Local union number \_\_\_\_\_

IBEW card number \_\_\_\_\_

Photo description \_\_\_\_\_

# NORTH OF 49° | AU NORD DU 49° PARALLÈLE

## CN Railway Workers Ratify Contract after Strike Threat

**S**ignals and communications workers at CN Railway in Canada ratified a new five-year contract at the end of April, beating back company demands for concessions and ensuring stability for the more than 700 IBEW members through 2021.

The ratification came just a month after the conclusion of a tough round of negotiations between Railroad System Council No. 11 and Canada's largest railway, which saw a last-minute agreement reached only after members supported a strike mandate by a remarkable 99 to 1 margin.

"CN approached us asking for a lot of concessions," said Railroad System Council No. 11 Senior General Chairman Steve Martin, a member of Sudbury, Ontario, Local 2039. "And before we'd even sat down at the bargaining table, they moved to bring in federal conciliators. That was pretty unusual in our history with CN, so we knew what we were in for and prepared early on to request a strike mandate."

Among the concessions CN sought was the ability to move workers out of their home region for 90 days at a time, a non-starter for IBEW negotiators. The company also demanded more shift flexibility to cut down on overtime and right of selection on certain jobs.

The IBEW's signal and communications workers at CN in Canada work across five regions in eight provinces, spanning from the Atlantic to the Pacific oceans. The railway operates trains in the U.S. as well, where 200 IBEW electricians operate under a separate contract.

"I'm happy to report that we were successful in fighting off every one of those efforts," said First District International Representative Luc Couture. "They asked for a lot of things that would have disrupted people's lives, but our members stuck together and got CN to back down."

Key to the pushback was members' overwhelming support for the strike mandate, which Martin filed with the company in the early hours of March 17. That morning, CN's chief operating officer showed up to the negotiating table, and on March 21, with just eight hours left before workers walked out, a deal was struck.

"Was it a perfect deal?" Martin asked. "No, but there are no perfect deals. Our members who understood how successful we'd been in keeping what we had voted yes, and we're happy to have an agreement that keeps things stable through 2021."

In the end, the new contract will run retroactive from Jan. 1, 2017 through the end of 2021. It provides for 2 percent raises in the first three years and 3 percent increases in its final two years.

Couture and members of the negotiating committee spent the month of April traveling to meetings with CN workers across Canada explaining the finer points of the contract before the ratification vote. He described the meetings as hectic, but helpful in presenting the difficult



choices negotiators were forced to make.

"Of course we would've liked to have seen other improvements to the collective agreement," Couture said, "but with the concessions they were demanding, we think we got the best deal we could, and in the end the majority of our

members agreed. We're glad to have this resolved for the next five years."

CN Railway workers represented by the IBEW in Canada belong to Winnipeg, Manitoba, Local 2002; Montreal Local 2003; Kingston, Ontario, Local 2010; Brantford, Ontario, Local 2019; Moncton,

New Brunswick, Local 2024; Edmonton Local 2049; Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Local 2050; Sudbury, Ontario, Local 2052; Quebec City, Quebec, Local 2054; Kamloops, British Columbia, Local 2055; Prince George, British Columbia, Local 2057; and Thunder Bay, Ontario, Local 2058. ■

*CN Railway is Canada's largest railroad system, spanning from the Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic. It employs 700 IBEW members in Canada, all of whom work in signals and communications.*

Photo: Creative Commons – Flickr User Robert Taylor

## Les employés du chemin de fer au CN ratifient leur contrat après la menace de grève

**L**es employés de signalisations et des communications ferroviaires du CN au Canada ont ratifié une nouvelle convention collective de 5 ans à la fin du mois d'avril en repoussant les concessions demandées de l'entreprise et ont veillé à la stabilité des 700 membres de la FIOE jusqu'en 2021.

La ratification a eu lieu juste un mois après la conclusion d'une ronde ardue de négociations entre le Conseil de réseau No 11 et le plus important système ferroviaire au Canada, ayant conclu un accord de dernière minute juste après l'appui d'un mandat de grève des membres par une marge remarquable de 99 à 1.

« Le CN nous a approchés pour nous demander de faire beaucoup de concessions, » dit Steve Martin le président général sénior du Conseil de réseau No 11, un membre de la section locale 2039 situé à Sudbury en Ontario. « Même avant de s'asseoir à la table de négociation, ils se sont organisés pour amener des conciliateurs fédéraux. C'était assez étrange, alors on savait à quoi s'attendre et nous nous sommes préparés tôt pour faire une

demande d'un mandat de grève. »

Parmi les concessions demandées aux travailleurs par le CN était l'habileté de quitter leur région natale pendant 90 jours à la fois, c'était déjà voué à l'échec pour les négociateurs de la FIOE. L'entreprise a aussi demandé de donner plus de flexibilité dans le temps de travail dans le but de couper dans le temps supplémentaire et de leur donner le choix d'affecter certaines fonctions.

Les employés des signalisations et des communications de la FIOE au CN du Canada œuvrent dans cinq régions à travers neuf provinces, de l'océan Atlantique jusqu'à l'océan Pacifique. La compagnie ferroviaire exploite ainsi des trains aux États-Unis, où 200 électriciens de la FIOE exercent leurs fonctions en vertu d'un contrat distinct.

« Je suis heureux d'annoncer que nous avons lutté avec succès chacune de ces propositions, » ajoute le représentant international Luc Couture du Premier District. « La vie des gens aurait été perturbée par le nombre de choses demandées, et le CN a fui à la confrontation grâce à l'élan de solidarité des membres. »

L'élément clé du recul était l'appui ferme des membres pour le mandat de grève, dont Martin a déposé auprès de la compagnie tôt dans la matinée du 17 mars. Ce matin-là, le directeur de l'exploitation du CN s'est présenté à la table de négociation, et le 21 mars, une entente a été conclue seulement huit heures avant que les travailleurs quittent le lieu de travail.

« Quelle est une entente parfaite? », demande Martin. « Non, il n'existe pas d'entente parfaite. Nos membres qui ont compris à quel point nous avons réussi à conserver ce qu'on a ont voté oui, et nous sommes heureux d'avoir eu une entente qui apporte une stabilité jusqu'en 2021. »

En fin de compte, le nouveau contrat prendra effet rétroactivement à partir du 1<sup>er</sup> janvier 2017 jusqu'à la fin de 2021. Il offre une augmentation salariale de 2 pour cent dans les trois premières années ainsi que 3 pour cent au cours des deux dernières.

Couture et les membres du comité de négociation ont passé le mois d'avril à voyager à travers le Canada avec les employés du CN pour les réunions en vue d'expliquer les détails du contrat avant le

vote de ratification. Il qualifie les réunions plutôt mouvementées, mais utiles pour présenter les choix difficiles que les négociateurs ont été forcés à faire.

« Bien sûr nous aurions aimé apporter d'autres améliorations à la convention collective, » avoue Couture, « mais avec la demande de leurs concessions, nous pensons avoir obtenu la meilleure convention collective possible, et au bout du compte, nos membres étaient d'accord. Nous sommes heureux de l'avoir résolue pour les cinq prochaines années. »

Les employés du chemin de fer du CN représentés par la FIOE au Canada appartiennent à la section locale 2002 de Winnipeg, Manitoba; section locale 2010 de Kingston, Ontario; section locale 2019 de Brantford, Ontario; section locale 2024 de Moncton, Nouveau-Brunswick; section locale 2049, Edmonton; section locale 2050 Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; section locale 2052 Sudbury, Ontario; section locale 2054, ville de Québec; section locale 2055 Kamloops, Colombie-Britannique; section locale 2057 Prince George, Colombie-Britannique et section locale 2058 Thunder Bay, Ontario. ■

# THE FRONT LINE: POLITICS & JOBS

## Working Missouri Families Get Rare Win

Missouri has been battered by anti-labor legislation in recent months. That didn't stop the IBEW and its allies from fighting off an attempt to repeal the state's prevailing wage statute.

On May 12, the state Senate let a bill passed by the House die that would have done away with prevailing wage. That seemed unlikely earlier in the session, when a right-to-work law was passed and signed by Gov. Eric Greitens.

To do so, the IBEW and other trade unions turned to their signatory contractors, who took the lead in a public campaign and testified against the legislation.

They also worked with the IBEW and the Missouri AFL-CIO to lobby Republican legislators, particularly in central Missouri. Workers and contractors there had a higher interest in maintaining prevailing wage laws because of the large number of public projects in Jefferson City, the state capital; and in Columbia, home to the University of Missouri's flagship campus.

"It made a huge difference with the [National Electrical Contractors Association] making phone calls to those elected Republican officials in which they had influence and saying 'Hey, we don't want this,'" said state Sen. Jake Hummel, a member of St. Louis Local 1. "It will hurt my bottom line and it is governmental overreach. We need to make sure Missouri workers are working on this project instead of out-of-state interests."

Tim Green, the director of political, public and community relations for the Electrical Connection — the partnership between NECA and Local 1 in eastern Missouri — said it made sense for business leaders to be the public face fighting the legislation because of the Legislature's disdain for unions.

"We kept organized labor out of the discussion and had the contractor associations take the lead in articulating our position and educating legislators on the validity of these laws," said Green, a Local 1 member.



The Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge in Washington, D.C., is one of more than 20,000 U.S. bridges deemed "structurally deficient" by civil engineers. More than 7,700 U.S. bridges are in danger of "imminent collapse." Photo Credit: Flickr/Fred Schroeder

Prevailing wage laws were enacted in Missouri in 1959 and they require contractors doing business with state and local government to pay their workers at pre-determined levels. Because these projects receive public money, the belief has been businesses should pay workers at a rate that allows them to raise the standard of living for themselves and their families.

They also protect local contractors because they discourage bids from cut-rate companies outside the state that do little to contribute to its tax base.

One study showed the wages of union construction workers fell 2-4 percent in states following repeal.

"If we lose prevailing wage, it would first affect our contractors in the bidding process," Jefferson City Local 257 Business Manager Don Bruemmer said. ■

## President Trump: Infrastructure not a Priority

During the 2016 campaign, candidate Donald Trump promised a trillion dollars in infrastructure spending if elected. The news was met with cautious optimism by the construction industry, which stood to gain the most from a major spending spree by the federal government.

The reality of President Trump's plan is vastly different.

Trump's budget proposal released

May 23 puts forward just \$200 billion in infrastructure spending while slashing \$206 billion from existing infrastructure programs.

That's a net decrease in infrastructure spending of \$6 billion over the next 10 years.

Despite Trump's talk of a massive rebuilding project, he instead relies on local governments and private investment in infrastructure, which could mean future projects are funded by tolls or increased local taxes.

Last year, the American Society of Civil Engineers gave America's infrastructure a D+ grade, citing nearly \$5 trillion in backlogged repair costs. Two trillion dollars of that needs to be spent on American roadways alone, nearly \$1 trillion on the aging electrical grid, another \$870 billion on schools, water and wastewater systems, parks and flood control.

"We have to do better than this," International President Lonnie R. Stephenson said. "Our members are ready and able to do the work, but we need real leadership from Washington. America needs to invest in itself." ■

## N.C. GOP Pushes Constitutional Right-to-Work

North Carolina adopted its right-to-work law in 1947, the same year the Taft-Hartley Act, which empowered states to curb the sources of union funding, passed the U.S. Congress. No move to repeal it has gained any noticeable momentum since.

But now, 70 years later, Republicans in the state's Legislature are moving to enshrine right-to-work in the state's constitution.

"It doesn't make any sense," said Winston-Salem, N.C., Local 342 Business Manager Alvin Warwick, who also serves as the state's political coordinator. "Putting this in the state constitution serves no purpose other than to attack unions for existing. It's disgusting."

The push for right-to-work, a law that allows employees to opt-out of union fees while still receiving all the benefits of a negotiated contract, comes on the heels of several high-profile losses for the state's activist Republican-controlled Legislature.

In May, the U.S. Supreme Court

rejected an appeal over the Legislature's redistricting plans, and in March, members were forced to repeal the state's controversial "bathroom bill" after a boycott threat from businesses. They also moved to strip the newly elected Democratic governor of many of his powers after their candidate lost a bid for a second term.

"They need a win, so they've decided to come after us," Warwick said. "This is exactly the kind of thing we've come to

expect from this bunch in Raleigh. Luckily we'll have the chance to beat this at the ballot box next November."

Amendments to the constitution must face a ballot referendum before being enacted. If, as expected, the state Senate follows the House in passing the bill, it will put the right-to-work issue before North Carolina voters in November 2018.

In an interview with WLOS in April, Asheville Local 238 President Jason Simons credited the IBEW with giving him opportunities he wouldn't have had otherwise.

"Wages are lower in right-to-work states," Simons told the news station. "You can go there and pay them no pension. They don't need insurance. ... Give them money on their [pay]check and [say] good luck. What's going to happen to those people when they're 64 and 65? We let the owners and the corporations off the tab, and we the taxpayer pick it up. Somebody's going to have to pay their insurance. The emergency room, dentist, doctor, whatever they use. Or do we just not care about them?" ■

## SPOTLIGHT ON SAFETY

### New Award Honors Non-Members Who Save IBEW Lives



One of the IBEW's highest honors is the Lifesaving Award. Now, the IBEW honors non-members who have saved the life of a member.

Until now, when someone has helped a member get back home to their family after being in a life-threatening situation, the IBEW has had two ways of saying thank you.

For a member whose hands-on actions saves a life, we give one of the IBEW's highest honors: the Lifesaving Award. When a member with the presence of mind, prompt action, and genuine concern for life contributes to saving a life, they are eligible to receive the Certificate of Recognition.

Sometimes, the life of one of our brothers and sisters is saved by someone who isn't in the IBEW. But now, there is an official way to express the Brotherhood's gratitude.

At the direction of International President Lonnie R. Stephenson, the Lifesaving Award has been created to honor non-members who have saved the life of one of our brothers or sisters.

"We have had requests from locals over the years for a way to say thank-you, something more that could speak for all of us," said IBEW Safety Director David Mullen. "There is no way to fully express our gratitude. Our hope is that these awards make a good start."

To be eligible, a candidate must have directly saved the life of an IBEW member in the last three years. All nominations for the three awards must come from either a local president or business manager.

The full details are on the Safety Department section of the IBEW website. ■



Protestors hold a Missouri AFL-CIO banner during a recent rally outside the state Capitol in Jefferson City. Photo by PeoplesWorld via Flickr Creative Commons agreement.

# TRANSITIONS

## RETIRED

### Donald C. Siegel



After 46 years in the IBEW, Third District International Vice President Donald C. Siegel has retired, effective June 1.

Brother Siegel is a native of West Reading, Pa. His father, Joseph, was a member of the steelworkers for more than 50 years and his mother, Louise, was a member of the IBEW for nearly 30 years while she worked at Western Electric.

He was initiated into Reading Local 743 and six months after he topped out in 1973, he was elected to the executive board.

But the economy in eastern Pennsylvania cratered in the '70s and Siegel didn't work in his home jurisdiction for almost a decade. He spent nearly three years in Salt Lake City and then over a year in San Jose, Calif., almost settling there. He had to quit his board position before his first term even expired.

"When I left, I was carrying everything I owned and was in debt," Siegel said. "When I came back I had saved almost \$40,000 and didn't owe anyone a thing."

Siegel returned to Pennsylvania in the '80s, finding work at the Limerick nuclear plant and then as a project manager for two local contractors. Then the longtime business manager retired unexpectedly and, in 1986, a friend of Siegel's, Ernie Musser, took the helm.

But the local was in turmoil. Sides were chosen and by 1989, the local was, in Siegel's mind, in trouble. He decided to run and Musser did not. Siegel won.

He hired the local's first organizer, quintupled the COPE budget and got the local more deeply involved in local and state politics. He also oversaw a merger with another local union that almost doubled the construction membership of Local 743.

"I'm just the son of blue collar working parents that was fortunate to have the opportunity to join the IBEW," Siegel said. "We got the local pulling in the same direction and, together with a lot of help and cooperation from our members, set the local on the right path."

In 1991, Siegel nominated Joseph McCafferty for a position on the International Executive Council at the 34th International Convention in St. Louis. McCafferty was running against the incumbent, but had the support of then-International President J.J. Barry. The incumbent lost, Siegel's candidate won.

In 1994, then-Third District Vice President Edward Hill asked Siegel if he would be interested in coming on staff. "I was a little shocked. "We became close friends, but at that time I knew him as an international representative who came to me with some policy and processes that I didn't love."

Nevertheless, when Barry made the appointment offer official, Siegel accepted.

His most important accomplishment as an international representative, Siegel said, was dealing with a failing and flailing local north of Philadelphia. For 18 months, he ran the local under trusteeship, eventually splitting it into three others. It was, he said, a mess that had resisted fixing for years, and cleaning it up effectively made his reputation as someone who could handle long, difficult jobs.

In 2002, a year after he became international president, Hill had to replace Lawrence E. Rossa as Third District international vice president. Again, he turned to Siegel.

"I think he wanted a bulldog. And he wanted someone he could trust and would stay around for the long term," Siegel said. "I don't know if he thought I would be there for 15 years, but he wanted someone he knew would not quit or retire after a few years."

Siegel said the Third District has changed dramatically since he became vice president. The membership shrank from 148,000 to 116,000, with most of the loss coming in the manufacturing department.

"The majority of those losses represent a worker that lost a good union job and a lost opportunity to live the American dream," Siegel said.

His proudest achievement, he said, was working with and building the best staff in any craft or trade union, although he said he expects most international vice presidents would likely say the same thing.

"They do all the heavy lifting," he said. "It may be no great feat on my part, but I got them to all work as a team, not divided up with construction over here and utility over there. This is one union and I tried to foster their accomplishments."

One thing he said he does feel he can take credit for is the strength of the Third District's young leadership. "I am optimistic about the IBEW because of them and I am proud I worked to get young people involved," Siegel said.

In retirement, Siegel will continue as vice president of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO and maintain his board seats on the Team Pennsylvania Foundation and the Ben Franklin Technology Development Authority. In 2018, when Gov. Tom Wolf runs for re-election, Siegel says he will be there fighting for him.

"I will find plenty of work. I don't really do sitting down well," Siegel said.

The IBEW officers, staff and membership are grateful for Brother Siegel's work on behalf of the IBEW. Please join us in wishing him a long, busy and enjoyable retirement. ■

## APPOINTED

### Michael D. Welsh



Third District International Representative Michael D. Welsh has been appointed the district's international vice president, effective June 1.

He fills the unexpired term of Third District International Vice President Donald C. Siegel, who retired. International President Lonnie R. Stephenson's selection of Welsh was unanimously approved by the International Executive Council.

At 18 Welsh was initiated into Johnstown, Pa., Local 459 in 1976 while working as a temporary employee at Conemaugh Generating Station, about an hour east of Pittsburgh. After a brief layoff, he resumed permanent work in 1977 as a conveyor operator in the plant's coal handling division.

Welsh credits his involvement with union leadership to a particularly terrible boss he had in that first job, whose mistreatment of employees prompted him to accept the role of steward in 1979. "Looking back, I guess I should send that guy a thank-you note," he said.

The next year, following a lengthy strike, Welsh ran for Local 459's executive board and won the first of two terms. He also decided to go back to school. In 1984, he graduated from the Western Pennsylvania Union Leadership Academy, and in 1989, he graduated with honors from the University of Pittsburgh with a Bachelor of Arts in economics. During that span, he also served as his local's vice president from 1986 to 1989.

Welsh was elected president of the local and appointed assistant business manager in 1995. Then-business manager Joe Sanna, Welsh said, was a great mentor to him — "a strong union guy who always stood up for his principles."

It was seven years later, in 2002, that another mentor emerged to recommend Welsh for the international staff. Siegel had just settled into the job when he asked then-International President Edwin D. Hill to appoint Welsh to his staff. The two had worked together on the Pennsylvania State Electrical Workers Association, where Welsh served as president and still serves as secretary/treasurer.

"I owe a lot to Don," Welsh said. "He's been a great example for me and given me a lot of opportunities in this Brotherhood. This job is an awesome responsibility, and I hope I can do it justice."

Welsh served as the political coordinator for the Third District and for the state of Pennsylvania, fighting right-to-work and prevailing wage attacks. He also spent time servicing local unions and helping international representatives in the field by providing information for negotiations and bylaw changes.

"It's been a rewarding job for the last 15 years," he said, "and I'm looking forward to learning more and working for

an even larger group of members in this new position."

Like Siegel before him, Welsh plans to keep laser-focused on growing the Brotherhood, putting organizing among his top priorities. He also plans to continue pushing the Code of Excellence in all branches and to regularly remind members of the importance of politics and elected officials to their day-to-day lives.

"These people have enormous sway over our ability to organize, the amount of work we have, and our ability to put food on the table for our families," he said. "We need to pay attention and hold elected leaders accountable, and I plan to make sure we're doing that across the district."

The Third District includes the states of Delaware, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. ■

## APPOINTED

### Paul O'Connor



International Representative Paul O'Connor was appointed Government Employees Department director, effective May 1.

O'Connor replaces Dennis Phelps, who retired.

"I'm excited about the possibilities," O'Connor said. "I want our government employees to know that they have a voice."

The Government Department represents the tens of thousands of IBEW members working for federal and state governments including those maintaining the lock system for the Army Corps of Engineers and employees at the Government Printing Office and departments of Energy and the Interior. The largest group is the metal trades members at several shipyards who build and maintain the U.S. Navy's floating arsenal.

That's where O'Connor, a second-generation tradesman, got his start in the IBEW. A native of Exeter, N.H., O'Connor spent his career at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, a 6,000-employee facility and the oldest continuously operated naval yard in the country.

In 1981, he was initiated into Portsmouth, N.H., Local 2071 as an apprentice and worked his way up from steward to business manager. He also served as president of the Portsmouth Federal Employees Metal Trades Council for 13 years and on the shipyard's labor-management committee.

Brother O'Connor is also active in politics, a passion born out of fighting off shipyard closures and other government threats as well as geography — New Hampshire holds the first U.S. presidential primary, giving the state increased influence.

"Their [federal employees] jobs are under constant attack," O'Connor said. "Our men and women are the best in the world, but if the political climate isn't friendly, they get thrown under the bus, treated like pawns in a politician's pet proj-

ect. I want our members to know that they can — and should — stand up for themselves. I want them to know how powerful their voices can be against these assaults."

At the federal level, members are subject to hiring and salary freezes, Congress' perennial inability to pass on-time budgets and government shutdown threats. In January, Republicans enacted a rule that could strip a person's salary to \$1 — or eliminate an entire federal program.

"Just the threat of a shutdown creates incredible instability and inefficiency," O'Connor said. "You can't plan for the future when you don't know what your budget will be. And for these members, there's no guarantee of being reimbursed for pay lost while Congress was fighting."

O'Connor says he will also champion the Code of Excellence, the IBEW program that promotes professionalism and high quality craftsmanship. While working at the shipyard, he worked on a similar initiative that predates the Code, the Declaration of Excellence, created by labor and management that focuses on workplace values, encourages better communication and collaboration, and increases efficiency.

In 2015, he testified before the Senate Armed Services Committee on the program.

O'Connor serves on Department of Defense-affiliated committees including the Naval Sea Systems Command Labor Management Committee; New Beginnings, a coalition that produced a new personnel system; and a roundtable that is the highest-ranking group for labor-management issues at the Pentagon. ■

## RETIRED

### Brian S. Maher



Second District International Representative Brian Maher retired on May 1 after 41 years of service to the IBEW.

Initiated into New Haven, Conn., Local 90 in 1976, Maher followed his father into the electrical trade and the union. Maher was the fourth of five kids and said his parents had always pushed their children to go to college, but after a semester, he found it wasn't really for him. "I came home and worked as summer help through the local union and I really enjoyed it," he said.

After finishing his apprenticeship, Maher put his journeyman card to use and headed west to work at the 1,200-megawatt Columbia Nuclear Generating Station, which opened in 1984 in Richland, Wash.

Soon after, he found himself back in New Haven, working on Unit 3 at the Millstone Nuclear Power Station in Waterford, Conn., a site he'd return to over the years to work shutdowns and refuels. During that time, Maher got involved with Local 90's political committee, serving as its chairman for a couple of years before making his first run at executive board. He came up short, but kept at it, winning a seat on his second try in 1992.

The next year, then-business manager Giro Esposito offered Maher a job as the local's organizer, and he accepted, leaving the tools behind for good. Over the next eight years, he'd go on to serve as recording secretary, assistant business manager and president of the local, as a trustee on the pension, health and welfare, annuity, National Electrical Contractors Association/Local 90 training committees, and as an ex-officio member on numerous other committees at the local.

Alongside Esposito's successor, Ken King, Maher said the pair were laser-focused on growing the local and doing the best job they could for their members. "Kenny taught me a lot," he said. "We sat right next to one another for years, tethere together almost."

That's why it came as a surprise when then-Second District International Vice President Frank Carroll approached him about becoming an international representative. "It wasn't something I'd ever looked to do, but it's a real honor," Maher said.

In 2001, then-International President Edwin D. Hill appointed him to the role, and Maher found joy in the details of his new job. "I loved the contracts and the research," he said. "Away from the attention, doing the paperwork and the background stuff, that's where I liked to be."

After 16 years in the Second District, Maher is looking forward to spending the summer at home on the Connecticut shore, volunteering and spending time with his wife Roxanne, their two daughters, Bridget and Dawn, and their four grandchildren, aged 15 to 8.

The officers, staff and membership of the IBEW wish Brother Maher all the best in his well-deserved retirement. ■

#### RETIRED Dale McCoy



Tenth District International Representative Dale McCoy retired effective May 1, wrapping up a 47-year career that began almost by

accident.

In 1969, McCoy had just finished his freshman year at Southern State College — now known as Southern Arkansas University — when he stopped off at a Southwest Electric Power Co. plant to inquire about a potential summer job.

McCoy not only got the job, he stayed with the company for 38 years. He was initiated into Texarkana, Ark., Local 386 and became an outside lineman.

"It suited me fine," he said. "As a lineman, there's something new every day."

He also made his mark at Local 386. McCoy served on its executive board before being elected business manager and president in 1981, continuing in those roles for the next 26 years. He also served on the board of the U-9 American Electric Power System Council from 2002-07.

McCoy continued to work regularly

as a lineman while he was a business manager. It made for some long hours, but it also helped him better understand his members' concerns, he said.

"I had a feel of what was going on in the field," he said.

In 2007, McCoy accepted an offer to join the Tenth District staff as an international representative. His three sons were grown and he had a long friendship with Tenth District Vice President Robert P. Klein.

"There is no one I respect more than Bobby Klein," said McCoy, adding he also enjoyed a close relationship with current Vice President Brent C. Hall, Klein's successor.

McCoy worked with nine locals, primarily in the western half of Arkansas. Most of them were utility and manufacturing locals, but he also worked with construction members.

"He's a very trusted colleague and one I depended on," Klein said.

Klein retired in October 2015 and was replaced by Hall, who had previously served as a Tenth District international representative alongside McCoy.

"Dale is the kind of person who could walk into a room with 100 strangers and leave with 100 new friends," Hall said. "He's very well-respected and I think that goes back to the fact he genuinely cares about people. And he always worked hard."

"He's earned his retirement, I can tell you that," he added.

In retirement, McCoy and his wife of 46 years, Nancy, plan to spend their time in and around their home near Gillham, Ark. (population 188). They live in the foothills of the Ouachita Mountains and the area offers plenty of room for hunting and fishing and for hosting their three sons and six grandchildren, he said.

The only other hobby he plans to pursue is attending his grandchildren's sporting events.

"I'm not getting on another airplane," McCoy said. "I've done all the traveling I need to. I don't need that anymore. I've already given my frequent flyer miles to my son who lives in San Antonio."

The IBEW officers and staff wish Brother McCoy and his family a long and happy retirement. ■

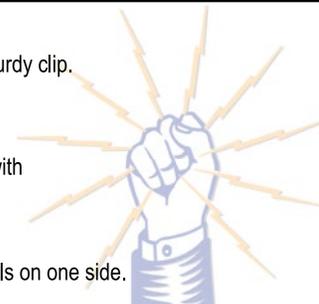
## IBEW MERCHANDISE



**Golf Towel \$11.00**  
High quality golf towel with IBEW logo and sturdy clip. Measures 15 1/2" x 24".

**National White Sport Shirt \$19.00**  
100% ring spun cotton pique knit sport shirt with embroidered IBEW initials on the left chest.

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#### DECEASED Alan Goddard



The IBEW regrets to report that former Sixth District International Representative Alan Goddard died May 7. He was 68.

A native of South Bend, Ind., and second of 14 children, Brother Goddard was drafted by the U.S. Marine Corps in 1969, but discharged

soon after due to an injury. In 1970, he began working at the Mishawaka power plant owned by American Electric Power and represented by Fort Wayne, Local 1392.

He was asked early on to be a steward and four years later, at the age of 23, appointed president of the local.

"There was an older guy, Bob Alexander, who worked at the power plant and he was on jobs I was on. We'd eat together or get coffee. We'd talk politics and union issues and I never kept my mouth shut," Goddard told the Electrical Worker in 2015. "One day, I don't know what we were talking about, he said 'We need young guys like you who aren't afraid to speak their mind to get involved with the union.' And I said OK."

In 1988, after he served 10 years as business manager, then-International President J.J. Barry appointed him international representative assigned to the Sixth District. He remained in the position until he retired in 2015.

"Alan was a fiery guy," said Sixth District Vice President David J. Ruhmkorff. "He was a strong advocate for working people and a lifetime activist."

Goddard's travels throughout the district led him to his wife, Jessica Logan, who was then business manager of Chicago Local 1220. They met at the International Convention in St. Louis in 1991 and married in 1998.

"He lived, worked and breathed the IBEW," she said. "He had a lot of interests, but he was always loyal to the union."

Logan said one of Goddard's career highlights was teaching at the IBEW's Arbitration Institute, housed at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The four day-long course instructs attendees, including business managers and agents, international representatives and chief stewards how to prepare and present arbitration cases.

"He loved teaching," Logan said. "It was some-

thing he looked forward to every year. He turned that school into something really great."

Goddard also led the effort to create System Council U-9, consisting of locals representing AEP employees that coordinate organizing, strategizing and negotiating efforts.

"I grew up on that company and we fought tooth and nail for decades. A lot of people over the years struggled mightily to represent our workers," he told the Electrical Worker when he retired. "Now we think they are a model for the industry. The IBEW is one of the best friends they have and I think AEP management gladly recognizes that."

Brother Goddard served on the South Bend Area Labor Education Advisory Committee and the Indiana University Statewide Labor-Faculty Advisory Committee on Labor Education.

In his spare time, Goddard was an avid photographer and music lover, particularly blues and jazz. He was also a voracious reader, Logan said, with interests ranging from entomology to cartography.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by 12 of his siblings and many nieces and nephews. On behalf of the IBEW, the officers extend our heartfelt condolences to his loved ones. ■

#### DECEASED Grady Parks



The Brotherhood is saddened to report that former Twelfth District International Representative Grady Allen Parks died March 30.

Brother Parks was born in Little Rock, Ark., and was initiated into Local 1136 in 1952 when he got a job working at the Philips lighting plant.

He was vice president of Local 1136 from 1958 until he became president in 1960, a position he held until 1966. In 1960, Parks also joined the national negotiation committee and executive council for System Council EM-1, a position he held for five years. He returned to the system council executive board in 1970 and served until

then-International President Charles H. Pillard appointed him Twelfth District international representative.

"Grady was a hard-working representative, easy to get along with. Strong willed, but that's how you had to be to be an organizer in Arkansas; it's how all of us got on staff," said former Twelfth District (the Tenth District since 1998) International Vice President Carl Lansden, who knew Parks for more than two decades.

Lansden said Parks was a tireless organizer across the South, working on organizing campaigns throughout the '70s and '80s including a fuse box company in Albemarle, N.C., Gould Battery in Fort Smith, Ark., Sharp in Memphis, Tenn., the Toshiba TV plant in Lebanon, Tenn., and many others.

Lansden said there was a moment working on the Gould Battery campaign that summed up who Parks was as an organizer. They were up in the deeply anti-union hills outside Fort Smith, door knocking together. As they walked toward a house, they heard the couple arguing, and Lansden didn't think it made much sense to bother knocking.

But Parks wouldn't have it. They had driven out that far, they were going to try.

They came to talk to the husband, but after knocking and saying who they were to the closed door, it was the wife that answered. Lansden said she just laid into them.

"She was yelling about unions, how she promised her mother on her deathbed that she would never vote for a union, on and on, and then she went to slam the door on us," he said. "Grady stuck his foot in the door! I'd never seen anyone do that in my life. I'd read about it. Then Grady starts telling her he didn't believe a word of it. 'Nobody can be that anti-union! I can't imagine a poor mother saying 'Oh daughter! Oh daughter! I'm dying; don't vote union' I can understand you're not voting for us, but please.'"

Lansden said he couldn't believe he'd said that, and the woman at the door was just as shocked.

This time, Lansden said, Parks let her close the door and he walked back to their car smiling.

"And, wouldn't you know, next time we went by that house, they invited us in and we talked with them for an hour," Lansden said. "That was Grady. He earned his salary."

The IBEW extends its deepest sympathy to the Parks family and friends. He will be missed. ■

# LOCAL LINES

## Fight Underway Against ‘Right to Work’ in Missouri

L.U. 1 (as,c,ees,ei,em,es,et,fm,i,mt,rts,s,se,spa,st&ws), ST. LOUIS, MO — Congratulations to IBEW Local 1 Bus. Mgr. Frank Jacobs, and union officers of the Unity Club, who were unopposed and elected by acclamation on Wednesday, May 3, 2017.

Most pressing currently for Local 1 officers is the labor-wide fight against so-called “right-to-work” legislation that recently was passed by the Missouri House and Senate and signed by Gov. Eric Greitens. The Missouri AFL-CIO initiated a campaign, now underway, against the anti-worker law. [Editor’s Note: The IBEW and other Missouri unions are collecting petition signatures to put a referendum on the 2018 ballot that would challenge the right-to-work law, presently scheduled to take effect on Aug. 28.]

Bus. Mgr. Jacobs noted that, “IBEW Local 1 has 35 notaries and 450 trained members gathering signatures of registered Missouri voters on petitions.” If enough signatures are collected on valid petitions there will be a stay on Senate Bill No. 19. The goal is to have a statewide election on RTW.

Bus. Mgr. Jacobs stated: “Gov. Greitens is attacking union workers, [... action that also negatively impacts] retirees’ pensions, industry funded education, good health care and higher wages that supply more taxes for our state budget.” Jacobs added, “If a guy doesn’t want to be union and work under a union negotiated contract ... then work nonunion. You have a choice!”

Local 1 journeyman wireman Ricky Pipkins II said: “We choose to be union and pay dues because we want collective bargaining and we want representation. We want a voice in what happens next. It’s a right and a privilege, not a burden! We have to stay strong together because if unions fail, then the standard of living will plummet.”



Former Local 1 president Jack O. Jacobs, who held office from 1997-’98, nominates his son Frank Jacobs for business manager on May 3, 2017.



IBEW Local 37 members attend April 2017 Training Trust Fund Conference.

We mourn the loss of several recently deceased members: James Walsh, John McLaughlin, James Siebert, John Grace III, James McNelly and Lucille Bequette.

Jan Bresnan, P.S.

## Mich.’s Storm of the Century IBEW Members Restore Power

L.U. 17 (catv,em,lctt,o&u), DETROIT, MI — In early March this year, DTE Energy encountered the largest storm in the company’s 100+ year history. More than 800,000 or 40 percent of DTE’s customers lost power. Several hundred poles were broken and many thousands of feet of wire were knocked down from the 60-mile-per-hour winds that battered the system for most of the day. I am very proud to report that through all this destruction and the subsequent restoration, not one of our members was injured. Moreover, every bit of the restoration was completed by the IBEW! Congratulations, brothers and sisters — you showed them again!

The work picture here is very good with open calls for linemen and tree trimmers. Please call the hall for more details or check the jobs board on the I.O.’s website at [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org).

At press, we were looking forward to celebrating our 125th anniversary here at Local 17 on June 5 this year. You don’t get to grow this old without doing some things right. We are a very proud group of unionists, ready and willing to fight for what’s fair and just.

We are saddened to report the passing of Brothers Pat Sheridan, Dana Markwood, Dave Catalier and Mike Darby — all outstanding people, every one of them!

Dean Bradley, B.M./F.S.

## IBEW Lifesaving Award

L.U. 19 (u), AURORA, IL — On the evening of Oct. 11, 2016, Local 19 members working for Nicor Gas were in the process of repairing a main hit reported earlier that afternoon in Romeoville, IL. Suddenly, the building exploded at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Amid all the chaos after the explosion, the members were able to determine that one of the five brothers at the site was not responding. Without thinking about their own personal safety, and while the building was on fire, Thomas Smith’s co-workers cut him out of the section of the roof that had fallen on him.

Local 19 Bus. Mgr. Chris Harris presented the IBEW Lifesaving Award to the following members on April 26 this year: Ernie Garcia, James Sargent, Tim Erickson and Dale Vanderbough. Their astute responses and selfless acts of camaraderie saved the life of our brother Thomas Smith.

Natalia Guzman, Exec. Board

## ‘Celebrating Excellence’ — 2017 Training Trust Conference

L.U. 37 (em,o&u), FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA — April 1-2 marked IBEW Local 37’s annual Training Trust Fund Conference, an event that has taken place each year since 2011. This year’s conference at the Delta in Fredericton, NB, Canada, marked a significant milestone for the local in that it was the official launch for Local 37 of the IBEW Code of Excellence. Approximately 135 people attended the event, which was themed “Celebrating Excellence.”

The conference opened with internationally renowned keynote speaker Buhle Dlamini, who motivated and inspired participants to unleash their greatness. There were 15 breakout sessions to choose from, all themed around achieving excellence in every

skill-set from communications and conflict resolution, to understanding emotional intelligence and how to manage stress. April 1 closed with entertainment from local comedian James Mullinger, who left everyone in stitches.

Participants received conference swag bags (UFCW 215-T), which included a Code of Excellence T-shirt (USW 9153). Members were encouraged to wear the shirt on the last day of the event to show their IBEW pride and commitment to excellence while listening to the closing keynote address by adventure seeker and athlete Will Gadd.

The 2017 IBEW Local 37 Training Trust Fund Conference was a great success and we look forward to the next one!

Ross Galbraith, B.M./F.S.

## November Ballot Referendum; RENEW/IBEW 3DYC Volunteers

L.U. 41 (em,es,govt,i,se&spa), BUFFALO, NY — On the ballot this Nov. 7, New York state voters will decide on whether the state will convene a constitutional convention in 2019. The New York State Constitution contains many laws that we hold dear. The constitution states in the Bill of Rights that: “Labor of human beings is not a commodity nor an article of commerce. ... No laborer, worker or mechanic ... engaged in the performance of any public work ... be paid less than the rate of prevailing wages. ...” The state constitution also guarantees employees the right to organize and bargain collectively. During a constitutional convention, elected delegates decide on items to be voted on to be added or removed from the state constitution. We encourage all our members and all New York state IBEW members to vote NO on the New York State Constitutional Convention referendum this Nov. 7.

Our RENEW/IBEW3DYC group along with journey-

## Submitting Local Lines Articles

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

## Trade Classifications

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

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



Local 41 RENEW/IBEW3DYC community service volunteers: from left, Jim Murdoch, Matt Arendt, Matt Gaiser, Art Chmura, Ken Scheifla (kneeling), Chris Grisanti and Matt Chmura. Helping to hold the sign are the son of Bro. Murdoch and the son of Bro. Chmura.

man Art Chmura and others completely wired a new handicapped-equipped house for the family of a child with a rare disease. Bro. Chmura took the lead in laying out the job, providing material lists, and detailing what he needed our members to accomplish. IBEW, Local 41 and two of our NECA contractors, Ferguson Electric and Frey Electric, provided all the materials to complete the project. Thank you to all who participated.

Local 41 is saddened to report the passing of David Buonamici, one of our apprentices who was always there to lend a brother a hand. David worked on the project detailed above and every other time we needed volunteers. David was kind, generous, funny, and loved the Brotherhood. He will be missed.

Gregory R. Inglut, A.B.M.

## BBQ & Chili Cook-Off

L.U. 47 (lctt,mo,o,u&uow), DIAMOND BAR, CA — Greetings, brothers and sisters. Hope everyone finally got some rest after all the storms we've had. Kudos to all involved for another great job with storm restoration work.

Several springtime events held earlier this year were a great success. Local 47's Steward and Safety Conference was April 21-23. The first-ever IBEW SoCal BBQ & Chili Cook-Off, sponsored by Locals 47, 465 and 569, took place April 8.

There are many more upcoming 2017 activities to look forward to.

The 17th Annual Members Memorial Golf Tournament will be July 21. Sponsorship for IBEW Local 47 Youth Summer Camp, July 16-July 20. The Local 47 Family Picnic will be Aug. 12. The date for the upcoming 14th Annual IBEW Brotherhood Motorcycle run had not yet been determined at press time.

It is with sadness that we report the deaths of

several members this year: Andrew Lux, Gilbert Cortez, Don Jones, Joe Tenenbaum, Russ Abrams, Ralph Jackson, Eduardo Fernandez, David Morales, Darren Gainor, Santiago 'Jim' Perez, Luis Elizalde, Ronald Flores and Marion Leon. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families and friends.

Best wishes and congratulations to our newly retired members: Curt Horner, Dave Noriega, Mark Gidley and Tom Hewitt.

Negotiations were completed with NECA, Henkels & McCoy, Asplundh Construction and other contractors for successor agreements to the outside line agreement. At the time of this writing, ratification by the membership was pending.

At press time, negotiations were underway with the City of Banning, City of Colton and the City of Anaheim, as well as for our members at Angels Baseball.

Mitch Smith, P.S.

## Steward Training; Three-Year Contract Ratified

L.U. 51 (catv,lctt,o,ptc,rtb,t,u&uow), SPRINGFIELD, IL — A new three-year agreement with the American Line Builders Chapter (line clearance work on electrical utility properties) has been ratified. This affects 388 of our members working throughout Illinois. Tree work is strong and we are at full employment.

With the help of Int. Rep. C.J. King, we recently conducted steward training and had a great turnout.

Stewards for Local 51 are as follows (partial list): Decatur — Verkeitha Evans, Tracey Risby, Shateveon Goforth, Anitra Watkins, Lauren Dougherty, Kim Williamson, Lori Herring, Wayne Brown, Cindy Oyler, Karla Jones, Rhonda Gooding, Steve Durbin, Tim Lynch, Christopher Maus. Bloomington — Casey O'Donoghue, Daylyn Wells, Brian Grimes, Adam



IBEW Local 47 members and their families attend IBEW SoCal BBQ & Chili Cook-Off.

Brendsel. Clinton — Karen Underwood. LaSalle — Dan Klein, Mike Rivara, Jake Newcomer, Mike Heredia, Tom Hocking. Oglesby — Mark Ambrose, John Zulkowsky. Peru — Eric Maggio. Princeton — Mike Saylor. Geneseo — Rick Preston. Belleville — Brian Abraham, Larry Hopkins, Tracy Greenwell, Jeff Seeley. Maryville — Justin Jostes. Sparta — Jennifer Morgan. Hillsboro — Mike Hiller, Kristin Shearlock.

Mt. Vernon — Terri Allali. Baldwin Station — Stracy Chandler, Erick Crabtree, Nick Hummert, Jake Kiefer, Kyle Muenchau, Nick Ruettgers, Brent Morris. Galesburg — Julie Cone, Jeff Nichols, Brad Wheeler. Peoria — Brian Anton, Dan Haney, Tyson Lockhart, Jed Dooley, Scott Searle, Chris Culberson, Neil Bowling, Joe Cowell. Havana Station — Logan Cowin, Josh Mibbs, Jake Green, Shari Thurman, Travis Bohannon. Edwards Station — Anthony Robertson, Jason Kelch. Mt. Zion — Luke Culver. Petersburg — Brandon Blair. Chillicothe — Jason Morrell. Jacksonville — Loren Trader. Kewanee — Bryan Hood. Freeport — Chris Crase. Rockford — Lewis Masterson.

Our annual fish fry and family picnic will be Sept. 23 at the local union hall. Please plan to attend. As always, work safe and support your union.

Karlene Knisley, B.R.

## IBEW Lifesaving Awards; Youth Sports Team Sponsored

L.U. 77 (lctt,mt,o,t&u), SEATTLE, WA — Greetings. With spring in full swing, Local 77's sponsorship of youth sports teams will begin to get our IBEW union label out into our communities. Last fall, one of our sponsored youth baseball teams went to the Cal Ripken World Series in Maryland. The team was 30-5 for the season and was 5-0 in the series, finishing No. 1 in the nation, losing only to Japan in the championship. This was the first time a team from the Pacific Northwest had reached the title game. One of the players on the team, Myles Mayovsky, who is the grandson of retired assistant business manager Tom McMahon, received the MVP award twice during the tournament. [See photo below.]

At the 33rd Kansas City International Lineman Rodeo, Local 77 members Adam Craver, Jordan Wright and Mike Fogarty took first place in the Construction Journeyman Lineman team competition. Their score was 398 out of 400.

IBEW Lifesaving Awards were presented to six members — Dan Hannon, Bob Jacobson, Eric Tinghino, Preston Jerome, Ryan Rollins and Brandyn Ross —

for their quick rescue action during a severe weather event. High winds caused a tree to fall on a truck down the street from where the line crew was working, trapping the occupants inside. The crew immediately proceeded to remove the tree and the smashed cab of the truck, saving the lives of the driver and passenger.

Rick Luiten, P.S.



Three IBEW Local 103 members received awards in March. From left: Local 103 then-president Lou Antonellis, state Transportation Sec. Stephanie Pollack, MBTA Gen. Mgr. Brian Shortsleeve, and Local 103 award recipients Dick Ryan, Ed Reynolds and Kevin O'Brien.

## Heroic Action to Aid MBTA Train Passenger

L.U. 103 (cs&i), BOSTON, MA — On March 2, three Local 103 electricians working for the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority (MBTA) at the new Government Center Station were alerted to a train passenger who had collapsed and was unconscious in the station.

The three IBEW members, Dick Ryan, Ed Reynolds and Kevin O'Brien, responded immediately and began to administer CPR, and a MBTA inspector rushed over with an AED device. The AED was activated and within seconds the man was responding.

The members credited their heroic actions to years of safety training with the IBEW and work on the MBTA.

The general manager of the MBTA was quick to recognize these brothers as heroes. The three also received a congratulatory call from U.S. Rep. Joe Kennedy, and a commendation from Gov. Charlie Baker. When asked if he wanted to say something to the man if he had the chance, Ed Reynolds said, "I wish you well, heal quick and enjoy your life."

This was a great day for the train passenger, the MBTA, Local 103 and the entire IBEW. This story is the epitome of timely action to "Do Your Job."

Lou Antonellis, B.M.

## Policy Committee Meeting; Contract Negotiations

L.U. 111 (em,govt,lctt,mt,o,rtb,spa&u), DENVER, CO — The 2017 IBEW Local 111 Policy Committee Meeting was held at the Renaissance Denver Hotel in Denver on Saturday, April 8. Local 111 hosted a reception the Friday evening prior for all attendees and guests. These members sacrifice their weekends to participate in this very important meeting and we want to acknowledge and thank them for their service to their union.

The Policy Committee Meeting is held every year pursuant to the Local 111 Bylaws, Article VII. This year there were over 60 members in attendance from several geographic areas, represent-



A Local 77-sponsored youth baseball team competed in Cal Ripken World Series. Myles Mayovsky (center) received MVP awards.

## LOCAL LINES

ing their individual units. The Policy Committee further approved and adopted four new policies, which included: Conflict of Interest and Disclosure Policy; Electronic Mail and Internet Policy; Electronic Document Retention and Destruction Policy; and the Whistleblower Policy.

The local union faces many challenges as we continue general negotiations with Public Service Company of Colorado, and various other utilities. Proudly, we defeated the decertification filed by a nonmember employed at SECOM. The bargaining unit members prevailed — they stuck together and won in the end to maintain representation. Congratulations to the members of SECOM.

*Denny Wallace, P.S.*

## St. Patrick's Day Parade & BBQ A Great Success

L.U. 113 (catv,ees,em,i,mo&o), COLORADO SPRINGS, CO — Well, it looks like 2017 is shaping up to be a good year as far as work is concerned. Many of the jobs scheduled to break ground already have, or are close to doing so. With so many of the members working, it looks promising that we will be putting out calls off of Book 2, as well as continuing to organize the unrepresented workforce in the jurisdiction.

Special thanks go out to all the members and their families who participated in the annual St. Patrick's Day parade. We followed it up with a packed union hall for a successful fundraiser and a barbecue that was enjoyed by all. [See photo, below.]

Here is a date for your calendar you will not want to miss. Friday, July 7, is the date for our annual Apprenticeship Completion Dinner. This is a great chance to salute our new graduates and give them big congratulations. Call the union hall for details.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

*Brian Putnam, P.S.*

## Stand Up for Workers' Rights

L.U. 125 (lctt,o,t&u), PORTLAND, OR — With all the uncertainty in the workplace due to changes in politics which affect the laws that influence our industry and subjects of bargaining, our members continue to feel the effects of an endless stream of attacks on workers' rights. It is important that we, as Local 125 members, work on things in our control. How can we

turn things in our favor? Talk to your co-workers directly when there are union issues. Attend your union meetings regularly. Ask questions. Promote the IBEW by doing quality work safely and efficiently. Make an effort to attend city council meetings and hear about opportunities that affect our work. Participate in hearings and help explain issues that most citizens don't understand. Contact your business representative if you're willing to stand up for our local.

As summer approaches, keep safety at the forefront of your lives — at work and home. It is critical that we collaborate with each other and ensure that we protect the conditions afforded us through our collective bargaining agreement.

Plan on attending the following events and support our brotherhood:

- Pacific Northwest Lineman's Rodeo: July 22
- IBEW Local 125 Golf Tournament: July 28
- IBEW Local 125 Softball Tournament: July 29-30

*Marcy Grail, A.B.M.*

## Leadership Training

L.U. 191 (c,i,mo,rtb&st), EVERETT, WA — At this writing, local union elections are underway. We wish to thank all outgoing officers and welcome our newly elected officers. One of the first duties of our new team is participating in Leadership Training, conducted by IBEW Ninth District staff.

At the training, roles and duties of each office are reviewed. Teamwork is stressed, with ample time for questions and discussion.

We also review the upcoming events and all officers are encouraged to take an active role in the many volunteer opportunities the local union offers. These include social events, community service and political involvement.

By serving as role models both at union functions and on the job, each officer has an important responsibility to strengthen our union. Thank you all for your service!

*Bill Mirand, P.S.*

## July 29 Golf Outing; Community Service Projects

L.U. 197 (em&i), BLOOMINGTON, IL — We are pleased to report that many of the local municipal candidates organized labor supported for the elections in April



Local 197 members helped provide lighting for the LeRoy American Legion Memorial Wall: Harold Misch (left), Mikel Misch, Ken McLean, Bob Goemmel, Nick Sexton, Chris Carlson and Mike Raikes.

were successful. We thank those who made their voices heard and cast a ballot. We have seen that every vote does count. The town of Normal mayoral race was won by a slim margin of 11 votes. Mayor Chris Koos has brought many projects into our jurisdiction and recognizes the quality of using union labor on those projects; for that we are pleased he won.

We completed two important volunteer projects for our communities and we appreciate those who helped. The American Legion in Leroy asked if we could provide lighting for a Memorial Wall they wanted to get built by Memorial Day. The Easter Seals Camp at Lake Bloomington approached us about providing power to a snack shack for the children who attend the camp in the summer. These projects benefit the community, and they also benefit our local by providing an opportunity for getting to know one another better and strengthening the bonds among our brothers and sisters. Thank you to the volunteers!

If you have not yet signed up for the Local 197 Golf Outing, it's not too late to do so. The outing will be at Fairlakes Golf Course in Secor, IL, on Saturday, July 29, at 8 a.m. Please come out and spend some time together. Remember to get involved in the local and stay involved!

*Mike Raikes, Pres.*

## Women's Leadership Course

L.U. 213 (c,catv,em,i&u), VANCOUVER, BC — IBEW women from three British Columbia locals recently gathered for a one-day leadership training course, an event that was jointly planned by Local 213 and the union's International Office.

IBEW Director of Education Amanda Pacheco travelled from Washington, DC, to act as chief instructor. She was joined by Int. Rep. Tracy Prezeau of the Education Department.

"To work effectively in any organization, you need to understand the rules" said Local 213's Lisa



At Local 213 leadership training course: Lisa Langevin (left) of Local 213, and Cheryl Arseniuk of Local 230.



Colorado Springs, CO, Local 113 members and their families participate in annual St. Patrick's Day parade.

Langevin, who took the lead in organizing the event. “The prime motivation behind this course was education about process in the union.”

“But there were also secondary goals: bringing new women into the Women’s Committee, and creating another networking opportunity for women in the hall and from other locals.”

Fifteen women attended from Local 213, and another nine came from British Columbia Locals 230 and 258.

Prezeau said the International Office designed and delivered a customized course for this occasion.

“This new curriculum can now be used for all sorts of other purposes,” Prezeau said. “It’s for any group of activists who want to understand union governance better, and make their local and the IBEW stronger.”

Todd Nickel, P.S.



Local 269 members protest a nonunion jobsite in Hamilton, NJ. The inflatable “Fat Cat” brings attention to struggles against corporations that adopt unfair labor practices.

## Big Construction Projects

L.U. 229 (em&i), YORK, PA — Local 229 is happy to report full employment of our construction members and a strong work outlook for the remainder of 2017 and into 2018. Several large projects are underway. The Calpine Block 2 project expects to hire at least 60 workers in the coming months and will be working at least five 10-hour days per week with construction running through the end of 2017. Commissioning is scheduled to begin the first quarter of 2018.

The Johnson Controls project being performed by I.B. Abel Inc. is going very well, with the “office” complete and the “test lab” going full force. This is a 100,000 plus man-hour Code of Excellence project, the largest COE project done in Local 229 to date. The pride of craft and quality of workmanship is impressive! The IBEW/NECA team is clearly demonstrating why we are the absolute best choice and best value for any customer. [See photo, below.]

Peach Bottom Atomic power station has several projects coming up and a fall refueling outage. CB&I and Matrix will be hiring for this site.

We will need a substantial number of travelling brothers and sisters to meet the anticipated calls in the coming months. Anyone looking for work please sign our Book 2.

Matthew Paules, B.M.

## Nuclear Energy — Green Power Producer

L.U. 245 (govt,lctt,o,rtb&u), TOLEDO, OH — Nuclear energy matters. This is the message the union leadership is trying to get out, with the help of the members and their families. We are asking everyone to contact their state representatives and share their concerns over the possible shutdown of the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station. Davis-Besse employs 700 people, and approximately 230 of those are our members with good paying jobs. Davis-Besse supplies millions

of dollars in tax revenue to state and local governments. Davis-Besse is also the second largest green power producer in the state. We want and need your support on this issue.

On a sad note, I regret to report the passing of Dave Bacon, a former business manager. Dave was a good union man, who did a lot for Local 245 and the IBEW. He was a personal friend, boss and mentor. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Just a reminder to the membership: this is the year for Local 245 officer elections. Nominations will be made at the Sept. 7 union meeting; this is your chance to get involved. Remember, the union is only as strong as its membership.

Until next time work safe, enjoy the summer and don’t forget about the Mud Hens game on July 30.

Ray Zychowicz, P.S.

## On-Site Activism

L.U. 269 (i&o), TRENTON, NJ — There was little activity inside the nonunion construction site fence on this one Saturday in early May, but there was plenty of activism on the outside of the fence surrounding the future site of the Aldi Supermarket and Panera Bread store.

All the major building trades joined our brothers and sisters of the IBEW along Route 33 in Hamilton, NJ, to protest the use of nonunion labor on these very locally positioned businesses. [Photo, at top.]

Workers were joined by local politicians to present a united front against companies that would engage in unfair labor practices and ignore local building interests. Workers and local businesses alike benefit greatly when projects such as these use local union labor.

Good wages mean expendable income, which in turn means an economic boon to the entire community. The short-sighted business owners know this, yet they choose to line their own pockets rather than give a boost to the community whose money they will gladly accept when they open their doors for business.

By standing together, we can have our say and do our best to make sure these companies do their



Andritz Hydro crew at jobsite: IBEW Local 303 electricians Bill Aslin, Mike Douglas, Sylvain Lebel, Helmut Klassen and Rob Marazzo; Jonathan Brooks, operators union; Andritz representatives Guy Cauchon, Claude Larouche and M.A. Lacoste.

best to be fair and just to the good people who will be patronizing their establishments.

Brian Jacoppo, P.S.

facilities while building new renewable-energy projects across the Niagara region.

Helmut Klassen, P.S.

## ‘A True Team Effort’ — Skilled & Versatile IBEW Crew

L.U. 303 (em,i,lctt,mar,o,rts&spa), ST. CATHARINES, ONTARIO, CANADA — IBEW Local 303 electricians worked with Andritz Hydro to complete refurbishment of the Sir Adam Beck G-10 generator with zero incidents, on time and on budget. This refurbishment demonstrates the versatility of Local 303 members who proudly maintain the existing hydro generation

## The U.S. Constitution & An 1892 NBEW Convention

L.U. 343 (i,spa&st), LE SUEUR, MN — Brothers and sisters, happy Independence Day!

We live in a country free from oppression, a country where we can petition our government for change to benefit the citizenry. As union members, we also have the right to petition not only our contractors but our local union as well for the benefit of our trade. Our collective bargaining agreement is the rule book the union and the contractors follow to ensure mutual success for the employees and employers.

Twenty-eight years before the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1920 granting American women the right to vote, the first women became members of our union at the 1892 NBEW Convention. Just four years later, Sister Mary Honzik of St. Louis became the second paid organizer of the then-National Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. This entitled the NBEW to be recognized as the first union to have a female organizer on staff. There is no inequality in pay between men and women belonging to IBEW construction locals. Union membership has its privileges.

Remember, the Local 343 summer picnic will be held in August in Rochester.

Spend it where you earn it. Buy “Made In USA.”

Tom Small, P.S.



Crew assembles at the IBEW Local 229 Johnson Controls project jobsite.

## LOCAL LINES

## Strong Work Picture

L.U. 347 (em,i,mt,rtb,rts&spa), DES MOINES, IA — Local 347 has recently enjoyed the good fortune of a bountiful supply of work. Both Facebook and Microsoft data centers are starting more work at their existing sites. Two downtown Des Moines high-rise structures are clearing the regulatory hurdles. Planning is in process for a new airport in Des Moines, with construction expected to start in the next three years. By some estimates, we haven't seen this kind of a workload since 1977. I know the "old-timers" do appreciate the boom times; some of the veterans of this trade can tell stories about not being able "to buy a job" in this area in the mid-1980s.

On April 1, 2017, the local threw a pin party. It was very well-attended — and of particular note was the presentation of a 65-year service pin to Bro. Bud Glass. Congratulations, Bud — looking good! The presentation was made by Jason Ballard, who also deserves to be congratulated on his recent election by acclamation to the position of local president. The previous president, Scott Farnsworth, has taken a position as assistant business agent. Progress all around. Have a safe Independence Day.

Mike Schweiger, P.S.



Local 347 Pres. Jason Ballard (left) presents 65-year service award to retired Bro. Bud Glass.

## Apprenticeship Graduation

L.U. 357 (c,i,mt&se), LAS VEGAS, NV — The Electrical JATC of Southern Nevada's 2017 apprenticeship graduation ceremony was held May 6 at the IBEW Local 357 union hall. Guest speakers U.S. Rep. Dina Titus and U.S. Rep. Jacky Rosen addressed apprentices and guests. A dinner sponsored by the Southern Nevada IBEW/NECA Labor Management Cooperation Committee followed the ceremony later that evening at the Culinary Academy of Las Vegas.



Las Vegas Local 357 congratulates 2017 apprenticeship graduates.

Outstanding Apprentice Award recipients were Anthony Kober and Bryn Kutch. The Mike Laux Award, for most union meetings attended, went to LeAndre Brown and Nguyen V. Knight. Clyde Green Sr. Memorial Awards for grade point average went to LeAndre Brown and Fernando T. Leon. Perfect Attendance Award recipients were: Michael A. Dexter, Anthony Kober, Fernando T. Leon, Jeffrey F. Nunez and Daniel Pascual.

Training Dir. Madison Burnett and Asst. Training Dir. Robert Buntjer presented this year's 26 inside wireman and six installer/telecommunication graduates. Wireman graduates are: Francis T. Ackam, Lorenzo D. Bookhart, Emilio Braun, Jamal G. Brooks, Joshua E. Chavarria, Aaron J. Darancou, Michael A. Dexter, Pedro Flores, James Halsey, Nguyen V. Knight, Bryn G. Kutch, Fernando T. Leon, Kevin Manyagi, Leonardo J. Moya, Jeffrey H. Nunez, Daniel Pascual, Taylor H. Raats, Koran R. Rucker, Jeffrey M. Sandoval, Lawrence Scarpaci, Hugo D. Solorio, Adam T. Terrio, Joshua J. Tice, David A. Wedlow, Edward A. Weist, Ronald C. Young Jr. Installer/Telecommunication graduates are: Dustin R. Birney, LeAndre J. Brown, Anthony M. Kober, Nicolas R. Lantrip, Glenn A. McPherson and Robert L. Smith III.

Jennifer Tabor, P.S.

## St. Patrick's Day



## IBEW LOCAL #375

For St. Patrick's Day parade, Local 375 members wore T-shirts with the graphic design shown here.

## 3DYC Events a Success; Active &amp; Involved Membership

L.U. 375 (catv,ees&i), ALLENTOWN, PA — Local 375 has been extremely active this spring with multiple events reaching out to the community and within our membership. Many occasions have been driven by an ambitious and dedicated group — Local 375's Third District Youth Caucus (3DYC), co-chaired by Jordan Morales and David LeBlanc. With their collaborative efforts, the Allentown St. Patrick's Day parade and our 375 Night at the Lehigh Valley Phantoms were extremely successful.

As in previous years, Local 375 marched with

the labor contingent in the St. Patrick's Day parade. Building upon that tradition, we again saw a larger labor turnout and made a strong showing for working people. Our T-shirt this year was designed by Ryan Jones, a second-year apprentice. The community response to labor's participation was overwhelmingly positive.

On April 7, the 3DYC held an event with over 60 in attendance at a Lehigh Valley Phantoms game. The Phantoms are a minor-league affiliate for the Philadelphia Flyers. Utilizing the stadium's party deck, the members experienced NHL prospects in action while strengthening our brotherhood. This was the first event held by the 3DYC at the Phantoms.

We thank those who attended these and all other Local 375 events. The local also wishes to express its deepest gratitude to the members of the 3DYC. With their tireless dedication to Local 375 and the IBEW, all of this has been possible and has helped to facilitate growth within our communities and our membership.

Christopher Kaufman, B.R.

## 'Positive Report on Work' — Member Training Opportunities

L.U. 379 (i,o&rtb), CHARLOTTE, NC — We have been notably busy for the last year. Construction is booming in our region and we are aggressively pursuing relationships that will broaden employment opportunities for our members.

Member education continues to be the key to our success. In 2015, we adopted the 7th District IBEW-NECA Code of Excellence. To date, Asst. Bus. Mgr. Edgar Brown has trained over half our member-

ship in Code of Excellence and it has improved productivity across the jurisdiction.

Bro. Brown and Pres. Scott Thrower are also teaching the Foreman's Development Series. Twenty journeymen graduated from FDS in May.

Our young workers group, BOLT379 (Brotherhood Organizing Leaders of Tomorrow), received its RENEW charter in April. In May, these young members volunteered with The Big Spring Clean, a city-wide conservation effort to beautify the banks of the Catawba River.

We held the first Charlotte Area Bass Fishing Tournament in March as presenting sponsor, and plans are to make it an annual event. The tournament was organized in partnership with the Union Sportsmen's Alliance and it will be the first of many!

All in all, a positive report on the work and the potential for Local 379. Have a fun and safe summer!

Ashley Hawkins, Organizer

## Community Outreach &amp; Membership Activities

L.U. 441 (as,i&rts), SANTA ANA, CA — As we moved into springtime in Orange County, we have experienced a solid work picture, more events for members to enjoy, and sadly the loss of one of our own.

Feb. 4 saw the passing of Dean Francis. Dean was a 48-year IBEW member, and was serving as an Executive Board member and job steward. Our local grieved with his family as his unexpected passing left behind boots that could never be filled.

"IBEW Night with the Ducks" in March was another success as over 300 members and families



Local 379 member Derek Cummings at Charlotte Area Bass Fishing Tournament with the big fish of the day.

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spent a Friday night watching the Anaheim Ducks beat up on the Winnipeg Jets. This was another free event put on for our members that included a ticket to the game, a hot dog, and drink for all those in attendance.

We would like to thank members John Leyvas (Executive Board), Greg Soderman (Executive Board), and Michael Ball (Examining Board), who have stepped up and recently been elected to fill open positions on these boards.

On May 13, our RENEW group hosted a successful community outreach day at the Boy Scouts of America's facility in Irvine. They worked on electrical upgrades to provide a safer environment for all the local troops who use the facility each week. Twelve members volunteered and worked on the May 13 project, and our RENEW group continues to grow. Thank you, brothers and sisters!

Neal Lauzon, Pres./A.B.M.

### Naval Reactors Facility & FBI Data Center Projects

L.U. 449 (catv,em,i,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), POCATELLO, ID — The work picture for both Inside and Outside construction is looking very positive. We have been getting into Books 2 and 3.

The new Naval Reactors Facility project at the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) is set to kick off this summer as well as the FBI Data Center project in Pocatello, which should start in June. There are some other good-size projects that will be coming up.

Congratulations to our Apprentice of the Year honoree Jimmy Nix. I'm proud to say that we will be sending Bro. Nix to the National Training Institute (NTI) this July. Also, congratulations and best of luck to Gavin Shelton, who will be our contestant for the Western States Apprenticeship Competition.

We are excited to be working with the Union Sportsmen's Alliance this year, as we strive to reach out to our community and show them what the IBEW's partnership with the Union Sportsmen's Alliance is all about.

It is with deep sorrow that we report the passing of several retired members: Bro. Franklin Chippewa, Bro. Robert "Bob" Wetherbee, and Bro. John Richard "Dick" Wheeler, who was a retired journeyman wireman and contractor.

Congratulations to Bros. Gordon Turnbow, Edward Shepherd and Vance Harada on their retirement.

Craig McDonald, Pres.

### Appointed to Office

L.U. 459 (catv,ees,em,govt,mt,so&u), JOHNSTOWN, PA — Congratulations to Third District Int. Vice Pres. Michael D. Welsh on his recent appointment, effective June 1, 2017. Vice Pres. Welsh was appointed to fill the unexpired term of office of recently retired former Vice Pres. Donald C. Siegel.

Int. Vice Pres. Welsh, a native of Johnstown, PA, previously served as an IBEW international representative. He is a former president and assistant business manager of Local 459, from 1995-2002.

Vice Pres. Welsh began his union membership with Local 459 on Nov. 1, 1976, with the Pennsylvania Electric Company and later GPU Energy at the Conemaugh Generating Station. With his strong work ethic, he has always shown commitment to the local unions and members of the IBEW. His dedication to serving the IBEW membership has long been evident through his actions including: conducting local union meetings; participating in contract negotiations; taking part in local and nationwide Labor-Management



Local 499 welcomes new members from Woodbury County REC.

Political Action Committee events; working at the state and national level on political issues important to working people; and volunteering for get-out-the-vote campaigns.

Local 459 wishes retired vice president Don Siegel a wonderful retirement. And we wish Vice Pres. Welsh continued success in his new leadership position. As always, we look forward to working with him in the future.

Brendan M. Wolf, Pres./A.B.M.

the trip down from Riverside to join in!

The event featured a live band, a bounce castle and games for the kids, with over 500 attending and dozens of teams competing. Trophies were awarded for best dishes.

We thank Local 465 Executive Board officers Matt Fish and Art Gomez for their months of hard work to make sure the event was a success. Thank you to all our teams, judges and volunteers, who also helped tremendously! Our local won the top prize, and Local 465 Grill Master Matt Fish received a handmade "BBQ Grand Champion" award and various other awards.

We look forward to expanding our event next year and continuing our efforts to build on and strengthen solidarity and brotherhood among fellow IBEW locals!

Nate Fairman, B.M.



IBEW SoCal BBQ & Chili Cookoff, co-hosted by Locals 465, 569 and 47, was a great success.

### 'Welcome to New Members'

L.U. 499 (u), DES MOINES, IA — Local 499 organized and negotiated a first contract with Woodbury County Rural Electric Cooperative (REC) in Moville, Iowa. Josh Madsen, an employee at the REC, contacted us to inquire about having the local represent the eight employees there. The negotiating began shortly thereafter and approximately three months later, the workers have a new 2.5-year contract that calls for a 3 percent wage increase in the first year of the contract and a 3 percent wage increase in the second year, along with on-call pay and a registered apprenticeship program.

The new IBEW members are: Andy McGill, Brad Koele, Jason Kreber, Dustin Brosamle, Josh Koelher, Josh Madsen (steward), Joe Casper and Tom Brockhaus. [Photo, at top.] Welcome to the Brotherhood!

George Fong, P.S.

### IBEW BBQ & Chili Cook-Off

L.U. 465 (lctt&u), SAN DIEGO, CA — On Saturday, April 8, our local co-hosted the first ever of its kind IBEW SoCal BBQ & Chili Cook-Off that brought together IBEW Locals 465, 569 and 47 for a great day of family fun!

The event was a truly collaborative effort by the three IBEW locals. In today's challenging times, with technology rapidly changing and the utility landscape transforming, it is more important than ever for utility locals to partner with inside and construction locals to develop strong relationships. By bringing our families together at the BBQ & Chili Cook-Off, we also made strides in building a strong and lasting partnership. Plans are to make the BBQ/Chili Cook-Off an annual event. IBEW Local 440 members also made

### Great Member Participation

L.U. 557 (i,mt,rts&spa), SAGINAW, MI — Work has been at a steady rate in our local. With winter projects now over, our summer projects are starting to man up. We have a pretty good work outlook for these upcoming summer months.

Recently, our local has started some great



IBEW Local 557 members and their families walk in the Freeland Walleye Festival parade.

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## LOCAL LINES

events. We have walked in the Freeland Walleye Festival parade, and we also had our first annual IBEW Local 557 Walleye Fishing Tournament. These events have been a great success, providing opportunities for our members to get together and build on our spirit of camaraderie and brotherhood as a local.

Local union members have really stepped up in recent months — including many of our younger members who are progressing through the ranks of their apprenticeship, as well as our younger journeymen.

It is great to see increasing member participation in our communities. As a small local, we pride ourselves on our members' community involvement. It is truly inspiring to see so many members taking action and getting involved — bettering our local, our communities and the entire labor movement.

Howard Revard, P.S.

## First IBEW SoCal BBQ & Chili Cook-Off a Great Success

L.U. 569 (i,mar,mt,rts&spa), SAN DIEGO, CA — The first-ever SoCal IBEW BBQ and Chili Cook-Off — organized by EWMC San Diego and IBEW Locals 569 and 465 — was a huge success! Plans are to make this an annual event. [Photo at bottom, left.]

Twenty chefs squared off from IBEW Locals 47, 465, 440 and 569 on April 8 at IBEW Local 569's union hall. Over 500 attendees tasted offerings of tri-tip, ribs, chili, chicken, and potato salad. Kids were entertained with face painting, a clown and movies. And a live band kept the beat up as smokers and grills blazed and families ate their fill.

Here are the winners of the SoCal IBEW BBQ and Chili Cook-Off — you'll note that IBEW 569 took first place in four out of the five categories:

- Grand Champion BBQ: Matthew Fish, IBEW 465
- Grand Champion Chili: Erin Page, IBEW 569
- 1st Place Ribs: Johnny Simpson, IBEW 569
- First Place Chicken: Daniel Machain, IBEW 569
- First Place Tri-Tip: Matthew Fish, IBEW 465
- First Place Potato Salad: Gaston Aguirre, IBEW 569

Thank you to our hardworking members and volunteers who helped make this event successful! Next year, the 2nd Annual SoCal IBEW BBQ and Chili Cook-Off will be bigger and better — so mark your calendar now for April 7, 2018, and stay tuned!

Gretchen Newsom, P.S./Organizer

## Apprenticeship Graduates; Hockey Tournament Champs

L.U. 625 (c,ees,em,i,it,mar&mt), HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA — Congratulations to the members who completed the apprenticeship program and received



Local 625 team wins 2017 Local 1928 hockey tournament. Local 625 team: front row, Ryan Binder (left), Greg Binder, Spencer Armsworthy, Richard Tingley, Andrew Arthur, Colin Drysdale, Dan Bowie, Arron Little; back row, Ricky Bowie, Bryant Fraser, Alex Kelly, Chase Thomsen, Matt Andrea, Colton Abraham, Ryan Veinot, Matt Arthur. Not pictured: Marc Bourgeois.

their journeyman certification. They are: Arton Demogaj, Mike Wood, Jeff Huxtable, Cayden Lyghtle, John Robinson, David K. Murray, Cody Newton, Jordan Riley, Charles Dickson, Ricky Bowie and Mark Walsh.

Recently retired members include: Bros. Darrell Simpson and Stephen McDonah. We look forward to seeing you at the Retirees Reunion on Sept. 23.

Two retired members passed away in March: Bro. Bill Crowell, at age 69, and Bro. Larry Coolen, who was 65. Our sympathies to their families.

Recreation events coming up are: Family Day on July 29, at Atlantic Playland on Lucasville Road in Hammonds Plains; and the Golf Tournament in Penn Hills, scheduled for Sept. 24. Stay tuned for Next Gen events coming up.

Our Local 625 Hockey Team took home the cup at the IBEW Local 1928 Annual Hockey Tournament. The event, started in 1973, pits 12 teams from Local 1928's different units and power stations against each other for a friendly game. Thank you to Bro. Jim Sponagle for the invite and to Bro. Matt Andrea for organizing the team and going undefeated. Well done.

Tom Griffiths, A.B.M.

## Contract Negotiations

L.U. 759 (u), FT. LAUDERDALE, FL — Bros. Jason Maysonet and Christopher Liotti (pictured at right) received their Line Specialist Certificate of completion at a recent union meeting.

Local 79 is busy with contract talks, as our current contract expires Oct. 31, 2017.

We also held local elections for Local 759 officers, E-Board members and delegates. At press time, election results were not yet available.

With summer here, afternoon thunderstorms will bring in extended work hours. We would like to remind all members to continue to work safe and watch out for one another on the jobsite. Hopefully hurricane season will be kind to us.

As a reminder, Local 759 holds its monthly meetings the first Thursday of each month.

Glen Plock, P.S.



Local 759 Bro. Jason Maysonet (left), Bus. Mgr. Tim Haynick and Bro. Christopher Liotti.

## The Future of TMI Nuclear Generating Station

L.U. 777 (u), READING, PA — Three Mile Island (TMI) nuclear generating station, nestled on the Susquehan-

na River just southeast of Harrisburg, PA, in Dauphin County, is being considered for a possible shutdown.

As many know, the low cost of natural gas and green sources of generation are driving the wholesale market price of electricity down. That's leaving a number of power plants with higher operating costs vulnerable and unable to compete in power auctions. Exelon, which owns and operates TMI, has committed to running the plant until 2018.

There is pressure on the state Legislature in Harrisburg for legislation to help TMI and other nuclear power plants throughout Pennsylvania. There is, of course, a big economic concern for the state and an importance in maintaining power plants as part of the infrastructure with varying fuel sources.

With approximately 230 jobs on the line at TMI, Local 777 members need to continue to contact their state representatives. Local 777 has its fingers crossed in support of our brothers and sisters at TMI and the future of nuclear generation.

Mark Power, P.S.

## Annual Cookout & Service Awards Presentation

L.U. 915 (i&mt), TAMPA, FL — Local 915's Annual Cookout and Service Pin Presentation in April saw a good turnout. This traditional night gives our new and retired members an evening of brotherhood and fellowship that is incomparable. From those who paved the way, mentored and continue to teach through their stories, experiences and early struggles, to our 14 newly sworn-in members, all are encouraged to continue to fight for the future of our trade.

We were honored to welcome a special guest speaker, Florida AFL-CIO Pres. and IBEW Local 177 Bro. Mike Williams. Bro. Roce Simpson and his volunteers were recognized for the preparation and serving of the food and refreshments.

Local 915 was proud to recognize for his 70 years of service Bro. Joseph Cain. Other pin recipients in attendance were: for 60 years of service - Harold Hudson, Franklin Johnson, Robert Kaiser; 55 years - David Slayas; 50 years - James McKendree, Walt Swisher; 45 years - James Niemeyer; and 40 years - Mike Davis, Rick Hindman, Steven Bower and Sydney Ward.

This year's Brother of the Year Award honoree



Members of IBEW Locals 47, 465, 440 and 569 at the first IBEW SoCal BBQ & Chili Cook-Off. [Photo by Tim Dunbar.]



Local 915 Bus. Mgr. Randall King (left), 70-year pin recipient Joseph Cain, Brother of the Year honoree John Keifer, and Pres. Mike Weeks.

was Bro. John Keifer, recognized as a brother who quietly works behind the scenes on whatever is needed for his local.

Theresa King, P.S./R.S.

## Officers Elected; Annual Golf Tournament

L.U. 1049 (lctt,o,u&uow), LONG ISLAND, NY — At our March general meeting, the membership re-elected Bus. Mgr. Ronald Bauer, the officers and the Executive Board. On behalf of Bus. Mgr. Bauer and Executive Board Chmn. William Roulette, I would like to congratulate and welcome Bros. Frank Elio and Bryan Hughes as our newest Executive Board members. I would also like to thank Bros. Walter Hora and Everett Lewis Jr. for their years of dedicated service to the Executive Board and the membership of Local 1049.

At press time, we were looking forward to our 25th Annual Golf Tournament on June 16 and anticipating its great success. Proceeds of the event fund our Widows and Widowers Fund and our Scholarship Fund. Our annual scholarship(s) will be awarded in July.

The work picture for the entire membership continues to look strong. Our next quarterly Outside Division meeting will be Aug. 3, at 5:30 p.m.

See you at the next general meeting.

Thomas J. Dowling, R.S.

## Fourth-Generation Member Receives Call to Duty



Local 1105 apprentice Jay Schneider (left) with his father, Mike Schneider Jr.

later merged with Local 1105). His son, Michael Schneider Sr., joined the Brotherhood in 1988. His grandson, Michael Schneider Jr., followed suit and became a member in 1996, which brings us to Hugo's great-grandson, Jay.

First-year apprentice Jay Schneider started his career with IBEW Local 1105 as a construction wireman in March 2016. He was accepted into the local appren-

ticeship program in June 2016. Before entering the trade, Jay served our country as a specialist in the Ohio Army Air National Guard 2nd Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment. Since that time, Jay has been called back to active duty on contingency operations to help protect our country and some of our vital resources.

IBEW Local 1105 would like to thank Jay for his service and dedication to our country. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jay and his family and we look forward to his return.

Donny Rutledge, Organizer/P.S.

## OKC 'Run to Remember' — Memorial Marathon a Success

L.U. 1141 (em,i,mow,rts&spa), OKLAHOMA CITY, OK — For the third year in a row, IBEW Local 1141 members, friends and family volunteered at the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon, commemorating the resilience of the city in the years that followed the tragedy on April 19, 1995. It was a cold, drizzly day for our water stop volunteers and runners — but that didn't dampen our spirits.

Whether you were hitting the pavement or passing out water, all of you who participated were a big part of helping spread what the spirit of brotherhood and sisterhood looks like in action. To see highlights, please check out our video coverage on [www.IBEW1141.org](http://www.IBEW1141.org).

I also want to pause for a moment to remember the lives lost in the 1995 attack. As I wrote on our website:

"May those lost rest in peace, and may we honor them by never forgetting our principles as we work toward a brighter future for our members, families, all of Oklahoma, and beyond."

Thank you to all the dedicated members of our



Local 1141 members, friends and family volunteer for Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon.

local for showing what solidarity in the community looks like.

Dewayne Wilcox, B.M./F.S.

## Dam Spillway & Storm Restoration Projects Underway

L.U. 1245 (catv,em,govt,lctt,o,pet,t&u), VACAVILLE, CA — Local 1245 mourns the tragic death of member Zackary Randalls, who was shot and killed during a work-related ride-along in Fresno, CA, after just six weeks on the job. Randalls leaves behind a wife and two young children. The local has been working with the employer and other labor groups to provide resources and support for the Randalls family during this difficult time.

In the wake of the Oroville Dam Spillway crisis that resulted in the evacuation of hundreds of thousands of residents, Local 1245 members are working diligently on the spillway restoration project, which is expected to continue through the end of the year. Local 1245 members have also been hard at work on a number of other issues and projects related to the wave of massive storms that occurred earlier this year.

A group of IBEW Local 1245 organizing stewards recently returned from Georgia's 6th Congressional District, where they worked to support labor-endorsed candidate Jon Ossoff, who was running to fill the U.S. House seat recently vacated by Tom Price. The local also had another team of organizing stewards in Montana, working to help elect union-endorsed candidate Rob Quist to the congressional seat formerly held by Ryan Zinke. [Editor's Note: At press

time, results were not yet available for Georgia's 6th Congressional District runoff election, held June 20. The At-Large Congressional District of Montana special election for the U.S. House of Representatives was May 25; Rob Quist's opponent was elected.]

In Outside Construction, the work outlook remains strong, with contractors in both California and Nevada expected to ramp up crews through the spring and summer.

Rebecca Band, P.S.

## Summer Construction Season; Annual Local Union Picnic

L.U. 1253 (i&mo), AUGUSTA, ME — Summer is finally here in Maine as Local 1253 gears up for its annual picnic of steak and lobsters. If you haven't received your invitation, please contact the hall. Local 1253 honors its 50-year and 50-plus-year retired members with a pinning ceremony at the picnic. Always a pleasure to honor and recognize our retired members in a public forum.

With summer comes the construction season — Jackson Laboratory, Sappi Paper Company and Colby College should be starting their capital improvement projects. Local 1253 welcomes the chance to organize new members and help traveling brothers and sisters.

Congratulations to Bro. Marc Gibbs on his retirement. Local 1253 wishes Bro. Gibbs, a recent IBEW pensioner, a long and healthy retirement.

On a sad note, retired member Allen Simmons passed away March 19. He will be missed.

Chuck Fraser, B.M./F.S.



IBEW Local 1245 members work on a transmission tower at the Oroville Dam. [Photo by John Storey.]

LOCAL LINES



Local 1347 members and their families volunteer for community service projects.

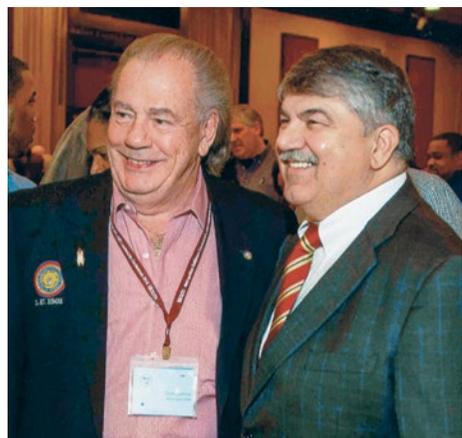
**IBEW Community Service**

L.U. 1347 (ees,em&u), CINCINNATI, OH — IBEW Local 1347 members, friends and family gathered together on Saturday, April 29, at Matthew 25 Ministries to donate time, money and supplies for families affected by severe weather storms and disasters.

Our Local 1347 members are constantly working to maintain power and electric through those damaging storms, and they always want to try and help more families affected by these powerful, destructive storms.

With our RENEW group members leading the charge, we see Matthew 25 Ministries as a way we can help our community outside of our daily jobs and especially during difficult times to provide additional necessities. Thank you to Matthew 25 Ministries for allowing Local 1347 members to make a positive impact in our community.

Andrew Kirk, B.M./F.S.



Local 1501 Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dion F. Guthrie (left) and AFL-CIO Pres. Richard L. Trumka.

**Challenges for Labor & Building on Organizing Wins**

L.U. 1501 (ees,em,mo,pet,rts&t), BALTIMORE, MD — At a recent AFL-CIO meeting in New Jersey, Local 1501 Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dion F. Guthrie had the honor to meet with national AFL-CIO Pres. Richard L. Trumka and discuss many major issues facing the labor movement under the current presidential administration in Washington. It is generally agreed that labor took it on the chin in the 2016 election, but it is hoped that some good is coming out of that election.

We believe that many in the labor movement

have had their eyes opened to the political farce we now face in our country.

In addition, we believe many in the nonunion workplace are now looking at becoming union, as shown by the example of the recent win-win in the IBEW organizing campaign at Baltimore Gas & Electric Co., where we have welcomed more than 1,400 new members. [Editor's Note: See news articles "Victory: More than 1,400 BGE Workers Join the IBEW," in the March 2017 issue of *The Electrical Worker*; and "BGE Workers Get Their Union — Baltimore Local 410 Chartered," May 2017 issue of *The Electrical Worker*. The articles are posted on the IBEW website at [www.ibew.org/media-center/Articles](http://www.ibew.org/media-center/Articles).]

These developments will go a long way to bringing many new members into the fold, as people are scared to death of this current administration in Washington.

James S. Boyd, F.S./P.S.

**Certificates Awarded**

L.U. 1837 (rtb&u), MANCHESTER, ME — IBEW Local 1837 members Nicholas Weatherbee and Gregory Williams have been promoted to "lineworker first class" at the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative (NHEC). Bro. Weatherbee works in NHEC's Plymouth District and was originally hired as a mechanic by the company in 2006. He took a position in the line department in 2013. Bro. Williams works in the Ossipee District's line department and started work there in 2012.

Both members recently completed a four-year apprentice program that requires 8,000 hours of instruction in the many different aspects of line work. The apprentice program was started at NHEC in 1988. IBEW chief steward Arthur Cornelissen presented Nicholas Weatherbee with his certificate for successful completion of the program at NHEC's Lineworkers Training Day in April. Gregory Williams also was awarded the certificate but was unable to attend the ceremony.

Matthew Beck, Organizer/B.R.



Local 1837 member Nicholas Weatherbee (left) and chief steward Arthur Cornelissen at NHEC Lineworkers Training Day award ceremony. Not pictured: certificate recipient Gregory Williams.

*In Memoriam*

**Members for Whom PBF Death Claims were Approved in May 2017**

Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death
1	McLaughlin, J. W.	3/18/17	25	Mirabelli, R. J.	4/1/17	98	Pica, R. A.	3/25/17
1	Siebert, J. H.	4/12/17	25	Pacifico, V.	1/27/17	98	Queroli, D. F.	3/23/17
2	Atchison, J. E.	3/2/17	25	Vetter, J. R.	4/8/17	98	Santoro, L. J.	4/4/17
2	Martley, P. B.	3/25/17	26	Basile, A. M.	12/27/16	98	Taylor, D.	3/19/17
3	Alvarado, L. A.	3/20/17	26	Chandler, R.	2/22/17	98	Viney, G. W.	3/20/17
3	Anthony, C. E.	1/6/17	26	Fraser, K. W.	2/4/17	98	Wojtarkowski, W. A.	2/26/17
3	Benzing, C. F.	4/3/17	26	Gregory, G. G.	3/31/17	100	Swanson, A. F.	3/30/17
3	Bonofiglio, C. J.	2/19/17	26	Virtue, J. H.	3/10/17	102	Turpin, R. J.	3/25/17
3	Carberry, W. T.	2/11/17	26	Zelaya, G. R.	1/28/15	102	Winter, G. M.	2/1/17
3	Cardone, F.	2/7/17	32	Bauman, H. M.	2/1/17	103	Beaulieu, D. R.	3/20/17
3	Chambers, R. V.	3/21/17	35	Bramanti, F. J.	3/16/17	103	Hayes, J. R.	3/6/17
3	Cunningham, J. C.	3/10/17	35	Hendershot, M. E.	3/13/17	103	Imparato, M. J.	2/5/17
3	Dicks, J. C.	1/23/17	38	Fahl, W. J.	3/14/17	103	Liviodoti, T. F.	2/5/17
3	Dorsch, F. J.	4/1/17	40	Chavez, R. R.	9/13/16	104	Yanacheak, D. C.	2/25/17
3	Drago, I.	2/5/17	41	Priester, E. J.	4/2/17	106	Shick, R. G.	1/18/17
3	Emanuele, B.	3/19/17	43	Chamberlin, J. H.	11/26/16	110	Dornfeld, A. W.	10/14/16
3	Fain, H.	1/28/17	43	Marceau, E. L.	3/24/17	110	Hansen, R. C.	2/10/17
3	Giordano, J. N.	3/18/17	44	Cleverly, T. B.	4/28/17	110	Johnson, G. W.	1/5/17
3	Hamilton, W. D.	4/3/17	44	Mellinger, D.	4/17/17	111	Grosshans, J. E.	3/19/17
3	Holley, S.	3/25/17	46	Conway, D. E.	12/26/16	111	Williams, L. E.	1/28/17
3	Lardner, R. P.	3/13/12	46	Moore, K. R.	2/10/17	112	McDowell, E. L.	4/4/17
3	Linder, J.	1/13/17	47	Dyer, W. L.	8/29/16	124	Avila, R. M.	3/11/17
3	Marroccoli, A.	3/30/17	47	Goering, G. L.	4/17/17	124	Belknap, A. R.	3/3/17
3	Perillo, D.	3/30/17	47	Patterson, R. W.	2/1/17	124	Kramps, T. G.	11/6/16
3	Pironti, J.	7/21/09	48	Koch, E. C.	3/23/17	124	Linscott, N. R.	12/4/16
3	Piscitelli, A.	11/3/16	53	Spear, S. J.	3/21/17	124	McConaughy, D. C.	3/19/17
3	Quinn, M. J.	4/2/17	53	Wheeler, D. J.	1/26/17	124	Moore, G. J.	2/23/17
3	Ross, E. C.	4/20/17	57	Patterson, J. A.	3/4/17	124	Moorhead, J. D.	2/11/17
3	Sepulveda, D.	3/27/17	57	Simpson, L. J.	6/10/16	125	Koger, A. J.	1/27/17
3	Serio, P.	3/3/17	58	Chisholm, N. W.	4/1/17	125	Woods, F. M.	1/13/17
3	Smith, J.	2/9/17	58	Hansen, D. E.	11/23/16	126	Ashman, R. L.	3/10/17
3	Toaza, L. H.	3/17/17	58	Hendricks, D. M.	4/16/17	126	Wood, M.	2/19/17
3	Wheatle, R. N.	3/29/17	58	Hensley, R. L.	3/13/17	130	Frazier, E. J.	3/15/17
5	Goodwin, C. N.	3/3/17	58	Herring, K. J.	3/24/17	130	Meyers, T. P.	4/4/17
5	Leiningner, R. F.	3/30/17	58	Koepflinger, L. K.	4/8/17	130	Tyler, S. P.	4/4/17
5	McCormick, D. G.	3/22/17	58	Martin, H. C.	3/18/17	130	Vance, T. L.	2/14/17
5	Regula, E. W.	3/5/17	58	Miles, E.	2/14/17	134	Becker, N. G.	2/17/17
5	Winters, J. E.	4/3/17	58	Reschke, H. W.	4/6/17	134	Biarnesen, H. F.	3/12/17
6	Rehder, C.	3/23/17	58	Ridner, S. R.	4/12/17	134	Cairo, O. J.	1/14/17
7	Lapinski, J. F.	11/24/15	58	Schmid, W. A.	1/13/16	134	Clark, S. J.	4/8/17
7	LaRochelle, R. G.	3/25/17	58	Slowik, R. J.	3/21/17	134	Considine, T. P.	3/17/17
7	Slattery, J. J.	3/14/17	58	Stevens, R.	1/17/17	134	Cusack, D. R.	3/17/17
8	Bach, T. A.	12/16/16	58	Zidar, W. R.	3/18/17	134	DeBold, D. D.	3/5/17
8	Fischer, A. J.	4/17/17	60	Pierce, J. O.	3/17/17	134	Garofalo, N. P.	4/2/17
8	Jordan, T.	3/26/17	66	Mueller, R. R.	4/8/17	134	Haberstroh, C. W.	3/24/17
8	Reynolds, J. L.	3/7/17	66	Palmer, K. V.	3/2/17	134	Halbrendt, A. N.	3/23/17
8	Stong, J. M.	3/3/17	68	Carlton, C. L.	3/23/17	134	Halter, W.	3/18/17
8	Tripp, A. E.	2/24/17	68	Harring, B. A.	3/23/17	134	Hill, H.	3/12/17
9	DiCianni, G.	3/10/17	68	Hewins, J.	12/18/16	134	Jordan, R. J.	4/8/17
9	Knutson, K. C.	4/7/17	68	Jeannelle, J. D.	7/27/12	134	Kelton, D. J.	4/6/17
9	Thurber, R. J.	3/20/17	68	Lamb, S. E.	3/20/17	134	Kountz, W.	3/14/17
11	del Villar, R. L.	3/3/17	68	Navarro, F. A.	3/21/17	134	Kucharz, W. A.	3/21/17
11	Hawes, A. L.	3/16/17	71	Johnson, J. G.	4/19/15	134	Kulling, N. J.	5/9/16
11	Schmidt, J. P.	3/30/17	71	Pittman, C. R.	2/7/17	134	Kulovitz, E. C.	1/20/16
16	Collins, M. D.	3/12/17	76	Keonitzer, P. J.	4/5/17	134	Margetis, G.	3/15/17
16	Saltzman, R. L.	3/15/17	76	Thomas, T. O.	1/19/17	134	McStay, D. M.	4/6/17
16	Werner, M. C.	1/24/17	77	Auckland, H. L.	3/4/17	134	Naumann, R.	4/11/17
17	Carder, L. L.	2/10/17	77	Bonzon, R. A.	3/25/17	134	Pirkle, R. R.	12/11/16
17	Jeffers, K. D.	1/31/17	77	Caudill, B. J.	11/28/16	134	Rattigan, J. R.	3/18/17
17	Markwood, D. J.	2/9/17	77	Eyler, M. E.	12/26/16	134	Schauer, W. C.	2/13/17
17	Pitman, J. M.	2/25/17	77	Goble, B. L.	3/5/17	134	Schofield, E. H.	11/5/16
17	Sheridan, P. H.	3/24/17	77	Marion, L. E.	3/11/17	134	Selwood, G. S.	3/16/17
17	Tschirhart, T. J.	3/9/17	77	Sim, D. K.	3/10/17	134	Skinky, A.	4/9/17
18	Lockie, J. B.	2/14/17	77	Thomas, L. R.	2/12/17	134	Starzec, D.	4/4/17
18	Socquet, G. J.	3/20/17	77	Tomlinson, G. L.	3/12/17	134	Swenson, A.	1/3/17
20	Avila, E. R.	4/14/17	81	Scrivener, S. R.	3/5/17	134	Thalman, P. J.	3/28/17
20	Greig, N. B.	3/29/17	81	Seeley, J. J.	4/27/17	134	Vlazny, R. A.	2/19/17
20	Langley, C.	4/18/17	82	Bussey, W. J.	3/15/17	136	Hulsey, M. L.	2/3/17
21	Schulz, R. J.	3/31/17	84	Chastain, C. D.	1/1/17	136	Wright, C. W.	3/23/17
22	Jackson, K. B.	1/23/17	84	Hancock, R. F.	12/7/15	143	Nolt, T. L.	3/17/17
22	Steele, C. C.	2/6/17	86	Morich, D. A.	10/14/16	146	Thompson, J. D.	3/27/17
24	Hawkins, D. K.	4/15/17	95	Wilkins, R. F.	5/2/17	150	Holst, J. W.	2/17/17
24	Walker, L. D.	3/19/17	96	Menard, T. H.	2/24/17	150	Mason, L. R.	1/14/17
24	Ziegler, R. A.	4/13/17	96	Openshaw, K. R.	3/7/17	150	Timmer, E. J.	1/23/17
25	Costello, C.	10/14/16	98	Frazier, G.	2/3/17	153	Myers, L. K.	4/13/17
25	Irvine, A. W.	9/8/16	98	Golie, J. J.	2/17/17	153	Sexton, D. E.	3/24/17

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# IBEW MEDIA WORLD

## Members for Whom PBF Death Claims were Approved in May 2017 continued

Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death
159	Sergent, J. J.	3/28/17	357	Call, L. J.	7/29/16	576	Crouch, S. A.	2/27/17	932	Turner, P. W.	3/21/17
160	Jakubic, E. J.	1/26/17	357	Dusablon, E. A.	10/4/16	576	Whipkey, H. R.	12/9/16	934	Cobb, C. R.	4/10/17
164	Binns, I. M.	12/30/16	357	Farr, F. R.	3/6/17	584	Hiles, J. W.	3/14/17	934	Jones, R. S.	12/28/16
164	Ioffredo, J. M.	3/6/17	357	Harrell, J. A.	3/12/17	584	Long, J. W.	4/19/17	934	Shields, D.	2/17/17
164	Newton, J. W.	3/28/17	357	Laffin, N. R.	2/21/17	595	Maldonado, J.	1/27/17	948	Harris, J. G.	3/7/17
164	Torres, F.	3/29/17	357	Parks, B. S.	2/8/17	595	Nesmith, R. A.	1/25/17	948	Slocum, L. W.	4/21/17
175	Hernandez, C.	3/23/17	357	Rush, H. C.	3/26/17	595	Peters, M. L.	3/1/17	953	Kelly, R. L.	4/11/17
176	Pointer, J. D.	4/14/17	357	Silva, G.	3/15/17	596	Friend, C. M.	2/26/17	969	Hibbert, J.	10/29/16
191	Miller, W. N.	4/6/17	357	Wilkinson, W. S.	3/12/17	596	Mazurek, A.	2/11/17	972	Connolly, T. D.	4/9/17
191	Mossey, C. L.	1/23/17	363	Bow, D. J.	7/31/16	602	Copelin, R.	1/22/17	993	Giordano, S.	3/3/17
191	Seal, D. W.	10/4/16	363	Lauricella, A.	2/14/17	602	Crothers, W. C.	3/10/17	995	Giordano, J.	2/23/17
191	Worley, R. C.	4/2/17	364	Boomgarden, D. L.	2/10/17	606	Abberton, T. R.	4/1/17	1049	Uhl, L. L.	2/22/17
193	Frasco, N. J.	3/1/16	369	Forrest, W. L.	4/7/17	606	Gainer, C. A.	2/18/17	1105	Carpenter, R. M.	3/29/17
193	Morgan, H. F.	3/8/17	369	Gehm, W. M.	2/12/17	611	Baca, S.	10/3/16	1204	Bradley, J. B.	2/12/17
194	Akin, S. R.	3/24/17	369	Gribbins, J. T.	3/16/17	611	Brunner, E. W.	3/7/17	1205	Birdwell, R. D.	3/18/17
194	Mann, G. R.	3/28/17	369	Stewart, C. E.	3/28/17	611	Hatch, C. L.	11/28/16	1245	Alphonso, A.	5/8/14
197	Messer, D. H.	2/13/17	369	Van Hook, W. L.	3/9/17	611	Hayman, J.	2/11/17	1249	Bohadlo, E.	2/24/17
212	Abel, H. J.	12/28/16	369	Wehrley, J. C.	3/31/17	611	Moore, J. G.	2/13/17	1249	Martin, P.	1/7/17
213	Leslie, J. S.	1/17/17	375	Heil, W. H.	1/1/17	611	Powers, L.	2/23/17	1250	Davidson, A. H.	3/10/17
213	Velenosi, A.	2/10/17	387	Garland, J. R.	3/16/17	611	Redvelski, J. E.	2/21/17	1260	Kauhaahaa, M. K.	2/16/17
213	Watson, A. M.	4/28/17	402	Hogan, D. R.	3/3/17	613	Burke, J. S.	3/19/17	1316	Clay, V. H.	3/20/17
222	Shively, R. A.	11/5/16	405	Blackford, S. B.	10/2/16	625	Coolen, L. V.	3/16/17	1426	Couchigian, W. J.	2/13/17
223	Fors, J. E.	2/7/17	413	Passmore, R. L.	3/9/17	625	Hubley, P. M.	11/1/16	1501	Hess, K. B.	3/19/17
223	Hoagland, G. L.	3/24/17	415	Magrath, F. E.	1/16/17	625	MacKenzie, G. R.	2/24/17	1507	Strubbe, R. C.	3/5/17
223	Scanlon, P. D.	4/8/17	424	Hegland, D. W.	2/19/17	625	Robicheau, R.	2/11/17	1516	Roberts, D. W.	2/28/17
226	Self, H. D.	3/8/17	424	Hughes, K. J.	3/2/17	639	Wright, L. A.	4/2/17	1547	Beattie, J. R.	3/31/17
226	Welborn, J. E.	2/15/17	424	Ligert, L.	5/15/16	647	Knopp, O. E.	12/27/16	1547	Cernich, J. E.	4/9/17
230	Patterson, R. G.	1/2/17	424	Lindberg, K. D.	2/13/17	647	Shrum, M. R.	4/20/17	1547	Johnson, C. J.	11/20/16
231	Bauer, J. M.	11/19/16	424	Short, T. K.	1/31/17	659	House, D. F.	2/7/17	1579	Dietschler, C.	3/9/17
252	Foor, H. R.	2/18/17	424	Skinner, K. S.	4/28/17	659	McGinnis, W. D.	4/3/17	1579	Hester, R. D.	2/5/17
254	Hallett, R. W.	2/5/17	424	Virtue, C. H.	4/26/15	659	Zirkle, H. R.	4/19/17	1579	Pryor, J. R.	3/15/17
254	Jakobsen, H. J.	4/7/16	428	Benhardt, B. R.	1/1/17	666	Gann, C. E.	3/3/17	1600	Bronokoski, M. R.	2/24/17
258	Pearson, R. J.	10/7/16	428	Paxton, R. W.	3/23/17	666	Hickman, C. R.	4/10/17	1600	Hillegas, S. E.	3/11/17
258	Winters, D. J.	1/3/17	429	Farley, M. R.	4/12/17	666	Jackson, D. L.	1/11/17	1832	Diekmann, R. F.	4/16/16
271	Chessher, B. P.	2/26/17	429	Marlin, J. W.	3/28/17	666	Williams, J. L.	3/24/17	1925	Frayser, W. S.	3/11/17
271	Smith, C. V.	2/26/17	430	Kauth, H. A.	9/9/16	668	Andrews, D. M.	3/15/17	1996	Acklin, C. W.	4/14/17
275	Farkas, J. C.	4/22/17	440	Mohr, E. L.	3/17/17	681	Deal, J. L.	3/31/17	2038	Weichel, J.	4/3/17
275	Scott, J. B.	10/22/16	441	Francis, D. A.	2/4/17	682	Heptinstall, R. A.	11/21/16	2150	Bisel, D.	7/22/16
278	Gardner, J. E.	3/18/17	441	Schmidt, N. R.	2/16/17	682	Wilkins, C. J.	3/15/17	I.O. (5)	Stierheim, R. P.	1/19/17
280	Garstecki, S. H.	3/1/17	446	Sawyer, H.	12/3/16	683	Dunn, D. W.	3/30/17	I.O. (126)	Legacy, R. W.	3/15/17
280	Rutherford, A. T.	2/17/17	449	Wetherbee, F. R.	4/18/17	692	Young, R. T.	12/26/16	I.O. (134)	Christie, R. W.	4/7/17
292	Fier, J. J.	4/12/17	449	Wheeler, J. R.	3/30/17	697	Pickens, P. F.	4/1/17	I.O. (134)	Elliott, G. T.	2/24/17
292	Kahn, F. H.	3/31/17	456	Rankin, R. K.	2/16/17	700	Yost, K. G.	6/22/16	I.O. (134)	Ferriter, T. M.	2/17/17
292	Schwaerzler, K.	3/5/17	456	Sieron, G. S.	4/3/17	701	Tentler, D. R.	2/3/17	I.O. (197)	Serapin, J.	2/22/17
292	Snaza, D. F.	2/23/17	456	Williams, L. J.	2/26/17	701	Wiesboeck, M. J.	3/9/17	I.O. (245)	Bacon, D. E.	3/5/17
292	Wical, L.	3/9/17	474	Davis, R. C.	2/22/17	702	Edwards, T. R.	1/7/17	I.O. (261)	Gatten, T. R.	8/15/15
292	Windt, W. V.	3/22/17	474	Hulse, R. L.	9/30/12	702	Norman, G. C.	3/27/17	I.O. (433)	Cross, F. L.	2/14/17
292	Witzke, D. J.	3/17/17	474	Kisner, J. R.	3/13/17	706	Ninke, E. G.	3/12/17	I.O. (459)	Zellefrow, D. P.	2/23/17
295	Bounds, J. O.	11/2/16	474	Stockbridge, W. C.	10/8/16	716	Ford, D. B.	1/18/17	I.O. (776)	Disney, W. M.	2/24/17
295	Duke, A.	3/19/17	479	Elmore, N. J.	3/25/16	716	Iasilli, W. G.	2/27/17	Pens. (466)	Taylor, T. H.	1/10/17
295	Weatherford, J. D.	3/14/17	480	Matthews, R. S.	3/29/17	716	Kersh, R. H.	2/24/17	Pens. (814)	Settle, W. G.	3/19/17
304	Becker, M. E.	1/27/17	481	Cooper, J. B.	3/27/17	716	Ware, L. R.	3/25/17	Pens. (1687)	Walsh, J. M.	11/16/16
305	Cieslik, J. L.	2/13/17	481	Waggoner, J. D.	3/9/17	721	Clark, J. B.	2/5/17	Pens. (1788)	Elliott, R. L.	3/6/17
305	Kimbel, W. E.	3/17/17	481	Young, R. A.	4/6/17	725	Klug, J. V.	3/27/17	Pens. (1788)	Mackowiak, S.	3/31/17
306	Mallery, W. E.	3/30/17	483	Green, G. W.	10/21/14	725	Shelton, J. E.	3/23/17	Pens. (I.O.)	Austin, J. A.	2/21/17
307	Christ, R. G.	3/23/17	483	Michaelson, R. H.	4/3/17	728	Cantor, P. H.	1/24/17	Pens. (I.O.)	Ballingar, A. O.	4/8/17
307	Whitman, G. C.	2/2/17	494	Bauer, A. B.	3/22/17	728	Martin, J. D.	4/2/17	Pens. (I.O.)	Chiodo, N. M.	10/21/16
309	Bradley, L. M.	4/13/17	495	Ramsey, L.	2/26/17	743	Carville, P. W.	2/21/17	Pens. (I.O.)	Clawson, F. B.	1/5/17
313	Reddish, C. L.	4/9/17	499	Coons, J. L.	12/27/16	760	DeBusk, R. E.	12/23/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Cote, N. L.	3/7/17
317	Yeager, A. W.	4/2/17	499	Gray, T. P.	5/15/16	760	McCoy, J. C.	3/30/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Crimmins, M. J.	4/8/17
322	Grosvenor, B. E.	1/18/17	499	Isaacs, D. R.	12/15/16	768	Bruner, W. D.	2/21/17	Pens. (I.O.)	Doty, R. N.	4/22/16
325	Stank, T. F.	3/27/17	518	Cooper, J. T.	3/16/17	768	Moses, D. O.	6/1/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Eldridge, J. H.	4/5/17
332	Weiss, J. F.	10/31/16	538	Shull, J. E.	2/24/17	804	Hatt, J. E.	12/30/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Ericson, J. E.	2/6/17
340	Fisher, W. R.	1/9/17	551	Hoehn, R. L.	1/14/17	804	Ward, D. E.	2/28/17	Pens. (I.O.)	Erwin, H. C.	4/20/17
343	Bloedow, L. E.	3/31/17	551	Pasquale, J. D.	12/27/16	804	Will, O.	1/8/17	Pens. (I.O.)	Forcier, R.	1/31/17
347	Mealey, C. J.	3/11/17	558	McMeans, F. E.	4/11/17	812	Engel, R. J.	3/14/17	Pens. (I.O.)	Gammage, M. A.	1/4/17
349	Vaughn, R. E.	4/6/17	558	Merryman, J. E.	4/18/17	816	Boatwright, R. W.	3/14/17	Pens. (I.O.)	Harron, R. C.	2/8/17
351	Bishop, J. K.	4/20/17	558	Van Meter, G. E.	2/22/17	817	Barr, W. S.	12/28/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Hart, H. H.	3/29/17
351	Popa, A. G.	4/2/17	568	Chehab, F.	3/6/17	817	Pearce, R. M.	10/18/16	Pens. (I.O.)	Jones, R. F.	4/12/17
353	Bloom, A.	11/8/16	568	Morin, B.	3/31/17	855	Carunchia, T. L.	3/10/17	Pens. (I.O.)	Kapitzke, L. E.	10/11/15
353	Cuffy, M.	4/17/17	568	Pauze, S. D.	2/19/17	876	Biehler, W.	1/1/17	Pens. (I.O.)	Matuszewski, C.	2/27/17
353	Dougalis, P.	4/15/17	568	Renaud, R.	1/31/17	876	Wilson, G. S.	3/7/17	Pens. (I.O.)	McKie, J. P.	3/29/17
353	Gardiner, R.	3/21/17	569	Boulter, T. F.	3/29/17	889	Welcker, E. G.	3/3/17	Pens. (I.O.)	Myers, B. L.	3/4/17
353	Hallihan, P. F.	3/14/17	569	Gill, C. S.	3/10/17	890	Baes, G.	4/1/17	Pens. (I.O.)	Nielsen, R. C.	2/13/15
353	Kaakee, C. W.	3/10/17	569	Paulsin, S. G.	1/18/17	910	Fuller, D. B.	3/27/17	Pens. (I.O.)	Ochs, L. E.	4/6/17
353	Kitagawa, T.	2/19/17	570	Gilbert, E. W.	4/8/17	910	Pearson, D. A.	1/31/17	Pens. (I.O.)	Piechowski, W. S.	4/3/17
353	Parkin, J. L.	3/17/17	570	Iley, R. D.	4/15/17	915	Philon, S. A.	2/28/17	Pens. (I.O.)	Rader, N.	1/31/17
353	Richmond, L.	2/9/16	570	Rose, J. A.	2/1/17	932	Hartsburg, G. L.	3/11/17	Pens. (I.O.)	Renders, F. G.	3/15/17
353	Rutherford, D.	4/24/16	573	Fusselman, K. C.	2/26/17	932	McHugh, A. M.	3/19/17	Pens. (I.O.)	Ricciarelli, R. S.	1/26/17
353	Simis, M. P.	3/22/17	575	Maple, M. L.	4/9/17	932	Stephenson, P. F.	3/6/17	Pens. (I.O.)	Schmitwilke, K.	12/23/16

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

### www.ibew.org

Visit the IBEW website for the latest news and stories about our members – and get the Electrical Worker: [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org).

### YouTube

Chattanooga, Tenn., Local 175's RENEW chapter sponsored an off-road ride to celebrate the future leaders of the IBEW. Watch it at [YouTube.com/TheElectricalWorker](https://www.youtube.com/TheElectricalWorker).

### Vimeo

Toledo Edison teams up with Local 245 to celebrate their adoption of the Code of Excellence. Watch now at [Vimeo.com/IBEW](https://vimeo.com/IBEW).



### HourPower

Each year, three winners are selected for our IBEW Hour Power apprentice, journeyman mentor, and instructor of the year awards. Nominate a deserving brother or sister at [IBEWHourPower.com](https://www.ibew.com/IBEWHourPower.com).



### ElectricTV

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International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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

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**FROM THE OFFICERS**

# The Trump Record



**Lonnie R. Stephenson**  
International President

**D**onald Trump was elected on his promises to be a different kind of politician, a different kind of Republican.

He promised to focus on investing in our infrastructure, good middle-class jobs and fighting bad trade deals. He promised to protect and preserve programs like Social Security and Medicare. He promised to make health care a better deal, lowering costs and expanding coverage.

More than anything else, he promised he would take the side of working people.

Promises on the campaign trail are one thing, and many politicians in the past have ridden into office as the champion of the workers, only to walk away once they were in office.

So let's look at the record on issues that matter to you.

In the June issue, we wrote about the safety rules that Trump Republicans have revoked or delayed. Simply put, people will get hurt and sick because of these decisions. People will die because of these decisions. Possibly people in this union, possibly people you know.

Republicans in Congress and President Trump also revoked rules that barred government contractors that violated labor and safety rules from bidding on federal projects. They, in effect, made breaking the law par for the course.

In Trump's budget proposal, Occupational Safety and Health Administration inspection funding is slashed while one of the only parts of the Department of Labor to get a boost is responsible for auditing local unions.

Trump also breaks his commitment to Social Security by slashing disability funding by \$64 billion, raiding \$59 billion from the Medicare trust fund and cutting nearly \$1.5 trillion from Medicaid. He cuts research into workplace safety by 40 percent, health and safety training to zero and ends investigations of chemical accidents.

While Trump has taken pictures of himself with union members, when he sits down to work with Congress, it is uniquely with the enemies of labor who are out to restrict the rights of working families.

Mere days after inauguration, Vice President Mike Pence met with Newt Gingrich and union-busting Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker to discuss bringing the policies that have gutted unions in the Badger state, especially public sector unions, to the federal government and the rest of the country, whether they want it or not.

Once again, a so-called national right-to-work law is making its way through the House of Representatives, drafted by Republicans and co-sponsored by 43 more.

There have been right-to-work states since the '40s, but recently more states have adopted these rules, including Missouri this year. The results have been devastating for working people: lower wages, worse or no benefits, the near extinction of pensions and a silencing of workers.

Our job is not to evaluate politicians based on who they say they are or what they say they believe. We look at the record. Every new day brings more evidence that Trump isn't what he claimed to be. ■

# Health Care for Us, by Us

**I**n last month's *Electrical Worker*, you read a story about how leaders at Houston Local 66 are making the IBEW's health plan work for them, using it to organize more than 100 new members at the STP nuclear plant in southeast Texas.

The IBEW/NECA Family Medical Care Plan has been around for more than a decade now, and as it nears 100,000 participants, we're proud of the coverage it provides and the savings it's been able to achieve.

As you well know, skyrocketing health care prices continue to give us headaches, not just at the doctor's office, but at the bargaining table as well.

We're able to provide quality, affordable insurance with the FMCP because the plan isn't about making money. It's not about paying out shareholders and CEOs or buying expensive advertisements. It exists for one purpose only — to provide top-notch health coverage to IBEW members and their families at a reasonable cost.

So far, in every one of the 165 local unions that have adopted the FMCP, the IBEW/NECA plan has been able to offer equal or better insurance than what the company was providing before for the same or lower costs. We're proud of that, and we'll do even better as more and more locals sign up.

Employers are paying attention as well. CenterPoint Energy in Texas saved more than \$5 million a year when their employees in Texas joined the FMCP in 2014. Today, they're one of seven Fortune 500 companies participating in the plan. As FMCP's Larry Bradley said, "They're not doing it because they love the IBEW. They're doing it because it makes financial sense."

So, I encourage business managers and negotiating committees in every branch of the IBEW to take a serious look at adding the FMCP to your bargaining toolkit. Get in touch with the FMCP and get a quote, because every dollar saved on health care is a dollar that goes back on the table for our members. That's why this plan exists in the first place.

Houston's success provides a blueprint that others can follow, but I know there are no limits to the creativity of our local unions. I'm excited to see how even more locals put this powerful tool to use improving the lives of our members in the future. ■



**Kenneth W. Cooper**  
International Secretary-Treasurer

**HOW TO REACH US**

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

**Send letters to:**

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**Or send by email to:** [media@ibew.org](mailto:media@ibew.org)

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# “LETTERS TO THE EDITOR”

## ‘We are a Family’

Brotherhood. Sometimes it is difficult to put into words, but when you see it, you know it. On June 2, at Terre Haute, Ind., Local 725, I saw it. Josh Hammond, a Local 725 brother, a husband and father of two, was given the worst news ever, a cancer diagnosis. When members found out, they organized a benefit and brought their friends, spouses, children, brothers and sisters there in support. As the night went on, announcements came in that donations were on the way from members states away. IBEW members who never met this brother, found out about his situation and knew that we take care of our own. We are a family. When one of us falls, we are all there to brush off the dust and face the challenge together.

This was not an isolated occurrence. The silent and unrecognized brothers who organize and support these benefits need our gratitude and appreciation. God bless the IBEW.

*Jeff Westendorf, Local 146 member  
Decatur, Ill.*

## NEC as History

In 2000, I became inspired to start a National Electrical Code collection. To complete it, I only need six code books (1899, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1909, 1920). These are extremely rare and some I have never seen for sale in my years of searching. I have proudly displayed my books and electricians are amazed to see the size and thickness (only 56 pages) of an original 1897 National Electrical Code book. As the years progressed, so did the thickness and size.

After the 1940 National Electrical Code came out, the next code cycle only came in supplements to save paper, since World War II had begun.

This hobby of mine has taught me so much about how the National Electrical Code book evolved. In my 17 years of pursuing a complete collection, I have not heard of one anywhere. I feel as though this type of electrical history is slowly being lost in time and needs to be preserved.

If anyone has any information concerning NEC book collection, please email me at [raymorris@nwwcc.edu](mailto:raymorris@nwwcc.edu). I will be glad to share information as well.

*Ray Morris, Sheffield, Ala.  
Local 558 member*



*Morris with electrical code books*

## Dad’s ‘Lighting the Sky’

On March 9, William “Bill” or “The Yank” Crothers passed away at 78.

Each of you, whether you knew him or not, were special to him. For as long as I can remember the IBEW was a part of my life. I was raised to respect not just the IBEW but all unions and their members. My dad made sure everyone he came in contact with knew how important this was to him.

He became an IBEW member at a very young age. He LOVED being able to climb the poles to ensure that the quality of work exceeded expectations. When he came to visit me in Las Vegas we went to the Hoover Dam. I had been on the tour before but I had no idea what it was like from Dad’s eyes. I have pictures of every pipe, wire, conduit, etc. What usually took about 30 minutes stretched over an hour. I’d give anything to take that tour again with him and lean on every word.

It’s been an honor to meet people from all over the country who knew my dad. Whether he knew you 40+ years ago or you just met last week, he’d remember what you were doing, wearing, eating, drinking, etc. No detail went unnoticed and he enjoyed sharing his stories.

My dad loved life, he loved people and he loved making a difference. I will always have a special place in my heart for the IBEW — without you he would have been lost.

Dad had a favorite saying: “The devil doesn’t want me and the good Lord isn’t ready for me.” I guess the Lord needed another electrician to light up the sky.

*Amber Crothers, daughter of Local 479 member Bill Crothers  
Nashville, Tenn.*



*Local 479 member Bill Crothers*

## WHO WE ARE

# American Legion Post ‘Binds Us from Generation to Generation’

Members of Chicago Local 134 gathered on Memorial Day this year, just as they have since 1935. It’s a different kind of Memorial Day gathering than anywhere else in the IBEW — or in the entire labor movement.

Local 134 has sponsored American Legion Post 769 since September 1934. Records are incomplete, but it is believed to be the only local in organized labor that currently does so.

And every year, members gather at Mount Emblem Cemetery with friends and family to read the names of Post 769 members who have passed away. All were members of Local 134. It’s a prerequisite to joining what they call the Electric Post.

“When I first started going there and they read the names, it seemed like a bunch of old people,” said Mike Rummery, a Vietnam veteran and the Post’s commander for the last nine years. “Now, when we announce the deaths of members, it’s a lot of guys who I know and worked with. It’s a pretty sobering experience.”

Retired International Representative Michael D. Nugent was initiated into Local 134 in 1968, not long after being discharged from the U.S. Army. He joined the post soon after, served as commander in 1976 and has remained active even after being assigned to the International office in Washington, D.C., in 1978.

He returns every Memorial Day for the ceremony and remembers his father, John Ross Nugent, a Local 134 member who served in the Army Air Corps in World War II; and father-in-law, Jack Rogers, a 134 member who served in the Marines during World War II.

“Probably more than half the names they read now, I’m familiar with,” he said.

“I read the name of my father and father-in-law at this every year,” Nugent said. “One of the inducements to membership is you are not going to be forgotten. Someday, my name is going to be on there and read.”

Mount Emblem is the burial site of Charles R. Paulson, Post 769’s founder and its first commander.

Paulson was a World War I veteran and the son of Charles M. Paulson, who served on the International Executive Council from 1930 until his death in 1957, including 23 years as chairman. The post was a place of support for Local 134’s large number of World War I veterans.

Business Manager Mike Boyle,



*Above: Carl Deisel performs Taps on the bugle during American Legion Post 769’s Memorial Day Service on May 29. The post has been sponsored by Chicago Local 134 since 1934.*



*Left: Retired International Representative Michael D. Nugent is a past commander of American Legion Post 769.*

whose dynamic leadership helped turn Local 134 into a dominant force on the Chicago labor scene in the early 20th century, also started several clubs within the local to see what members might be future leaders. He may have pushed for its formation as well, Nugent said.

The younger Paulson died not long afterward at the age of 36. The post held its first Memorial Day service in 1935 and it has been an annual event ever since. Membership once stood at 400 members, but is now down to about 30, Rummery said.

The drop in membership is attributable to many factors, he said. With an all-volunteer military since the 1970s, the number of veterans who are members of Local 134 continues to decline. The ones who are veterans are spread out over a much larger geographic area and may have an American Legion post closer to their home.

Many of the most loyal members were World War II veterans, most of whom have passed away. Younger veterans from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars have more support groups to choose from than older veterans traditionally did.

The fall in membership isn’t unique to Post 769. It’s had an impact on American Legion posts all over the country. The New York Times reported in 2013, the last year for which public figures are available,

that membership nationwide had fallen 11 percent to 2.3 million since 2000.

“There’s just so many other things to do,” Rummery said. “After World War II, the American Legion hall was where you went for \$5 and you could dance with your wife and have a few beers. There wasn’t much other stuff going on.”

Rummery said Local 134 officers remain supportive. They’ve supplied everything he’s asked for during his time as commander and Post 769 holds its meetings inside Local 134’s executive conference room. They’ve supported attempts to reach out to younger veterans.

“I’ve gone through four business managers and all have been behind us 100 percent,” he said. “All of them have told me, ‘Whatever you need, just let me know.’”

Local 134 Business Manager Donald Finn was among those reading the list of names during this year’s ceremony.

“Post 769 is a big part of our history and remains a point of pride for all our members, including those who didn’t serve in the military,” Finn said. “They recognize the role veterans played in protecting our freedom. We will continue to honor and support those who served and remember who made the ultimate sacrifice. It’s something that binds us from generation to generation.” ■

# Retired IEC Chairman Bob Pierson Dies

It is with deep sadness that we announce the death of former International Executive Council Chairman Robert Pierson.

Brother Pierson, who died June 6 at the age of 75, retired at the end of 2015 after 10 years as chairman of the IEC and 50 years as a member of Chicago Local 9. He served as the local's business manager for nearly 20 years.

**“Something that was true from the day I met him to the day he retired: he always had the members at heart.”**

—Diamond Bar, Calif., Local 47  
Business Manager Pat Lavin

“When Bob retired last year, I said then we’d miss his wise counsel,” said International President Lonnie R. Stephenson, “but I never thought he’d leave us so soon. There was no one who loved this union any more than him. Bob lived and breathed the IBEW, and we’ll miss him dearly.”

“First and foremost, Bob was a gentleman,” Sixth District International Vice President David J. Ruhmkorff said. “He was a great labor leader in the truest sense of the word. He truly cared for working people.”

Ruhmkorff said Pierson wasn’t just a big deal in the IBEW, but a giant in the Chicago labor community. “When Bob talked, others listened. He didn’t say a lot, but when he did, he commanded respect.

“He’d always tell me you’ve got to be strong, you’ve got to keep the faith and keep going at it,” Ruhmkorff said. “He constantly would tell me he was proud of me and I was doing a great job. He would constantly build you up. That’s the kind of guy he was.”

Pierson was initiated into Local 9 in 1966 after brief stints with the Teamsters and Carpenters unions. In the IBEW, he found his home, working as an outside construction lineman with Hecker Electric out of Chicago. During that time, he was part of the original build of the Red Line, the busiest line of Chicago’s “L” mass transit system.

By 1980, Pierson had made a name for himself, and he was hired onto staff at Local 9 as a business representative. A year later, he became assistant business manager and held that job for 16 years. It was during those years that he scored victories that he’d later remember as his proudest accomplishments, among them the organization of 1,100 Chicago-area cable television workers into Local 9.

In 1997, Brother Pierson was elected business manager, and his stewardship of the local earned him a reputation as one of Chicago’s most influential labor leaders. He was regarded as a no-nonsense negotiator on behalf of hundreds of City of Chicago employees, including electrical workers in the city’s transit, park and water reclamation departments, contractors and line clearance tree trimmers.

Diamond Bar, Calif., Local 47 Busi-

ness Manager Pat Lavin met Pierson in 1966 when they were both starting their careers in the IBEW as groundmen. More than 30 years later, they were reunited on the IEC, where Lavin is the Seventh District representative.

“The thought never crossed our minds that we would end up where we were,” Lavin said. “We just laughed about how far we’d come.”

But from his earliest days, it was clear to everyone that Pierson was a leader, Lavin said.

“Over the years, I worked for him and I worked with him, and something that was true from the day I met him to the day he retired: he always had the members at heart,” Lavin said. “It’s simple, but it’s true and he took great pride that he never lost sight of that.”

Bill Niesman, who succeeded Pierson as business manager last year, said his mentor was a legend to the rank and file of the IBEW. “He was a big man, but his personality was larger. Bob was always smiling, but not afraid to bang his fist on a table and get people fired up and ready for whatever fight was coming. Even his handshake was big,” Niesman said. “If you didn’t get



Then-retired IEC chairman Robert Pierson at the 2016 convention in St. Louis. Here he is shown with Dawn Stephenson, International President Lonnie R. Stephenson, daughter-in-law Lisa, son Todd, wife Shirley, son Chad, granddaughter Kelsie and Andrew Potts. Both Todd and Chad are members of Chicago Local 9.

your hand in there right you’d be feeling the bones moving before it was over.”

Niesman said the phone calls and texts pouring in from all over Illinois are a testament to all the lives Pierson touched.

As news of his death spread, Niesman had already received more than 100 calls from other unions, trades and municipalities with whom Pierson had worked.

“He led with conviction but what

made him different was he equally led with compassion,” Niesman said. “He took everything in, but he always made sure to bring it back to the members at the heart of every contract negotiation or decision. ... He would speak from the heart about what the members did, the sacrifices they made, and what they deserved in return.”

In a 2013 video produced by the Chicago Federation of Labor, Pierson summed up his relationship with the IBEW over the last 50 years. “This is your union,” he said. “You have to respect it, love it, earn it and keep it every day of your life. If you don’t, it’ll go away.”

“If we take just one thing from Bob’s half a century with the IBEW, it’s that,” Stephenson said. “This was a man who owed everything to this Brotherhood and did everything he could to give back to it and to keep it strong for those of us who came after him. He was a role model and a brother, and we owe him so very much.”

The officers, staff and membership of the IBEW extend their deepest sympathies and gratitude to Brother Pierson’s wife, Shirley, their children Wendy, Gary, Chad and Todd, and their nine grandchildren. ■

## ‘Strength, Tenacity’ Draws Broadcasting Unit to IBEW

The seeds for a successful organizing campaign sometimes are laid many years in advance. New York Local 1212 members saw that firsthand this spring, with the blossoming of a new unit across the river.

About 10 years ago, Local 1212 negotiated a contract for workers it represented at PVI Virtual Media Services, a company that inserts images and video into broadcasts and developed the yellow down line now seen in football telecasts. Business Manager Ralph Avigliano remembers it as a tough negotiation that required a lot of time and resources.

But the hard work made an impression on PVI employees. One of them now works in video production at the Prudential Center in Newark, N.J., home of the NHL’s New Jersey Devils. He remembered the professionalism of the Local 1212 staff and negotiating team.

Not surprisingly, when those workers were looking for a voice on the job at the Prudential Center in early January, they called Local 1212. Four months later, they voted for IBEW representation, adding about 45 members to Local 1212 and scoring a big organizing win in an area that’s already heavily unionized.

“The effort, strength, tenacity, whatever words you want to use to describe it, they never forgot how hard we fought for them,” Avigliano said. “It left an impression on them on what it means to be part of a union.”

Local 1212 members hope to have a contract agreement around the time the NHL’s preseason starts in September.

“I know how I have been treated over the last 10 years,” said Local 1212 member Joe Jordan, who worked at PVI and now works as an assistant video engineer and camera operator at the Prudential Center. “My experience with Local 1212 has been wonderful. I knew going into this it would be wonderful for the other people who work here.”

Jordan stressed that he didn’t think he and his co-workers were being treated poorly, but some concerns expressed to management were falling on deaf ears. He and colleague Peter Balsamo — who did not work for PVI — were among the Prudential Center employees who reached out to Local 1212 officials and Dominick Macchia, a broadcasting and telecommunications international representative in the Third District.

For Balsamo, who also is an attorney, it was simply a realization that it was time for representation.

“People realized that nothing was going to change, so we needed to be stewards for change,” said Balsamo, an engineer who has worked at the Prudential Center for nine years. “It was nothing against management. It’s not an us-versus-them mentality. It was just us looking out for us.”

The Prudential Center was the only major arena in and around New York City in which video employees weren’t unionized.

Avigliano said two other factors sealed the deal.

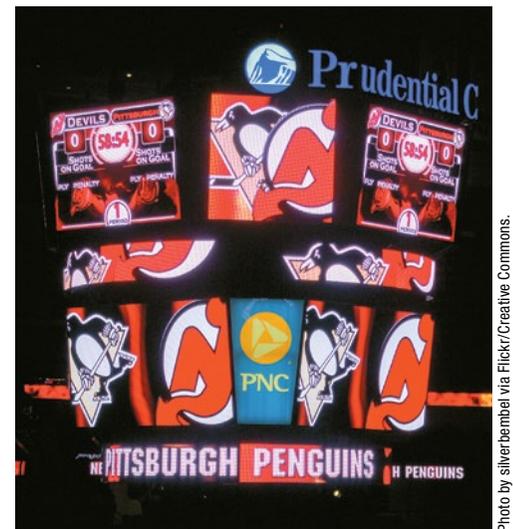
First, he and business representative Ryan O’Boyle agreed to meet with the employees at any time. That was important in an industry where video personnel often work in the evenings, weekends and late at night. He and Macchia credited O’Boyle for much of that.

“There was constant attention to whatever these guys needed,” Macchia said.

And second, they were transparent in things like Local 1212’s dues structure and what exactly they would gain from IBEW representation, he said. That defused any attempt by management to disparage the IBEW.

“That was the key to this,” Avigliano said. “We were so transparent that by the time the company wanted to take a shot at the union structure, it was useless to them.”

Macchia and Avigliano said O’Boyle, who has been on Local 1212’s staff for just one year, immediately bonded with the Prudential Center employees. O’Boyle, 37,



The videoboard inside the Prudential Center in Newark, N.J. Members of the building’s video production crew voted to join New York Local 1212.

connected with the younger workers there in a way that an older union official might not, Macchia said.

“This kid gets it,” he said. “This guy talks their lingo. He got to sit there and talk face-to-face with them and talk with them daily.”

O’Boyle noted that all 11 employees that he, Avigliano and Macchia met with during the initial meeting signed cards requesting votes for representation.

“We never made any promises except we were going to work our tails off and we did,” he said.

Balsamo said he and his colleagues explored other options, but none could match the prestige of Local 1212.

“They’re affiliated with the IBEW,” he said. “Not that there aren’t other unions out there, but it’s a large, well-known union. That was important to me.”

Macchia said broadcast workers in New York are already heavily represented by the IBEW and other unions.

“What’s great about this story is that this is what happens when you do the right thing,” he said. “Ten years ago, we did the right thing for everyone at that company. Those guys started talking and they remembered that.” ■