

THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

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INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

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Who We Are

14TH ANNUAL IBEW PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

Favorites Draw Record Votes

With his colorful image of a member carefully welding conduit, **Blain Logan** of St. Joseph, Mo., Local 545 showcased the muscle and nose-to-the-grindstone effort it takes to get the job done—netting the grand prize in the 2010 IBEW Photo Contest.

His entry was the runaway favorite in online voting by members and the public in January.

Judges previewed more than 360 submissions for the competition. The finalists garnered a record 12,000 votes for the 15 images that appeared at www.ibew.org in December and January.

Voters awarded Casper, Wyo., Local 322 member **Ezra Kelly** second place for his vivid rendering of power lines gliding over an icy landscape.

Mike Muscat of Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Local 320 placed third with a tongue-in-cheek underwater shot of a fellow lineman who coupled safety garb with scuba gear to “fix” a downed pole.



1st

First Place Winner (\$200)

Blain Logan, St. Joseph, Mo., Local 545

Last summer, while schoolchildren beat the record Midwestern heat with ice cream and trips to air-conditioned malls, wireman travelers Logan and Jim Amos suited up in bulky fire-retardant gear and face shields to weld carbon steel conduit at the Conoco refinery in Alton, Ill.

On a particularly hot day, Logan snapped his photo of Amos—a Jacksonville, Fla., Local 177 member—putting the full weight of his body on a pipe to secure one of the trickier welds.

“Doing this kind of work can be rough,” Logan said. “You’re in really tight environments and you almost have to stand on your head sometimes to get the weld. Then you’ve got the heat on top of that. I took this picture to show my dad and fellow IBEW brothers how hard it was.”

“We don’t usually do a whole lot of welding in the trade,” he said. “But when that work falls in our jurisdiction, we want to show that we’re capable of doing an excellent job.”

PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS *continued on page 2*

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Continued from page 1

IBEW Photo Contest Winners

This is the contest's 14th year and third time to feature online voting.

Third Place Winner (\$100)

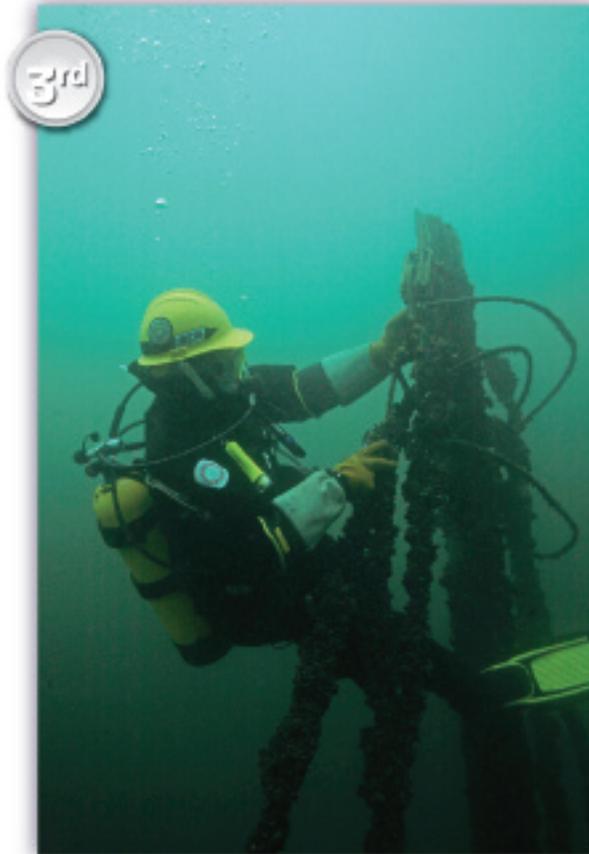
Mike Muscat,
Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Local 320

Linemen frequently stare down the worst Mother Nature has to offer, usually from very high off the ground. But what would it look like for a member to take those skills underwater?

In his comical entry, Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Local 320 member Mike Muscat shot an aquamarine-tinged image of fellow member Bob Schaeztl (decked out in a hardhat and insulating gloves) pretending to repair a submerged pole in a lake near Bethlehem, Pa.

Schaeztl and Muscat are both experienced divers, and Muscat said they "wanted to illustrate just how far a lineman will go to get the lights back on."

"We got a kick out of doing the project," said Schaeztl, who has a background in professional photography.



3rd

Second Place Winner (\$150)



2nd

Ezra Kelly, Casper, Wyo., Local 322

The glacial setting for Kelly's luminous shot of power lines in the mountains of Virginia may imply a world in hibernation—but the 500-kilovolt lines in the sky say otherwise as they channel electricity across 180 circuit miles of wilderness.

Kelly captured this moment of stunning white and blue in the early morning last winter.

"We showed up on the job site, and it was 11 below and stormy," Kelly said. "There was a half-inch of ice on everything. And then all of a sudden, the sun came out and the ice started melting."

Kelly shunned using Photoshop or any software to enhance the shot. The burning sun high in the frame—simple, unadorned and natural—is as close a representation of that crystal clear morning as anyone would be likely to see.

Honorable Mentions (\$50 each)

IBEW MEDIA WORLD

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

www.ibew.org

From breaking news to video stories, our updated Web site has information not available anywhere else. Visit us to connect with the IBEW on Facebook and to follow International President Edwin D. Hill on Twitter!

IBEW on the Huffington Post

President Hill has a blog championing good jobs and more. Read it at www.huffingtonpost.com/edwin-d-hill.

YouTube

For more than 35 years, the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus has spread the message that diversity is power. Learn more about the group's modern-day mission on the IBEW's YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/user/TheElectricalWorker.



HM

Allan Smorra,
San Francisco Local 6

Smorra's vertigo-inducing image of Dublin, Calif., Local 595 member Del West walking on the Golden Gate Bridge to repair a cable light is both daring and dreamlike.



HM

Thomas Zielke,
Rochester, N.Y., Local 86

With water below and concrete above, Syracuse, N.Y., Local 43 member Dave Colton finishes pulling cable while in an inspection unit under the bridge that links Ogdensburg, N.Y., to Prescott, Ontario. Zielke was in a similar unit when he snapped the photo.

N.Y., Pa., Lawmakers Crack Down on Worker Misclassification

Labor unions and small business owners from across New York came together late last year to support one of the most far-reaching legislative crackdowns on employers that misclassify employees as independent contractors.

Former Gov. David Paterson signed the Wage Theft Prevention Act last December, which toughens penalties against employers that are found guilty of misclassification and provides additional protections for employees. Firing a worker who charges wage theft will carry a penalty of up to \$10,000. The law goes into effect April 12.

Worker misclassification has been widespread in the state. James Parrot, chief economist for the Fiscal Policy Institute, estimated that 10 percent of New York's workers are misclassified as independent contractors.

Affected workers are deprived of protection under labor law and are ineligible for workers' compensation. And law-abiding businesses are forced to compete with others who don't pay prevailing wages, Social Security taxes and overtime by labeling employees independent contractors.

"It hurts our contractors that play by the rules and treat their employees fairly," says Third District International Representative Larry Davis.

States and localities nationwide lose out on \$8 billion in revenue because of worker misclassification.

Davis says the IBEW and NECA contractors mobilized heavily behind N.Y.'s Wage Theft Act and its construction counterpart—the Construction Industry Fair Play Act, which went into effect last October. That law clarifies the difference between full-time employees and independent contractors in the construction industry.

"Under the [act] all construction industry workers would be presumed to be employees unless they meet ... specific criteria that would lead to their classification as independent contractors," says bill sponsor state Sen. George Onorato.

Both bills are expected to bring millions in tax revenue to New York, garnering \$150 million to help state officials preserve vital government programs.

Pennsylvania passed similar legislation last October, when former Gov. Ed Rendell signed a bill that makes it a third-degree felony for a construction contractor to knowingly engage in worker misclassification.

"While the practice is not as rampant in the electrical trade as it is in other sectors of the construction industry, it has been a growing problem that has put the squeeze on honest contractors—both union and nonunion," says Third District International Representative Randy Kieffer.

On Capitol Hill, Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry and Rep. Jim

McDermott (Wash.) introduced national legislation last year that would beef up enforcement of worker classification regulations.

International Representative Dan Gardner, IBEW Political and Legislative Affairs Department, says that it will be hard for Congress to continue to ignore the issue if more states follow New York's and Pennsylvania's lead in cracking down on worker misclassification.

"Misclassification is one of the biggest challenges facing the building trades, but I think it's an issue that elected officials across the country are ready to move on," Davis says. ■



San Francisco labor activists protest a construction contractor found guilty by state officials of cheating workers out of wages and benefits.

What's the Tax Debate All About?

To make some sense out of the tax debate in the U.S., we talked to Andrew Fieldhouse, a federal budget policy analyst at the Economic Policy Institute.

Fieldhouse has been studying the tax proposals of Rep. Paul Ryan (R-Wis.), the new chairman of the House Budget Committee. Ryan is considered one of the GOP's leading specialists on economic policy. Some of Fieldhouse's answers to questions are drawn from his EPI Briefing Paper, "Paul Ryan's Plan for Millionaires' Gain and Middle-Class Pain."

EW: Rep. Ryan has talked a lot about a "value-added" tax, which he says would be fairer than today's income taxes and would encourage businesses to invest in creating jobs. What is a value-added tax?

Fieldhouse: A value-added tax is a broad consumption tax that is levied on goods and services at every stage of production but ultimately lands on consumers. I'll give you an example using a 10 percent tax. You buy a bicycle at a store for \$150. The retailer bought the bike for \$100 from a producer, which paid \$10 of "value-added" tax. The retail mark-up is \$50, so the retailer owes \$5 to the IRS and keeps \$45. While the producer and retailer physically make the payments

to the IRS, the full \$150 cost, including all \$15 of the tax, ultimately lands on the consumer. Under Ryan's plan, a new 8.5 percent value-added tax would be baked into the price of goods and services.

EW: Ryan says a value-added tax is "fair" because everyone pays the same taxes.

Fieldhouse: Everyone does not pay the same taxes. That's the problem. And Ryan isn't just proposing a value-added tax. He's proposing to eliminate taxes on corporate income and to reduce taxes on money made from investments.

Workers who have yearly incomes of \$25,000 or even \$100,000 yearly, spend a much higher fraction of their income on food, clothes, gasoline and other needs than the very wealthy do. They also collect less investment income. So instead of being fairer, Ryan's tax is more regressive, forcing workers to subsidize the reduced taxes on the very wealthy. This leads to more economic inequality. It is not going to help our economic recovery because it will decrease consumption.

Ryan's "Roadmap to America's Future," published in 2010, would slash Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security benefits while depleting tax revenues by letting wealthy taxpayers off the hook. **The only Americans**

who would have their taxes raised are those who make between \$20,000 and \$200,000. The middle class would pay higher average tax rates than millionaires. This is an unprecedented reversal of progressive U.S. tax policy.

EW: If Ryan's plan isn't fair and doesn't work to improve our economy, what would?

Fieldhouse: We have two problems running together—a cyclical downturn in the economy and a longer-term structural problem caused by the export of U.S. manufacturing, global competition and chronic underinvestment in public goods such as education, research and infrastructure. So deficit spending on stimulus measures to put jobless Americans back to work is absolutely necessary, and those investments can boost long-term productivity.

EW: But some politicians say that we should handle our nation's finances just like Americans handle our household finances. Aren't deficits dangerous?

Fieldhouse: A so-called "double-dip recession," which could result from premature deficit reduction, would be a worse alternative than expanding our deficit. As we work to strengthen the recovery and put

America back to work, however, we can take steps to reduce our long-term deficit. Again, it's about what choices we make. The Ryan Roadmap is riddled with policies that ignore the lessons learned from the Great Depression and underscored by the Great Recession. Ryan's plan still swears by the failed Bush-era economic policies of cutting taxes for the wealthy while neglecting the middle class and national investments.

Instead of cutting Medicare or shifting costs to states, many of which are already in financial trouble, the federal government should exert price competition, perhaps through a public insurance option, to bring down the costs of health care, which is the biggest long-term budget challenge. Instead of moving to an unfair tax system, we should raise the tax on millionaires and tax capital income from investments at the same rate as ordinary income, which, unlike the Ryan plan, would increase tax revenue and narrow income inequality.

Unemployment won't come down immediately, but, using tax revenues, we could expand investment in our decaying infrastructure, putting construction workers back on the job, and put jobless younger workers to work in programs that help create a stronger, more cohesive U.S. society like AmeriCorps, the Peace Corps and Teach for America. ■

IBEW Member Training: A ‘Key to Workplace Success’

Anyone looking for proof of the time-honored adage “knowledge is power” should meet Sandy Theriot. For the New Orleans Local 130 member, coursework offered by the IBEW’s Education Department has boosted her effectiveness as a shop steward, helping her increase her advocacy by ensuring that fellow workers are as productive, professional and competitive as they can be—especially in this chilly economic climate.

The 30-year member said the department’s Code of Excellence steward training has helped her become a solid champion for members at signatory contractor Frischhertz Electric.

“The knowledge I received through the training was a definite key to workplace success,” Theriot said. “As a steward, you have the opportunity to clearly illustrate why it’s important to strive for excellence on the job. This helps us learn to work with our contractors to make them more profitable and efficient. And we need that—otherwise we’d all be unemployed.”

Since 1988, the Education Department has offered trainings for members across the spectrum, from business managers to rank-and-file members. Department Director Jan Schwingshagl said that with the economy in its current state and unions on the defensive, now is a crucial time for members to up their training.

“Education is even more important now than it has been in the past because of the heightened union-bashing that is going on,” Schwingshagl said. “The better trained our members are—the more they understand about how their

union benefits them, their employer and their communities—the better we are able to fend off baseless attacks and create more activists. That creates a stronger IBEW for workers and their families.”

Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Local 320 Business Manager John Kaiser agrees. After beginning the two-part New Business Manager Training last year, Kaiser said he feels more confident going into negotiations with employer Central Hudson Gas and Electric in April, when he will bargain for a good contract for the 530 members on site.

Kaiser, who served as a shop steward for two decades at the utility, said he’s equally impressed with the level of education his cadre of nearly 30 new stewards received through the Education Department, especially in the way they handle grievances.

“Before the trainings, some of the newer stewards felt tentative—but afterwards, they were encouraged and confident to do the best job possible for the membership,” he said. “They walk into the door armed with information.”

Kaiser said high-quality training leads to added professionalism, “and that encourages the company to have more dialogue with the local union,” he said. “It helps promote the IBEW as the work force of choice when management has a good relationship with the local.”

“At the same time, the training aims to ensure that members fully understand their rights on the job,” he said. “If management calls you in, you are entitled to representation. Making sure workers have a voice is part of what makes the relationship work.”

The Education Department offers 11 different trainings (see sidebar). More than 150,000 members have taken the Construction Organizing Membership Education Training (COMET) since its inception in 1991, and the IBEW Steward Training turned out 1,300 new activists last year alone. Leaders are looking to roll out new trainings this year, which will feature strategic campaign planning for organizers, a comprehensive course in understanding collective bargaining and more.

Schwingshagl said that such trainings are beneficial to members on every level of the union.

“Without the knowledge of what your rights are in the workplace, you’re pretty much at the mercy of the employer—and you can be sure they know what their own rights are,” she said. “So any training will help a member at any level become more powerful in his or her place of employment.”

Theriot, who has attended IBEW women’s conferences and various seminars, said that the topics taught at the steward training should resonate with any member of the union—regardless of whether they have aspirations to move into a leadership position.

“The training gives you some fundamental tools to reach out to people on the job,” she said. “You learn about conflict resolution and brokering agreements between parties. It helps you dialogue with your colleagues better and achieve mutually beneficial goals. You learn how to be more tactful, a better listener and a stronger asset to the company and the membership.”

What Courses Does the IBEW Education Department Offer?

TRAINING:	RECOMMENDED FOR:
Member Orientation	Any member
Steward Training	New and experienced stewards
Local Union Leadership Training	Local union officers and staff
New Business Manager Training	New business managers
First Contract Negotiations Training	Newly organized negotiating committees
Collective Bargaining Training	Local union officers, staff and negotiating committees
COMET	Construction local union members
COMET Train the Trainer	Members designated by their business managers to teach the COMET
Member to Future Member	Members who have completed COMET
Code of Excellence	Business managers, officers, staff and members
Code of Excellence Steward	Those designated by their business manager to be COE Stewards

“If you love the IBEW, you will seek out tools to make yourself a better educated person and a better trade unionist,” she said. “Education through the International Office can certainly help with that.”

For Kaiser, constant refinement is the path to growth—personally and professionally.

“There’s not a day that goes by that I don’t learn something in this job to help me work more effectively on behalf of the membership,” he said. “It’s like I tell my kids: there’s

no such thing as ‘school is out.’ You never stop learning.”

Members interested in boosting their skills are encouraged to speak with their business managers about setting up trainings. Business managers looking for course opportunities should contact their district vice presidents to request classes.

For more information about the Education Department—including its partnership with the National Labor College—visit www.ibew.org. ■

How Has the IBEW’s Educational Training Helped You?



Greg Carter,
Tucson, Ariz., Local 1116 treasurer,
employee of Tucson Electric Power

“The steward training teaches you to listen with your ears and not your mouth. The course gave me tools on how to clearly inform workers that they were entitled to representation in front of management and to let them know their rights on the job. I look forward to taking more classes in the future.” ■



Cheryl Sanders,
Kennewick, Wash., Local 112 president

“The COMET, Code of Excellence trainings and more have helped me successfully work with our contractor over issues like wages, hours and working conditions. The classes I’ve taken have guided and helped me along the way.” ■



Julie Cosenza,
Buffalo, N.Y., Local 2199 business manager

“If given the opportunity to be at the bargaining table again (for clerical workers at National Fuel Gas Co.), with the IBEW training, I will be as prepared as I possibly can be.” ■

Calif. Members Make Repairs to Massive Space Antenna

Members of San Bernardino, Calif., Local 543 at NASA's Goldstone Deep Space Network Communication Complex are completing something of a space mission in the middle of the Mojave Desert: repairing and upgrading the massive 70-meter antenna that has played a key role in many celebrated experiments in the scientific community.

Deep Space Station 14 is the official name for the largest of 11 antennas at the complex that have tracked extraterrestrial activity for decades. Since last April, IBEW members like Seymour Unpingco have been painstakingly rehabbing DSS-14—which stretches longer than a football field—with new wires, bearings and other components that will help the 9-million-pound device better rotate horizontally and track vertically.

“One of the biggest jobs is installing new cables in the antenna,” said Unpingco, a member since 2000. “We’ve taken hundreds of cables that are as long as 1,000 feet and run them from the tip of the antenna, all the way inside the machine, through the device and into the nearby control room.” There, technicians decode the mammoth amounts of encrypted, top-secret digital data captured by the antenna into useable information for scientists and engineers at Jet Propulsion Laboratory—a research and development center that operates NASA’s Deep Space Network.

Three times a week, Unpingco straps on safety harnesses for work on the harder-to-reach areas of the dish. An aerial lift extending as high as 240 feet enables him to make tricky cable installations. Other times, he ventures to the highest part of the antenna—300 feet—via a ladder to make electrical adjustments.

“It’s intimidating the first time you go up there,” he said.

But it’s necessary to get DSS-14 back up and running for Local 543 members like Lorraine Koger to help monitor spacecraft and photograph distant interstellar events.

As a Lead Space Operations Controller, Koger works on site with engineers at Jet Propulsion Laboratory to monitor everything

from rovers on Mars to asteroids on the edge of the solar system.

“You get to be a part of scientific history,” she said. “We don’t get the same kind of glory [as astronauts do], but we’re the hub of communication. We see what’s going on with the multimillion-dollar spacecraft, which is very important.

“I wouldn’t trade this work for anything,” she said.

Unlike their counterparts in the manned space sector, who are facing the end of the shuttle era, members of Local 543 recently negotiated a five-year agreement.

Read more in the Electrical Worker Online at www.ibew.org. ■

A San Bernardino, Calif., Local 543 member uses an aerial lift to repair the largest antenna at NASA's Goldstone Deep Space Network Communication Complex.



December International Executive Council Meeting

Minutes and Report of The International Executive Council's Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the International Executive Council was called to order at 8:30 a.m., by Chairman Pierson, on Tuesday, December 14, 2010, in Washington, D.C. Other members of the Council in attendance were Lavin, Briegel, Calabro, Calvey, Clarke, Riley, Schoemehl, and Lucero.

International President Hill

International President Edwin D. Hill met with the members of the International Executive Council a number of times to discuss a variety of matters affecting all branches of the Brotherhood.

International Secretary-Treasurer Lee

International Secretary-Treasurer Lindell Lee presented financial reports covering the IBEW Pension Fund and the Investment Portfolio of the Brotherhood—both in Canada and in the United States.

Legal Defense

Payments for legal defense, made from the General Fund, were examined and approved in accordance with the requirements of Article X, Section 1, of the IBEW Constitution.

Financial Reports

The International Secretary-Treasurer's reports for the various funds of the Brotherhood were presented to the members of the International Executive Council, examined and filed.

Per Capita Objection Plan and LM-2 Reports

Members of the council discussed and completed their individual IBEW Reporting Forms for the IBEW Per Capita Objection Plan.

Charges Filed with The International Executive Council Against

Chengad Sridhar, Retired Member of Local Union 3, IBEW, by Steven Schwartz, Business Representative of Local Union 3, IBEW

On September 20, 2010, charges were filed with the International Executive Council against Chengad Sridhar, Card Number D835246, for violation of Article XI, Section 6 (d) of the IBEW Constitution, by Steven Schwartz, Card No. D273725, a business representative of IBEW Local Union 3, New York, New York.

After a thorough review of the facts, presented by the Hearing Officer, International

Representative John E. Malagise, it is the determination of the International Executive Council that Brother Sridhar is guilty of the charges brought against him by Brother Schwartz, of violating Article XI, Section 6 (d) of the IBEW Constitution “Prohibition of Work.” It is a condition for admission to pension benefits, including vested pension right and the continuation thereof, that the member shall not perform any work of any kind coming under the IBEW’s jurisdiction either for compensation or gratis.

It is also the decision of the International Executive Council to order him to remit all PBF Pension Benefits that he has received since June 2010, until the present time, to International Secretary-Treasurer Lee. Furthermore, Brother Sridhar is directed to re-deposit his membership card with Local Union 3, and to pay back per-capita payments.

Charges Filed with The International Executive Council Against

Arthur Cirimele, Retired Member of Local Union 6, IBEW, by Michael Yarbrough, an Officer of Local Union 6, IBEW

On March 31, 2010, charges were filed with the International Executive Council against Arthur Cirimele, Card Number X85684, for violation of Article XXIV, Sections 2 & 5, Article XXV, Section 1(a),(f), and (g) of the IBEW Constitution, by Michael Yarbrough, Card No. D404305, an officer of IBEW Local Union 6, Martinez, California.

After a thorough review of the facts, presented by the Hearing Officer, International Representative Tim Dixon, it is the determination of the International Executive Council that Brother Cirimele is guilty of the charges brought against him by Brother Yarbrough, of violating Article XI, Section 6 (d) of the IBEW Constitution “Prohibition of Work.” It is a condition for admission to pension benefits, including vested pension right and the continuation thereof, that the member shall not perform any work of any kind coming under the IBEW’s jurisdiction either for compensation or gratis.

It is also the decision of the International Executive Council to order him to remit all PBF Pension Benefits that he has received since March 2007, until the present time, to International Secretary-Treasurer Lee.

Furthermore, Brother Cirimele is directed to re-deposit his membership card with Local Union 6, and to pay back per-capita payments.

International Executive Council Amendment to the Rules and Regulations, and the Summary Plan Description, of the IBEW Pension Benefit Fund

WHEREAS, the procedures used when a member who is receiving pension returns to work in the electrical industry without notifying the IBEW Pension Benefit Fund (“Fund”) were recently modified by the International Executive Council (“IEC”) to permit the immediate suspension of the benefit; and

WHEREAS, the modified procedures, also established a two step process of action, first by the International Secretary-Treasurer (“I.S.T.”) and second by the IEC; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that this two-step process is unnecessary, especially where charges are filed against the retired member under Article XI of the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the IEC wishes to streamline the process while maintaining the original intent to suspend benefits in a timely manner.

NOW THEREFORE, for the reasons set forth above, the IEC hereby adopts the attached amended language to the SPD and Rules and Regulations on this 14th day of December 2010.

This amendment was adopted and signed by all members of the council. The original documentation, as well as the amended language, has been filed and properly recorded.

Staff Pension Plan Recommendations

The 2010 Actuarial Valuation Results, and Decisions Report, as prepared by actuary firm Cheiron, for the Officers, Representatives and Assistants Pension Plan and the Office Employees Pension Plan, were considered by the members of the council. After having deliberated on the recommendations presented, the members of the council concurred and adopted the actuarial recommendations.

Local Union(s) Under International Office Supervision

International President Hill advised the council members that there are no local unions, as of this meeting, under the supervision of the International Office.

Article XX and XXI Cases

There has been no activity under either Article XX or Article XXI.

Retirement of Office Employee Approved

Kathy Mangum, Secretary III, Grade 6 Membership Development Department—Effective November 2, 2010

Total Questionable Disability Pensions Approved

	Membership in L.U.
Sturgill, Robert H. Jr.	0024
Sherwood, Wayne L.	0115
Murphy, Thomas G.	2330

Applications for Vested Right to Pension Benefits Approved

	Membership in L.U.
Vasilia, Peter L.	0441
Houle, Barbara J.	0577

Birth Date Changes

	Membership in I.O.
Morton, James E.	0005

Membership in L.U.

Gutierrez, Jorge U.	0003
MacNeil, Clifford S.	0103
Frolick, James A.	0303
Strong, Robert L.	0424
Cross, Tom A.	0529
Franz, Edward F.	0530
Adams, Sonny	0570
Pyper, Edward	0804
Gray, Mark J.	0855
Snow, John R.	2330

The Next Regular International Council Meeting

This regularly scheduled meeting was adjourned on Wednesday, December 15, 2010, at 2:00 p.m. The next regular meeting of the International Executive Council will commence at 8:30 a.m., on Thursday, February 3, 2011, in Bonita Springs, Florida.

For the International Executive Council Patrick Lavin, Secretary December 2010

The IEC acted on numerous applications under the IBEW Pension Benefit fund. For a complete listing, consult www.ibew.org, clicking on the International Executive Council link on the “About Us” page. ■



Ontario Energy Plan Means New Jobs, Investment

Ontario is on the cusp of a new energy revolution, thanks to Liberal Premier Dalton McGuinty's proposed energy plan, which aims to modernize the province's electrical system and make it North America's leading center for alternative energy technology.

The \$87 billion, 20-year plan will build off of last year's Green Energy Act by making serious investments in wind, solar and hydropower development, while encouraging energy efficiency programs and transmission line construction, including a new 4,000-megawatt transmission line in Southern Ontario.

McGuinty has also called for the construction of two new nuclear facilities.

The goal is to have Ontario generate nearly 20,000 new megawatts from renewable resources by 2018. Last year's bill, which invested \$5 billion in solar, wind and smart grid technology, while offering incentives for renewable companies to set up shop in the province, has already given the green industry a big head start.

All this means new jobs for electricians trained in renewable technology, along with new manufacturing and utility positions to support the burgeoning industry—potentially creating thousands of new IBEW jobs.

"We have a ready-made work force with experience in renewable energy, along with the training facilities needed to turn out more workers," says Alex Loula, director of government and public relations for the IBEW's Construction Council of Ontario.

The IBEW currently does most of the wind energy work in the province, while making inroads into the burgeoning solar power market. Last year, members of Sarnia Local 530 completed work on the largest solar farm in North America.

"Solar has definitely picked up because of the green bill," says Local 530 Business Manager Michael Cataford, who is gearing up for two new photovoltaic projects that are projected to put more than 200 IBEW members to work.

The construction council recently unveiled a green training

curriculum training program for locals, including a train-the-trainer component so every IBEW electrician in Ontario will have the opportunity to get up to speed in photovoltaics and wind turbine installation.

"The Green Energy Act spurred a gold rush of investment," Loula says. The planned nuclear plants

will also mean lots of work for IBEW journeymen.

Key to the Green Energy Act's success has been its "feed in tariff" program, which guarantees a stable rate of return for renewable energy providers, along with domestic content regulations that require that a majority of green energy compo-

nents be produced in Ontario.

Siemens Canada recently announced that it was building the province's first-ever wind blade manufacturing plant, while Samsung has committed to making a \$7 billion investment toward a new wind tower plant in Windsor.

The government's energy poli-

cies are likely to be a key issue in next fall's elections, with the opposition Progressive Conservatives attacking the plan as unsustainable.

First District Vice President Phil Flemming said, "A modernization of Ontario's electrical system is long overdue. We can't just keep kicking the problem down the road." ■

Le Plan énergétique de l'Ontario prévoit la création de nouveaux emplois ainsi que de nouveaux investissements

La mise à jour du Plan énergétique proposé par le Premier ministre Dalton McGuinty pave la voie à une révolution en faveur d'une nouvelle énergie pour l'Ontario qui célèbre l'automne dernier les 100 ans du commencement de l'électrification de la province. Grâce à ce plan visant à moderniser le réseau d'électricité de la province, l'Ontario devient un chef de file en Amérique du Nord dans le domaine de l'énergie propre.

L'adoption de la Loi sur l'énergie verte a été le point de départ de la mise à jour de ce plan de 20 ans qui prévoit des investissements de 87 milliards de dollars qui seront répartis entre l'énergie solaire, l'énergie éolienne et des projets hydroélectriques, afin de favoriser les programmes d'efficacité énergétique et la construction de nouvelles lignes de transport, notamment la nouvelle ligne de 4,000 mégawatts entre Bruce et Milton, dans le Sud de l'Ontario.

McGuinty prévoit aussi que la province devra investir dans la construction de deux nouveaux réacteurs nucléaires.

L'objectif est d'augmenter la réserve d'électricité provenant de sources renouvelables d'ici 2018 afin que la province puisse produire près de 20,000 nouveaux mégawatts. Le projet de loi qui prévoyait, pour l'année dernière, des investissements de 5 milliards de dollars pour l'énergie solaire, l'énergie éolienne et la technologie des comp-

teurs intelligents, offrant ainsi des incitatifs aux entreprises d'énergie alternatives pour implanter des usines dans la province, a déjà donné une bonne longueur d'avance dans le secteur de l'énergie verte.

Cela représente de nouveaux emplois pour les électriciens qualifiés dans le domaine de la technologie de l'énergie renouvelable et de nouveaux postes dans le secteur de la fabrication et des services publics pour desservir cette industrie en plein essor—ce qui favorisera la création de milliers de nouveaux emplois pour la FIOE.

« Nous avons déjà la main-d'œuvre qualifiée et expérimentée dans le secteur de l'énergie renouvelable, en plus des établissements de formation professionnelle nécessaires à la formation de travailleurs additionnels » déclare Alex Loula, Directeur, relations publiques et gouvernementales pour le Conseil de la construction de l'Ontario de la FIOE.

Le Conseil sert de groupe d'encadrement pour 13 sections locales de la construction en Ontario.

La plupart des travaux reliés à l'énergie éolienne dans la province sont actuellement exécutés par la FIOE qui gagne du terrain et étend ses activités au marché florissant de l'énergie solaire. Des membres de la S.L. 530 de Sarnia ont travaillé à la construction de la plus grande ferme solaire en Amérique du Nord et les travaux ont été terminés l'année dernière.

« L'essor de l'énergie solaire

est, sans aucun doute, un des résultats de l'adoption de la Loi sur l'énergie verte » dit Michael Cataford, Gérant d'affaires de la S.L. 530 qui se dit prêt pour les deux nouveaux projets solaires photovoltaïques qui devraient procurer du travail à plus de 200 membres de la FIOE.

Le Conseil de la construction a inauguré récemment un programme de formation dans le domaine de l'énergie verte pour les locaux; ce programme inclut une « Formation des formateurs » afin que chaque électricien de la FIOE en Ontario puisse avoir l'opportunité d'être à la fine pointe dans l'installation de systèmes photovoltaïques et d'éoliennes.

« La loi sur l'énergie verte a engendré une ruée vers l'or avec tous ces investissements. La construction des deux réacteurs nucléaires amènera assurément beaucoup d'emplois pour les compagnons qualifiés de la FIOE », affirme Loula.

Le Plan énergétique de l'Ontario est le premier plan stratégique coordonné dans l'histoire de la Province, qui permet à la fois aux entreprises et à la FIOE de déterminer les futurs besoins en main-d'œuvre dans l'industrie de l'énergie. « Cela nous permet de prévoir la demande de main-d'œuvre à long terme et de planifier en conséquence » ajoute-t-il.

Le Programme de tarifs de rachat garantis consistant en une structure offrant un taux de rendement stable pour les fournisseurs d'énergie renou-

velable, et des exigences sur le contenu domestique faisant en sorte qu'une majorité des projets d'éoliennes et des projets solaires devront être produits en Ontario, a été la clé du succès de la Loi sur l'énergie verte.

L'entreprise Siemens Canada a annoncé récemment qu'elle construira la toute première manufacture de pales d'éoliennes dans la province; cette nouvelle suivait l'annonce d'un investissement de 7 milliards de dollars par la compagnie Samsung pour l'installation d'une nouvelle usine d'éoliennes à Windsor.

« Nous voulons établir de bonnes relations avec Samsung et les renseigner sur tous les travaux que nous avons déjà exécutés dans le secteur de l'énergie éolienne—toujours en respectant les échéances et les budgets » déclare Loula.

Il y a de fortes chances que les politiques gouvernementales sur l'énergie renouvelable soient un élément clé lors des élections provinciales prévues pour l'automne prochain, avec les Conservateurs de l'opposition qui s'attaquent à ce Plan mettant en doute sa viabilité.

Le confrère Phil Flemming, Vice-président international pour le Premier District, n'est pas du même avis. « La modernisation du réseau d'électricité de l'Ontario aurait dû débuter il y a longtemps. Nous ne pouvons pas continuer de reporter le problème à plus tard et laisser les futures générations aux prises avec ces préoccupations. ■

IBEW On Duty

Conn. Members Return from Iraq, Afghanistan

Members of New Haven, Conn., Local 90 recently welcomed home two of their own following deployments in the Middle East.

Journeyman wireman Brendan Toth and second-year apprentice John Coggshall returned to the Constitution State late last year after serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, respectively.

For Toth, it was the finale of a distinguished military career—including active duty and the reserves—that spanned four decades and included missions such as helping train soldiers in Iraq's emerging army. Toth retired



New Haven, Conn., Local 90 member Brendan Toth served in Iraq.

from the Army Reserves effective December of last year.

"It's been a privilege to serve," said Toth, who earned the rank of command sergeant major, received the Bronze Star—for acts of merit—and was awarded the Legion of Merit for outstanding service and achievement

upon his retirement.

Toth said one of his proudest accomplishments was helping ensure added security in a still-volatile country by boosting the Iraqi armed forces.

"The improvement the Iraqi



Local 90 apprentice John Coggshall, second from right, presents a flag to local leaders after his tour in Afghanistan.

soldiers have made is commendable," Toth said. "A lot of bad guys don't like them, but they're putting themselves out there and doing something brave. We've offered them the opportunity for success and they're rising to the challenge.

"I'm happy I was able to make a contribution," he said.

While Toth traveled through Iraq on assignment to oversee trainings, Coggshall served as military security in Laghman Province in eastern Afghanistan providing safety to area civilians. The 26-year-old worked with the Afghan army and police force to secure polling stations during elections.

Coggshall entered the apprenticeship via Helmets to Hardhats—"A great program," he said. His father, Ray, a Local 90 retiree and Navy veteran during the Vietnam War, helped spark John's interest in the trade.

"The local has been very helpful to me during my deployment,"

Coggshall said. Local leaders worked to help catch him up on curriculum and have made arrangements for him to retain his seniority at signatory contractor Pierpont Electric.

Coggshall said he appreciated the welcome home reception the members held for him and expressed gratitude for the local's offer to pay for his books this year—a \$400 value.

With combat behind them, family time will take more priority in both members' lives.

Toth is eager to spend more time with his wife Sharon and 16-year-old son Kyle. "He's going to be off in college in a year and a half, so I want to get in all the time I can," Toth said.

For Coggshall, starting a family of his own will take center stage. He proposed to his girlfriend, Megan, first thing when he walked off the plane from Afghanistan. The wedding is tentatively set for September 2012.

Local leaders praised the service of both men.

"I'm overjoyed that our brothers were able to return from harm's way with no injuries," said Business Manager Frank Halloran. "We're all happy that John and Brendan are getting back into the trade and are enjoying the benefits of the freedoms they fought for." ■

Organizing Wire

Calif. Satellite Techs Go IBEW

More than 20 satellite technicians at the Point Mugu Naval Station in Southern California joined San Bernardino Local 543 last fall, winning a 5-percent wage increase and other benefits in their first contract.

Lack of clarity over wage scales convinced employees of Rome Research Inc., a military contractor, that they needed the stability of a union contract. One of them contacted Local 543 organizer Ray Nichols about joining the local last summer. Forming a volunteer organizing committee, pro-union employees quickly signed up the majority of the unit.

"Management was very responsive to the whole idea of the union."

— Josh Collas, Rome Research Inc. employee

Having more than 10 collective bargaining agreements with other units already, the company agreed to majority sign-up.

"Management was very responsive to the whole idea of the union," said employee Josh Collas. "They were used to dealing with union workplaces and didn't see it as a problem."

A subcontractor that works for Rome Research opposed the drive, spreading anti-union information among employees, but most workers stuck with the IBEW.

"We went in there to confront anti-union rumors, and challenged each one," said Local 543 Business Manager Jerry Koger.

New Local 543 member Mike Whiteford, a 30-year veteran of the communications industry, having been in a couple of unions in his professional career, says that he did not consider himself either pro- or anti-union before deciding to organize. But he was particularly impressed with the professionalism of the IBEW, he says.

"It was a great experience all around and it has already paid off for me and my co-workers," he says. ■

Spotlight on Safety

Electrical Safety: 'There's An App for That'

The National Electrical Safety Code has been the guidebook for electrical workers looking to safeguard themselves, their co-workers and the general public from on-the-job hazards for more than a century.

Now accessing the code is as simple as whipping out your smartphone.

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers launched the first-ever NESC mobile application last fall. The new app allows users to easily refer to the code—a comprehensive set of practical rules and guidelines for electrical safety during the installation, operation, or maintenance of electric supply, communication lines and associated equipment—using their smartphone or iPad. It can even be downloaded using iTunes.

The app features an array of tools to increase usability, including bookmarking and a search feature.

"The IEEE's mobile application adds a new dimension of accessibility and value to the industry by making it easier for workers to do their jobs more safely and effectively," says IBEW Safety and Health Department Director Jim Tomaseski.

It is available for a free 30-day trial at www.standards.ieee.org. ■

Building Trades Promotes Health Screening Program

When construction workers signed on for jobs at nuclear defense facilities decades ago, they expected a decent paycheck for their hard work. But they didn't expect to become seriously sick.

Over the past several years, increased knowledge about the health risks of nuclear contamination has prompted many agencies and groups to spearhead health initiatives for the thousands of workers—including many IBEW electricians—who developed cancer or other illnesses from exposure to radiation, silica or beryllium at job sites like Colorado's Rocky Flats Plant or South Carolina's Savannah River Site.

Since 1996, the Building & Construction Trades Department, AFL-CIO, has operated its free, comprehensive National Medical Screening Program for union members who developed diseases or other conditions while working for the Department of Energy or its contractors in the nuclear weapons

industry from the 1950s through the early 1980s.

"We all know how dangerous this work was, and that's why we're grateful that [this program] has screened 23,000 of our members to date," said Building Trades President Mark Ayers. Of those, 21 percent showed evidence of lung disease, he said.

"This is a program that our members can't afford not to take advantage of," Ayers said.

By visiting www.btmed.org, members can get information on program eligibility and benefits, including a free medical screening exam to detect work-related illnesses.

The site also includes links to nationwide outreach offices, information about possible compensation and other resources.

"Identification of current—and possibly future—medical issues and advice of how to increase one's quality of life are the keystones of this program," said IBEW Safety and Health Department Director Jim Tomaseski.

The screening program is coordinated by the Center for Construction Research and Training, the health and safety research and training arm of the Building & Construction Trades Department. ■

Local Lines

IBEW Rally in St. Louis

L.U. 1 (as,c,ees,ei,em,es,et,fm,i,mt,rts,s,se,spa,st&ws), ST. LOUIS, MO—Last December, Local 1 rallied outside the Carpenters' hall to make the public aware of tactics that Carpenters "Local 57" has been using to raid the jurisdiction of IBEW Local 1. These tactics have led to a decline in the quality of electrical work in the region, decreased market share for Local 1 members, and generated tension among unionized tradesmen.

Despite freezing weather, 500-plus Local 1 members circled the Carpenters' hall on Hampton Avenue. Carrying signs of solidarity and Local 1 banners, members marched wearing IBEW coats and hats. [Photo below.] The large number of participants required the use of shuttle buses from Local 1 to the Carpenters' hall. The rally lasted from 3:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. as thousands of cars passed by and was well received by the public. Special thanks to all IBEW locals that joined Local 1 members at the rally: Locals 4, 253, 309, 350, 453, 649, 702, 1439 and 1455. Lastly, thanks to all Local 1 members who rallied together to remind the St. Louis region what quality, craftsmanship and brotherhood really mean.

We mourn the death of members Victor Strubberg, Donald O'Neil Jr., Raymond Mueller, Edward Sherrick, Lona Fingerhut, George Bates, Robert Arras, Joseph Raich, Jeffrey Rudolph, Larry Frey II, Bernard Krachenberg, Tracy Kuplic and Richard Patty.

Matt Gober, P.S.

Utility Local Update

L.U. 15 (u), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—The local has negotiated a new work group in the Overhead Transmission organization. This group will utilize helicopters to do



IBEW Local 1 members and supporters rally at the Carpenters' hall in St. Louis.

cyclic patrolling of the transmission system and maintenance through the use of long-lining equipment and transporting workers to and from structures.

There are also ongoing talks about an Underground Department reorganization. The in-depth talks include efficiencies in installation, replacement and repair of underground cables and equipment, safety improvements, new training and promotional opportunities.

Meter Readers with one year of service are now eligible to lateral, an opportunity they have not had before.

Exelon has posted 13 Reactor Services (fuel handler) positions across five sites. This is a significant increase (almost 33 percent) in the number of Reactor Services employees, bringing the number of workers in the department to 55. The goal is to cut down on overtime and travel.

In December 2010, Local 15 attended the Nuclear Conference in Las Vegas. We gave a presentation to the conference on the decommissioning of Zion Nuclear station which included successor language, job security and the time frame for completion.

Local 15 had six members attend the IBEW Arbitration School at the University of Illinois.

Retiree Terry MacMahon generously donated \$1,000 to the Local 15 Scholarship Fund, which will allow us to add two more scholarships in 2011.

Doug Vedas, P.S.

2011 Work Outlook

L.U. 17 (catv,em,lctt,o&u), DETROIT, MI—We secured the wind farm maintenance work for phase two of the Harvest Wind Project, which at this writing was scheduled to begin in January 2011. We look forward

to starting approximately 120 miles of new transmission work for ITC Transmission late this summer. According to DTE Energy, its projected budget is double the amount of last year's for pole top maintenance work. This has allowed us to keep our line apprentice program healthy.

We have established a Safety Committee on our construction agreement that meets bi-monthly. Our goals are to improve the safety culture of our members. The utility is in the middle of awarding new contracts for the tree trim maintenance program, which is expected to exceed \$50 million for 2011.

For the last several years the local has enjoyed a robust work environment with our Michigan Department of Transportation work. We don't anticipate this to continue given the financial situation in Michigan. Our organizing campaign is alive and well with six new companies joining the ranks of the IBEW over the last 12 months.

We thank Local 17's members for manning the 19 storms that swept through Michigan last year. Our safety record, work ethic, and job knowledge are the only reasons line work in our jurisdiction is 100 percent union labor.

Dean Bradley, P.S.

Losses On and Off the Job

L.U. 21 (catv,govt&t), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—In January, AT&T announced it is cutting more than 800 union jobs in Illinois and north-west Indiana. Our local is doing everything we can to minimize the job losses and the effects they have on the families of our hard-working brothers and sisters. We are extremely disappointed in AT&T's decision. We need job creation, not job eliminations—and corporate decisions like these by highly profitable companies like AT&T hit us all across the bow.

Our local mourns the loss of four members. On Oct. 14, 2010, Bro. Keith Darnell was killed in an on-the-job accident while working for AT&T. Bro. Marcus Kristofec died in October in an auto accident. Our Bro. Stephen Peters was killed in an incident that also took the life of Chicago police officer Michael Flisk on Nov. 26. Sister Temeka Ward recently passed after battling a long illness. Our sister was featured in an article by Union Privilege outlining the benefits offered to members in need. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families of these members. Accidents like the one involving Bro. Darnell reinforce our commitment to safety. No job is so important and no service is so urgent that we cannot take time to perform our work safely.

Thomas Hopper, P.S.

40th Softball Tournament

L.U. 25 (catv,i&rts), LONG ISLAND, NY—We thank the 27 teams that participated in the 40th IBEW Long Island Softball Tournament sponsored by Locals 3,

25 and 1049 at Baldwin Park, Baldwin, NY. The tournament was played under ideal weather conditions from Aug. 27-29, 2010.

Winners were as follows:

- Upper bracket—Local 3, "A" Team against Local 456, New Brunswick, NJ
- Lower bracket—Local 3, Seniors against Local 3, Interboro
- Home Run Derby—Seby Dattolo, Local 3 "A" Team—#14
- Brotherhood Award—Local 307, Cumberland, MD

Players and their guests enjoyed the two-day barbeque hosted by the Tournament Committee. This tournament is always played the last weekend of August. Any local that wishes to participate may call the Local 25 president's office at (631) 273-4567, Ext. 241.

Ed O'Donnell, P.S.



The Local 29 Community Service Committee donates two digital microscopes to an Auberly House representative at a union meeting.

Community Service Volunteers

L.U. 29 (u), PITTSBURGH, PA—The Local 29 Community Service Committee comprises many hard working volunteers. Over the years, with the local's support, these volunteers have helped others in our communities who are less fortunate. Following are just some of last year's accomplishments:

The Woman's Shelter in Beaver County was presented a Sony 42-inch, 120-hertz, flat screen TV, with a five-year maintenance provision, for the children's day room at the shelter.

The Holy Family Institute was given a pasta dinner prepared by Chef Bob, and entertainment by a magician in December. All the children residing at the Institute participated. We also donated three flat-screen TVs and two Sony Play Station Threes to the Institute.

Cash was donated to the North Hills and Greater Pittsburgh Food Banks. For Thanksgiving, \$25 Giant Eagle gift cards were given to laid-off power station workers.

Trade Classifications

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

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.

Auberly House (also known as the Boys Town of the East) participated in an annual carnival for the children. Local 29 and the Community Service Committee provided games and prizes. Also, two DM-52 digital microscopes were purchased for use in Auberly House classes.

Through the Sharing and Caring Program, we "adopted" 20 disabled veterans for an evening, providing a dinner cruise on the Gateway Clipper Fleet.

We strive to make a difference in our communities. Thanks to Bill Webb for his help with this article.

Kim Washburn, R.S.

Review of 2010 Events

L.U. 41 (em,es,govt,i,se&spa), BUFFALO, NY—With the new year underway, we can take a look back at 2010. The work picture started slow last year and then finally picked up in the summer and has remained steady since then.

July brought the retirement of Mike Franey, our president for the past 31 years. In August we held our Local 41 Annual Outing. The turnout was good and so was the weather. It's a great event to enjoy good food, catch up with old friends and meet new ones. In September, Local 41 held our Annual Charity Golf Outing benefiting Mercy Flight, raising more than \$10,000. We also had a raffle for Buffalo Bills season tickets with the proceeds benefiting Roswell Park Cancer Institute. In October, Bus. Mgr. Anthony Coppola announced that he planned to resign at the end of the month due to upcoming surgery, recovery time and then retirement. We wish him well. In December, we held our Annual Children's Christmas Party. Bro. Jim Devany and his volunteers did a wonderful job decorating the hall and organizing the party.

As we look ahead in 2011, we anticipate work to remain fairly good throughout the year. Look for upcoming events in our newsletters.

Michael J. Gaiser, B.M.

Service to Community

L.U. 43 (em,i&rts), SYRACUSE, NY—The last quarter of 2010 was a very good employment period for us. This was despite the fact that we had more than 72 inches of snowfall during a three week period in December. An early March refuel outage at Nine Mile Point should start the spring season and begin another good year for us.



Local 43 members deliver holiday gifts to a children's hospital in Syracuse, NY. From left are: Local 43 members Nigel Holmes, Todd Durantini, Bill Towsley, Rick Geremski and Dan Mahar. Joining the group are Durantini's young son Todd and a hospital representative (at right).

Throughout 2010, our first- and second-year apprentice classes involved themselves in a "labor of love." The first-year class collected donations and nonperishable foods for the Food Bank of Central New York. When they delivered the items to the Food Bank warehouse on Dec. 23, their donations totaled 1,695 pounds.

Not to be outdone, when the second-year class finished with their bottle, can and donation drive, they had enough to purchase \$2,350 in toys for seven Central New York area hospitals. The accompanying picture shows the gifts delivered to Golisano Children's Hospital in Syracuse.

At the final drop-off, our apprentices had raised and distributed \$5,000 in food, clothes and toys. We congratulate all of them for their great examples of brotherhood and community service, which exemplify what the IBEW is all about.

Jim Corbett, P.S.

SDG&E Transmission Line



Local 47 member Greg Fensterman, a cable splicer with SCE, receives the Jack K. Horton Award for his quick response as a Good Samaritan to aid victims of an accident at an off-road race in Lucerne Valley.

L.U. 47 (lctt,mo,o,u &uow), DIAMOND BAR, CA—With St. Patrick's Day approaching, let's hope the "Luck of the Irish" improves the job picture for many IBEW members throughout the country.

We ended 2010 with our Local 47 Annual Christmas Party.

Work remains strong for our Outside Construction. The San Diego Gas & Electric

Sunrise Transmission Line project broke ground in December. The 117-mile line runs between Imperial County and San Diego. It will create approximately 200 jobs. The project is being completed under a project labor agreement (PLA) with SDG&E and Local 47. Our roof-top solar PLA with Southern California Edison continues to provide work for our members and members of other IBEW locals in our area.

A first ever three-year agreement with Mowbray Tree Service was ratified. The agreement includes significant wage increases, medical/dental and pension benefits, and took effect Jan. 1, 2011.

A new one-year Underground Agreement was ratified.

Our members at SCE received a scheduled 4 percent wage increase on Jan. 1.

We mourn the passing of Leonard P. "Paul" Pippin, Doug Gotheridge and Martin Kozdrey IV. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families.

Work safe, live well, work union.

Stan Stosel, P.S.



Local 51 retired members display service awards. From left: Ray Darling, William Pittman and Gary Harris.

Service Pins Awarded

L.U. 51 (catv,lctt,o,rtb,t&u), SPRINGFIELD, IL—At the December 2010 unit meetings, Local 51 presented years-of-service pins to members. Receiving service pins at the Construction Unit meeting were: for five years of service—Steve Biesada, Josh Ceperich, Jeff Copper, Ashley Ray, George Roach, Brandon Roller, Charles Tiner and Paul Zigler. For 10 years' service—Tim Cart, Don Kacir, D.J. Kroeschel, Brad Moore and Duane Westhafer. Mark Runyon and Craig Sass received 15-year pins. Jason Carl, Craig Norvell and George Pence received 25-year pins. Jerry Bradshaw and Mike Bradshaw received 30-year pins. Julie Brandt and Ed Jeffery, 35-year pins; Billy Burnette, a 40-year pin; Gary Harris, a 50-year pin; Ray Darling, a 55-year pin; and William Pittman, a 60-year pin. Earl Bush from the Peoria, IL, Unit received a 55-year pin. Noble Collins from the Champaign, IL, Unit received a 50-year pin. Congratulations to all! In total, 451 members received service pins in 2010.

Congratulations to Local 51 Sister Emily Green, an Ameren-Illinois Power employee, on completing the Senior Engineering Representative exam!

Thanks to IBEW Local 51 component units and members for the generous support of charities and organizations that provided assistance for needy families during the recent holiday season.

Local 51 wishes all IBEW members and their families a safe, prosperous 2011.

Dan Pridemore, B.R.

Welcome to New Members

L.U. 53 (lctt,o,rts&u), KANSAS CITY, MO—At this writing, our outside construction is still slow and it doesn't appear there will be any big changes in the near future. We are in negotiations with our line clearance/tree trimming contractors, and as usual they are taking a tough stance. These members work very hard for the wages and benefits they receive and it is a constant battle to try to get their wage rates to where they should be.



Boston Local 103 journeymen and apprentices gather to wire a Habitat for Humanity home.

We settled agreements with two cooperatives. Bus. Rep. Dexter Drerup negotiated a three-year extension at Laclede Cooperative for a 3 percent wage increase the first year, 3.5 percent the second year and 3.5 percent the third year. Bus. Rep. Bruce VanCompennolle negotiated a five-year extension at West Central Cooperative for a 3.5 percent wage increase the first year and 3.75 percent each year thereafter. The good thing was we did not give anything up to get these settlements. Good job!

We also ratified our first agreement with our newly organized group, Clean Coal Solutions Services, LLC. It is a five-year agreement and we feel a very good first agreement. The first year everyone received a \$1 an hour wage increase, in the second year a 3.25 percent increase, third year 3.25 percent, fourth year 3.5 percent and fifth year 3.75 percent. Welcome to our new members at Clean Coal.

Hopefully, the new year will bring more work to everyone. Remember, work safe, attend union meetings and get involved.

Robert E. Stuart, B.M./F.S.

Annual Trap Shoot

L.U. 57 (lctt,mo,o,t&u) SALT LAKE CITY, UT—The Annual Local 57 Trap Shoot was held in November 2010. Participants and attendees had a great time. The 1st place award went to the team of Tom Baker, Jason Baker, Porter Baker, Drue Palmer and Eric Garcia. Eric and Tom took High Gun honors, Tom's being the Senior Division. Second place went to the team of Jesse Davis, Larry Walker, Brock Bateman, Tom West and Dustin Huntsman. Congratulations to both teams. Thanks to all who participated and also to the sponsors of this annual event.

A Christmas surprise was delivered to a family in need in eastern Idaho. The employees of Rocky Mountain Power's Shelley District "adopted" a family of eight through the Salvation Army. The employees not only provided gifts and needed items for all six kids, but also provided a Wii gaming system for the whole family, dinner, and a nice gift card for the parents. A big thank-you goes to everyone for the support and generosity, which helped brighten a needy family's Christmas.

Scott Long, P.S.

Habitat for Humanity Project

L.U. 103 (cs&i), BOSTON, MA—More than 30 Local 103 members, both apprentices and journeymen, recently wired our 12th Habitat for Humanity home on a chilly morning last December. Bus. Agent Lou Antonellis had no problem organizing volunteers for such a worthy cause. Our guys have been fantastic about helping with the volunteer effort on every home. The

Local Lines

Local 103 electricians and technicians made quick work of it, rough wiring the three-bedroom home in less than four hours.

This is the fourth of six homes we have wired for Habitat in Bedford, MA, and our 12th overall for the Greater Lowell and South Shore chapters.

It's been a win-win for Local 103 and for Habitat. We are done well before noon and everyone can get back to their families and commitments while providing Habitat with a first-class electrical installation. Everyone enjoys the camaraderie and contributes their electrical expertise while showing younger members how to give back to the community—and that is what the IBEW and Local 103 are all about. To get more involved with Local 103 Habitat projects, contact the business manager's department at (617) 436-3710.

Ken Tallent, P.S.

Swearing In Held

L.U. 111 (em,govt,lctt,mt,o,rtb,spa&u), DENVER, CO—It was an honor to have Eighth District Int. Rep. Guy P. Runco present at the Executive Board meeting on Dec. 3, 2010, to swear in several newly appointed officers. Bro. Mike Kostelecky will fill the unexpired term as Local 111 president, and Bro. Pat Quinn will complete the term as recording secretary, replacing Mike in that post. Bro. Ron Geary was appointed to the vacant position on the Executive Board.

Bro. Kostelecky is a lineman for Public Service Company of Colorado, working on the western slope. Mike has been a member in good standing since 1996. He has served on the Executive Board, as recording secretary and as a core member on the PSCO Injury Prevention Team; he holds safety rules and protections as his priority in keeping the members informed and safe.

Bro. Quinn is a lead utility worker for PSCO and has been a member in good standing since 1992. He began his career in the construction unit and then moved to PSCO.

Bro. Geary is a 20-year member working with Tri-State Generation & Transmission in Craig, CO. Ron previously served on the Executive Board and looks forward to serving the remaining term. He is an electrician specialist.

Mike Kostelecky, P.S.



IBEW Int. Rep. Guy P. Runco (third from left) swears in Local 111 Rec. Sec. Pat Quinn (left) and Pres. Mike Kostelecky (second from left). At far right is Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Michael Byrd.

Pacific Power Negotiations

L.U. 125 (lctt,o,t&u), PORTLAND, OR—As is often the case, cooperatives, municipalities and PUDs are watching the local's collective bargaining with Pacific Power. The company has made numerous proposals that will be detrimental to the membership, including moving to a 70/30 premium, which currently is unheard of in the industry.

Members recognize that business operations

will continue to change as employers try to weather the recession. However, it is important that employers balance those changes without putting unfair burden on employees. We are facing numerous challenges and need members to be educated with facts during these difficult times. Research your employers' costs and business objectives, so we can negotiate effectively to preserve our wages, hours, and working conditions.

Talk to coworkers, family and neighbors. Issues such as increased medical premiums or unfavorable changes to retirement plans are not restricted to the utility industry. All members are encouraged to register for access to our Web site www.ibew125.com, so you can keep up to date with progress on not only Pacific Power but other negotiations as well. Educate yourself and be prepared to get involved. There will be sufficient opportunities for all members to help. Are you ready to step up?

Travis Eri, B.M./F.S.



Local 141 Bus. Mgr. John Clarke (right) congratulates 55-year service pin recipient Stan Jasinski.

Thanks to Volunteers

L.U. 141 (ees,i,o&u), WHEELING, WV—Work in the area is slow. Work is starting on an area hospital addition, also some work on coal mine sites and gas drilling sites. Hopes of converting a local power plant to biofuel were lost when the plant shut down instead of upgrading.

We had a very successful 2010 Christmas parade season. Thanks to all who came out to support us. Special thanks to those who donated time to decorate and/or participate in the float's adventures this past holiday season. The social committee did it again by putting on another stellar Christmas party! Thank you, guys! Congratulations also to all service pin recipients.

Justin Klempa, V.P./P.S.

85th Anniversary Celebrated

L.U. 145 (em,i,o,rts,spa&u), ROCK ISLAND, IL—Local 145 proudly celebrated its 85th anniversary at a dinner dance last October. More than 325 members and guests enjoyed an evening of great food and dancing. Longstanding members were

recognized for their years of service to our industry as our Sixth District Int. Vice Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson presented individuals with 50-, 55- and 60-year service pin awards.

The Vietnam veterans traveling memorial, "The Moving Wall," made a stop within our jurisdiction. Members volunteered their skills to ensure the wall was illuminated for nighttime viewing, which allowed visitors to observe this stirring, inspiring tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam.



Local 145 celebrates its 85th anniversary with a diner dance. From left, front row, are: Elwood "Odie" Marshall, Dick Gaskey, Harry Randall, Bill Teichman; middle row, David "Skip" Kapolka, Int. Vice Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson, Arnie Koloc, Tom Stechalin, Bob Moellenbeck, Bus. Mgr. Scott Verschoore; and back row, Gus Tripilas, Ray Wells, Pres. Carlton Wills, Corky Pieper and Gary McMahill.

Local 145 also notes some of the other volunteer projects undertaken by our members. These included installation of inside and outside holiday lighting at the Center for Active Seniors in Davenport, Iowa. Also, at Eagle Point Park in Clinton, Iowa, Local 145 members strung more than half a million lights along a 1.1 mile network of roads to celebrate the holidays for the annual "Symphony of Lights" display! Thank you, volunteers!

We wish a happy, prosperous 2011 to all IBEW members.

Steve Long, P.S.

Local Featured on IBEW Hour Power

L.U. 191 (c,i,mo,rtb&st), EVERETT, WA—Congratulations to Local 191 and its members for their continued hard work. Local 191 is featured on IBEW Hour Power (www.ibewhourpower.com). The NEBF is funding jobs throughout the country with approximately \$10 billion total in assets. They provide the financing with an agreement that the jobs are 100 percent union. The NEBF is paid back all funds with interest upon completion of a project. The media company (Oswego Creative) hired by the I.O. came to our local to interview the members and contractor about the program for a video to be presented on IBEW Hour Power. VECA Electric is the contractor on the IGC (Intergate Columbia) Mod 4 project. [See photo, below.] We are proud that this project is a Code of Excellence job. All the management and members went through the Code of Excellence class before beginning the job.

We encourage members to get involved—whether by attending a union meeting, volunteering

on a committee, or taking part in a community project. Education, communication and teamwork are keys to our success. The future of our local is in our hands. Let's be the ones to drive it.

Rob "Bulldog" De Velder, P.S.

Work Picture a Bit Brighter

L.U. 193 (i,lctt,o,rts,spa&u), SPRINGFIELD, IL—Thanks again to all those who planned, attended, and received their years-of-service pins at the Local 193 Christmas party. It was a good time and well attended despite the frightful weather.

The inside work scene is slow with 89 inside journeyman wiremen on Book I and 250 travelers on Book II.

The work picture looks a little brighter for early 2011. The Dallman 3 Scrubber Project, the continuing work at the Springfield Sanitary District and the St. John's Hospital renovation should hopefully thin the numbers for local hands on Book I.

The Illinois State Conference, whose chairman is Local 193 Bus. Mgr. Dave Burns, has been working tirelessly on the Tenaska Clean Energy Project. If passed in the Illinois state Senate, it would result in 10 million man-hours for central Illinois labor. Many additional peripheral jobs would be created such as the mining of Illinois coal.

As we saw in 2010, elections are extremely important, and our business agent has a lot of persuasion when he can mention that Local 193 has "X" amount of registered voters. Remember the late mayor Richard Daley of Chicago: "If you don't vote, you don't count!"

Don Hudson, P.S.



IBEW members working with VECA Electric on the IGC Mod 4 project include, from left: Jerry Boyce, Justin Dugger, Jason Judd, Gary Kemp, Jim Hall, Jim Lester, Jonathan Ohlund, Gary Kilpatrick, Bill Mirand, R. John Montgomery, Dave Karp, Walter Parks, Roy Moon, Mike Blackburn, Mike Trout, Josh Suarez, Jerry Weaver, Randy Curry, Josh Kelly, Jimmy Ortega and Charles Moniz.

Report from Bloomington

L.U. 197 (em&i), BLOOMINGTON, IL—Last December our local's annual Christmas party was enjoyed by all who shared in the festivities. Congratulations to members who received service pins at the party. Recipients included: for 10 years of service—Angie Miller; 15 years—Mikel Misch, Tom Peasley and Bernie Uszcienski; 20 years—Beth Sylvester; and 30 years—Greg Potter. Thanks to all who helped out setting up, organizing, and cleaning up after the party.

At press time, a picket is set up at the corner of Veterans Pkwy. and Vernon St. at the construction site of the Vitamin Shoppe under way. Thanks to members who have walked picket thus far; you have braved the cold, snow and rain to stand up for fair wages and conditions. Rough weather won't stop the IBEW from standing up for what we believe in—organized jobs! As members, please do not patronize businesses that do not use our labor. For updates, please check the "do not patronize" list on the local's Web site www.ibew197.org.

Thanks to the locals that are employing our members who are out of work locally. Remember to get involved with your local union and stay involved!

Mike Raikes, P.S.



Local 197 members Mark Miszka and Dennis Nolan take a day off work to walk picket at the Vitamin Shoppe construction site.

Informed & Involved

L.U. 245 (govt,lctt,o,rtb&u), TOLEDO, OH—Greetings. Thank you to all members who collected for the Salvation Army during the winter holidays. We are always collecting nonperishable food, toiletries, clothing and children's toys for those in need.

Today starts the new anti-union, anti-middle class and anti-working family agenda of newly elected representatives in Congress. We face a rough



Local 245 retirees Andy Horvath (left) and Art LaLonde ring the bell for the Salvation Army holiday drive.

road for the next two years in the House of Representatives. Please watch what is going on in both the state and federal legislatures. Within the state, the labor family is in for a rough ride for the next four years. We will be the next target, after the public sector and teachers, of the new governor and the Ohio State House. We need to be more in tune with what is going on—and it probably would be a good idea if we change the radio station occasionally and get additional information from other sources.

On a brighter note, work is picking up and we have several major projects that are either in the planning stages, or will start very soon. This is great news and we look forward to a brighter 2011 for our construction members.

We wish you all a good year ahead. Please become more active in your union. Union meetings are the second Thursday of every month. We look forward to seeing you there. Please continue to work safely!

Philip C. LaCourse, Pres.

Work Picture Looking Up

L.U. 257 (em,i,rtb,rts,spa&t), JEFFERSON CITY, MO—Well, 2011 is looking up for the mid-Missouri Local 257 area with only a handful of members on the books. Work is fairly steady compared to the last few years and looking bright for the future in our area with a few big projects our contractors have received, and projects being bid.

We are currently in negotiations for our inside wiremen. By the time this article is published, most of us should know the fate of our contract, but I will include in our next article the details of our new contract! We also are in negotiations with AZZ-Central Manufacturing. AZZ-Central manufactures large industrial switch gear. Good luck to all on our current and upcoming negotiations.

Our condolences go out to families of members who passed away recently during 2010: Mitchell Berendsen, Sid Schaffer, Jerome Bax, Harold Rackers and Orval Lenger.

Congratulations to our recent 2010 retired members: Rodney Henrey, David Cook, Larry Schubert, David A. Brunk, Ronald Holzhauser, Thomas Oligschlaeger, Danny Thomas, Donald Mattingly, Daniel Lindenbusch, Andrew Turner, James H. Nevins Jr., Billie Pritzel, Richard Smith, Gregory Woods and Dale Adams.

Support your local unions, so we can keep our unions strong!

Ryan Buschjost, P.S.

Family Holiday Celebrations

L.U. 269 (i&o), TRENTON, NJ—After a nearly 40-year vacation, Santa returned to Local 269 last December. An ornate red chair, a spunky elf and jolly Saint Nick himself set the stage for Local 269's first Family Christmas Nights in many years. Bus. Mgr. Steve Aldrich was the sponsor as well as producer of the 2010 event.

Members' children and grandchildren came to the union hall to tell Santa their Christmas wishes. Bro. Sean Cullen played Santa and Bro. Ed Stackhouse played Santa's helper elf. The children received two presents each, as well as a special winter knit hat with the IBEW logo. Each family received a free 5" x 7" picture. The children displayed their holiday spirit as they colored holiday pictures on murals hung inside the meeting hall. Approximately 180 children participated along with their families.



Attending a Local 269 family Christmas celebration are, from left: baby Emily Hullfish (daughter of Sister Billie Hullfish and Bro. Mathew Hullfish); Bro. Sean Cullen as Santa; and, as Santa's helper, Bro. Ed Stackhouse.

We plan to make this an annual event to bring the Christmas spirit to even more members' families next season. Special thanks to Tracy Warney, Rachel Chamberlain, Terri Nagel and Tara Monte, who donated their time to make this event so successful.

D. Brian Proctor, P.S.

Contract Agreements

L.U. 309 (i,lctt,mo,mt,o,rts,spa&u), COLLINSVILLE, IL—The year 2010 ended with numerous agreements being settled. Contracts bargained were Outside Line Construction, Nelson Tree, Meter Reading, A&A Drilling, Cerro Copper, In-Land Technologies, and the Residential agreement.

The work picture on the Inside Branch remained stagnant for almost all of 2010. Work for the Outside Line suffered layoffs at the end of the year but the outlook is promising.

Through the collective efforts of our generous members and Bro. Ron Scott's idea to hold a raffle, our Distressed Member Fund is no longer depleted.

We lost one of our office staff through retirement in February. Judy Baczewski began working here in 1996 and will be greatly missed. Local 309 and all our members wish her a long, happy retirement.

Remember to work safe and have a great 2011.

Scott Tweedy, A.B.M.

Community Activities

L.U. 347 (em,i,mt,rtb,rts&spa), DES MOINES, IA—Local 347, like many other entities, gets involved in

community activities during the month of December. In 2010, Barb Mentzer spearheaded the Local 347 children's Christmas party. Joe Rivas and Rod Olson worked countless hours on improvements and connections for the annual Make a Wish Jolly Holiday Lights display. The local also promoted the Toys for Tots program in the central Iowa area. All the brothers and sisters who joined these and other volunteer projects are commended. These projects are the highest order of community outreach in which we can be involved.

A Pin Party/Recognition Night is scheduled for Saturday, March 5. Five 60-year pins and ten 55-year pins are to be awarded! Also, in the planning stages is a golf outing for this summer. Stay tuned.

Mike Schweiger, P.S.

Union Events a Success

L.U. 349 (em,i,mps,rtb,spa&u), MIAMI, FL—We held our 2010 annual picnic in October. Nearly 500 members and family turned out for great food, refreshments and good fun.

For the Friends of Labor luncheon last December, approximately 400 friends attended for a great lunch and socializing. Also in December at the Children's Christmas Party, toys and prizes were given away. Hams and turkeys were given to the members at the party. Santa did a great job as always.

Special thanks to Pres. David Karcher and the Entertainment Committee for setting up the Santa house and decorations for the Christmas party—and also for planning and setting up all the events the union hall holds each year. We thank all the members, their families and everyone involved who helped with events for a great job once again.

Local 349 officers and staff wish everyone a good year ahead. Here's hoping this year will be a better working year for all.

Remember our troops here and overseas. We hope for a safe return home for all.

An informed membership is a strong membership. Attend union meetings to stay informed and make your local strong.

Frank Albury, P.S./Exec. Brd.

2010 Graduation Ceremony

L.U. 351 (c,cs,i,it,lctt,mt,o,se,spa&t), FOLSOM, NJ—Congratulations to our graduating class of 2010. A graduation dinner and award ceremony was held Nov. 20, 2010, at Bally's Hotel & Casino in Atlantic City.

Graduating from our Inside Electrical program



Local 351's graduating apprentice class of 2010 gathers for a group photo, joined by Bus. Mgr. Edward Gant (standing, front row, at left) and Pres. William Hosey (standing, front row, at right).

Local Lines

were: Edwin F. Alicea, Jay H. Ball Jr., Matthew R. Becker, Joseph Beltran, Joseph A. Cinalli, Sean R. Cowan, Steven P. Cuniff, Nicholas R. Dimatteo, Samuel Dimeo, Natalia M. Fritchman, Frank A. Hinds, Matthew S. Judge, Kevin P. Kilroy, Nicholas J. Levinson, Kevin T. Martinelli, Joseph J. McCrane, Nicholas Melchiorre, Casey P. Murphy, Giantonio Nistico, Edward H. Owens IV, John C. Parks, Albert M. Patroni, Kevin G. Pettit, William E. Pizzuto, Edward J. Postalwaite, Robert J. Powell, Bryon D. Powell Jr., Frank D. Quinton, Thomas J. Russo, Nicholas F. Samartino, Jason J. Silk, Nakiya J. Simmons and Thomas F. Zane.

Graduating from our Telecommunications program were: Josh E. Banning and Robert A. Turner III.

The outstanding apprentice award went to Kevin Kilroy and William E. Pizzuto.

Perfect attendance award recipients were: Kevin Kilroy, William E. Pizzuto, Giantonio Nistico, Nicholas Melchiorre and Nicolas Samartino.

Daniel Cosner, P.S.

Service Awards Presented

L.U. 357 (c,i,mt&se), LAS VEGAS, NV—As Local 357 embarks on its 80th anniversary, we look forward to being a driving force in green energy and infrastructure.

On Dec. 9, 2010, at the Retirees Christmas Party, the local recognized those who have guided and grown our local to what it is today. Bus. Mgr. David Jones presented service awards as follows: For 40 years of service—Alan Fogg, Darrel Fogg and Phillip Frank; for 45 years—James Maguire and James Sanderson; 50 years—Gerald Conger, Robert Harrison, Paul Hawkins, Rodger Herman, Paul Hurst, John Jeffery, William Lambert, Lowman Latta, George McDonald, John Robertson, Earl Smith Jr., Boyd Toliver, Orville Williams and George Wooten; 55 years—Arthur Avant, James Bledsoe, Gilbert Firmenich, Hugh Jenkins, Richard Koeb, Robert Price Jr., Richard Pullan, Charles Scott, Russel Scott, Jaye Sharp Jr., Earl Sheff, Charles Taney Jr., Gordon Wood, Charles Yates and Richard Zeiter; 60 years—John Cotton, William Ellis, Fred Lucas, Robert Procter and Doyen Smith; and for 65 years—Jack Harrity. [See photo, below.] Special thanks to all the members for their dedicated service to Local 357.

Aaron L. Jones, P.S.

'Get Involved in 2011'

L.U. 359 (u), MIAMI, FL—Thanks to all members who were active in the 2010 midterm elections. Our efforts were extensive with much enthusiasm by members on the long drives and door knocking campaigns. It wasn't all in vain, as we did get some friends of labor elected in the state and elsewhere. The nuclear apprentices are progressing well.



Local 357 Bus. Mgr. David Jones (standing, far right) congratulates service award recipients.

We have many talented members who are instructors at the nuclear site and put in a lot of time in developing material, along with the college, to get these future plant workers trained in their career field.

Congratulations to all those union workers who are involved as instructors, not only at the nuclear site but also those throughout the area who train apprentice linemen, cable splicers, meter readers, etc. May 2011 see a new thrust in training those who will succeed us. We are pushing the company to understand why there is a need to train future workers.

The officers also commend the work of our members on the property of the Florida Power & Light Company, the City of Homestead and Lake Worth. Remember to work by the rules and be safe.

Local 259 extends condolences to the family of Bro. Brian Biers, who was fatality injured in a traffic accident. He is missed by all.

Work safe and attend union meetings.

Steve Flynn, F.S./P.S.

Award Recipients Honored

L.U. 375 (catv,ees&i), ALLENTOWN, PA—Local 375 held its annual Christmas party on Dec. 12 last year. The 77 children and their families attending enjoyed a visit from Santa, who heard each child's "want list." A magic show opened the afternoon's festivities and was enjoyed by all. We thank the hall's office staff and everyone who helped with this memorable event for the children.

At the November membership meeting, several brothers were recognized for 35 years of service to Local 375 and to our local community: Paul Breininger, Milt Hilmer, Frank Horvath, Don Kernechel, Dave Kocis, Chris Makovsky, John Netwall, Craig Siegfried and Steve Vuchak. Also, two members were recognized for their retirement: Bros. Ralph Freed and Ron Smolko.



Local 375 honors 35-year service award recipients and recent retirees at November 2010 meeting. From left, front row, are: Chris Makovsky, Bus. Mgr. Brett Helfrich, Paul Breininger, Milt Hilmer, Pres. David Reichard; back row, Frank Horvath, John Netwall, Don Kernechel, Steve Vuchak, Ron Smolko (retiree), and Craig Siegfried. Not pictured are 35-year award recipient Dave Kocis and retiree Ralph Freed.

With great sadness we announce the passing of Bro. Ronald Lavoie Jr. He was involved in a work related industrial accident at Calpine's Bethlehem Energy Center. Local 375 extends our deepest condolences to his family.

We also mourn the loss of brothers who passed away in 2010: Barry Beil, Augie Duran, Dave Link, Tim Link, Aden Meyers Jr., Stanley Parks, Raymond Schaffer Jr. and Michael Stover.

Alan Rex, P.S.



Among the Local 379 Habitat for Humanity volunteers are, from left: Greg Lavrik, Jersey Mike, Chris Wegner, Tom Beamon, Mike Hill and Tommy Hill.

Habitat for Humanity Project

L.U. 379 (i,o&rtb), CHARLOTTE, NC—On Dec. 4, 2010, Local 379 began its journey in helping others in our community by starting our first project with Habitat for Humanity in Charlotte. Volunteers Tommy Hill, Tom Beamon, Chris Wegener, Gegory Lavrik, Mike Hill and Jersey Mike all worked together to complete a small repair project. It took about four hours, and in the process they replaced some old, broken outlets with new GFCI (ground fault circuit interrupter), added smoke detectors, replaced some broken conduits and added outdoor GFCI to help update this house to National Electrical Code standards. Also involved in this project were Tommy George, Adrian Beck, Matt Ruff and John Bartlet, who went to this house on an earlier date and made the list of what needed to be fixed. We thank all who helped and we look forward to our next project with Habitat, continuing to build our outreach programs.

We also had a successful Salt class, and a great Comet class with the first-year apprenticeship. Also, we congratulate Bro. Scott Thrower for receiving the 2010 Brotherhood of the Year award.

Scott Thrower, Pres.

Work Opportunities Improve

L.U. 429 (em,i,lctt,o,ptc,rtb&u), NASHVILLE, TN—Our work this year should improve to the point that we will need traveling brothers and sisters for the inside and outside work at the new Nashville Convention Center and the \$1 billion Hemlock Semiconductor Corp. plant project. We are grateful to all the locals that have worked our membership during these hard times and hope we can repay the brotherhood once again by

working travelers by late spring. There will be a need for a lot of linemen from time to time at the Hemlock construction project. The plant will produce materials used to build solar panels.

Thanks to all who helped make our Christmas float a big success in the 2010 Nashville Christmas parade. The retirees' breakfast was very enjoyable; thanks to all who participated. Thanks also to everyone who attended the local's membership Christmas party, which was a hit.

Local 429 and Nashville will make a comeback after the challenges we've faced following the flood and other concerns about the loss of some large employers. It has been and will continue to be an uphill challenge for our membership and contractors, but by sticking together we will prevail.

Please attend our union meetings on the first and third Mondays of each month. Support each other and our local union.

Gerald A. Grant, P.S.

New Projects Underway

L.U. 441 (as,i&rts), SANTA ANA, CA—Despite these tough economic times, one area in our local has recently seen a surge in work. With four major projects in the city of Anaheim, approximately 325 of our members have enjoyed steady employment for several months and will hopefully remain employed through 2011.

One of our employers, Morrow Meadows, has two of the major projects. One is a 450 megawatt cogeneration power plant, which should be online toward the end of this year. Another project is a new six-floor hospital for Kaiser Permanente. The new Kaiser facility will also include a six-floor hospital support building, a seven-story parking structure, and a generating plant on site for the entire facility. Both projects are being constructed under project labor agreements.

Saco Electric is employing members at Disneyland for a new themed section at the park, Cars Land, which is slated to open in early 2012.

Mass Electric and Steiny Co. have been hard at work with approximately 60 members working on



IBEW Local 441 members display union banner at Kaiser Permanente Hospital construction jobsite in Anaheim, CA. Morrow Meadows is the electrical contractor on the project.

the railroad, performing a total modification of the Metrolink rail line.

Even with these projects, we hope to see wider improvement in our work picture in 2011.

Rich Vasquez, B.R.

Great Work Picture

L.U. 449 (catv,em,i,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), POCATELLO, ID—At the end of 2010 we conducted a Holiday Donation Drive, where our members volunteered to man the LMCC Trailer and hand out hot chocolate and coffee to anyone who gave a donation. All the items collected went to the charity in the town where the items were raised.

The trailer we use was built by the Labor Management Cooperation Committee for solar training and for different events to get our name out to the public. We also formed a club called 449 Ladies Auxiliary. The club is designed to educate members' families about why it is important to be union and to teach labor history, since it is not being taught in the schools anymore; we hope that people will pass on the information and teach their children. The club will also let our members' spouses get acquainted.

We have been very lucky with the work in our local this year; our future work picture looks great as we have a couple of bigger projects coming and will pick up some of the smaller ones also. I thank all those who helped us staff our work.

Rodney James, Pres./A.B.M.



Local 449 members staffed the LMCC Trailer to conduct a Holiday Donation Drive benefiting area charities.

'Giving Back' to Community

L.U. 453 (govt,i,rtb,rts&spa), SPRINGFIELD, MO—As the 2010 holiday season came and went, our local union and its members donated time and money to good causes with a monetary donation to the Victory Mission at the area Kum & Go convenience store. Many apprentices and journeymen participated in



Local 453 apprentices Zach Hohlt (left) and Channing Black (right) ring the bell for the Salvation Army. They are joined by young Trystan Black, along for moral support.

bell ringing for the Salvation Army at the Battlefield Mall. Thank you to all who gave of their time.

Local union meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Please try to attend.

Kevin McGill, P.S.

Bus. Mgr. Krause Retires



Local 499 then-Bus. Mgr. Don Krause receives the Noland Award at December 2010 conference.

L.U. 499 (u), DES MOINES, IA—Bus. Mgr. Don Krause retired Jan. 1, after serving as a full-time union officer for the past 21 years. He previously served as steward, chief steward, treasurer, president and business representative; he also served on the Negotiating Committees

since 1984. At his last E-Board meeting, Bro. Krause was presented with a trip to Hawaii from the membership. He was extremely moved by the support he received from local union members.

Also, at the December 2010 meeting of the Iowa Utility Conference, members of the Nebraska Utility Conference awarded Don with the Noland Award, "In Recognition of Outstanding Service and Leadership Within the Labor Movement in the State of Nebraska." Since Local 499 is located in Iowa, this was a very special award for Bro. Krause.

Don was also given a beautiful plaque from the IBEW for his years of service at the InterUnion Gas Conference. This was done at the conference last September.

Working with all the Internationals at the Gas Conference is something

Don loved, and he will be missed in the distribution workshop.

Randy Phillips was appointed business manager to fill the remainder of Don's unexpired term. Elections will take place this summer.

George Fong, Pres.

Solar Photovoltaic Project

L.U. 551 (c,i&st), SANTA ROSA, CA—Another photovoltaic project is underway in our local. Any job right now is welcomed news, but renewable energy work is a bonus. Cupertino Electric is not only the subcontractor but the general contractor as well on this school project, says foreman Josh Evangelo. He also reported that landing jobs as the general contractor is a trend Cupertino Electric plans to move forward with.

Casa Grande High School as well as Petaluma High, both in Petaluma, CA, are being retrofitted with just over 1 megawatt of power combined. These schools will have canopies built on their parking structures, which will not only provide shaded parking but also will reduce electricity cost to the schools

by more than \$200,000 per year over the next five years; the project is projected to produce savings of more than \$6,000,000 over the next 25 years.

Local 551 has classes on design and installation of PV systems. This class is free to any IBEW member. For more information call the union hall at (707) 542-3505.

The work picture is still slow, but with the election of Gov. Jerry Brown to lead our fine state we are hopeful to see that picture turn around.

Denise D. Soza, B.R./P.S.



Santa Rosa, CA, Local 551 members working with Cupertino Electric installed solar photovoltaic projects at two area high schools.

Funding for Retrofit Lighting

L.U. 553 (i,mt,o&ws), RALEIGH, NC—The nuclear powerhouse Sharon Harris had a layoff and Saint Gobain glass plant has a shutdown for a new line, which has just started hiring for the new year. The glass plant will hire approximately 10 local members for the new line replacement.

With weather breaking, maybe the work will be prosperous this year. Especially significant is that stimulus funding is coming in to the area for retrofit lighting. Raleigh has a change in the air with retrofit lighting and the green technology coming to North Carolina. A few members of Local 553 were fortunate to work on a 1 megawatt photovoltaic system project in Murphy, N.C.—in the jurisdiction of Asheville, NC, Local 238. [See photo, below, shot at the Local 238 solar project jobsite.]

Solar photovoltaic power is a technology of the electrical industry that the IBEW is increasingly harnessing around the country.

David A. Ingram, P.S.



Local 553 members David Ingram (left) and Mike Duckworth (second from left) join Local 238 job steward Perry W. Ledbetter at the jobsite of Local 238's photovoltaic project.

New Year, New Leadership

L.U. 557 (i,mt,rts&spa), SAGINAW, MI—2011 marks the beginning of the first full year in office for our local's newly elected officers. Sweeping changes were made across the board in our 2010 elections. Since our last article, we have sworn in a new business manager. Bus. Mgr. David Small has been

entrusted to guide our local into the next challenging decade. We know David will do an outstanding job, as he has demonstrated during his first months in office. We also thank Robert Orr for the fine job he did while serving as business manager.

Also newly elected are: Pres. Russell Combs, Vice Pres. Mark Krieger, Treas. Paul Dupuis Jr., Sec. Evan Allardyce; Executive Board members John Hagarty, Josh Iles, Bill Link Jr., Chris Nickodemus, Robb Stanick and Rob White; Examining Board members Joe Eickholt, Randy Halas and Bill Miner.

The state of Michigan has a new governor for the first time in eight years. Although the midterm elections were not as favorable as we would have liked, we must strive to make the best of things. 2011 will be an important year for our local, our state and our whole country. We must all try to unite to pull ourselves out of the economic crunch and look forward to better days ahead.

Evan Allardyce, P.S.

Event & Fellowship Cte.

L.U. 573 (as&i), WARREN, OH—Our newly formed Event & Fellowship Committee held a "Santa party" last year at the hall for our members with young children. The party included crafts for the kids, door prizes and a special visit from Santa and his elves, who brought goodie bags for all the children.

We thank committee members for all their hard work and we extend a special thank-you to Pres. Kevin Miller and Bus. Mgr. Jack Morse for embracing the spirit of the holidays and agreeing to play the roles of Santa and head elf. The party was a great success and we hope to make it an annual tradition.

Local 573 wishes all union brothers and sisters a happy and prosperous year ahead!

David Bush Jr., P.S.

Spring Work Picture Improves

L.U. 601 (i&rtb), CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, IL—The books in Local 601 are looking better with 38 on Book I, 355 on Book II and no apprentices out of work, thanks mostly to the shutdown at LaSalle Nuclear Powerhouse. The local has more than 40 hands at the powerhouse now and it should top out at approximately 90 electricians. Spring looks better for the local with a few projects at the University of Illinois and Carle Hospital. Five wind farms should be starting in the spring. Even with this work we do not anticipate getting into book II.

Now that the 2010 elections are over, we as union members still need to keep informed on what legislation is coming up for a vote and how our elected public officials are voting both locally and nationally. It is important that we inform our legislators on how we want them to vote.

At our local's annual Christmas party last year, the turnout was great. It was a good time for all who attended. We thank the people who helped to put on a great party.

Dan Hatter, P.S.

Photovoltaic Installation

L.U. 611 (catv,es,govt,i,lctt,o,spa,t&u), ALBUQUERQUE, NM—A 15-kilowatt system was recently installed on the roof of our local union hall. All the panels installed were IBEW made and purchased from a factory in Nashville, TN. The initial investment will be well worth

Local Lines



Among Local 611 members working with US Electric to install solar array at the union hall are: John Marshall, Rudy Hernandez and Alfred Abeyta.

it in the end. The project was done by union contractor US Electric and took approximately 12 days to complete. Thanks, guys; you did a great job.

Brian Condit has joined our staff after working for eight years as chief of staff for then-governor Bill Richardson. As a one-time assistant and organizer, Brian brings experience and leadership and will be a benefit to our local. Welcome aboard, Brian.

I hope everyone has a good year ahead. This year, make a commitment to attend at least four union meetings. Meetings are held the third Saturday of each month at 10 a.m.

Local 611 extends condolences to families of our members who recently passed away: Raymond Montes, Walter D. Gentry, Buford B. Staggs, Merle O. Clark, Gordon K. Dawson, William D. Ohr and Gilbert Mascarenas.

Darrell J. Blair, P.S.

'Red Seal' Certification

L.U. 625 (ees,em,i,mar&mt), HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA—It is with sad regret that I report the passing of retired sister Belva Raymond on Dec. 19, 2010. Belva was office administrator for Local 625 for 24 years, from 1973-'97. She worked with the local's first three business managers: Bros. Len Dunn, Chester Rice and Fernand Tardif. On behalf of all members, officers and staff, I extend our condolences to Bro. Garry Gaul and the rest of Belva's family.

Bro. Gary Adams retired from the local in November 2010. Congratulations and good luck to you, Gary.

Bros. Nolan MacDonald and Stephen Rogers achieved Journeyman Construction Electrician Red Seal status in December 2010. Congratulations, brothers, and have a long, safe and rewarding career.

The work picture is very good in Unit #2—Five Eastern Counties, with 70 members at the Truro Hospital and work at Michelin Tire, the Daewoo Wind Turbine Plant and ongoing wind farm installations. Unit #5 is still busy with several commercial projects. Unit #1, Halifax, is slow presently and Units #3 and #4 are very slow. Thank you to Regina Local 2038 for the calls to the Co-op Refinery and Rocanville Potash.

Tom Griffiths, Pres.

Refueling Outage Scheduled

L.U. 639 (i&rts), SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA—On Dec. 4 last year, Local 639 retirees, active and apprentice members held the Head Start Christmas party. This annual event is for disadvantaged children throughout San Luis Obispo County. Thank you to everyone who helped put smiles on the children's faces.

Our Christmas party held Dec. 18 at the Fairways at Dairy Creek was also a great success. Everyone enjoyed the company, the dinner and raffles.

The hole dug during the eight years of the Bush administration has impacted each of us personally and professionally and is extremely deep. It has taken the Obama administration two years building a ladder to get working families out of the trench. Although some are beginning to climb the ladder out into the light once again, we need to remember that there are many more families in the darkness of the Bush trench looking for that ladder to climb out.

A refueling outage is scheduled at Diablo Canyon in the spring. For updates, check our Web site at www.ibew639.org. Remember that solidarity means together we bargain, divided we beg.

All of us at Local 639 wish all members and their families a good year ahead.

John Ponzetti, P.S.

Charter Party Celebration

L.U. 673 (catv,i,rts,spa,t&u), PAINESVILLE, OH—Local 673 had its 80th Anniversary Charter Party on Dec. 4 last year at Casa Di Borally's Party Center. We had music, dancing, food and drink and everyone had a good time.

Local 673 member Sgt. 1st Class John Rusnak, who just returned home from a year in Afghanistan, attended the party. John presented to Local 673 an American flag along with a framed picture and a caption that read: "Let it be Known this day, 22 September 2010, this American Flag flew over the skies of Sather Air Base, Baghdad, Iraq during Operation New Dawn in honor of Local 673 On Behalf of SFC John D. Rusnak, In Support of America's War on Terrorism During Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn."

Every year at this party we present years-of-service pins and watches to members and retirees, as well as journeyman wireman certificates to the graduating apprentices.

Local 673 JATC also presented to each apprentice with the highest grade point average in their class a check to pay for their next year's books. The 1st year recipient was Jared Frabotta; 2nd year—Dave Gaeta; 3rd year—Ryan Goss; 4th year—James Robinette Jr.; and 5th year—William McPeak.

Remember to check our Web site www.ibew673.org for upcoming events.

Danny Lastoria, Mbr. Dev. Rep.



Local 673 officers gather to present service pins and awards at the 80th Anniversary Charter Party. From left are: Treas. Craig Egeland, Vice Pres. Joe Gamiere, Bus. Mgr. Dave Thomas, Pres. Bob Gamiere, Rec. Sec. Gretchen Slother, and Executive Board members Mike Kubacki and Rory Breedlove.



Local 683 member Jack Cantley carves a wood sculpture project.

Events Update

L.U. 683 (em&i), COLUMBUS, OH—Local 683 member Jack Cantley is shown in the accompanying photo pursuing his wood carving hobby. This sculpture project, for a local chiropractor's office, was done with a chain saw. A 22-year member, Jack has been carving wood projects for 30-plus years. The spine carving took him nearly 75 hours to complete, including painting and sealing of the project. Amazing work.

Local news: The One New Toy project was held Dec. 18, 2010, to help union members for the holidays. The Christmas party/union meeting on Dec. 9 was well attended; the food was catered by O'Dea's Catering, run by a local member and his wife. Thanks for the good food. The Friends of Labor luncheon was Dec. 15. This luncheon was held as a thank-you to many of our local supporters. Retirees held their Christmas luncheon Dec. 4; officers appreciated the invitation.

We extend condolences to the families of our recently deceased members: Earl M. French, Gordon R. Stevens, Edward E. Marshall, Donald D. Weaver, David B. Grosvenor and Robert C. Cloud.

Rick Deime, V.P./P.S.

Solar System Installed

L.U. 773 (as,em,i,mo&o), WINDSOR, ONTARIO, CANADA—Welcome home to Bro. Roger Miner, who returned from active combat duty in the Canadian military serving in Afghanistan. IBEW members and Canadians thank you for your service.

Local 773 installed a 10 kW, Meca sun tracking solar panel system in front of our Training Center. We are proud to have an IBEW union contractor, Gil and Sons, perform the work, as G&S is a distributor and fabricator of the Meca system. We installed IBEW made Sharp 235-watt solar panels on this unit. With

this large solar installation located in the front yard of our Training Center, it shows everyone that IBEW Local 773 is in the solar business. More than 100 of our members have taken the solar training course.

At press time, our night school program for our apprentices is nearly complete for this year and our fifth-term apprentices will soon be writing for their electrical licenses. Good luck to all!

Again we thank all the IBEW locals across Canada for putting Local 773 members to work. It is very much appreciated. We have the trained personnel to do the job right the first time.

David Spencer, P.S.

Continued Downsizing ...

L.U. 827 (catv&t), EAST WINDSOR, NJ—Recently, the IBEW and the CWA met with Avaya Inc. concerning the future of our IBEW technicians employed there. Avaya went to a "business partner" model over the last five years and the number of IBEW technicians has been drastically reduced. At the meeting the company said all the right things concerning work coming back into the bargaining unit, especially with the acquisition of Nortel. Time will tell. In 2000 we had more than 500 technicians in New Jersey. In 2011, we have fewer than 30 technicians.

In New Jersey, Local 827 represents employees of "Legacy AT&T." A few years ago SBC bought AT&T and kept the AT&T name for branding purposes. The legacy employees are those from the original company. During the last negotiations much of the legacy AT&T contract was melded into the SBC contract in Illinois. Some of the major changes were in the grievance procedure, vacations and medical benefits.

As this article is being written, AT&T announced a surplus of more than 800 employees nationwide. The impact in New Jersey will total 10, affecting supplies coordinators, service center clerks-data, and customer engineers.

Bill Huber, B.M./Pres./F.S.



Local 915 Bus. Mgr. William Dever (left) joins foreman Jim Lyle (right) and Derby Lane representative Larry Streur (center) at the Derby Lane facility.

Contract Agreements

L.U. 915 (i&mt), TAMPA, FL—We settled our contract negotiations for both our inside and maintenance working agreements. In this tough economy it is reassuring that we were able to continue our current inside contract as well as our maintenance agreement with Derby Lane, now called St. Pete Kennel Club.

Our first maintenance contract with Derby Lane was negotiated in 2009 for Local 915 members. The relationship with management has been very cooperative and is due to the relationship that was developed by our members who work daily to keep the racetrack running smoothly. It is the oldest greyhound track in the country and known as one of the best maintained. It is open year round and also features a state-of-the-art card room.

All had a great time at our 4th annual Christmas party. It was well attended and even included a visit from Santa, played by Bro. Don Canty. Special thanks to Bro. Roberto Rosa, who has chaired this event from the beginning, and to all who work tirelessly to make the party a special time for members and their families.

Theresa King, P.S.

Contract Negotiations

L.U. 965 (em,govt,ptc&u), MADISON, WI—The local's work on contract negotiations is heating up. Contracts between the local and Stoughton Utilities, and between the local and Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative, were completed late in 2010. Stoughton Utilities is a new addition to the local. Another new work group to choose union representation with this local is the support staff for the Beloit School System. These newly represented groups demonstrate one again that when workers are given a fair choice, they will choose to "live better" with union representation.

Negotiations with the local's largest employer, Alliant Energy, Wisconsin Power & Light Company, begin this spring. Surveys were sent out to affected members of the local last fall. The surveys provide the membership with an opportunity to communicate their concerns and give the Negotiating Committee insight into the priorities that the rank and file place on issues such as health care, wages, retiree issues, job security and working conditions, to name just a few. As always, member participation is critical for successful negotiations. By late December 2010, more than 50 percent of the surveys had been returned to the local with feedback for the Negotiating Committee. The current contract with Alliant Energy expires at the end of May 2011.

Kurt Roberts, P.S.

Busy & Exciting Years

L.U. 1049 (lctt,o,u&uow), LONG ISLAND, NY—2010 ended just as busily as it began. On behalf of our members, Bus. Mgr. Robert Shand and the main negotiating committees negotiated six collective bargaining agreements. With our added abilities to communicate, the IBEW 1049 union hall has become a consistent destination for labor unions on Long Island. After many years of tireless effort and lobbying, we succeeded in getting the "Call Center Bill" signed and enacted into law.

This year promises to be just as exciting. In the first half of the year, we will hold elections for all elected positions, including delegates to the convention. We will also negotiate new contracts for our members who work under our Gas and NECA Agreements. We continue to support the Long Island Power Authority in all of its endeavors and we are closely monitoring the awarding of the Maintenance Services Agreement.

We bid farewell to Vice Pres. Bob Delaney and Bus. Rep. Robert Podlaski. These two individuals have a combined total of more than 70 years of tireless, dedicated service to the IBEW and the labor movement. There is not room to list all of their accomplishments and achievements. They will be sorely missed. On behalf of Bus. Mgr. Shand, the business staff, officers, Executive Board and the membership, I wish Robert and Bob all the best in retirement.

Thomas J. Dowling, R.S.

'On Target for a Good Future'

L.U. 1245 (catv,em,govt,lctt,o,pet,t&u), VACAVILLE, CA—The local union gave IBEW Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill a tour of union jobsites during a visit to the San Francisco Bay area.

Pres. Hill met with members of the PG&E's clerical bargaining unit, followed by a meeting with PG&E's top brass to discuss the IBEW's Code of Excellence.

Near Milpitas, he watched an IBEW tower crew from PAR Electric harness up and catch a lift to the tower via helicopter longline. Watch the video by searching "Beats Climbing" on YouTube.

Pres. Hill congratulated IBEW's San Bruno gas explosion first responders for their heroic efforts last September in shutting off the gas transmission line that was feeding the conflagration, and for quickly restoring service where possible.

Pres. Hill reviewed the first presentation of the local's new Lineman-to-Lineman Safety Program, which is the local's response to a rash of fatalities and serious accidents in recent years. The program encourages linemen to practice safety awareness at all times.

Pres. Hill also visited a pole replacement job featuring IBEW crews from Rosendin Electric and Reliance Engineering.

"I've been around some of the members today and the things they're doing are right on target," he said. "We've got a good future ahead of us."

In other news, the local successfully petitioned the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada to open an investigation into staffing shortages at NV Energy.

Eric Wolfe, P.S.



Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill (center) joined Local 1245 Bus. Mgr. Tom Dazell, (left, facing forward) in visiting members from PAR Electrical Contractors. The members, performing tower work near Milpitas, CA, were "long lined" to the towers by helicopter.

2010: A Great Year for Local

L.U. 1249 (catv,lctt,o,t&u), SYRACUSE, NY—The year 2010 was one for the record books for Local 1249, with employment at an all-time high and a record amount of man-hours logged. As of December, the local had 850 A chapter members working with approximately 350 travelers. The Tree chapter had 1,200 members working. Usually unheard of at that time of year!

The local also had a record, or near-record, number of graduating apprentices, 39 in all. They are: Brody Barnum, Sean Bedard, Jakob Bonker, Jason Boyd, Brian Colvin, Ryan Crandall, Seth Crossett, Rory Deforrest, Joseph Devoe, Steven Dunbar, Jeffery Farrar, Martin Fidler, Jory Fowler, Dustin Goodfriend, James Goult, Kevin Gray, Dustin Hazelton, Zachary Henderson, Nichlolas Insogna, Casey Kelly, Kip Kramer, Richard Kroll, James Matthews, Joshua McHugh, Nicholas Muck, Michael Muth, Anthony Nelson, Joseph Orr, Michael Perkins, Paul Race, Christopher Raczka, Larry Randall, Steven Rippey, Donald Shutter, Raymond Stevens, Adam Treat, Jedidah Wall, John Wall and Robert Zollinger. Congratulations to all. The local currently has 156 apprentices.

We all bid so-long to Harry Saville. After 50 years of service, our former referral manager retired in August. Best wishes, Harry, and thank you for all the knowledge.

Jay Matthews, P.S.

Training Sessions

L.U. 1253 (i), AUGUSTA, ME—Plaques for 55 years of service were presented in November 2010 to several retired members: Thomas Coady, Norman F. Doiron, Norman Mylen, David Trider and Alan Webb. A 55-year plaque was awarded posthumously to the late Bro. Frank Lockhard. Congratulations and thanks, brothers, for your many years of dedicated service!

Three signatory contractors and a number of members participated in Electrical Project Supervisor II training last December. Thanks to contractors E.S. Boulos, Sullivan and Merritt, and Three Phase; and congratulations to the members who successfully completed this portion of Foreman Training.

At press time, the Augusta JATC was scheduled to provide a live 15-hour 2011 Code update class on

Jan. 22 and 23 at United Technology Center in Bangor, ME, open to all who work in the trade.

We're sorry to report the deaths of retired members Dave Hinckley and Neil Roberts. We extend our sincere sympathy to their families.

Politics is for all of us. Get involved to help protect workers' rights.

William Gifford, P.S.



Local 1501 Bus. Mgr. Dion F. Guthrie (right) greets Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley.

Horse Racing in Maryland

L.U. 1501 (ees,em,mo,pet,rts&t), BALTIMORE, MD—Horse racing in Maryland received a last minute reprieve. Our members employed by Amtote are dependent on the horse racing industry, which in Maryland appeared near its demise with voters approving a casino at Arundel Mills Mall, ending chances for slots at nearby Laurel Park Racetrack.

Recently, Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley brokered a last minute agreement to ensure racing at both Laurel and Pimlico racetracks. The governor said the agreement "keeps Maryland's treasured Preakness Stakes where it belongs at Pimlico and helps protect the thousands of jobs that depend on our rich history of horse racing." The Preakness is Maryland's largest sporting event, bringing an esti-

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50/50 polyester-cotton blend with silk screened IBEW initials on left chest.



\$9.50

Right Choice Hat

Black hat with yellow embroidery "IBEW...the right choice" on front, and "IBEW" on back.



\$24.00

Pocket Knife

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

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

Local Lines

mated \$40 million to the state economy. The state will contribute a \$3.5 million to \$4 million subsidy funded by slot machine revenue, with the Maryland Thoroughbred Horseman's Association and the Maryland Horse Breeders Association contributing \$1.7 million, which will guarantee 146 live racing days in Maryland.

Though Maryland's horse racing is secure for 2011, much hard work remains to be done to ensure the viability of a sport that has seen attendance and betting decline for a decade, with neighboring states doing much better as they opened casinos at their racetracks. Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dion F. Guthrie said our local and organized labor will work with the governor to support his commitment to racing.

Thomas J. Rostkowski, R.S.

Contract Negotiations

L.U. 1523 (u), WICHITA, KS—It's contract time, and June and July are coming fast. We're seeing a shift in our workplace. Some for the better, some not so much for the better. Have you taken time to think about what is important for the betterment of the local? Have you sent in any proposals, along with an explanation? Sometimes change isn't easy and it does take effort to get the right change. We have good strong leaders who will go to bat to make our union stronger and better. They're smart people with lots of experience, but they need our input. They can't be everywhere all the time.

Our Bus. Mgr. Ben Roloff just completed some good strong contracts that cover Local 1523 members. With a new contract coming up, we have the opportunity to make some needed changes, but our leaders can't do it without the membership. We have done a great job keeping safe work practices. Let's keep up the good work. We want all our members to get home safe to their families every day. Do you know who your steward is?

Candy C. Cruz-Dodd, P.S.

Shop Steward Training

L.U. 1547 (c,em,i,o,t&u), ANCHORAGE, AK—Nearly 200 shop stewards from across Alaska attended our annual Local 1547 Shop Steward Leadership Training in Anchorage. The IBEW hosts one of the largest labor training summits in the state. Stewards interacted with an arbitration panel and attended classes on collective bargaining, safety in the work place, grievance processing, the code of excellence and personal finance.

Presenters included Larry Helms, Trainery company; Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service mediator Gary Hattal; and IBEW Int. Reps. Tracy Prezeau and Greg Boyd.

Melinda Taylor, P.S.

'Be Safety Conscious'

L.U. 1579 (i&o), AUGUSTA, GA—As the work in this jurisdiction picks up, we should all think of the safety concerns that exist and actually correct them. Local 1579 currently has the largest construction project in the country and safety will be a huge part of that job.

There are many things you can do that you may not consider safety-related. To name a few, these include: getting plenty of sleep at bedtime, praying for safety on the job and the safety of co-workers, as well as maintaining your CPR and First Aid Training.

If an accident occurs, try to be ready to step up and help. Construction is a dangerous occupation and we owe it to ourselves and our union brothers and sisters to be able and willing to respond to an accident. It would be a terrible feeling to be helpless in the event of an accident.

The work situation in Augusta still looks good. The Vogtle Project will increase over the next couple of years and if all goes well, other union nuclear projects will follow. Let's do a good job on this project and remind all the critics that union labor is the best qualified labor that money can buy. Until next time, God Bless.

Will Salters, A.B.M.

Brotherhood & Fellowship

L.U. 1739 (i&o), BARRIE, ONTARIO, CANADA—Shown in the accompanying photo are several Local 1739 retirees at a recent breakfast. It's nice to see the brothers continue to enjoy each other's company. They are certainly missed on the job. The local says



Several Local 1739 retired members gather for a breakfast get-together.



Attending the 50th anniversary banquet of Local 2085, a group of retired members assembles for a photo.

thank-you to all our retirees and wishes them all good health and an enjoyable retirement.

Frank Kastle, P.S.

Early Retirements at Utility

L.U. 1837 (rtb&u), MANCHESTER, ME—An attractive package of incentives at Central Maine Power Company has led to the early retirement of four chief stewards and the treasurer of IBEW Local 1837. Stewards Dale Blethen, Rodney Curtis, Gilbert Guevin, Barry Ripley and then-Treas. Donald Leighton retired from CMP in January.

"I could go on and on about what these brothers have done for Local 1837," said Asst. Bus. Mgr. Bill Dunn. "They have been great activists for us and tireless fighters for the union movement. It will be a big hole to fill."

When CMP received approval from the Public Utilities Commission to install so-called "smart meters" for its 600,000 customers, it meant that more than 100 members of IBEW Local 1837 would be affected. In order to help minimize the number of layoffs and open up other jobs at the company, CMP and the IBEW negotiated the Voluntary Early Retirement Program, or VERP. A total of 82 members took the VERP, out of approximately 700 IBEW members at CMP.

Matthew D. Beck, Organizer

50th Anniversary Celebration

L.U. 2085 (i), WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, CANADA—IBEW Local 2085 is celebrating 50 years of representing workers in the electrical construction industry in the province of Manitoba. The last 50 years have been spent promoting respect among members of the electrical industry and advocating reasonable methods and hours of work. Our collective goal is to continue to be diligent in our organizing efforts so that we can maintain and further increase our standard

of living. We have seen our ups and downs but we have remained strong. Over the last 10 years we have doubled the number of members in our local union and we are continuing on this path.

On Oct 16, 2010, we celebrated our 50th anniversary with a pin banquet. It was well attended and everyone had a great night. Pictured in the photo above are the retired members in attendance at the banquet.

Greg McFarlane, Rep.

Milestones & Mobilization

L.U. 2325 (t), WORCESTER, MA—In 2010, the local said goodbye to hundreds of members who accepted retirement packages from Verizon. We wish them health and happiness and extend our thanks for their contribution to the labor movement.

Also, our annual Toys for Tots drive was a huge success. Thanks to the members for their generosity. A special thanks to Pres. Keith Herrick and E-Board member Keith Philbrook for organizing the drive.

We've reached two important milestones: celebrating our local's 40th anniversary and becoming first-time property owners. We expect to move into our new union hall soon.

2011 is a contract year and mobilization is heating up. It started with our traditional one-year countdown rally and continues with membership meetings, contract strategy sessions and strike authorization votes.

E-Board member Paul Mark ran an energetic campaign for the 2nd Berkshire District seat for state representative and was victorious. He was ceremoniously sworn in at the State House in front of a lively crowd. There is no better friend to labor than one of our own and we're extremely proud. Congratulations to labor, citizens of the 2nd Berkshire District and to state Rep. Paul Mark.

Please stay informed, get involved and support your leadership. We Are Ready.

Dawn Nelligan Rosa, R.S./P.S.



Local 2325 Bus. Mgr. David Keating (left) and Local 222 Bus. Mgr. and IEC member Myles J. Calvey (right) speak at the one-year-countdown to contract rally held in Boston.



Participants gather for the Local 1547 Shop Steward Leadership Training summit in Anchorage, AK.

In Memoriam

Members for Whom PBF Death Claims were Approved in January 2011

Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death									
1	Arras, R. J.	12/1/2010	58	Rupersburg, J. C.	11/26/2010	160	Anderson, D. G.	8/13/2010	481	Marlowe, F. L.	12/22/2010	855	Youngberg, C. G.	12/7/2010
1	Kofron, F. M.	11/1/2010	58	Seibert, R. W.	11/8/2010	164	Gumble, J. J.	9/22/2010	481	Miles, M. J.	12/9/2010	861	Fontenot, J. N.	10/14/2010
1	Raich, J. D.	12/11/2010	58	Vermeesch, C. F.	12/10/2010	164	McCraw, W. A.	11/24/2010	481	Nicholas, C. D.	11/30/2010	910	Cush, J. J.	6/24/2010
1	Rudolph, J. A.	12/16/2010	58	Zabiega, R. V.	11/30/2010	175	Spencer, C. T.	10/8/2010	486	Alexander, C. J.	9/28/2010	915	Barcelo, J.	9/23/2010
1	Strubberg, V. A.	10/1/2010	60	Wood, L. E.	11/26/2010	176	Murphy, R.	11/20/2010	488	Wills, C. J.	10/20/2010	915	Hedrick, L. R.	11/23/2010
3	Gatti, J. M.	12/3/2010	66	Brasfield, G. G.	11/3/2009	193	Davis, W. E.	10/6/2010	494	Krummel, D. M.	11/28/2010	915	Valentine, G. D.	11/6/2010
3	Giovansanti, J.	11/21/2010	66	Parrott, C. A.	12/8/2010	194	Sepeda, H. E.	11/20/2010	494	Lowe, R. W.	11/19/2010	932	McLain, D. B.	12/26/2010
3	Hagicostas, N.	9/16/2010	68	Vessa, P. L.	10/11/2010	194	Stanley, M.	11/16/2010	494	Mericle, D. P.	12/3/2010	959	Drotts, R. A.	12/1/2010
3	Kallman, M.	10/21/2010	70	Obenchain, J. W.	12/3/2010	222	Cowart, R. G.	11/26/2010	494	Suprick, J. B.	11/21/2010	970	Renaud, A. T.	11/12/2010
3	Kapura, P. J.	11/2/2010	71	Robinson, C. E.	11/22/2010	223	Blais, A. J.	10/30/2010	495	Strickland, D. A.	8/27/2010	993	Graner, H.	10/26/2010
3	Nahlen, P. W.	11/22/2010	73	Pointer, A. R.	11/28/2010	223	Wyman, B. K.	1/31/2010	498	Anderson, R. D.	10/24/2010	995	Alexander, W. H.	10/23/2010
3	Papola, L. J.	11/3/2010	76	West, M. A.	8/30/2010	226	Salsbury, E. N.	11/27/2010	499	Hastert, C. J.	11/17/2010	995	Corrent, P.	3/22/2010
3	Pascuzzi, S. P.	11/27/2010	77	Hightower, K. A.	11/13/2010	231	Rush, E. L.	11/25/2010	518	Foster, H. V.	12/15/2010	1003	Derr, W. A.	10/11/2010
3	Shaklo, N.	11/23/2010	77	Keating, J. C.	10/17/2010	236	Harper, H. A.	10/9/2010	527	Chiasson, W. R.	11/24/2010	1087	Randolph, V. L.	12/7/2010
5	Lyons, B. L.	12/8/2010	80	Kreisel, A. W.	7/24/2010	236	Hladik, K. J.	8/13/2010	569	Byrum, F. L.	8/25/2010	1105	Beaschler, P. W.	12/5/2010
5	Mitchell, R. E.	11/25/2010	80	Tabor, D. B.	11/19/2010	236	Krabisch, H. W.	10/29/2010	569	Grandbouche, G. L.	12/6/2010	1141	Palmer, E. J.	10/27/2010
5	Owens, D. G.	11/24/2010	82	Sease, D. L.	12/14/2010	246	Cline, L. M.	11/18/2010	577	Bartel, M. R.	8/30/2010	1151	McCullough, L. E.	11/25/2010
5	Widdowson, J. R.	11/20/2010	83	Fratarcangelo, P.	11/11/2010	246	Granatir, A. F.	10/5/2010	583	Monsisvais, H. G.	11/30/2010	1205	Matheny, M. C.	1/2/2010
6	Bruni, J. R.	12/12/2010	90	Gordens, C. C.	9/20/2010	254	Woycenko, J.	10/18/2010	584	Cameron, D. W.	11/24/2010	1245	Beckman, A.	11/13/2010
6	High, D. E.	11/27/2010	90	Lipinski, A. P.	7/12/2010	258	Morisette, G. G.	9/30/2010	584	Drake, W. F.	10/26/2010	1245	Escamilla, R.	11/10/2010
6	McHugh, J. F.	10/20/2010	97	Elias, A. W.	12/17/2010	258	Scott, K. A.	8/21/2010	584	Haymaker, L. A.	11/28/2010	1245	Pippin, L. P.	12/6/2010
7	Martin, R. C.	10/7/2010	98	McHugh, J. F.	12/5/2010	275	Elam, J. A.	11/11/2010	595	Bird, F. J.	12/12/2009	1245	Vargas, C.	10/10/2010
8	Bryan, C. L.	12/4/2010	102	Adams, J. A.	7/17/2010	278	King, C.	7/18/2010	595	Keegan, J. B.	11/12/2010	1245	York, D. R.	11/20/2010
8	Chapman, R.	10/14/2010	102	Clark, H. O.	12/28/2006	280	Bolton, J. M.	11/24/2010	595	Lee, D. F.	11/26/2010	1316	Wells, D. T.	12/6/2008
8	Meisner, C.	9/10/2010	102	Echegoyen, T. H.	9/15/2010	280	Millsap, G. A.	12/14/2010	595	Smith, J. F.	11/29/2010	1319	Kilian, J. J.	12/6/2010
9	Kaloway, H. D.	12/8/2010	102	Janiec, F.	11/9/2010	292	Dombrovski, D. L.	12/9/2010	596	Cayton, M. J.	12/15/2010	1319	Kotarba, S. J.	10/27/2010
9	Pranschke, F. A.	9/12/2010	102	Knapp, D. R.	11/25/2010	292	Rindfleisch, K. C.	11/23/2010	601	McConkey, D. R.	11/5/2010	1319	Schimmelbusch, P. E.	11/24/2010
9	Strand, R. M.	12/16/2008	102	Lewaine, R. W.	11/25/2010	295	Godfrey, C. W.	12/3/2010	602	Hoover, D. L.	11/20/2010	1319	Speer, K. N.	10/4/2010
11	Benson, E.	11/1/2010	102	Lipscomb, E. L.	11/29/2010	302	Reed, R. T.	9/14/2010	602	Wade, M. E.	8/16/2010	1340	Williams, M. L.	11/18/2010
11	Denning, T. W.	11/22/2010	102	McGuire, J. J.	11/18/2010	305	Smith, D. A.	6/25/2010	604	Santolini, T.	12/8/2010	1377	Boston, A. V.	9/14/2010
11	Hailey, D.	4/2/2010	103	Caples, J. F.	7/1/2010	306	Hershey, R. C.	12/5/2010	606	Sego, J.	10/1/2010	1393	Tungate, K.	11/26/2010
11	Lamb, R. L.	11/27/2010	104	Chapman, H. H.	5/9/2010	306	Marsillo, J.	11/18/2010	611	Brown, B.	11/16/2010	1426	Meyer, D. M.	12/1/2010
11	Montgomery, N. B.	10/25/2010	104	Meehan, J. F.	10/14/2009	313	Fournarakis, L. P.	12/6/2010	611	Clark, M. O.	11/24/2010	1501	Rennie, D. D.	11/27/2010
11	Picone, J. J.	6/23/2010	104	Waiswilos, A.	5/28/2010	316	Nelson, D. B.	1/6/2009	611	Dawson, G. K.	10/31/2010	1516	Widman, M. E.	7/24/2009
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11	Schennum, D. M.	9/12/2010	105	Fisher, E. G.	12/17/2010	332	Abelin, S. C.	11/15/2010	611	Gentry, W. D.	11/19/2010	1701	McCully, L.	11/7/2010
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15	Murphy, H. J.	11/15/2010	110	Whalen, W. J.	7/30/2010	340	Hansen, J. C.	4/29/2010	611	Staggs, B. B.	11/28/2010	1996	Morgan, R. W.	6/8/2010
16	Admire, V. J.	4/6/2010	111	Hitt, L. S.	11/27/2010	349	Black, L. P.	9/12/2010	613	Deen, D. R.	11/27/2010	2034	Shaw, W.	11/13/2010
17	Evancik, R. E.	11/22/2010	112	Sanders, S. E.	11/26/2010	349	Rihvalski, A. L.	9/28/2010	613	Smith, I. C.	12/1/2010	2113	Smith, S. L.	8/10/2010
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18	Slick, W. L.	10/21/2010	124	Brunsky, W. G.	11/16/2010	353	Lummiss, D. C.	11/6/2010	647	Walls, G. A.	11/28/2010	I.O. (134)	Quamstrom, E. W.	10/21/2010
20	Blassingame, E. A.	12/8/2010	124	Graham, N. T.	10/23/2010	353	Robinson, W.	11/1/2010	649	Vanausdoll, K. A.	9/19/2010	Pens. (1788)	Flinsky, W.	8/31/2008
21	Longhauser, R. A.	6/25/2010	124	Johansen, C. W.	11/20/2010	354	Bohn, O. A.	3/31/2009	659	Coggins, R. C.	10/2/2010	Pens. (1788)	Riikonen, P. E.	11/29/2010
22	Baatz, J. P.	11/12/2010	124	Orey, W. C.	12/26/2010	357	Carter, P. S.	11/30/2010	663	Wirsbinsky, T. D.	11/25/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Anderson, T. R.	11/30/2010
25	Klaffky, W. S.	7/25/2008	124	Wetzig, J. E.	9/11/2010	357	Kies, C. R.	10/30/2010	666	Jones, J. M.	11/30/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Barth, W. D.	7/27/2010
26	Smith, D. C.	12/14/2010	125	Bonar, C. H.	11/8/2010	364	Knott, N. L.	10/26/2010	666	Stone, T. W.	12/13/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Brock, P. H.	8/9/2010
26	Sweet, O. R.	10/28/2010	125	McLain, M. A.	12/11/2010	369	Boyd, P. G.	11/4/2010	666	Wynne, J. K.	12/4/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Clayton, L. L.	12/12/2010
26	Yager, V. D.	12/4/2010	125	Whisler, R. D.	12/1/2010	380	Barnett, R. J.	11/2/2010	683	Cloud, R. C.	10/29/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Frost, W. F.	11/12/2010
32	Metz, D. F.	11/2/2010	130	Bacques, J. E.	11/6/2010	387	Evans, J. C.	8/5/2010	683	Weaver, D. D.	10/13/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Harding, E. G.	7/1/2010
34	Oedewaldt, J. H.	12/16/2010	130	Gerstner, L. A.	11/25/2010	387	Gonzales, V. L.	11/28/2010	684	Brower, H. G.	10/29/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Heckinger, R. J.	11/29/2010
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38	Tucci, M. J.	11/23/2010	134	Kich, J. W.	11/22/2010	400	Havison, L.	11/20/2010	712	Segeleon, A. S.	11/16/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Klebow, G. W.	11/25/2010
41	Sansone, R.	10/26/2010	134	Martin, W. F.	12/6/2010	401	Page, J. J.	4/22/2005	716	Cochran, R. M.	11/1/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Lopez, A. O.	5/18/2010
46	Cowardin, C. L.	7/23/2010	134	Martinello, M.	11/19/2010	402	Brandl, J.	10/22/2010	716	Combs, J. A.	12/4/2009	Pens. (I.O.)	Lotier, H. J.	8/5/2010
46	Nelson, W. T.	11/26/2010	134	McLaughlin, W. F.	11/25/2010	413	Cardinal, C.	6/24/2010	716	Lee, R. E.	11/26/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	McKinley, A. L.	12/6/2010
48	Allen, E. J.	9/29/2010	134	Parker, H. R.	11/27/2010	413	Petersen, D. L.	12/6/2010	723	Dowell, R. L.	11/21/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	O'Brien, C. J.	10/12/2010
48	Blackmore, S. K.	12/11/2010	134	Parker, K. R.	11/30/2010	424	Costello, F. G.	9/7/2010	728	Reed, F. D.	11/22/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	O'Connor, J. D.	12/3/2010
48	Lickar, K. W.	12/17/2010	134	Parrin, V. L.	1/31/2010	429	Haston, J. C.	12/17/2010	728	St. Onge, A.	12/2/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Ostrin, A.	2/21/2010
48	Reeves, J. E.	12/21/2010	134	Rees, C. R.	12/6/2010	429	Ingram, C.	11/3/2010	738	Truitt, E. S.	11/20/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Pauly, D. A.	9/30/2010
51	Smith, D. E.	11/27/2010	134	Roche, J. R.	10/27/2010	441	Samaniego, J. M.	11/15/2010	743	Fix, R. W.	12/13/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Peaslee, P. W.	11/23/2009
56	Daugherty, R. L.	10/15/2010	134	Scanlon, D. D.	11/11/2010	445	Walmer, R. D.	11/24/2010	756	Detweiler, E. L.	12/16/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Pedersen, H. G.	2/3/2008
57	Edwards, E. W.	12/25/2010	134	Vantrepotte, D. J.	12/5/2010	449	Blessinger, H. M.	12/4/2010	760	Mealer, J. T.	12/30/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Ribao, F.	11/9/2010
57	Riddle, G. S.	10/12/2010	141	Horvat, M. A.	11/12/2010	449	Rapp, M. D.	12/25/2010	768	Zukevich, S. R.	11/30/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Richardson, R. M.	9/7/2008
57	Talbot, W. F.	9/23/2010	145	Fifer, D. T.	11/17/2010	453	Johnston, L. D.	12/11/2010	769	O'Neal, A. P.	10/31/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Stimmel, H. F.	9/29/2010
58	Arnold, J. W.	11/23/2010	145	Nichols, R. D.	1/3/2011	474	Dawkins, R. W.	10/31/2010	769	Reed, C. J.	11/14/2010	Pens. (I.O.)	Svee, G. M.	11/16/2010
58	Brown, D. D.	12/10/2010	145	Randall, H. L.	11/11/2010	474	Gray, E. E.	11/18						



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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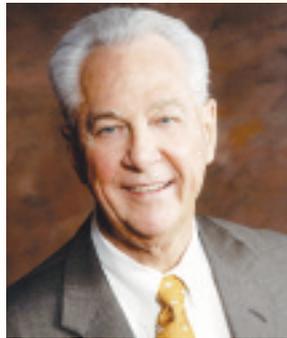
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**FROM THE OFFICERS****Imported from the U.S.A.**

Edwin D. Hill
International President

In a genre better known for silliness and special effects, one Super Bowl ad still generating buzz on the Internet is Chrysler's two-minute spot featuring rapper and Detroit native Eminem.

Showing the performer driving through the city—amidst a gritty background of crumbling buildings and big industrial plants—it ends with the newly profitable company's slogan, "Imported from Detroit."

Beyond being just an homage to the Motor City, the ad struck a nerve among viewers across the country who saw it as a symbol of all struggling blue-collar cities and the resolve of American manufacturing to make a comeback in these hard times.

For years, union activists have often felt like voices in the wilderness, decrying the destructive effects of outsourcing, while fighting losing battles against bad trade deals like NAFTA and CAFTA. We watched iconic American brands like Hoover and RCA move produc-

tion to Mexico or China—taking tens of thousands of good jobs with them—while being told that we did not need to worry about making things anymore in a 21st century globalized economy.

But since the onset of the recession, it has become clear that economic growth and prosperity are dependent on the health of American manufacturing—a message that is finally getting through to the CEOs of even some of the most notorious outsourcing corporations.

Both the General Electric Co., and the Whirlpool Corp., recently decided to invest in retooling their aged production facilities here in the U.S., as opposed to sending the work to Mexico, while the number of manufacturing jobs itself is on the increase for the first time since 1997.

These are hopeful signs, but to give American manufacturing a real boost we need legislative action. We need Congress to say no to free trade deals like the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement, and we need to stop handing out tax breaks for companies like Philips that still insist on shutting down profitable operations in the U.S. to take advantage of cheap foreign labor.

There is no issue more deserving of bipartisan support than putting "Made in the U.S.A." labels back on our shelves—it is time for corporate America and Congress to make restoring American manufacturing a priority. ■

This 'Issa' Bad Deal

Don't be shocked if in the coming months we see workers' retirement benefits slashed, job sites becoming more dangerous and family dinners threatened by bacteria from food that is no longer being inspected by federal agencies.

Rep. Darrell Issa, head of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, solicited more than 150 corporations and trade groups for suggestions about "onerous" regulations.

The Business Roundtable—a group of CEOs of major U.S. corporations—asked Issa to target "three major areas of greatest concern: environmental regulation, financial reform, and health care and retirement benefits."

The wish list for the National Association of Manufacturers, which spent millions to fight the Employee Free Choice Act and promotes outsourcing, includes rolling back OSHA provisions.

Other groups advocated slashing regulations for lead paint levels, food and water safety, pollution standards and even flammability tests for children's mattresses. As one writer for Think Progress put it, it's almost like Issa outsourced his own job to the Big Business lobby.

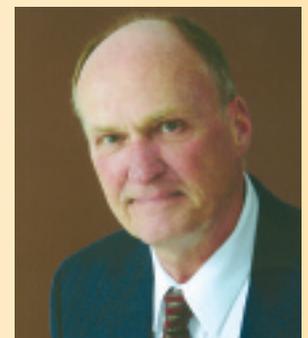
The congressman defends his move as necessary to ensure job creation and fight back against what he calls "governmental overreach."

If anyone runs the risk of being too grabby, it's large corporations, not elected officials.

For his part, President Obama addressed the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which spent millions in untraceable funds to defeat worker-friendly candidates last year. He reminded Chamber members that "America's businesses have a responsibility to recognize that there are ... safeguards and standards that are necessary to protect American people from harm or exploitation."

Company success and worker success aren't mutually exclusive. But Issa is going too far on behalf of the wealthy and powerful.

Our question to Issa and his pals should be: "What kind of country do you guys want us living in?" ■



Lindell K. Lee
International Secretary-Treasurer

Letters to the Editor

Lights Out?

I'm a retired member of over 50 years. I worked for Pacific Gas & Electric Co. for 23 years and Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245 for 27 years, retiring as an assistant business manager. What is going on at the Sparta Lighting plant in Tennessee ("Tennessee Community Challenges Plant Shutdown," February 2011) just infuriates me all to HELL! I hope it does the same to others. This company would just up and close shop after receiving \$7 million in federal stimulus funds?

The last paragraph of this article says it all. I quote: "Something has to give somewhere or, before long our senators and congressmen will have to move their offices to Mexico and China." Seeing how everyone in Congress is talking about jobs, let's pressure them to propose and PASS a BILL that would prohibit a corporation that closes down and leaves from selling their wares in the United States.

*Frank Saxsenmeier
Local 1245 retiree, Vacaville, Calif.*

Brotherhood's Generosity

I am the wireman shop steward for Norcon Inc. at the Fort Greely, Alaska, powerhouse. Norcon had over 100 wiremen and about 50 other skilled trade workers on this job. Last year, over the Fourth of July weekend, Nick Favero, a member of the plumbers union, died in a fatal motorcycle accident. Dan Vasikas stepped in and at his second annual benefit barbeque at his home in Delta Junction raised over \$13,000 for Mrs. Favero.

Over the course of the next couple of months, about \$6,500 was given to six local members' families, including a member of the pile drivers' union who had kidney failure.

In late September, a 30-man call went out to man a job for a night shift. Many of the travelers on this job called out to their friends to come up here. These brothers and sisters traveled up to Alaska, found their way down to Delta Junction, arrived on the job site, and were told that funding was cut and that they were no longer needed. When word spread that the call was cancelled and these guys were being sent home, a collection again was started up. In about five hours I had \$3,650 in my hand.

I called my wife, Letha, and asked her to make a 100-mile drive to Fairbanks to deliver some money to the hall. Letha's reply was four words: "When do I leave?" Letha quietly walked into the hall, gave our dispatcher an envelope full of checks and walked out.

The traveling brothers and sisters had a little spending money in their hands. Norcon also stepped up and helped these travelers out financially. In the next couple of days another \$2,500 was raised. In October we lost a local brother in Anchorage in a car accident. The Bechtel group raised over \$1,500 for his family.

About \$35,000 was given out to help families, travelers, brothers and sisters of different trades. This is what unions and solidarity is all about. Thank you one and all for your generosity.

*"Delta" Dave Neuburger
Local 1547 member, Fairbanks, Alaska*

Conflicting Priorities?

"Fighting For Our Future: Putting Jobs First," (The Electrical Worker, January 2011) was an excellent and well-written piece concerning our future and what needs to be done to insure our continued well-being as a union electricians, especially the part where you say that America's No.1 priority is jobs, jobs, jobs.

However, I am confused over one thing. On the same page you ask us to "Go Green With Our E-Edition." If I did, how many loggers, truckers, paper mill workers, shippers, printers and postal workers will I put out of work? Maybe it's time for the International to get their priorities straight before we ask our elected officials to.

*Howard S. Rubenstein
Local 164 member, Oakland, N.J.*

Who We Are

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

Seattle Members Save Family from House Fire

Quick thinking, solid training and courage bested a potential disaster when a line crew of Seattle Local 77 members rescued a family—including six children—from their burning home in the middle of the night.

After a grueling 15-hour shift clearing and repairing power lines for Grays Harbor Public Utility District last Oct. 25, Local 77 foreman Dale Benner's crew was finally driving back to the group's Aberdeen headquarters, taking refuge from a frigid Washington night in fresh cups of coffee and the promise of rest around the corner. The group—including journeyman linemen Steve Tobin and Justin Mills, head groundman Steve Button, line equipment operator Natheon Camus and flaggers Rachel Fredrickson and Toni Fairchild—comprised a four-vehicle caravan with Benner in the lead truck.

Two blocks from the station, a blazing glow came into view. The seven watched as flames shot several feet out the top floor windows of a house on a crowded street, threatening anyone inside as well as surrounding homes.

"The first thing I thought was, 'We've got to see if there are people inside—because they need help,'" Benner said. He grabbed the radio and told the crew to pull over. The group quickly parked their pickups and bucket truck, called 911 and approached the house.

Benner pounded on the door until a man in his 40s answered. "He was very disoriented—you could tell we'd just woken him up," Benner said. "I told him about the flames upstairs and he then started to notice the smoke."

While raging in one corner of the top floor, the fire only gradually filled the lower floor with smoke. Any damage or danger had yet to become noticeable enough to rouse the three children asleep on couches in the front room, the other three slumbering on the second floor or the parents asleep in their



Seattle Local 77 members Rachel Fredrickson, left, Dale Benner, Steve Tobin, Toni Fairchild, Justin Mills and Steve Button rescued a family from a house fire. Not pictured is Natheon Camus.

ground floor bedroom.

Once Benner and the members rushed inside, they woke the children in the front room and carried them outside to safety. Benner stood at the bottom of the floor and called out to the other children in the room above, who woke up and barreled down the stairs and out the front door to join their parents.

A few of the children, who ranged in age from pre-kindergarten to high school, were in pajamas, so members of the team gave them sweatshirts to battle the cold air. "A couple of the really little guys—we were holding them in our arms and they wouldn't let go," Benner said. "Every one of us has kids, so getting them out was priority No. 1."

None of the family members suffered injuries or needed to be treated for smoke inhalation.

"The fire chief told us that if we hadn't gotten the kids from the upstairs out when we did, they would have been trapped up there," Benner said. "We just happened to be in the right place at the right time, he told us."

Benner, chairman of the safety committee for the line side of the utility, has been involved with the governor's safety committee for nearly a decade. He said training from the union and the group's

employer made the difference between what could have been a scattershot effort and what resulted in a well-coordinated rescue.

"We have annual updates on CPR, first aid and other procedures," he said. "One of the most important things is to learn how to not become part of the problem in a crisis situation. By going over it, everything comes into play right when you need it—things like doing headcounts to make sure everyone was accounted for and keeping alert but calm."

After the fire department took charge, the crew made its way back to the station.

"All of us smelled like smoke, so we just cleaned up, called dispatch to inform them of what happened, said 'good job' to one another and went back home," Benner said. "Even though it was midnight and we'd worked all day since 8 a.m., nobody could sleep. It was just too surreal. But we were back at work at 8:15 the next morning."

And that's when the calls started rolling in—from local newspapers, radio programs and a television station. Word of the union members' feat soon began making waves in the area media.

For their efforts, the Grays Harbor PUD gave the seven members a dedication plaque at a recent meeting. ■

DEADLINES

Entry form and video on a DVD of presentation **must** be submitted online or postmarked by the following dates:

February 15, 2011

7th District (AZ, KS, NM, OK, TX)
9th District (AK, CA, HI, NV, OR, WA, Pacific Islands)

March 31, 2011

2nd District (CT, ME, MA, NH, VT, RI)
4th District (DC, KY, MD, OH, VA, WV)
5th District (AL, FL, GA, LA, MS, Panama, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands)
8th District (CO, ID, MT, UT, WY)
10th District (AR, NC, SC, TN)

April 29, 2011

1st District (Canada)
3rd District (DE, NJ, NY, PA)
6th District (IL, IN, MI, MN, WI)
11th District (IA, MO, NE, ND, SD)



The skills of IBEW members on the job are well known across North America. But what other talents lie beneath the surface of the 725,000 men and women who make up our union?

We want to find out. And that's why we are holding the first ever IBEW Has Talent contest to coincide with the year of our 38th International Convention.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

- All participants must be IBEW members in good standing. In the case of a band or group act, at least one person must be an IBEW member in good standing.
- All acts should submit a video of their performance to the International Office (see details on entry form below) where a team of judges will determine the top qualifying acts for each IBEW Vice Presidential district.
- The next round of competition will take place at the annual district progress meetings. Each qualifying video will be viewed and judged by participants at the contestant's district progress meeting.
- The winning act from each district will be housed at the 38th International Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia, where they will compete live at the convention picnic on Saturday, Sept. 17, 2011.
- The top three finishers will compete live in a final round of competition, where a winner will be declared.

Entries, including videos, can be submitted online or by mail. Complete contest rules and entry instructions are printed below and on the IBEW Website, www.ibew.org/talent.

CONTEST ENTRY FORM

IBEW Has Talent and it's time to show it off! To enter, fill out this form completely, sign and date the Agreement and Release portion, and submit it with a video on a DVD of your performance to our website at www.ibew.org/talent. * Performance in submitted video on a DVD must be no longer than five minutes in length. Thank you for participating and good luck!

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Local Union Number _____

Card Number _____

(On IBEW Membership Card or Dues Receipt)

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Performance Description _____

*** Please note that entries may also be mailed to the following address:**

IBEW Has Talent Contest
ATTN: Jim Spellane
900 Seventh Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001



AGREEMENT AND RELEASE

(Print Name)

(hereinafter "Contestant"), and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (hereinafter "IBEW"), agree as follows with respect to contestant's participation in the *IBEW Has Talent* (hereinafter "IHT") contest at the IBEW's 38th Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, on September 19–23, 2011.

1. This contest is open to active or retired IBEW members only. The person submitting the entry must be involved in the performance.
2. All submissions must be suitable for family viewing and not contain objectionable material. The IBEW reserves the right to disallow or disqualify any act for any reason.
3. Contestant agrees to enter the IHT contest and to submit to the IBEW International Office a video on a DVD of his/her performance, for consideration by the judges established for the IHT contest. Contestant further states that no performer in the video is a fulltime professional entertainer.
4. Judges at the International Office shall review all entries submitted by contestants in the IHT competition. Based on their review of the entries, the judges shall determine the acts to be submitted to each of the IBEW's 11 districts for judging at the district level.
5. The parties agree that the IHT competition does not carry with it a monetary prize or any other financial payment. Each district shall determine its winning act. Each member of the 11 individual district winning acts shall be provided with a hotel room in Vancouver for Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday nights. Each act will be provided with no more than three rooms per night.
6. During the day on Saturday, September 17, 2011, the 11 district winners will compete. The judges shall select 3 of the 11 district winners as finalists, and the finalists shall then compete later on the same day.
7. Contestant agrees that he/she is not an employee of the IBEW International Office, and that he/she is not entitled to any benefit of any kind beyond those specified in this agreement.
8. All submissions become the property of the IBEW. Participation in this event indicates approval to use any image or video of the performance in future IBEW publications, presentations, and websites.
9. In consideration for being allowed to participate in the IHT contest, contestant hereby releases the IBEW from any obligation, duty, or commitment other than those set forth in this agreement.

Signature *(required for entry)*

Date

WWW.IBEW.ORG/TALENT