

# THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

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## BIG BANG QUERY



Members of Baltimore Local 1501 prepare equipment for a test in the space environment simulator at Goddard Space Flight Center.

# The Telescope That Will See the First Stars

**N**ASA is betting nearly \$8 billion on the skill and competence of nearly 250 members of Baltimore Local 1501, the engineers and technicians working on the James Webb Space Telescope at the Goddard Space Flight Center.

The Webb telescope is one of NASA's largest, most expensive missions ever, the successor to the path-breaking Hubble Telescope. Components for the telescope have been under construction in 27 states and 14 countries for nearly a decade, but in

## IBEW MEMBERS BUILD —AND TRY TO BREAK— THE NEXT HUBBLE

recent months, many of those components have come to Goddard, and assembly for the October 2018 launch has begun.

Using an array of infrared sensors and a mirror nearly six times larger than Hubble's, the Webb telescope is designed to find and study the oldest, farthest, faintest objects in the universe to answer some of the most basic questions about how stars ignited, galaxies formed and planets coalesced out of the echo of the Big Bang.

"Its purpose is to address the deepest questions

we have: Where did we come from? Are we alone?" said Amber Straughn, deputy project scientist at Goddard.

But for the telescope's four sensors to see into the early life of the universe, they will need to be cooled to only a few degrees above absolute zero, which is only possible far away from the heat emitted by the sun, the Earth or even the moon. Hubble orbits 375 miles up; the Webb telescope will be sent more than 1 million miles away, four times farther than the moon. So far that if anything goes wrong, if something on the telescope breaks, doesn't line up or unfold correctly, if none of the systems on board can fix it, no rescue or repair mission will be possible.

"We only have one chance to get it right," said Delaney Burkhart, mechanical integration specialist, steward and member of Local 1501's executive board. "Our job is to test, and retest and test again until we are confident that one is all we need."

WEBB TELESCOPE *continued on page 2*

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# The Telescope That Will See the First Stars

## IBEW MEMBERS BUILD THE NEXT HUBBLE

### Between Success and Mission Failure

The IBEW members at Goddard all work in the environmental test and integration facility, the largest building on the wooded campus just outside of Washington, D.C. Most of the buildings look they were dropped in from a run-of-the-mill '60s office park. But from the massive storage tanks to the circular annex with a domed roof, it is very clear that this building is different. Most impressive, rising from the green trees and red brick buildings, is the stark white shell of the facility's heart: the world's largest clean room.

This is Local 1501 member Colette Lepage's world, the space systems development and integration facility, a 12,500 square-foot, nine-story clean room kept 1,000 times cleaner than a hospital operating room. Satellites have to be extremely resilient, strong and flexible at the same time, yet very small things can wreak havoc when satellites are sent where no one can follow. Dust in electronics can cause shorts and atmospheric hydrocarbons and silicone gels found in many kinds of makeup can cause disastrous condensation to form on the mirrors and lenses.

"A smudge on a camera lens is annoying, but dust or condensation on a space telescope can mean mission failure," Lepage said.

Lepage helps design and implement the contamination protocols that are followed by every person in the building throughout testing and integration.

"Every action that involves moving the flight equipment is meticulously planned out and vetted before anything



Watch video of the telescope in progress: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sqg30Y0-gW0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sqg30Y0-gW0)

*Clockwise from top: Local 1501 member Marc Sansebastian; the telescope team in front of a full-sized model; and engineers inspecting one of 18 hexagonal primary mirrors.*



from the Big Bang. Future telescopes may well refine the picture and see things we can only imagine, but the last blank spot on the map will be filled in, even if only roughly.

Objects that far and that dim are only perceptible by traces of infrared radiation. Invisible to human eyes, infrared radiation is what we feel on our hands as we hold them up to a campfire. But to feel the tiny bit of heat from a star formed soon after the beginning of the universe, the sensor has to be extremely cold.

One sensor on the Webb, the "middle infrared camera," is designed to analyze the faintest objects in the universe, 10 billion times dimmer than the darkest object the naked eye can see in the night sky. To work, the cold of space at 50 degrees above absolute zero (-370 degrees

Fahrenheit) is not nearly cold enough. A liquid helium cooling system will bring it down to a mere 7 degrees above absolute zero (-447 degrees Fahrenheit.)

Marc Sansebastian is designing and building the cooling system's hundreds of small parts, from the gold-plated clamps the size of grains of rice to the cat's cradle suspension system built from wisps of Kevlar thread thinner than a hair.

Sansebastian, who has built components for dozens of satellites since he started at Goddard more than 20 years ago, says he tells people his job is "proudly reducing the mass of the Earth."

yard, precise and judicious cutting and sewing, all done by hand, is paramount.

"I just tell people I make garments for satellites instead of people," Cain said.

### Seeing the Light from the Cold and Dark

Building a mirror so large it must fold up to fit in the launch capsule introduces enormous additional risks and costs, but mission scientists say the calculus was simple: bigger is always better for telescopes. All that extra real estate will allow the scientists to resolve images hundreds of millions of light-years deeper in the universe than Hubble could see.

A light-year is a measure of distance, but it also indicates how long light we see took to reach us. The speed of light is fast, but it isn't infinite. Light from the sun takes nearly eight minutes to reach the Earth, so what we see is not the sun as it is now, but eight minutes before. When Webb picks up images of objects billions of light-years away, it is seeing not only far in the distance, but far in the past.

It is very possible that Webb will record images of the earliest objects that can actually be seen: the first stars to ignite after the universe cooled down

happens," Burkhart says. "We will build specialized tools and support equipment that will only be used once because everything must be in precisely the right place and there are few—if any—replacements for components that will go into space."

And nothing is routine when every part is both irreplaceable and, especially for Webb, unlike anything done before.

### The New Hubble

A telescope the size of a school bus, orbiting 375 miles above the earth, Hubble was one of the most extraordinary scientific instruments ever created. But Hubble was in many ways familiar. It shared the simple, tubular design of reflecting telescopes used by everyone from Isaac Newton to amateur astronomers today. The Webb telescope looks like nothing that has ever been built. Instead of a round mirror inside a tube, the James Webb telescope looks like a golden satellite dish flown atop a five-layer kite.

The golden dish is the more than 21-foot diameter mirror and the kite is the tennis-court sized sunshield that will protect the instruments from the heat and light of the sun, Earth and moon.

Both the mirror and the sunshield are far larger than any existing rocket could carry. So instead of a single-piece mirror like Hubble and most ground-based optical telescopes, Webb's mirror is made of 18 gold-plated beryllium hexagonal sections, six of which will tuck away like a bird's wings. The sunshield will be furled like a sail until after separation from the launch capsule, when the telescope will unfold like a butterfly emerging from its cocoon.

Paula Cain and her colleagues in the "blanket shop" handcraft the multilayered thermal insulation that will protect the parts of the telescope that must stay (relatively) warm from the extremes of space and they will isolate the equipment that must stay extremely cold, safe from the heat of the telescope itself.

Like many Local 1501 members, Cain did not originally think about a career in the space program. Her college degree is in fashion design.

"It is not what I pictured, but really there's a lot of overlap," she said. With material that can cost north of \$900 a

*The largest space telescope in history, the Webb telescope will fold up to fit the launch capsule.*



## 'A Long and Winding Road'

# Two-year Effort Brings Bargaining Rights to Calif. Municipal Workers

said John Mather, the Nobel-Prize winning chief scientist for the telescope. "So we do everything we can here to get as close as possible so we can sleep at night."

For engineering technician Nate Allen, that means mounting components to hydraulic-driven tables that shake and rattle each piece, and then everything together.

"I make sure everything can survive the ride to space," Allen said.

In the acoustic testing lab, speakers like alpine horns, 5 feet high and as long as a car, recreate the sound waves generated by the rocket engines during liftoff.

Technicians in the static test department use hydraulic actuators to push, bend and pull on components. Goddard's enormous centrifuge can accelerate 2-ton payloads up to 30 times the force of gravity.

The most imposing tool in the torturer's dungeon is the five-story space environment simulator. It is a hulking steel globe that looks like a cross between an antique pressure cooker and the spherical submarines that carry marine biologists to the bottom of the ocean's darkest trenches. Local 1501 members lower satellites down into its well and nearly recreate the vacuum and frigid temperatures of space.

"We can't get rid of gravity, but in every other way we can, it's like space in there," Burkhardt said.

In late May, the framework housing the four sensors was lowered into the chamber. Massive vacuum pumps remove the air, down to 1 billionth of Earth's normal atmospheric pressure. Then liquid helium less than -420° Fahrenheit is pumped into the chamber. It takes nearly a month for the temperature to stop falling. Then sensors will undergo weeks of testing. Bringing it all back to room temperature and pressure requires another full month.

### 'All of Us Are Necessary'

Back in the clean room, Lepage said working at Goddard is more than the fulfillment of a dream, because it was even beyond what she imagined.

"I grew up in northern Ontario, sitting out and watching the stars," Lepage said. "I remember when the space shuttles first started flying I wrote down all their names because it felt so important, but also so far away."

The James Webb telescope has many hurdles to clear before the October 2018 launch date. But after years of delays, and questions about its budget, even its future, the telescope is coming together.

Lepage said the project is in some ways like being a member of the IBEW.

"Everything we do here is bigger than anyone of us, but all of us are necessary for it to succeed," she said.

See a video of the James Webb Space Telescope unfolding here: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=8G00MG73wcY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8G00MG73wcY)

As an equipment mechanic for the Crestline Sanitation District in southern California, Jim Schlichting deals with all kinds of challenges—some small, others large.

"I can fix anything from a vacuum cleaner to a Mack truck," the deep-voiced 63-year-old said. With prior experience doing similar work for the state, Schlichting's 10 years on the job with Crestline has allowed him to hone his maintenance skills while establishing friendships with other techs living and working near the mountainous San Bernardino National Forest two hours east of Los Angeles.

But in 2010, budget shortfalls prompted a referendum vote throughout San Bernardino County to split the sanitation district from the rest of the county's public services. The end result? The district's five-person board of directors would have unilateral say over wages and benefits for Schlichting and his co-workers.

At the time, Schlichting wasn't scared. "We had a memorandum of understanding from the board that basically promised they wouldn't do anything that would affect our pay in a bad way," he said.

It turned out to be a false promise. Wages flatlined. With no cost of living increases, workers soon realized they were lagging behind those at other municipalities in the surrounding region. With prices on mortgages, rent, groceries and gas going up in San Bernardino, Crestline's workers weren't earning enough to keep pace with inflation.

Then, Schlichting said, word spread that the district was planning to slash retirement benefits by as much as 7 percent.

"We all knew we were going to have to make up that cut through our wages," he said.

Frustration gave way to constructive talk among Schlichting and his 15 co-workers.

"We knew what we had to do," he said. "We needed representation. We needed to organize."

So Schlichting started looking for assistance, eventually reaching out to the IBEW after talking to several other unions. "I felt the IBEW was the most business-like and more professional than the others," he said.

### Moving Forward Together

At a June 2012 public meeting of the Crestline board of directors, two visitors showed up and took seats in the front row—IBEW organizers Bob Oedy and Mark Meyer. Members of the board, who had gathered to discuss the district's budget and worker pay, quickly realized the afternoon would be anything but business as usual.

In the days leading up to that meeting, all of Crestline's employees had signed



Sixteen employees of Crestline Sanitation District in southern California are the newest members of Perris Local 1436.

authorization cards in meetings with Oedy and Meyer, who are lead organizers for the International's Professional and Industrial Department in the Ninth District.

With the meeting just getting underway, Oedy raised his hand. "I wanted you to know that we received 100 percent of workers' support for union representation," he told the board.

Schlichting said the organizers' presence at the meeting was to send a simple message. "We wanted voluntary recognition," he said. "All of us had decided that we were going to have a problem with our pay if we didn't move forward together."

Meyer agreed. "It showed that the workers were uniformly committed," he said. "They just wanted a seat at the negotiation table."

The board scuttled the request that day, but later relented and granted recognition to the employees. The workers became new members of Perris Local 1436.

Solidarity had won the day—but it was about to be tested as the IBEW activists and workers prepared for contract negotiations, a grueling process that would span the next 15 months.

### 'He Walked Right Out of the Meeting'

In February 2013, Meyer, IBEW Ninth District International Representative Kelly Foster and the workers' negotiating committee met with district representatives to begin discussing a first contract.

They had their seat at the table. But they were, in a sense, alone.

"The negotiator for the district wouldn't even sit at the table with us at the beginning," Schlichting said of the labor attorney hired by Crestline. "For the first few talks, he would come in, we would ask questions, then he'd get upset and leave."

Foster, who has helped negotiate numerous contracts in the region, said there was "zero cooperation and no professionalism."

"The first few sessions didn't go so well," she said. "There was no back and forth, and not much movement toward having a fair, equitable negotiation."

But making their case before the district's board of directors had worked to get voluntary recognition, so Meyer and Foster went back to a March meeting to raise concerns.

Addressing the board again, Meyer said, "The Crestline attorney and the general manager would not sit down at the table, didn't really engage in negotiations and ultimately walked right out of the meeting. I believe that this conduct is completely unacceptable and demonstrated a lack of good faith."

Foster told the board that after the IBEW representatives had put forth their proposal, the Crestline attorney said he had no proposal, then deliberately sought to delay negotiations.

"Bargaining in good faith is a requirement of the law that both parties must make a sincere effort to reach an agreement," Foster told the directors. "A mutual obligation to the employer and employees is to negotiate with an open mind. The negotiators at the table must have full authority to reach an agreement. No delay games should occur."

The strategy worked. "After that, they changed out their attorney and brought in someone else," Foster said. "We could get back on track."

But even with an ostensibly more willing partner, Foster and Meyer said problems persisted.

"There was a mountain of paperwork," Meyer said, as the IBEW team combed through the workers' previous memorandum of understanding and studied template language from other

similar contracts from area IBEW locals.

And Crestline's side was, according to Foster, deleting items from already-agreed-upon documents without first discussing with the IBEW representatives.

"It was very shady," Foster said. "They kept taking things away and hoping we didn't notice. They got very angry when we pointed out that they weren't following the law. But that's what the IBEW is for. We do workers a disservice if we don't jump in there. We are there to give them the best of negotiations, and make sure bargaining is in good faith."

Gradually, the negotiators were able to secure a tentative agreement last September, before making additional changes that would finally coalesce into a first contract offer for the workforce.

"There were good days and bad days, ups and downs," Foster said. "At times, the workers were ready for things to be over with, but they held in there."

### A Unanimous Ratification

Hard work paid off May 15 when the unit unanimously ratified their first agreement. Among the gains were a 2 percent annual cost of living increase; salary increases based on an area survey of similar districts, classifications and job descriptions; improved medical and dental care; and more.

Schlichting said that he hopes that the relationship between the workforce and the district can now continue to be strengthened. "We didn't overstep trying to get what we deserved," he said.

Meyer said that the Crestline effort shows that even when an employer isn't aggressively slashing pay and benefits, workers who find their wages standing still can see themselves sliding further out of the middle class.

"It's not always takeaways that can spell disaster for workers," he said. "Just with changes in your expenses, you can find yourselves slipping."

Foster and Meyer said that the strength and determination from the workers was the guiding force in the campaign.

"Throughout this whole process, they were really unwavering in knowing that without a union, they were moving backward," Meyer said. "They were continually working together, constantly communicating to each other on the ground level."

Now two years after initially reaching out to the IBEW, Schlichting is resting easier, he said.

"It's been a long and winding road, but it feels really good to have this now," he said. "We're all good at our jobs, we were just asking for what we thought was reasonable. In the end, it worked out pretty well for us. I want to thank everyone in the IBEW who helped us through this long and difficult process of attaining a new first contract." ■

Connecticut IBEW Climbs  
with Tree Trimmer Wins

## LOCAL BRINGS SAFETY, JOB SECURITY IN LINE CLEARANCE



Nate Julian, left, and Ulises Vega conduct thorough pre-hazard assessments before each job.



Nick Webster, one of 450 Hartford, Conn., Local 42 tree trimmers, removes a limb from white pine for Lewis Tree Co.

### FACTS: LINE CLEARANCE TREE TRIMMING TRADE

**NUMBERS:** 12,000 IBEW members work as tree trimmers. Signatory contractors generated more than 14 million hours of labor in 2012.

**UNION DENSITY:** Industry more than 80 percent organized in Pacific Northwest. Much lower percentage organized in other regions. Many employers “double-breasted”—own union and nonunion subsidiaries.

**LOCAL UNIONS:** More than 50 locals have jurisdiction in the line clearance tree trimming sector. Chicago Local 9 includes 700 tree trimmers, the majority work for Commonwealth Edison contractors. Work increasing at rate of 20 to 30 new trimmers every year—result of state legislation mandating more trimming in advance of storms.

**SAFETY:** Line clearance tree trimming is one of most hazardous occupations in the country according to the National Institute of Safety and Health.

Tree trimming is covered under standards for the logging industry, a very different occupation from the line clearance sector. IP Hill has signed a letter to OSHA endorsing improved safety protections in the industry.

**SUBCONTRACTING:** Most utility companies rely on subcontractors. Rural Electric Associations, however, usually directly employ 2 or more tree trimmers for small jobs, subcontracting major work.

West Frankfort, Ill., Local 702 employs 275 tree trimmers employed by REAs and seven contractors. The local union maintains nearly 100 percent of line clearance tree trimming work in 11 counties of S.E. Missouri, 28 counties in Illinois and 13 in Southern Indiana.

Nick Webster paces toward the 60-foot white pine with the anticipation and caution of a mixed martial artist as the bell is rung.

After sliding the orange plastic muffs that straddle his white hard hat over his ears, he straightens the hat that carries the colors of Manchester, Conn., Local 42 and the logo of his employer, Lewis Tree Co.

Webster leans into the tree, wrapping his buckstrap around the pine’s trunk, clips it onto his harness and then thrusts the sharp spike of his climbers, strapped tight-

ly to his calves, into the wood.

Arching his back, he throws a green lanyard over the limb above him with a cowboy’s precision, catching its end as it loops back down and inserts it into the mechanical jack hitched to his harness, the lock and load reverberating.

On this spring afternoon in Bozrah, Conn., Nick Webster—former nonunion tree trimmer, now proud IBEW member—is doing his part to keep electricity flowing to his neighbors.

Clearing Connecticut Light and Power’s right of way, Webster is leaving an open path

for the company’s service vehicles and personnel to go to work during storms and other outages that have, over the past few years, left consumers without power for weeks on end.

He begins to spike and muscle his way up the pine, simultaneously attacking small branches, breaking them, while sharply kicking or sawing others with a hand saw drawn swiftly from the sheath on his belt.

Webster pulls his way 45 feet up, then over to his target: a large limb stretching into the right of way. He snaps back the rope on his power saw. The machine barely changes

## The Union Advantage: Safer Working Conditions in Trees

On a hard-packed dirt road in Dudley, Mass., Nate Julian, a 15-year tree trimmer and member of Manchester, Conn., Local 42, tucks a clipboard under his arm. His bucket truck is parked behind him on the road’s shoulder above a ravine, beneath a white pine that will be pruned back to protect the power lines of National Grid.

A crew leader for Lewis Tree Company, Julian, 35, is looking for all potential hazards that could put him or Ulises Vega, drop zone manager, standing by his side, in jeopardy.

For Julian, who coaches football, wrestling and baseball, sometimes seven nights a week, the assessment is another playbook. Winning is going home healthy and whole. Julian is lucky. His sole teammate, Vega, 23, who will stay on the ground as Julian ascends in the bucket, has been climbing trees for a year. The father of a newborn son, Vega is safety-conscious and vigilant. A sticker on his hardhat says, “IBEW-We Mean Business.”

“I’ve worked for nonunion companies,” says Julian, who was hired by Lewis after participating in a failed organizing campaign. “Nonunion shops treat you like a number. It’s just about making profit. At Lewis, the managers care about safety.”

With less turnover than in the nonunion sector, crews are more cohesive and attentive to each other’s strengths and weaknesses on job safety.

“This job is only hazardous if you make it hazardous, if you don’t plan your job,” says Julian.

The pride in working safely on a crew where workers take care of each other, he says, is matched by traveling through a town where he and his fellow union members have worked, leaving well-cut trees, safely distanced from power lines.

Fatal accidents in the tree trimming industry are 10 times the average for all industries according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Julian and Vega know the potential dangers. But they have seen the benefit of pre-job planning where veterans and new hires, alike, are encouraged to ask questions and offer solutions to safety challenges.

Pre-planning means developing strategies to keep out of power lines. It means studying the lean of the tree and properties of its wood, properly staging the bucket trucks, safely extending booms, factoring in wind and traffic and applying the proper tools to the job. Crews must understand each other’s hand signals and anticipate job site hazards from snakes and bees to vines.

Vega says even experienced climbers are always learning, constantly on the watch for the “widow-makers,” like broken branches that can fall on climbers or unexpected stress points that cause chain saws to bind up, turning a good day at work into a tragedy. And Vega says he’s appreciative that he isn’t under pressure to sacrifice safety for speed. “I work at a safe pace, making sure my cuts are made the right way,” says Vega, who likes moving through a variety of positions from climbing to working from a bucket to ground work.

“We need people we can trust to work safely, while maintaining the reliability of power lines, staying ahead of storms and leaving an area aesthetically-pleasing,” says Dave O’Brien, a Lewis Tree Co. manager. That means maintaining a safe working area, but also looking out for residents and landowners who are driving or walking nearby. Everything is more complicated during extreme weather.

Working union makes a difference during long stretches in weather emergencies. “If you’ve worked 14 hours in a storm and need a day off, you’re much more likely to get it in a union shop,” Julian says. ■

pitch as Webster slashes first the underside of the limb, then its top.

The limb and its branches land with a heavy thud on the upland drop zone behind yellow signs staged by his groundsman, well below the 115 KV transmission lines Lewis Tree Co. is paid to protect.

Webster, Army veteran and volunteer firefighter, is one in a family of 12,000 IBEW line clearance tree trimmers. He says he loves the challenge. Discomforts brought by the heat of August and bitter cold of December are more than repaid by the solitude and the magic—watching coyotes hunt for goose eggs or deer bounding across snow-covered valleys from some unseen threat.

He loves his job. But he and other tree trimmers say their contributions often go unnoticed. “It’s time we were properly recognized,” he says—not just to satisfy justifiable pride, but to improve the condition of thousands of his nonunion peers who risk their lives on the margins of an industry that is ripe for organizing.

Local 42 is setting an example on that challenging front. In 1973, the local represented 25 tree trimmers. Today, more than 450 carry Local 42 cards.

“When a new tree trimming company comes into an area, we go right out and try to organize their workers,” says State Organizing Coordinator Craig Duffy. Organizers tout better safety conditions, the

superior benefits in the union sector and wages that are often \$5 to \$7 an hour above the nonunion average.

Tree trimmers are a different breed, says Jeff Neurath, Local 42’s senior membership development representative.

“If you have sawdust running through your veins,” he says, “you are part of a family, even in the nonunion sector. You have each other’s backs and the lives of others in your hands. You learn to trust each other. You have camaraderie and develop lasting friendships.”

As part of a family, Neurath reasons, shouldn’t every union tree trimmer want his nonunion co-worker to have a voice on the job and the improved safety, better wages and benefits that come with a union contract? His question is being answered across North America.

Pittsburgh Local 1919 is the sole local union with exclusively line clearance membership. About 800 trimmers are employed by six contractors serving Duquesne Power and Light, PPL and First Energy. “We’re beating the bushes for new members, but we are running short on qualified trimmers,” says Local 1919 Business Manager Don Kaczka.

IBEW YouTube Channel presents Nick Webster, Nate Julian, Ulises Vega and other Local 42 tree trimmers in action. Visit [www.youtube.com/user/TheElectricalWorker](http://www.youtube.com/user/TheElectricalWorker). ■

## Trimming the Competition



**H**artford, Conn., Local 42 organizers work hard to establish close ties with some of the best workers during organizing campaigns. If a bottom-up campaign loses, they double down to convince workers to leave the nonunion sector and go to work for Lewis, the third-largest tree trimming company in the U.S. “We have a great relationship with Lewis Tree Co.,” says State Organizing Coordinator Craig Duffy.

“Stripping” these qualified trimmers from nonunion companies has proven effective, not just at building Local 42’s numbers, but at weakening the market position of New England-based employers who resist organizing. Local 42 has stripped 50 workers from nonunion companies in the past seven months alone.

As Local 42 builds greater density in the tree trimmer trade, sometimes nonunion employers choose to abandon jurisdictions rather than facing the prospect of new bottom-up campaigns or stripping. Local 42 is there to pick up nonunion trimmers they leave behind. “If we don’t win a campaign and they walk away, we take their best workers,” says Duffy.

After 18 months negotiating a first contract, Local 42 was waiting on a signature from ABC Tree, a Texas-based company, when the local received a certified letter announcing that the company would be pulling out of the jurisdiction, laying off 125 workers, says Jeff Neurath, Local 42’s senior membership development representative. Many of the workers ended up at Lewis Tree Co.

Thirteen months ago, after ABC ran, a new employer cemented ties. Local 42 signed Northern Land Clearing, a Massachusetts-based company, through a top-down campaign. Neurath says the company, which already owns one union-organized entity, had targeted upcoming work in the local’s jurisdiction and looked to the union as a willing partner. Work has increased as utility companies move to allay public criticism stemming from long power outages during storms over the last few years by intensifying tree and vegetation maintenance. ■



Local 42 tree trimmer Ken Graley delivered pizzas before joining the local more than two years ago to ‘learn a good trade.’



Workers across the country are struggling to make ends meet, and one cause is state and local government outsourcing.

Photo credit: Photo used under Creative Commons license from Flickr user Kevin Cortopassi.

# Report Highlights Increasing Danger of Outsourcing

**O**utsourcing has motivated state and local governments to turn to for-profit and private entities to replace important public functions. The result? Middle-class jobs of today are quickly becoming the poverty-level jobs of tomorrow.

Mary Sparrow, a custodial worker in Milwaukee County, Wis., faced the consequences of this phenomenon firsthand when she and 90 of her co-workers were laid off after the county outsourced to MidAmerican Building Services in 2009. At the time she was offered employment that slashed her hourly wages from \$15 an hour to \$8, without any of her previous benefits. For people like Sparrow who have families to support, it was nothing short of devastating.

Sparrow struggles to keep her voice steady as she shares not only her own struggles, but those of her friends.

“Some of them are relying on food banks to feed their families,” she said. “They’ve lost their homes and their cars, the cars they rely on to get them to work.”

Unfortunately, circumstances like Sparrow’s are becoming all too common nationwide.

A recently published report, “Race to the Bottom: How Outsourcing Public Services Rewards Corporations and Punishes the Middle Class,” released by advocacy group In the Public Interest examines the consequences of increased outsourcing. The privatization of public functions is causing not only a decline in middle-class wages, but is creating a gap of inequality that is slashing the middle class altogether.

In the past government jobs have helped elevate families into middle class

status through what researchers call “ladders of opportunity,” in which employees in those positions were able to grow professionally, and receive higher pay and benefits over time.

## Privatization is creating a gap of inequality that is slashing the middle class altogether.

But the private companies the governments outsource to seem to provide no such opportunities for growth, the report states: “All too often, taxpayers are inadvertently contributing to growing income inequality and the erosion of the middle class by turning middle class jobs into poverty-level jobs.”

The consequences of this phenomenon far extend the workers it directly affects—the community as a whole will bear the brunt of this burden, according to researchers.

State and local governments say that the outsourcing of labor saves taxpayers money, and provides faster, more efficient specialized services. The report authors found otherwise. Although governments may be cutting costs in wages, these private companies pay employees so little that they have high turnover rates, which result in insufficient training and poor performance reliability that cost taxpayers even more.

“When workers are paid wages with no room for growth, taxpayers will only see them give a basic performance,” Sparrow explains.

And ultimately, the taxpayers split the difference with hidden costs. The study states: “Low wages often mean that the number of Americans on public assistance rolls increases and these supplemental income and healthcare costs, instead of becoming the contractor employer’s responsibility, are merely shifted onto other parts of the government’s budget.”

Outsourcing also has a ripple effect that changes the quality of the working community at large, not just the employees whose positions have been replaced. This, in turn, generates more families living on low-income wages, and perpetuates a cycle of poverty, widening the gap between middle and low-income classes even further.

“This affects all workers, because it changes the standards for wages and benefits,” says Daphne Greenwood, professor of economics at the University of Colorado. Greenwood’s research demonstrates that without adequate wages, families are less likely to spend money on retail, food services, or other establishments in the local economy, resulting in poor economic growth for the entire community.

The big picture, according to the study, is that outsourcing hurts more than it helps.

“Governments are helping to create inequality. It is not happening by itself,” it said.

To read “Race to the Bottom,” go to <http://itpi.tw/1pMMUls>. ■

# NORTH OF 49°

## First District Launches National Marketing Campaign

**M**ore than 65,000 skilled IBEW members help keep the lights on and the economy moving forward in Canada—and the First District wants every Canadian to know.

A new national marketing campaign—“We’re There for You”—highlights the highly-skilled Canadians who belong to the IBEW.

“We’re showing the public how IBEW members support their communities right across this country,” said First District Vice President Bill Daniels.

The campaign comes at a time when organized labour has come under increased attack from right-wing politicians, pushing anti-union legislation traditionally found south of the border.

One of the biggest obstacles to growing the Brotherhood is the lack of awareness by the public about who the IBEW is, said First District International Representative Mike LeBlanc.

“We needed some brand awareness,” he said.

The marketing campaign has several components. One is a specialty website, [www.ibewcanada.ca](http://www.ibewcanada.ca), which introduces visitors to the kind of jobs IBEW members do every day, from wiring local hockey rinks to maintaining power stations and cable lines.

It also features local stories about IBEW members doing their part to help their community. Called “Local Heroes,” it profiles members who give their time and effort to charity and national service. It also lets readers post their own stories recognizing good deeds.

“Our locals are doing great things in their communities, and we wanted a way to highlight it,” said Kate Walsh, strategic coordinator for the First District’s young worker outreach campaign, NextGen. “Rather than the picture painted by the right-wing about ‘union bosses,’ we wanted to get out the real story about the people who make up the IBEW.”

The second part of the campaign is a 30-second television spot highlighting the wide range of sectors the IBEW works in.

“When disaster strikes or blackouts hit, we’re there,” says the spot’s narrator. “When things break down or need repair, we’re there.”

It began airing nationally in April. So far it has been seen by 25 million Canadians on multiple cable networks and on CBC’s Hockey Night in Canada, one of the country’s biggest programs.

The ad was funded in part from a donation from the Joint Electrical Promotion Plan, a joint labor-management program between the IBEW Construction Council of Ontario and the Electrical Contractors Association of Ontario.

The First District is encouraging local unions to run the ad in their own media markets, something Fredericton

Local 37 and Saint John Local 502 have already been doing in New Brunswick.

LeBlanc says one of the campaign’s goals is to brand the IBEW as a Canadian institution. “We’re an international union, but we’ve been in Canada for a very long time, and want fellow Canadians to know that we are an integral part of this country,” he said.

Bridging the language gap, the First District also put up billboards in Quebec to reach Canada’s French-speaking population. Print ads—including billboards

and newspaper ads—were also created for local unions to advertise in their own communities.

Walsh says the feedback they’ve gotten from members is overwhelmingly positive.

“Through the website and social media, members have been telling us how proud the commercial makes them feel,” she said. “We’re also educating our members on who the IBEW is, because they keep telling us they didn’t know we had members doing all those different



*A new website and commercials spotlight IBEW members.*

kinds of jobs.”

Go to [www.ibewcanada.ca](http://www.ibewcanada.ca) to read more about the campaign, and to watch the 30-second commercial. ■

## CIRCUITS

### Download the New IBEW App

IBEW members are usually on the go. Many depend on their phones or tablets to check the latest news and keep in contact.

Now you can get the latest from the IBEW Media team wherever you are with the latest version of the IBEW app.

The new app brings readers news and videos, including articles from IBEW.org and the Electrical Worker newspaper. Users will also be able to access officers’ editorials as well as letters to the editors and Local Lines.

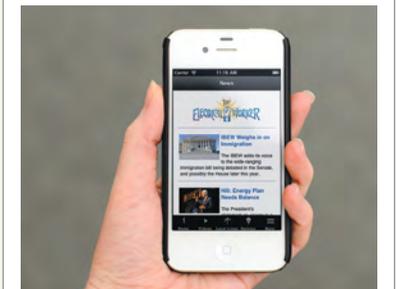
It replaces the old app, which premiered in 2012.

“We know how important mobile communications is for our members these days,” said International President Edwin D. Hill. “We want people to stay plugged in with the IBEW wherever they go.”

The new app—developed in-house by the IBEW Media Department—features a clean and easy-to-navigate interface, making it simple for users to find what they are looking for.

And it’s free.

You can get it at the Google App store or on iTunes. Just search for IBEW EW. ■



*The IBEW’s new app*

## AU NORD DU 49° PARALLÈLE

### Le Premier District lance sa campagne de promotion nationale

**Q**uelque 65,000 travailleurs qualifiés, membres de la FIOE, contribuent au bon fonctionnement et au maintien du système d’éclairage au pays, en plus d’aider l’économie canadienne à progresser! C’est le message que le Premier District veut transmettre à tous les Canadiens.

La nouvelle campagne de promotion nationale dont le slogan est « Nous sommes là pour vous » a été lancée le 1er avril et met en évidence les travailleurs canadiens hautement qualifiés qui font partie de la FIOE.

« Nous voulons démontrer à la population de quelle manière les membres de la FIOE contribuent au bien-être de leurs collectivités partout au Canada » déclare Bill Daniels, Vice-président du Premier District.

La campagne se déroule à une période où les syndicats font l’objet d’attaques de plus en plus nombreuses de la part des politiciens et politiciennes de droite qui exercent des pressions dans le but de faire adopter des lois antisyndicales, que l’on retrouvait traditionnellement au sud de la frontière.

« Un des principaux obstacles à la croissance de notre Fraternité est le manque de sensibilisation de la population quant au profil de la FIOE » poursuit Mike LeBlanc, représentant international du Premier District.

« Il fallait faire connaître notre marque et augmenter notre visibilité, » dit-il.

La campagne de promotion comporte plusieurs volets, dont un site web spécial. En visitant le [www.ibewcanada.ca](http://www.ibewcanada.ca), vous y découvrirez le genre de travail accompli chaque jour par les membres de la FIOE—du câblage des patinoires locales de hockey à l’entretien des centrales et des lignes électriques.

Le site comporte également une section où vous pourrez lire des histoires con-

cernant des membres de la FIOE qui ont apporté leur contribution pour venir en aide à leurs collectivités. On les qualifie de « Héros » de la section locale et on y fait le profil de membres qui consacrent leur temps et leurs efforts à des organismes de bienfaisance et de services nationaux. Les lecteurs peuvent également afficher leur histoire personnelle relatant leurs bonnes actions dans la communauté.

« Nos sections locales réalisent de grandes choses dans la collectivité et nous voulions trouver un moyen pour souligner ces accomplissements » déclare Kate Walsh, coordonnatrice stratégique de la campagne de sensibilisation « NextGen » initiée auprès des jeunes travailleurs par le Premier District.

« Considérant que l’image des chefs syndicaux a été ternie par les politiciens de droite, il était important que nous fassions connaître la véritable histoire des gens qui font partie de la FIOE » ajoute-t-elle.

Le deuxième volet de la campagne consiste en un message télévisé de 30 secondes qui met en évidence le large éventail des secteurs d’activités de la FIOE.

« Dans l’éventualité d’une catastrophe naturelle ou d’une panne d’électricité, la FIOE est là pour vous! S’il y a un bris ou si une réparation est requise, nous sommes là » dit le narrateur dans l’annonce télévisée.

Le message a commencé à être diffusé à l’échelle nationale au mois d’avril. Jusqu’à présent, l’annonce a été vue par quelque 25 millions de Canadiens sur plusieurs chaînes de télévision ainsi qu’au cours de « la Soirée du Hockey au Canada » au réseau anglais CBC, une des émissions les plus regardées sur les chaînes de télévision canadiennes.

La publicité a été financée en partie par un don du *Joint Electrical Promotion Plan*, un programme conjoint syndical-pa-

tronal entre le Conseil de la construction FIOE de l’Ontario et l’Association des entrepreneurs en électricité de l’Ontario.

Le Premier District encourage les sections locales à diffuser la publicité sur leur chaîne de télévision locale, comme l’ont déjà fait deux sections locales du Nouveau-Brunswick, la S.L. 37 de Frédéricton et la S.L. 502 de Saint John.

Comme le souligne le confrère LeBlanc, un des objectifs de la campagne est de promouvoir l’image de la FIOE en tant qu’institution canadienne : « Bien que la FIOE soit un syndicat international, la Fraternité est établie au Canada depuis de nombreuses années et nous souhaitons que nos concitoyens canadiens sachent que nous faisons partie intégrante du pays ».

Afin de rejoindre la population francophone du Québec, le Premier District a fait afficher des panneaux publicitaires en français. Des publicités imprimées, incluant des affiches et des annonces dans les journaux, ont également été créées pour les sections locales afin qu’elles puissent faire de la publicité au sein de leur communauté.

La consœur Walsh se réjouit de la réaction extrêmement positive des membres.

« Par l’entremise de notre site Web et de nos médias sociaux, les membres nous ont fait part de la fierté qu’ils ressentent à l’écoute de cette publicité. Par la même occasion, nous éduquons nos membres sur la nature et le profil de la FIOE, car ils nous répètent sans cesse qu’ils ne savaient pas que nos membres accomplissaient tous ces différents types de travaux » conclut-elle.

Visitez le [www.ibewcanada.ca](http://www.ibewcanada.ca) pour en connaître davantage sur la campagne et pour visionner la publicité de 30 secondes. ■

### Why Spanish Train-Maker is Leaving Wis.

Sad news out of Milwaukee. Spanish train-maker Talgo is vacating its factory in the city, four years after Gov. Scott Walker rejected millions in federal stimulus money to create a Milwaukee-to-Madison commuter line.

The funding, part of the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, was meant to create high-speed rail links across the country, which would have modernized America’s industrial infrastructure, creating good jobs in the process.

Soon after taking office in 2010, Walker turned down the \$810 million in federal rail funds. The monies, already budgeted for the state, went to Illinois instead.

Talgo set up its North American headquarters in Milwaukee shortly before Walker’s election, with plans to make the city a hub for rail manufacturing in the Midwest.

The project was expected to create tens of thousands of construction and manufacturing jobs.

“Walker turned his back on a lot of jobs,” said Milwaukee Local 494 Business Manager John Bzdawka. “Not just for electricians, but all the trades, plus manufacturing jobs at the Talgo plant.”



*Wis. Gov. Scott Walker rejected millions in federal stimulus money for a new commuter line, costing the state thousands of jobs.*

Photo used under a Creative Commons License from Flickr user Gateway Technical College

Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett told reporters April 30 that the plant closing means lost jobs and opportunities in a neighborhood that needs them.

"It's a tragedy to the people working here," he said.

Ohio Gov. John Kasich and Florida Gov. Rick Scott also turned down federal rail money. ■

## Obama Appoints Presidential Emergency Board

President Barack Obama announced the creation of a presidential emergency board June 15 to help end four years of stalled contract negotiations with the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen, the IBEW and the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority.

More than 400 workers engaged in a one-day strike June 14, which came at the end of a 30-day cooling period kicked off by SEPTA's decline of the National Mediation Board's offer of binding arbitration. The offer was accepted unconditionally by both unions.

Obama's action was in response to a request earlier in the day by Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Corbett.

The workers have been without a

new contract since 2009. SEPTA stonewalled negotiations early on, refusing to offer both unions an agreement similar to the one they reached with the Transit Workers Union Local 234, which represents city subway and bus workers.

IBEW System Council 7 General Chairman Arthur Davidson says he is disappointed by SEPTA's unwillingness to agree to binding arbitration.

"We've been reasonable in bargaining with SEPTA throughout this process," he said. "I'm confident that if we can present our position to a neutral third party, we can end this dispute."

The IBEW represents 220 electrical workers on the transit system.

"[We] are united in seeking an amicable resolution to our respective contract negotiations," said a joint statement from both unions. "Our objective remains to reach equitable settlements that address the needs of our members along with our friends and neighbors in the Philadelphia metropolitan area who rely on the SEPTA system."

The presidential board will hear evidence and recommend a settlement, sending labor and management back to



*President Obama appointed a presidential emergency board June 15 to settle contentious contract negotiations between labor and SEPTA.*

Photo used under a Creative Commons License from Flickr user heat\_fan1

the bargaining table.

System Council 7, IBEW represents 3,330 railroad electricians throughout the United States. ■

## VIDEO ON THE GO: 'Trimming the Competition'



Tree-trimming is one of the most dangerous occupations out there, so having a voice on the job is vital. Hear from some New England tree-trimmers who found their voice by joining Hartford, Conn., Local 42. Our stunning video shows why IBEW-trained professionals are a cut above. ■

## Bill Would Create Jobs, Save Energy

When it comes to renewable energy, Rhode Island lags far behind its neighboring New England states.

"Massachusetts and Connecticut have been booming when it comes to solar for a few years now," said Providence, R.I., Local 99 Business Manager Michael Daley. "Now it's time for us to catch up."

A bill sitting in the Rhode Island legislature would do just that, creating 250 new jobs and increasing economic output by upward of a half-a-billion dollars—all while cutting down on energy costs—by incentivizing renewable power. Under the Distributed Generation Growth Program Bill, small-energy generators—often powered by solar panels or wind turbines—can plug into the grid, allowing them to sell power to the state's main utility, National Grid.

An earlier version of the program was passed by the General Assembly in 2011, and the results have been significant, write Daley, New England Clean Energy Council President Peter Rothstein and Rhode Island Builders Association Executive Director in an editorial in the Providence Journal. Approximately 175 jobs were created in the first 18 months of the program alone.

"Renewable energy companies from within and outside of Rhode Island's borders lined up in droves to vie for the wind, solar, anaerobic digestion and small-scale hydro projects awarded through the 2011 program," they write.

Daley says some of that renewable work has translated into jobs for his members, including solar installation projects on landfills and commercial rooftops.

He says the current bill could help kick-start the industry, helping to bring solar companies to the state.

"We're working closely with state officials to bring the work here," he said.

And with unemployment in the

Ocean State running above 9 percent, anything that can create private jobs is a priority for lawmakers.

"[M]ore renewable energy projects mean more green jobs we can create to support those struggling with unemployment," said state Sen. Susan Sosnowski. ■



*New legislation could help get Rhode Island IBEW members back to work.*

# ORGANIZING WIRE

## Ill. ADT Techs Negotiating First Contract

Nearly 2,000 ADT employees across the U.S. and Canada enjoy better job security, fair wages and other benefits of an IBEW contract.

But getting there can often be a taxing long-distance run, as Dan Novitske is learning.

After a dynamic organizing campaign that tapped the initiative and skill of service and installation techs, Novitske and six of his co-workers voted overwhelmingly to join Rock Island, Ill., Local 145 last summer. The employees install and service home and small business security systems over a 1,000-mile region from southern Illinois all the way north to Minneapolis and Wisconsin.

Novitske, a three-year employee with nearly a decade in the industry, says there have been genuine perks to his job. "The pay opportunity has been good," he said. "We have been on a piecework plan, where you get paid for how hard you work and how much quality service you provide."

But that appears to be changing, he said, as the company looks to move toward an hourly pay plan that could drive down wages and dampen workers' initiative.

"The setup that they want to move to would slash pay about 30 percent across the board," Novitske said.

Newer problems persist, too. Many techs are currently working 10-hour days but only getting paid for eight hours, as the company frequently doesn't pay for travel time to and from certain assignments. "We're basically working for free part of every day," Novitske said. "That's one of the reasons we contacted the IBEW."

IBEW Local 145 Assistant Business Manager Cory Bergfeld was the lead organizer on last year's campaign and is now helping with negotiations. "The volunteer organizing committee has been solid," he said. "They have a very clear vision for how they want to improve their quality of life on the job, and they are taking the high road in these first contract talks."

Bergfeld said that assistance from outside locals has been valuable. He thanked activists from St. Louis Local 1; Peoria, Ill., Local 34; Minneapolis Local 292; and Rockford, Ill., Local 364. Illinois State Organizing Coordinator Dave Burns has also lent support and expertise, Bergfeld said.

Both Novitske and Bergfeld say that they are focusing on trying to ensure that there is a sense of back-and-forth dialogue when meeting with ADT representatives.

"I think we are proposing an acceptable hourly wage plan," Novitske said. "But the company is so far saying 'no.' We want to move forward. We're all hard workers, we help make the company successful, and we're just looking for a fair deal."

Florida-based ADT is the largest security company in North America with nearly 7 million customers. ADT posted \$837 million in revenue for the second quarter of the current fiscal year—up nearly 2 percent since 2013, according to a company press release.

"With the piecework, these guys got a chance to really go out there to sell and service the equipment," Bergfeld said. "If you hustled and put in the time, you could make good wages. But ADT is saying that they don't think pay should be tied to their performance. If that's the case, what's the motivator for these guys to try to do a good job?"

While Novitske says the road to their contract is tough at the moment, he encourages other ADT employees in similar positions to stand up for their rights on the job.

"The only way you are going to accomplish anything is through numbers," he said. "One person won't make a difference. It's much easier to get a company as big as ADT to listen to you when you can say, 'Look, all these people feel the same way.' When it's thousands of employees raising their voices together, it's a different story."

Check back with [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org) for more reporting on organizing and negotiating efforts at ADT. ■



*Seven Rock Island, Ill., Local 145 members who work for ADT are in talks for their first contract.*

Photo used under a Creative Commons License from Flickr user Mr. T in DC.



## Three Generations Strong

*Ferrell Flynn, a retired 50-year member of Bogalusa, La., Local 1077, with his family of fellow IBEW members, including sons Rickey and Roger Flynn of Baton Rouge, La., Local 995, and grandson Jimmy 'Big Shot' Flynn, Local 1077 organizer, pictured with International President Edwin D. Hill, International Secretary-Treasurer Salvatore "Sam" Chilia and Fifth District Vice President Joe Davis at the Fifth District Progress Meeting in New Orleans last August. From left are Chilia, Rickey Flynn, Ferrell Flynn, Hill, Roger Flynn, Davis and Jimmy Flynn.*

# LOCAL LINES

## Promoting Our Trades

L.U. 1 (as,c,ees,ei,em,es,et,fm,i,m,rts,s,se,spa,st&ws), ST. LOUIS, MO—Local 1 actively promotes our trades through the St. Louis Electrical Connection, our partnership with NECA in St. Louis. Volunteers promoted our expertise to thousands of potential customers at the St. Louis Home and Garden Show, the St. Charles County Electrical Expo, the Spirit of St. Louis Air Show and more.

We also took our positive message to school superintendents at the Missouri School Administrators Convention. Our volunteers spoke to numerous attendees about the value and professionalism we bring to projects. Additionally, St. Louis Electrical Connection's government affairs director, Timothy Green, gave a presentation on prevailing wage and its positive impact on tax revenues, which benefit school districts across the state, especially in rural areas.

Local 1 volunteered with Rebuilding Together's St. Louis Chapter. Our volunteers made 26 homes electrically safe for low-income elderly and disabled homeowners. Approximately 100 members volunteered for this one-day event supported by 16 area NECA contractors, who provided service trucks and donations of materials from local supply houses and others. Local 1 has helped improve 400+ homes since joining Rebuilding Together's efforts 11 years ago.

We mourn the death of: members Charles White, Edwin Kamp, Michael Smith, Jack Gloeckler, James Wilfong, Normal Erder, John Hill Jr., Ronald Hintze, Donald Reese, Glen Andrews, John Buschart, Joseph D. McNamee, Thomas Auer, Charles Kemp, Thomas Vanderbos, John Whitelaw, Alonzo Rogers and William Vogler III.

*John Moyle, P.S.*

## Tribute to Longtime Members

L.U. 9 (catv,govt,lctt,o&u), CHICAGO, IL—Our 48th Annual "Old Timers" Party was April 11. More than 800 people attended to honor the 40 members who retired in 2013. We appreciate their longtime union service and wish them a happy retirement.

Congratulations to members who successfully completed the IBEW Local 9 Lineman Training Program: Allie Boyne, Michael Dammer, William Freitag, Andrew Molenkamp, Christian Ochab, Pete Rodriguez, Joseph Roszak, Glenn Yeager and David Zizich. Best of luck to them as they pursue their careers in the trade.

Bus. Mgr. Robert Pierson held a dinner to honor longtime members. Honorees included: 50-year members Reynald Berube, Raymond Kwiatkowski and Tommie Lowery; 55-year member Malachy Gallagher; 60-year members Kenneth Knutson, Frank Kumer, George Ostensen John Reidy, Bernhardt Schmidt and Franklin Wallis; and 65-year members John Leitner, John Rabiola and Ramond Spizzirri.

Mark your calendars for the 9th Annual Local 9 Golf Outing—scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 9. Sign in will be at 10:30 a.m., with a shotgun start at 11:30 a.m. The day includes 18 holes with a cart, food and beverages on the course, and a dinner afterward.

The annual Local 9 picnic will be held at Brook-



Local 9 honored retirees at the 2014 "Old Timers" Dinner: front row, Joseph Gonzales (left), John Shipley, Dave Maslowicz, Norma Ruggio, Thomas McLaughlin; back row, Gerald Atella, Pierce Williams, Edward Olson, Alex Moreno, Joseph Gogolak and John Holmgren.



Local 11 delegates attend Women Building California & the Nation Conference. Photo courtesy Los Angeles/Orange County Building Trades Council.

field Zoo on Saturday, Sept. 6. Members and their families will enjoy parking access, zoo entry, full buffet lunch and beverages in a private picnic area, unlimited carousel and "safari" rides, as well as entrance to the petting zoo and the splash pad. Please watch your mail for important details for the event.

*Mary Beth Kaczmarek, P.S.*

## L.A. Water & Power Project

L.U. 11 (i,rts&spa), LOS ANGELES, CA—Twenty-three women from Local 11 participated in a historical gathering of 850+ tradeswomen from throughout California, the U.S., Canada and Australia at the 4th Annual Women Building California & the Nation Conference in Sacramento, CA, the weekend of April 26. The annual

conference enables tradeswomen to network and hone skills to develop strategies for recruiting, retaining and advancing women into leadership positions to excel in our industry.

The Scattergood Unit 3 Repowering Project in El Segundo is well underway. The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power is overhauling its power supply for a cleaner, more efficient power plant. The majority of the electrical work on this \$950 million project will be performed by Mass Electric with smaller portions being done by Rosendin Electric and Chorney. We anticipate manning up to around 165 electricians at its peak. This project is expected to be completed in 2015.

Members present were proud to see Rec. Sec. Larry Caldwell receive his 40-year service pin, presented by Pres. Richard "Dick" Reed at our general membership meeting on April 17. Congratulations, Larry, and thanks for your dedication to the IBEW and our local union!

*Diana Limon, P.S.*

## AMI Agreement with ComEd

L.U. 15 (u), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—Pres./Bus. Mgr. Dean Apple proudly announced that the Executive Board approved increasing our Local 15 Scholarship Award to \$1,000, up from the previous \$500. We are still offering 10 individual scholarship awards to Local 15 members and their immediate families.

On the 2014 Scholarship Committee are: Sue Weyhrauch (Oakbrook Call Center), Christine Watkins (Commercial Center), Tamara Blake (Will County Station), Victor Hughes (Byron), Tony Lewis (Maywood) and Casey Haun (Highland Park).

We signed an Advanced Meter Infrastructure (AMI) Agreement with ComEd that defines a process to install the smart meters and adds positions for Local



Local 1 members and officers volunteered with Rebuilding Together's St. Louis Chapter on May 4.

## Submitting Local Lines Articles

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

## Trade Classifications

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

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

15. The company's goal is to install the smart meters by the end of 2018 instead of the original target of 2021.

The transfer of the fossil stations from Edison Mission Energy to NRG Energy took effect April 1. This transfer was the end result of the EME bankruptcy. NRG bought substantially all of EME's assets, which included the four fossil stations (Waukegan, Will County, Joliet and Powerton).

Our Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (EWMC) held a 50/50 raffle and awarded \$628 to the winning member.

We held a stewards school in April to train 18 new stewards.

Doug Vedas, P.S.



2014 Scholarship Committee at Local 15.

## Members at Chicago 911 Center Recognized for Excellence

L.U. 21 (catv, govt&t), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—IBEW Local 21 members working in the City of Chicago Office of Emergency Management and Communications (OEMC) 911 Center were recognized for their outstanding work. Rita Jozefowicz was named Employee of the Year. For the first time ever, Chicago is the home of the Illinois Dispatcher of the Year, Amy Lovell. Amy is a police communications operator and has worked in the OEMC since 1998. During the awards ceremony many other IBEW members were acknowledged for their great work. They are true professionals, who deliver the lifesaving services needed by the public while balancing the stress of their jobs.

Last year, five Local 21 members worked together to dispatch the necessary resources to ensure that no police officers were harmed during a shooting. Two operators heard a "shots fired" communication from a Chicago police district. They realized their officers were caught in the middle of a shootout. The operators broadcast the event to police officers in surrounding districts. As numerous offenders fled the scene, our members dispatched a CPD helicopter along with canine and Violence Reduction units. Numerous weapons were recovered and the offenders were arrested. Most importantly, no officers were injured.

We congratulate and thank all of our members working at the City of Chicago 911 Center for going above and beyond the call of duty in their lifesaving jobs.

Bob Przybylinski, R.S./P.S.

## NextGen Meet & Greet

L.U. 37 (em, o&u), FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA—The Local 37 NextGen Committee recently hosted another successful Meet & Greet for members age 35 and younger from Saint John, New Brunswick and surrounding areas. The Meet & Greets have proven to be a fun and informal way to engage younger members who are curious about the union and/or want to become more involved. The events provide a relaxed environment to enjoy a bite to eat while talking about issues with union leaders, learning about the union, exchanging ideas, and having the chance to meet other members.

Local 37 knows that positive membership

engagement is vital to its growth and its ability to keep relentlessly working hard to improve the lives of members and their families. Based on the feedback and results, Local 37 also knows that this kind of outreach is particularly important in helping younger members find a voice in the union and providing assurance that their union is listening.

The NextGen Committee looks forward to planning its next event and hopes to encourage even more young members to get to know their union!

Ross Galbraith, B.M.

## IBEW Community Service

L.U. 41 (em, es, govt, i, se&spa), BUFFALO, NY—At the end of April, IBEW Local 41 members Bryan McLaughlin, Bob Landahl, Dominic Montaldi and Jud Payne woke up early on a cold, dreary morning to sell newspapers for The Buffalo News Annual Kids Day. The papers sell for \$1 with all proceeds going to Variety Children's Charity. The charity benefits the sick, handicapped and underprivileged children in western New York. Local 41's participation this year marked our third year for the event. Thanks, brothers, for taking the time to give a little back to our community.

On May 2-3, several Local 41 members played in the 51st Annual IBEW O.P.C. Hockey Tournament held in Hamilton, Ontario. Thirteen members from our local played. The camaraderie gained through these types of experiences is invaluable to our Brotherhood. Shared revelry and competition are the foundation for memories that will not be forgotten. Anyone interested in hockey, softball or any other event, please contact the Local 41 office.

With summer here and everybody having many activities to attend, please be safe whether you're at home, at social events or on the job.

Gregory R. Inglut, A.B.M.



Local 41 Bros. Bryan McLaughlin (left), Jud Payne, Bob Landahl and Dom Montaldi sell newspapers for the Annual Buffalo News Kids Day to benefit Women and Children's Hospital.

## Brotherhood & Service

L.U. 43 (em, i&rts), SYRACUSE, NY—In March, Local 43 members participated in "America's Greatest Heart/Run Walk" in Utica and the American Heart Walk in Syracuse. In total, 45 members braved rain, brisk winds and the cold to raise \$7,500+ for the American Heart Association. [Photo at bottom, right.]

Also in March, 95 members and their families enjoyed a day at Hope Lake Lodge indoor waterpark. The event, sponsored by Local 43's Brotherhood Fund, was a welcome break from a long winter in Central New York. The Lake Lodge is part of the Greek Peak Mountain Resort in Cortland County, which has employed Local 43 members on several projects. It was a good event not only to give back to a business that uses our contractors, but also to show our future generations what the Brotherhood is all about.

Gene Townsend, P.S.



Local 47 Bus. Mgt. Pat Lavin (right) presents IBEW Life Saving Award to member Mitchell Green.

## Election of Officers

L.U. 47 (lctt, mo, o, u&uow), DIAMOND BAR, CA—Happy Independence Day. Remember the members of the Armed Forces, past and present, who make this day and every day in a free country possible. Honor them by making sure you are registered to vote and by participating in the upcoming local, state and federal elections.

This is an election year for Local 47 union officers. The following officers were elected by acclamation with no opposition: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Pat Lavin (convention delegate); Vice Pres. Ron Baker; Rec. Sec.

Shane Sullivan; Treas. Greg Vetter; Executive Board members Chris Avila (General Meeting), Rich Paul (Eastern), Michael Slye (Basin-East), Terrance Bynum (Basin-West), Willie Rios (Western), Hipo Tavarez (Northern), John Baca (Muni's and Independents), Arnold Trevino (Outside Construction); and Examining Board members Trevor Kirkland, Larry Lopez Jr. and Scott Knudtson. As of this writing, the results for president and the

remaining convention delegate seats were scheduled to be available at the end of June. Congratulations to those who've already won and good luck to those awaiting the final vote as of press time.

We have ratified successor three-year agreements with the cities of Riverside and Anaheim with a wage increase each year.

Member Mitchell Green received the IBEW Life Saving Award presented by Bus. Mgr. Pat Lavin. Bro. Mitchell successfully removed on obstruction in the airway of a co-worker. He remembered the ABCs of first aid—airway, breathing, and circulation.

We are sad to report the passing of members

Chad Berry and Billy Trueheart. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families and friends.

Work safe, live well, work union!

Stan Stosel, P.S.

## 2014 Midterm Elections — 'Support Workers & Vote'

L.U. 51 (catv, lctt, o, ptc, rtb, t, u&uow), SPRINGFIELD, IL—The November election will be here before we know it. Republican gubernatorial candidate Bruce Rauner represents the biggest threat that employees in Illinois have ever faced. Rauner has been vocal with his hostility toward unions ... he simply wants to dismantle them, claiming they are "harmful." In fact, Rauner supports so-called "right-to-work" laws that strip workers of their right to form strong unions and bargain for a better life. Some of our members may disagree with Gov. Pat Quinn's leadership, but voting for Bruce Rauner could be detrimental to our members' quality of life. We have the ability to stop Rauner's plan to drive down wages and benefits of average working people—this November, get out and vote!

Our construction outlook is very favorable. We have many open calls for our line construction.

Summer is a fun time—make it a safe time, too. Work safely today and every day. Please attend your monthly unit meetings.

Karlene Knisley, B.R.



Local 53 congratulates apprenticeship graduates.

## Contract Negotiations

L.U. 53 (lctt, o, rts&u), KANSAS CITY, MO—Bus. Rep. Dexter Drerup started negotiations with SHO ME Power Cooperative on May 8. At press time, the current agreement was set to expire June 30 at midnight.

A Showing of Appreciation: The Retiree Luncheon was held May 1. Attendees enjoyed reuniting with familiar faces and spending time with members who helped make this local what it is today. The occasion was a great success. There was plenty of good food and conversation, and everyone had a good time.

Get a "CLUW": Vice Pres. Tracy Riley attended the Coalition of Labor Union Women's 40th anniversary celebration held in Chicago March 25-29. Labor



Local 43 members, family and friends led by Bus. Mgr. Don Morgan at the American Heart Walk in Syracuse.

## LOCAL LINES

women from all across the country came together at the CLUW events to acknowledge the achievements accomplished and recognize what is yet to be done. Labor women, we encourage you to “get a CLUW.” ... Visit website [www.cluw.org](http://www.cluw.org). See how your local can get involved.

Let's Celebrate: Bus. Mgr. Bob Stuart, Pres. and Bus. Rep. Steve White, and Bus. Rep. Brett Stone attended our first annual apprenticeship graduation dinner held April 18 to recognize the graduating apprentices. It was a very nice turnout. Local 53 congratulates these new journeyman wiremen. Job well done, graduates.

Hope all finds and keeps you well ... Local 53!

*Tracy A. Riley, V.P.*

## IBEW Service Awards

L.U. 71 (lctt,o&rtb), COLUMBUS, OH—Local 71 is honored to present years-of-service awards. Award recipients this year include: 50-year members—Tommy Douglas, William Howard, John McClung, Wallace Miller, Troy Rinehart, Howard Sensbach, Daniel Tucci, Robert Wine and John Zuccola; 55-year members—Jackie Bowman, Robert Krepps and Herman Napier; and 60-year member—Roy Howell. Congratulations to all on your longtime service and thank you for all that you have contributed to this local.

Our work remains strong in all areas. If interested in work here, give Larry a call at the hall.

Have a safe summer and remember: Buy American made products!

*Bryan Stage, B.M./F.S.*

## Linemen Working Together — For a Brighter World



*A Local 77 journeyman lineman has helped institute Recycling for Linemen project.*

L.U. 77 (lctt,mt,o,t&u), SEATTLE, WA—Brady Hansen is a Local 77 journeyman lineman for Avista Utilities, a midsize utility company based out of Spokane, WA. Last spring, Brady was working as a temporary instructor for the Avista Lineworker Program and was asked to lead a tour of visitors from Energie Bedrijven Suriname (EBS), a power company in the Republic of Suriname. During the tour, EBS managers shared that they had no training program for the linemen in Suriname, and while they realized they needed one it would be a large undertaking.

When the tour ended, Bro. Brady thought about the situation the visitors expressed regarding lack of training and was compelled to do something about it. He volunteered to visit Suriname to help create a comprehensive training program, later named the “Suriname American Brotherhood Initiative.”

Bro. Hansen has not stopped there, helping to institute Recycling for Linemen, a grassroots project that recycles functioning safety gear for linemen in developing nations, who would otherwise not have it, by sending them the PPE (personal protective equipment) that will no longer be used when the new OSHA rules come into effect. The first initiative was in Haiti to help repair and upgrade the infrastructure damaged by the earthquake in 2010.

Bro. Brady Hansen challenges the IBEW to think local and act globally.

*Pat Darling, P.S.  
Lynne Moore, P.S.*

## 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrated

L.U. 97 (u), SYRACUSE, NY—In April this year, Local 97 proudly celebrated its 20th year anniversary. Prior to our 1994 amalgamation into Local 97, we consisted of 12 local unions from upstate New York affiliated with former System Council U-11. Each former SCU-11 local had its own president, vice president, recording secretary and treasurer, and represented the workers of Niagara Mohawk. Our former officers fought and won many battles with the company and established a better life for members.

Today we represent workers from 10 different companies across New York state with significantly less staff, but continue the honor and tradition of upholding the highest standards, job protection, wages and benefits for our members.

In order to continue going forward, we must find ways to engage new members of our local. In June 2014, we established a New Member Orientation Class. This class will be given by our staff and cover many topics regarding the IBEW and Local 97. The goal is to teach new members about the importance of being part of a union and all the benefits of a bargaining unit. We want new members to feel the power that comes from our union, with the hope that they will want to become tomorrow's leaders.

*James Zabinski, V.P.*

## Sports Night & Wellness Event

L.U. 103 (cs&i), BOSTON, MA—Local 103's 3rd Annual Blood & Wellness Education Event was held in April. The goal to get 200 donors was a success. Filling Local 103's lobby, individual stations with trained professionals were there to help educate local union members, along with blood donors from the community, on health issues such as blood pressure, nutrition, diabetes, skin cancer and the effects of smoking. Dr. John Mahoney, a member of the Local 103 Wellness Team who specializes in neurology, spoke to our membership about the importance of wellness, annual physicals and preventive screenings. To further educate our members on wellness, a monthly lecture will be held starting in September at the union hall.

The 33rd Annual Sports Night was held again at UMASS Boston, where journeymen and apprentices faced off on the basketball court and in the hockey rink. The basketball game went into overtime, where the journeymen won with a final score of 45-38; journeyman Mike Paulson was awarded MVP. In hockey, the journeymen also won by 11-5; journeyman John Rafferty was awarded MVP. After the games, members and their families were all invited back to the union hall for refreshments, prizes and music—giving the kids a chance to play, and friends an opportunity to catch up with one another.

*Kevin C. Molineaux, P.S.*



*At Local 103 Wellness Event, Dr. John Mahoney speaks with a member.*

## IBEW/EWMC Events in July: Car, Bike & Truck Show

L.U. 111 (em,govt,lctt,mt,o,rtb,spa&u), DENVER, CO—The Outside Construction Unit has a new assistant business manager, Nate Gutierrez. He attended the Eighth District Progress Meeting in May this year and will be getting acclimated to his new duties representing the membership of Local 111. Nate brings 14 years' experience and knowledge to his new position with the local. We happily welcome him aboard.

Other happenings around the local: Two Xcel Energy contractors, NPL Construction Co. and KS Energy Services, are leaving the Denver area, which opens a window of opportunity for IBEW Local 111 as other union contractors increase their work load. Spring 2014 is shaping up to be very promising for Local 111; we have been very busy on the Outside construction side. Just in the months of March and April, our “A” membership increased by nearly 70 new members covering the board for all of the classifications. There was a Voluntary Organizing Committee (VOC) meeting on organizing; at present we have three campaigns in progress (Asplundh, W.L. Contractors, and Highline Electric).

The Outside Construction Unit held a Stewards Class; it was well-attended and everyone was very positive. Negotiations began in May with NorthWestern Electric.

Don't forget: Our 2nd Annual IBEW/EWMC Car, Bike & Truck Show and Motorcycle Poker Run will be Saturday, July 26. Everyone is welcome. More information is available at Local 111 website [www.ibew111.com](http://www.ibew111.com).

*Mike Kostecky, P.S.*

## Shop Steward Training

L.U. 125 (lctt,o,t&u), PORTLAND, OR—The local offered shop steward training to current and prospective shop stewards. Representing members employed by investor-owned utilities, government, cooperatives, PUDs, and NECA, participants were exposed to labor law, Local 125 expectations, and overall responsibilities associated with serving as a shop steward. Facilitated by Local 125 Bus. Reps. Adam Arms and Marcy Grail, with assistance from Bus. Mgr. Travis Eri, attendees, many with less than six months in their role, were able to interact with other business representatives and Local 125 staff present at the training. “This is a great opportunity to share information not only from the local but peer to peer as union members,” said Eri. The local plans to offer the basic class again this fall in Pendleton. Member interest will determine the location of the Advanced Shop Steward course that will be offered as well.

Summer Activities: This year's Northwest Lineman's Rodeo will be held July 26 in Gresham, OR. The local's annual fundraisers for the Oregon Burn Center will be held in August. Our golf tournament is Aug. 15, and the softball tournament occurs Aug. 16-17. Call the Local 125 business office at 503-262-9125 for additional information.

*Marcy Grail, A.B.M.*



*Local 125 shop steward training class attendees.*

## Video Board Installation

L.U. 177 (bo,ees,i,mo,o&pet), JACKSONVILLE, FL—The work picture in the Jacksonville area has picked up some but is still a long way from where it needs to be. Most projects in our area seem to be only a few months in duration.

New video boards, reportedly the world's largest of their kind, are currently being installed at Everbank Field by Local 177 and Miller Electric.

Everyone who attended the Easter Egg Hunt had a great time. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped make it happen.

Unit 1 has entered negotiations for a new contract to begin on July 1.

*Alan Jones, Pres./P.S.*



*Bro. Pete Mathews grills burgers at the Local 177 Easter Egg Hunt.*

## IBEW Community Service

L.U. 191 (c,i,mo,rtb&st), EVERETT, WA—As summer approaches, both the weather and the work picture are heating up. As temperatures climb at this early spring writing, the work remains strong on the east side and is beginning to pick up on the west. The weather may change but the work should carry on.

Kudos go out to the IBEW for contributing \$1,000, and to our members who volunteered their time and labor, to help a couple of charities. Members volunteered to work on a triplex for homeless families in Ferndale and a Senior Center in Mt. Lake Terrace. Thank you also to PowerTec, VECA and All-Phase Electrical Supply in Burlington for helping with manpower and material.

Our local elections are over, and I wish to thank all those who stepped forward to run for office and congratulate those who won.

Plans for our summer activities are underway. The local will hold picnics for our members on both sides of the mountains, as well as our annual golf tournaments. Contact the hall for details of these and other activities the local is planning.

*Tim Silsbee, P.S.*

## IBEW Electrician & Awardee

L.U. 193 (i,lctt,o,rts,spa&u), SPRINGFIELD, IL—IBEW Local 193 congratulates Bro. Silas Johnson of the Nehemiah Project on Springfield's east side. Silas is recognized as a community leader and utilizes IBEW labor on all worthy projects. Outstanding, Rev. Johnson!

Local 193 electrician Terry Agans received an Employee of the Month Award presented by Illinois Sec. of State Jesse White at a special ceremony (see photo, pg. 13). Congratulations to Terry!

The Electrical Division of the USA Skills Competition was judged by Bros. Mike Conklin and Joe Brunk. The competition was for Illinois high school students. Thank you, brothers.

The upcoming Illinois governor's race offers drastic contrast between the candidates, incumbent Gov. Pat Quinn and multimillionaire Bruce Rauner. If elected, Rauner would

take the state down the anti-worker road of Wisconsin and Indiana, adopting corporate ways that reverse hard-fought labor achievements. Please vote your paycheck/benefits in this election.

Judge Ann Callis is a great candidate to represent the Illinois 13th District in the U.S. Congress—and she's a great friend of union labor.

Have a safe and patriotic 4th of July.

With regret, we report the passing of several members: Carl Gillock Jr., Hugh "Mac" McCue, Tom McGrew and Jim Ushman.

Don Hudson, P.S.



Local 193 award recipient Terry Agans (center), Bus. Mgr. Glenn Baugh (second from left), Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White (third from left), foreman Jim Speis (third from right) and other officials attend ceremony.

## Apprenticeship Graduates

L.U. 197 (em&i), BLOOMINGTON, IL—Congratulations to our most recent apprentice graduates, who are Local 197's newest journeymen. A nice graduation dinner was held at Baxter's Grille. Graduates are: Cody Batty, Nathan Feit, Mitch Karr, Aaron Liming, Ahmad Manns, Alan McKimmy, Mike Osterbuhr and Troy Prescott. Recognized for the highest grade-point average for the five-year program was Alan McKimmy. Mike Osterbuhr won a special award as the apprentice who was most active and involved in the community. We wish you all the best in your careers—you are the future of the IBEW.

Work remains slow in our jurisdiction. The Hy-Vee project should get underway this summer, and we look forward to the Hyatt Place Hotel project getting started as well. Thanks to all the locals putting our brothers and sisters to work; we hope to be able to return the favor one day.

Some upcoming events for the summer include: the election of officers (June 21); Walk With Me for Easter Seals (July 19) at the Corn Crib; and the 26th Annual Golf Outing (July 26) at Fairlakes Golf Course. For more information visit our website [www.ibew197.org](http://www.ibew197.org) or call the hall. Remember: Get involved in the local and stay involved!

Mike Raikes, Pres.

families gathered to clean up the Delaware River Canal Park in Morrisville, PA. This type of effort by our brothers and sisters and their families should never go unnoticed or unappreciated by either our organization or our communities. It is through these good works that we can proudly say, without reservation, that our members are responsible, productive, and above all, caring individuals who are woven tightly into the fabric of their communities.

Spring also brought the return of another annual event: the dinner honoring our retirees. Commemorative watches and service pins were awarded according to length of service.

After a great meal, including a raw bar, members could retire to an outdoor lounge to enjoy a hand-rolled cigar. As the old saying goes: a good time was had by all! It is an honor to attend a function that pays tribute to those who worked so hard so that we might have it just a little bit easier than they did.

Brian Jacoppo, P.S.

## Summer Work Picture

L.U. 291 (i,mo,o,rtb&rts), BOISE, ID—Greetings to all. As we are now in the summer months, inside work is holding steady in our jurisdiction. We are also experiencing an increase in line construction in our jurisdiction. Thanks to our surrounding locals for providing employment for our members at times when we couldn't. In particular, thanks to Locals 48, 112 and 714.

We send congratulations to our graduating apprentices: Bryant Adam, Nick Baumann, Chris Gardner, Derrick Kamper, Jose Lopez and Jeremy Redman.

We also congratulate Nick Baumann for his attendance at 36 consecutive union meetings and Jeremy Redman for his attendance at 48. Their participation and dedication to the labor movement, beginning at the apprentice level, demonstrates their commitment to their fellow union brothers and sisters. These are our future leaders who are setting standards for up-and-coming apprentices to follow. This type of participation is what makes our local strong.

We look forward to seeing everyone at our annual picnic on July 19. In solidarity.

Ed Huskey, Organizer

## Media Campaign Highlights

L.U. 309 (i,lctt,mo,mt,o,rts,spa&u), COLLINSVILLE, IL—Local 309 has put the finishing touch on our media campaign to market what our members do for a living. In addition to highway billboards and radio spots, we are now doing television commercials during St. Louis Cardinals baseball games. The ads feature several branches of our industry while also highlighting our training.

Work is still slow for the inside branch.

Outside line construction is a walk-through and looks to be that way for the near future.

Our new website will be up and running by the time this is published.

On April 12, a group of family, friends and IBEW Local 309 linemen gathered to celebrate the retirement of journeyman lineman Bob Bailey. Bob was

initiated into Local 309 in 1971. With 40+ years in the trade, Bob's knowledge and influence have helped shape Local 309's apprentice linemen and journeymen as well. Bob is well-respected as a mentor, a top-notch journeyman and a strong union brother. We wish you well in your retirement, Bob ... from everyone at IBEW Local 309.

Work safe and attend your local union meetings.

Scott Tweedy, A.B.M.

## 'It Starts With Us'

L.U. 343 (i,spa&st), LE SUEUR, MN—The labor movement never stands still. In the 1820s, skilled tradesmen, mill and factory workers pushed for a reduction in working hours from 14 to 10 hours a day. It was not until 1840 that Pres. Van Buren ordered the 10-hour workday on federal projects. The Milwaukee Knights of Labor rallied for an 8-hour work day in 1886. Twenty-eight years later, Ford Motor Co. was one of the first businesses to implement the 8-hour workday in 1914.

The labor movement also shortened the workweek. In 1938, Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Fair Labor Standards Act, laying the foundation for what has now become the 40-hour Monday through Friday workweek. Presently, two Wisconsin state senators want to allow a 7-day workweek to "benefit" employees. In Minnesota, there are local unions losing their breaks, thus creating a longer workday. An 1800s labor reformer coined the phrase, "Eight hours of labor, eight hours' recreation, and eight hours' rest." This belief stands true today.

The annual summer picnic is scheduled for Aug. 9 at Spring Lake Park in Mankato. Thanks go out to picnic committee members Mark Rutten, Larry Ternes, Rich Resch, Kevin Carroll, Jim Backus and Shane Meier for putting together a 10-hour day of family fun and brotherhood.

Tom Small, P.S.

## Iowa Labor Hall of Fame

L.U. 347 (em,i,mt,rtb,rts&spa), DES MOINES, IA—New wind turbine projects are coming to Local 347's jurisdiction. This is another step forward for the renewable energy sector. We will be watching for more developments.

On May 3, The Iowa Federation of Labor inducted Sen. Tom Harkin into the Iowa Labor Hall of Fame. Sen. Harkin is the first person ever to receive that honor without having been a member of a union. IBEW Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill enjoyed the privilege of presenting Sen. Harkin with an honorary membership into the IBEW at the May 3 event. The ceremony was held at Veterans Memorial Hall in Des Moines. On hand were many colleagues of the senator including: U.S. Reps. Dave Loebsack and Bruce Braley; former U.S. Reps. Neal Smith and Dave Nagle; and state Sen. Jack Hatch. Also present were IBEW Eleventh District Int. Vice Pres. Curtis E. Henke; Local 347

attendees including Political Registrar Matt Marchese, Pres. Scott Farnsworth, Bus. Agent Al DeHeer and Bus. Mgr. Pat Wells; and many others.

Local 347 will celebrate its 100th anniversary on Oct. 11 this year. Call (515) 243-1924 for more information.

Patrick H. Wells, B.M./F.S.

## A Legacy of Service



The late Jesse "T-Bone" Bradley, Local 357.

L.U. 357 (c,i,mt&se), LAS VEGAS, NV—With great sadness we report that Jesse "T-Bone" Bradley passed away on May 7, 2014.

Bro. Bradley was born in Georgia in 1934. He joined the IBEW in Georgia in 1966 and transferred his ticket to Las Vegas in 1973. He

served his local as steward and assistant business agent. In 1998 he was elected business manager and served until 2001 when he retired. Bro. T-Bone is survived by his wife, Mary Ann, and five grown children.

Jennifer Tabor, P.S.

## 'Time to Get Involved & Support the Union Cause'

L.U. 363 (catv,em,govt,i,t,u&ws), NEW CITY, NY—Today the climate for organized labor is very similar to the beginning of the last century—everything is a struggle and there are many forces against labor. What is different now is that working people today have much more at their disposal than our grandparents did, such as: the Internet, Twitter, text messaging, e-mails and cell phones. Our grandparents did not have those communications tools. It is amazing that they accomplished what they did when they did it. What they gained was won by sheer determination and grit.

It is our turn now and our struggle. We just have to be smart enough to realize that our modern-day challenges are real and that working people can lose today in the blink of an eye if we don't stay actively engaged and pay attention. We need to become the new and active labor movement of this century and there is no time to waste. It's time to get involved and support the union cause.

Sam Fratto, B.M.

## 2014 Bowling Tournaments

L.U. 369 (em,es,i,lctt,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), LOUISVILLE, KY—Local 369 traveled to Franklin, IN, in April this year to participate in the 40th Annual Indiana State Bowling Tournament. Eleven of our finest athletes



Local 197 congratulates apprenticeship graduates. From left: Instructor Ken McLean; JATC Coordinator Renee Riddle; John Weber, NECA; Mike Raikes, IBEW; Seth Zeller, NECA; graduates Alan McKimmy, Aaron Liming, Ahmad Manns; Instructor Rod Parker; graduate Cody Batty; Local 197 Bus. Mgr. Rich Veitengruber; graduates Mike Osterbuhr, Nathan Feit and Troy Prescott. Not pictured: Mitch Karr.

## Active Members & Retirees

L.U. 269 (i&o), TRENTON, NJ—Spring finally arrived in our territory and it didn't take long for our members to take advantage of the good weather in order to effect some positive changes in their communities. In what has become an annual event, members and their



Honoree Sen. Tom Harkin (at podium) speaks at Iowa Labor Hall of Fame ceremony. Among attendees are IBEW International Officers including Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill (seated at dais, fifth from left), Local 347 officers and others.

## LOCAL LINES

made the 90-mile trek northward for the two-day event. Unfortunately, attendance for the Indiana tournament had declined compared to years past. So, to increase participation, the committee decided to open the tournament to all local unions in the states bordering Indiana, along with the participating locals that have jurisdiction in the state.

By the time anyone reads this, we should have results from the 70th Annual IBEW International Bowling Tournament, hosted this year by IBEW Local 1, which has always put on a great tournament. At the time of this early spring writing, the tournament was scheduled for June 6-8, 2014, in St. Louis. I am sure some of our stellar athletes will have attended.

If you wish to participate in future tournaments or would like additional information on either of these tournaments, please visit websites [www.ibew-bowlindiana.com](http://www.ibew-bowlindiana.com) or [www.ibewbowl.com](http://www.ibewbowl.com).

John E. Morrison Jr., P.S.



A Local 369 team at Indiana State Bowling Tournament. Front row: Ed Devine (left), Steve Peters, Scott Crowe, Tom Weber; back row, Mike Lilly, U. S. Thomas, Tim Redmon, Scott Partin, John Morrison and Ed Morrison. Not pictured: Kevin Kazunas.

## New Training Aids

L.U. 375 (catv,ees&i), ALLENTOWN, PA—Our local participated in the Allentown St. Patrick's Day parade on March 23. Thanks to the third-year apprenticeship class, whose innovation and hard work created our float, themed "Going Green with IBEW Local 375." The float featured a large shamrock powered by a solar array. We marched in our own labor division (two city blocks long) with 350+ brothers and sisters from the Lehigh Valley Central Labor Council. We had a great day of solidarity!

Recently, two additional training aids were purchased by our Training/Safety Dir. Rob Franklin to meet new safety standards. A 500-pound crane will now allow us to add rigging and signaling classes. Approximately 35 members have qualified by attending this class in recent months. A large concrete manhole was also obtained, which will enhance our confined-space training program.

Have a safe summer!

Dave Reichard, Pres./A.B.M.



Local 375 participants march in Allentown, PA, St. Patrick's Day parade.



Local 441 flag football team.

## Community Projects

L.U. 441 (as,i&rts), SANTA ANA, CA—In February, Local 441 was honored to have Mark McDermott speak on the topic of labor history. He presented an interesting three-hour history class to approximately 300 journeymen and apprentices. Mark has spoken to several building trades audiences, including the IBEW Ninth District Organizing Meeting in Las Vegas.

In March, the Annual IBEW Southern California Superbowl was held in Fountain Valley, CA. The Flag Football Tournament had another good turnout of teams and fans to enjoy the competition. IBEW Locals 11, 47, 440 and 441 participated. Local 441 defeated Local 11 in the final game. This event is a fun day, and we are looking for more locals to participate to make it a bigger IBEW event next year.

In May Local 441 volunteers, along with the L.A./Orange Counties Building Trades, turned out for Bolsa Chica Wetlands Work Day in Huntington Beach. This event is organized through the Union Sportsmen's Alliance. It is a great opportunity for union members and their families to get out and help the community and improve the environment by doing cleanup and assisting with planting along the Bolsa Chica Trail.

Richard Vasquez, B.R.

## IBEW Outreach is Key

L.U. 449 (catv,em,i,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), POCATELLO, ID—We are working with our local high schools and career fairs to help show students that if college is not the way they want to go, there is another way to make a great living and raise a family—join the IBEW! We are also working with local nonunion contractors and hope to do some project labor agreements with them to show them how we could make their companies a great success.

With the talk of all the outside work coming through our area, we have been reaching out to non-

union linemen to show them the benefits of being an IBEW lineman. We will be working with our sister locals to make sure that we try and talk with every lineman in our area.

It is a great honor that our deceased Bro. Jeffery Jagger's name was placed on the Workers Memorial Monument in Idaho Falls. This will be where his family and friends will be able to visit any time to pay tribute and remember what a great person Jeff was.

Local 449 congratulates Bro. Terry Schatz on his retirement from the IBEW. We wish Terry all the best of luck and good times on his new journey.

Joe Maloney,  
Mbr. Dev. Rep.



Local 531 apprenticeship graduates: Alan Grandys (left), Michael Forker, Charles Morlan, Keith Bitter, Jason Walters, Lucas Harris, Erron Ellis, Ken Trusty, Steve Klemm and Robert Freeman.

## Organizing for Action

L.U. 477 (i&rts), SAN BERNARDINO, CA—Brothers and sisters of Local 477 have come together to show support at numerous County Board of Supervisors meetings, City Planning Commission meetings and School Board meetings—usually showing support with between 25-50 brothers strong.

In the last four months, as of this writing, we have had a great success rate, having attended eight meetings—which resulted in a total of six photovoltaic solar power plants approved and underway, with a total of 355 megawatts of new photovoltaic solar in our future work picture. These photovoltaic solar sites range in size from 7.5 megawatts to 300 megawatts.

Thank you to all our brothers and sisters for showing support and helping us grow our membership and regain our market share. [Photo at bottom, right.]

Victor F. Rodriguez, Bus. Dev.

## Graduating Class of 2014

L.U. 531 (i), LAPORTE, IN—We congratulate the apprenticeship graduating class of 2014 for their hard work and successful completion of training to become journeyman inside wiremen. The IBEW is proud of these young journeymen, who will carry the torch as

future leaders of our union.

Many locals have probably completed their elections and I wish to congratulate members who have stepped up to the challenge. Many years ago at an organizers meeting, then-Int. Vice Pres. Joseph F. Lohman distributed a verse by journalist Murray Kempton titled "The Caretaker." It reads as follows: "The union is not for yourself but for your children. It does not rise to avenge the past but to claim the future. ... It is an expression not of dignity of its leaders, but the dignity of all. It was not called into being to celebrate the majesty of one person; it does not live to serve the self-indulgence of another. It is not property but mission. Every decent moment in the history of man is the assertion of an affronted conscience. Anyone can belong to a union; but the union belongs to no one and least of all to anyone who is ashamed of where he or she came from and indifferent to those he or she left behind. The union leader is not the owner of an institution; he or she is merely the caretaker of a tradition."

Dean F. Harmon, P.S.

## Summer Work Outlook

L.U. 557 (i,mt,rts&spa), SAGINAW, MI—Finally summer has arrived and we can put one of the worst winters on record in the books. The jobs that have been waiting for the weather to break can get going. The work outlook for the summer should be good for local hands.

This is also a big election year for the state of Michigan. It's time to remove the stranglehold the Republican Party has on our state. I don't think we can take another four years of this state administration's assault on the middle class. To alter the direction we are headed will take a lot of time, support and money to change this downward spiral we are on. To get this accomplished we must all do our part; whether big or small it will all help in the end.

Local 557 congratulates Tony Bell on receiving the 2014 Live United Labor Award from the United Way. Tony's commitment to the community involves volunteering on numerous projects such as Project Independence (building ramps), One Week One Street community projects, and Light Up the City (crime prevention). He also volunteers with the American Red Cross, Friends of Hoyt Park and the local IBEW apprenticeship community projects. Tony proves that one person can make a big difference in the community. Congratulations, Tony, on a well-deserved award.

Jason Rivette, P.S.



IBEW Local 477 members support membership growth and market share gains.

## Quick Action to Aid a Brother

L.U. 589 (rr), JAMAICA, NY—IBEW Local 589 would like to recognize two individuals who truly made a difference recently—Local 589 Bro. Mark Givens and Long Island Rail Road gang foreman Carey Realbuto. Because of their quick actions, Bro. Barry Gibney, a co-worker, has a new lease on life.

On April 28, Bro. Gibney collapsed while at work, suddenly stopped breathing and showed no sign of a pulse. That's when both men leaped into action and immediately started to administer CPR. Mark and Carey worked on Barry tirelessly until help arrived. Paramedics were able to get Barry's heart beating again after several minutes. We owe Mark and Carey our gratitude. Their selfless actions should be heralded and celebrated. Barry's wife, Patricia, was moved to tears when expressing how grateful she was that Mark, Carey and others were there to help her husband. Times like this should make all of us proud to be IBEW brothers. Barry is recovering. He is conscious, alert and breathing on his own. His doctors say he is doing well.

Please keep Barry and Patricia in your thoughts and prayers. We wish Barry a speedy recovery. Again, through good times and bad, Local 589 brothers and sisters continue to act as a strong unit.

Augie Maccarone, R.S.

## A Career of IBEW Service



Recently retired Local 595 Bus Rep. Tony Bertolucci.

L.U. 595 (c,cs,govt,i,mt,o,se&st), DUBLIN, CA—After 37 years with the IBEW, Bus Rep. Tony Bertolucci has retired. Bro. Bertolucci was born in Italy and moved with his family to Canada when he was a child. In the 1970s, while many Americans were moving north of the border, Tony's family moved to Stockton, CA. After graduating high school, he volunteered to serve our country and joined the Army. After fulfilling his military obligation, he returned to Stockton and entered into then-Local 591's apprenticeship in 1976. Soon after topping out, Tony had a successful career as a general foreman and served as president of then-Local 591 (which later merged with Local 595). For the past 10 years, Tony has worked endless hours as a business representative and trustee of the JATC, LMCC and H&W, and as president of the Stockton Building Trades. Local 595 members hope retirement brings Bro. Bertolucci, his wife, Adrienne, and daughters Danica and Erica much happiness in the years ahead.

On April 12, the Local 595 Retirees Club, EWMC RENEW 595, Local 595 and NECA partnered with Rebuilding Together Oakland to provide electrical repairs and upgrades for veterans, senior citizens and disabled homeowners. This year we took on 15 homes, many of which were those of veterans and/or retired union members. Forty volunteers gave of their time and talent to assist a deserving and underserved population.

Bob Tieman, B.R.

## A Tough Winter; Outlook is Positive

L.U. 601 (i&rtb), CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, IL—We had one tough winter that just did not want to give up. As of this writing, this is reflected in the numbers on our books: 54 on Book 1 and 332 on Book 2 as of early

spring. We are grateful to say the work outlook is very good for the Local 601 jurisdiction. When the work will start is anybody's guess.

The softball team had their stag night for this year's fundraising. The turnout was great, so they are off to a good start. A sincere "thank you" goes to our members and their spouses for their hard work that made the event possible.

It was also Steak Stag time. The food was amazing as always. Our retired member Bob Woodard and our first year apprentices outdid themselves again this year. The event is a great time for the membership to reconnect and for the younger members to meet our very special retirees.

We cannot say this enough: It is time to get informed about candidates for upcoming elections. Attacks on unions are coming at us full force. The candidates who are anti-union do not even hide that fact anymore. Please be informed and vote for the candidate who most supports your job. Whatever your decision, please just vote.

Daniel Hatter, P.S.



Local 601 softball team members Justin Henderson (left) and Shane Street.

## Membership Ratifies Agreement

L.U. 611 (catv,es,govt,l,lcct,o,spa,t&u), ALBUQUERQUE, NM—In April the local union membership ratified the Inside Agreement. The agreement will pretty much stay the same except for a couple of changes. The new agreement will run through May 31, 2016; the members will get a 35 cent increase on our annuity effective immediately; and the members will pick up any increases on our Health and Welfare beginning July 1, 2014.

This is an election year for both the local and governor's race so be sure and vote in both elections.

On behalf of Local 611, I extend condolences to the friends and families of members who recently passed away: David "Too Tall" Baca, Ralph E. Bayes, John P. Hawkins, Rolland E. Hanna Jr., Kee Littleman, Michael J. Lopez, Orlando L. Romero, Percy L. Whitmore, Otto Obenhaus III, Ben M. Baldwin Sr., Irl B. Johnston, Lawrence L. Selva and Paul A. Warein.

Don't forget: Local union meetings are on the third Saturday of each month.

Darrell J. Blair, P.S.

## Productive & Event-Filled Year

L.U. 617 (c,i,mo&st), SAN MATEO, CA—It has been a very busy and productive year thus far in San Mateo:

- New leadership took the local's reins in January with the departure of former business manager Dominic Nolan for a Ninth District International Representative position. New officers include: Bus Mgr. Mark Leach, Pres. Dan Pasini and Executive Board member Scott Wein. Thank you, Dominic; and congratulations to Mark, Dan and Scotty.
- Inside construction journeymen and apprentices met at a January Special Call meeting to hear early results from the inside wire negotiations committee and responded with a near unanimous ratification vote.



Scott Wein, new Local 617 Executive Board member.

- AirTrain workers at San Francisco International Airport ratified a new three-year contract with Bombardier, thanks to the sterling team of Mark Leach, Chuck Vela and the AirTrain Negotiations Committee.
- The local's Benefits Education Seminar in February provided members with information regarding their entire compensation package from health care to retirement.
- The Annual Pin Party brought 200 members together to recognize and honor members with 20 to 75 years of IBEW service.
- The Local 617 Journeymen Motorcycle Club is off and running with its year of events, including so far a day at the gun range, dirt bike riding at Hollister Hills, and a weekend run to the Avenue of the Giants through Humboldt Redwoods State Park.
- And we celebrated the Apprenticeship Class of 2014 graduation (photo and graduates' names are planned for the September issue!)

Dan Pasini, Pres.

## Next Gen Committee

L.U. 625 (ees,em,i,it,mar&mt), HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA—Congratulations to Bros. Robert Borden, Bruce Warren, Reece Hirtle and Jeff Belanger, who completed their apprenticeship and

are now Red Seal construction electricians.

Bro. Omar Hassin retired May 1. Good health to you, brother; hope to see you at the retirees' dinner-dance.

Sadly, I must report the passing of 45-year member Alex Bresson. Bro. Bresson lost a brave battle with cancer on April 14 at age 65. Also, retired Bro. Dave Lane passed away March 24 at age 79. They will be missed.

The local's Next Gen Committee is ambitious and energized. They will hold barbeques at the hall before the Unit #1 meetings all summer with the goal of boosting attendance at union meetings. Some volunteered to man the phones at the IWK Children's Hospital Telethon. Great ideas are coming from that group. Social media is abuzz with their ideas.

A personal observation: When people are asked to brainstorm, someone often says, "That's a ridiculous idea." There are no ridiculous ideas when brainstorming. Let the conversation flow. When someone offers a truly unique idea, give that idea time to sink in and it may turn out to be "brilliant." Most people tend to resist change.

*"Change will not come if we wait for some other person, or if we wait for some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek."*

— Barack Obama

Tom Griffiths, A.B.M.

## Contract Negotiations

L.U. 627 (u), FORT PIERCE, FL—Summer is here and things are warming up. Contract negotiations are becoming as warm as the temperatures. The local wants your assistance to keep unwarranted rumors from being the topic of conversation. Please stay current with the latest information concerning our contract talks by attending meetings at the union hall.

Everyone please focus on safety, both at work and on the road during vacations. Best wishes for a quick recovery to Bro. Kevin Mueller with his knee replacement.

Stay safe; see you at the hall.

Ray Vos, P.S.

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Personal cooler bag holds up to 6 cans and contains a thermal lining to keep beverages cold. Measures 15"h x 6.5"w x 3.5"d, embroidered with IBEW initials, fist and lightning bolts.

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

## LOCAL LINES

**'Be Involved & Stay Informed'**

L.U. 659 (c,catv,em,i,lctt,o,st,t&u), MEDFORD, OR—Outside line construction is still steady. Several small transmission jobs are being bid or have already been awarded. Some distribution pole change-outs are also being bid. The inside work picture is still behind for our average monthly man-hours. Some work is keeping the shop guys busy, but only a few hands are being cleared off the books.

In April, the membership approved a new dues structure for the utility and manufacturing side of our local. The construction side remained unchanged at 1.75 percent on gross wage for the work fee. The utility and manufacturing work fee is on base wage and is tiered by hourly rate: \$15 an hour or less pay .5 percent; \$15.01 to \$30 pay 1 percent; \$30.01 to \$40 pay 1.25 percent; and \$40.01 and greater pay 1.5 percent. These necessary changes received mixed reviews but ultimately passed by a majority vote.

I wish to thank the membership for their support during my 18 years on the Executive Board. Most members, when asked, have always been glad to serve on a committee or volunteer for an event. My decision not to run for a seventh term was not an easy one, but I feel good about the local's direction and leadership. Younger members are also getting involved, which is great for the local. Local 659 is not just an office in Central Point, Oregon—it is all of us as members working together to make our local strong. Be involved and stay informed by attending your unit meetings.

Tom Legg, Pres.

**Market Recovery Agreements**

L.U. 673 (catv,i,rts,spa,t&u), PAINESVILLE, OH—The Market Recovery Agreements have been difficult for many locals to implement. We are fortunate that for years Local 673 business managers, past and present, have been very actively organizing the nonunion. These new classifications would have been much more difficult to accept had we not been exposed to the need to organize and reclaim our market share.

Education and the harsh realities of a changing marketplace have helped our local to understand the need for this program. Our contractors are also getting more familiar with this contract and how to use it to gain work. It has been difficult for both our members and our contractors to accept change; but change we must.

We are currently working on projects that we haven't been on in 20 years. Businesses such as ice cream stores, putt-putt golf courses, mattress stores, gas stations, and even a soup store franchise (see photo below) now employ our members.

No one can foresee the future, but these agreements have made it much more difficult on our non-union competition. We hope this new work will add to our market share and give us stronger bargaining power in the future!

Jim Braunlich, P.S.



Local 673 Bro. Mike Diven at work with Harrington Electric at a Zoup franchise project.

**2014 Apprentice Graduates**

L.U. 683 (em&i), COLUMBUS, OH—Congratulations to the class of 2014 apprenticeship graduates. The newly graduated journeyman wiremen are: Jeremy Ayers, Steven Driver, John Hill, Christine Marsey, Michael Martin, Will McCullough, Richard McKenzie, Conrad Moeller, Chad Peck, Victor Strawser, John Waugh, Steven White and Casey Woods. The newly graduated installer technicians are: Ryan Bleakney, Jason Cole, Rachid Lamgharti, Benjamin Lindholm, Frank Marro, Brandy SeEVERS and Donna Weilbacher.

Thanks to all the brothers and sisters who volunteered for Rebuilding Together Central Ohio and those who donated blood. Let's continue to show our union pride throughout the community.

We extend our condolences to the family of Bro. John S. Faulk, who passed away March 13. He will be missed.

Eric Evans, V.P./P.S.

**Annual Awards Event**

L.U. 915 (i&mt), TAMPA, FL—It was a great night of brotherhood at our annual Service Pin and Brother of the Year Awards presentation and cookout. We were honored to have in attendance members with as much as 60 years of service, as well as six new members being sworn into our Local 915 family.

Congratulations to the following brothers on their longtime service: with 60 years of service—Howard Fields; 55 years—Bert Barham; 50 years—Joseph Dempsey, Jesse McCraw, James Melendi; 45 years—Donald Booth, Ronald Keene.; and 40 years—James Carlisle, James Froomjian, David Kincaid and Tim McMurray.

Our James H. Phillips Brother of the Year Award went to a member who coordinated a fundraiser to help a needy brother and his family. The awardee's dedication and time spent, taking time away from his own family and managing the event without asking for anything in return, exemplify what the Brother of the Year Award is all about. We are honored to name Bro. Mark Braxton as this year's award recipient.

Kudos also to Bro. Leon Ward on his sixth annual fishing tournament and his dedication each year to unite our members with this event.

Theresa King, P.S.



Local 915 Bus. Mgr. Randall King (left), 60-year member Howard Fields, Brother of the Year awardee Mark Braxton, and Pres. Jon Dehmel.

**Solidarity & Community Events**

L.U. 1245 (catv,em,govt,lctt,o,pet,t&u), VACAVILLE, CA—Local 1245 welcomes members from nine manufacturing companies formerly represented by IBEW Local 2131, which recently merged with Local 1245. The companies are: Advanced Carbon Products Inc., AnsaldoBreda Inc., Borden Lighting, Jacobs Technology Inc., Sierra Lobo Inc., Lockheed Martin Space Systems Co., Northrop Grumman Corp., Trayer Engineering, Delta Star Inc., and Cooper-Shaper Lighting.



Local 1245 Bus. Mgr. Dalzell (in back) congratulates 50-year service award recipients: Bros. Steve Granlees (left); Perry Zimmerman, former business manager; and Ed Lenoir.

Local 1245 builds solidarity through community events. The 4th Annual Soccer Tournament attracted 200+ members and their families to Merced in April. (A second tournament for Fairfield was rained out and is rescheduled for Oct. 4.) Local 1245 and sister locals hosted two Clay Shoots, raising \$27,000 for Boys and Girls Clubs. The local's Annual Charity Bowl in Sacramento raised \$2,800 for local charity Loaves and Fishes. The Executive Board helped bag produce at the Sonoma/Contra Costa Food Bank. The annual Howard Stieffer Bike Rally also benefits charity. An upcoming rodeo in Reno seeks to benefit veterans by referrals for employment opportunities and VA services.

Members also launched the IBEW 1245 Veterans Group, which assists veterans in readjusting to civilian life. The Veterans Group sponsored a food drive in northern California and a clothing drive in the Fresno area. Visit [www.ibew1245vets.com](http://www.ibew1245vets.com).

Work is strong in outside construction. Members approved extending the outside line contract, with 93 percent voting in favor—providing a 6.5 percent increase in total compensation over 2015 and 2016. The local bid farewell in May to Senior Asst. Bus. Mgr. Ron Cochran, who presided over our outside construction operations for the past eight years—a period of robust work opportunities and phenomenal growth in signatory contractors.

Bus. Mgr. Tom Dalzell and members, including retirees, from NV Energy are coordinating bargaining strategy with other union locals at utilities owned by Warren Buffett's MidAmerican Energy. Mid-American acquired NV Energy late last year.

Members overwhelmingly approved a one-year extension of the PG&E Physical, Clerical and Medical agreements, providing a general wage increase of 2.75 percent.

Eric Wolfe, P.S.

**'Keeping Members Informed'**

L.U. 1249 (catv,lctt,o,t&u), SYRACUSE, NY—In March, Local 1249 decided to take our monthly union meeting on the road throughout New York state. It is important that we keep all of our members informed about what is going on in the local. In addition to holding our usual meeting at the Syracuse union hall, Bus. Mgr. Bill Boire, fellow officers, and business reps traveled to Batavia, Albany, and Newburgh to see the many members working in those and surrounding areas. We couldn't have been happier with

the turnout! It was nice to see everyone, and having such large groups brought some great union discussions.

We have many more exciting things going on in the warmer months. Nominations were held in May, and at the time of this writing the Local 1249 election of officers was scheduled to take place in June. We also had our annual ARC Pig Roast and Bobby Shutter Memorial Golf Tournament. And we close out the summer with IBEW Local 1249's Annual Clambake at Hinerwadel's in Syracuse, NY. A little fun and entertainment to balance out the hard work that our members do!

Jennifer Schneider, P.S.

**Code Update Class a Success**

L.U. 1253 (i), AUGUSTA, ME—This past winter was a long, harsh one. Local 1253 weathered the season as we always do, and now we're looking forward to a good couple of years of working on construction projects at hospitals, hotels, paper mills and anywhere else we can go!

Local 1253's JATC held a 2014 Code Update course on the day of one of the worst ice storms we've had since 1998! The course was well-attended by hearty Mainers and everyone got there and back home safely. We look forward to warmer days and a warmer work climate!

Scott Cuddy, P.S.



Local 1253 members attend Code Update class. Photo by JATC Training Dir. Chris Trider.

**Organizers Training Session**

L.U. 1357 (t), HONOLULU, HI—Recently, I attended an organizers training session with the dynamic duo of Brock and Boyd. The training session—presented by International Organizers Robert Brock and Gregory L. Boyd, international representative—included discussion about the anti-union tactics that nonunion employers use to stop organizing drives.

This discussion also reminded me of what some organized employers are doing to our members—not just threatening, but actually doing such things as: shutting down call centers and retail stores; failing to hire enough employees; and demanding more productivity out of the existing workforce while augmenting with contractors. Employers are also cutting back on other costs, such as raises, pensions, training, maintenance, medical, etc. And such neglect of all the resources just snowballs into a huge dereliction of responsibility to working people and the greater community.

All the while, the executives continue to collect their huge salaries, not because of their ingenious new game plan, but rather off the backs of labor.

Scott Long, P.S. Pro Tem

## Wind Energy in Indiana

L.U. 1393 (catv,lctt,o,t&u), INDIANAPOLIS, IN—The state of Indiana is presently ranked at No. 13 for installed wind generation capacity in the United States, and the capacity continues to increase every year since the first wind farms were constructed by IBEW Local 1393 members in 2008. Indiana presently has 1,544 megawatts of installed wind generation capacity, with the vast majority of it being constructed by IBEW Local 1393 members. The demand for wind energy continues to grow in Indiana. With each 1,000 megawatts of wind generation installed in Indiana, our members assist with facilitating an estimated savings of 1,684 million gallons of water each year, along with an estimated infusion of \$188.5 million to local economies during the construction phase.

Our RENEW committee is hard at work with a variety of community involvement projects that the members have been excited to help out with. A point of pride was assisting an injured brother, journeyman lineman Paul Mulvehill. Bro. Chuck Beaver, a 6th step lineman apprentice, and journeyman lineman Bros. Jason Dipert and Kenny Duncan completed a variety of outdoor property maintenance projects for our injured brother during their free time.

*Robert C. Fox, B.M./F.S.*



Local 1393 RENEW Committee members help out on a community service project.

## Belmont & Pimlico Racetracks

L.U. 1501 (ees,em,mo,pet,rts&t), BALTIMORE, MD—Our members employed by Amtote International, headquartered in Maryland, are justifiably proud of the services they provide to two of the three racetracks that hold races known as the famed “Triple Crown.”

The first of the three races, the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs in Louisville, KY, is not under contract with Amtote, but the other two are. Those two under contract are the Preakness held at Pimlico Racetrack in Baltimore, and the Belmont Stakes held at Belmont Racetrack in New York state. All three races are known worldwide and attract the best horses and riders. They are prestigious affairs that have endured and prospered. They still attract large, festive crowds and worldwide attention. They have stood the test of time and have become an American tradition. Our members exert every effort in servicing



Local 1501 Bus. Mgr. Dion F. Guthrie (left) speaks with several members at Belmont Racetrack in New York.

and operating the pari-mutuel machines that control the wagering. They strive for a perfect meet and happy crowds. Nothing less is acceptable. So far they have achieved their goal.

Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dion F. Guthrie states that Amtote is pleased with the job performance of our members and that he is proud to represent such an outstanding group of skilled workers.

*Thomas J. Rostkowski, R.S.*

## 50-Year Service Awards

L.U. 1547 (c,em,i,o,t&u), ANCHORAGE, AK—IBEW Local 1547 Bus. Mgr. Mike Hodsdon recently presented IBEW 50-year service pins to Daryl Hansen and Jimmy Smith.

We salute Bros. Hansen and Smith for their longtime IBEW service. Congratulations, brothers!

*Melinda Taylor, P.S.*



Local 1547 Bus. Mgr. Mike Hodsdon (center) presents service awards to Daryl Hansen (left) and Jimmy Smith.

## 2014 Apprenticeship Graduation

L.U. 1579 (i&o), AUGUSTA, GA—Local 1579’s apprenticeship graduation was May 30. Thanks to the apprentice graduates for all their hard work, and thanks to all the contractors and journeymen who helped train them.

At this year’s graduation, our guest speaker was Dennis Murphy, former Local 1 financial secretary and current electrical construction manager for Alberci Constructors. Dennis is a great motivational speaker and is able to connect with these new journeymen. We appreciate his taking time out of his busy schedule to speak to our new journeymen.

Congratulations to the new journeymen: Kenneth W. Chambers, Nicholas E. Davis, Terrance E. Dotts, William Fuquay, Jeremy C. Hall, Brandon M. Hebbard, Ryan P. Jackson, Donald M. Kelly IV, Curtis D. Kricke, Daniel W. Legrand, Brian P. O’Neil, Berry H. Smith and Neal E. Turner.

When you see these new journeymen, remind them that they are the future of the IBEW and thank them for all their hard work.

Until next time, God bless.

*Will Salters, A.B.M.*

## New CMP Contract Ratified

L.U. 1837 (rtb&u), MANCHESTER, ME—On May 6, IBEW Local 1837 members in Central Maine Power Company’s largest bargaining unit ratified a new three-year, 10-month contract. In total, 92 percent of the membership cast ballots.

The contract includes wage increases of 2.75 percent, 3 percent, 3 percent and 3.25 percent. It maintains the current health care plan for existing and future hires. It increases the funds that an employee contributes to his or her 401(k) account when working overtime, while maintaining the company’s match on the first 40 hours worked. The agreement guarantees continuation of the annual employee bonus program. The new contract expires Feb. 28, 2018.

The agreement ratified maintains the current health plan coverage for all employees.

“It was clear that health care was very important to our members,” said Local 1837 Bus. Mgr. Dick Rogers. “They didn’t want a different health plan for new employees to ... divide us. It’s great that they’re looking out not just for themselves, but for the next generation of CMP workers as well.”

In addition to Rogers and Asst. Bus. Mgr. Bill Dunn, the union negotiating team was joined at the final bargaining sessions by IBEW Int. Rep. Ed Collins and Federal Mediator Joe Keliher. Also on the team were Doug Ames, Lisa Bartell, Lisa Bean, Mark Bedard, Greg Fortin, Mark Henderson, Ryan Wilson and Becky Rugan.

“We’re grateful for all the hard work our team put into these negotiations,” Dunn said. “... Their input has been invaluable.”

*Matthew Beck, Organizer*



Local 1837 Asst. Bus. Mgr. Bill Dunn and the union negotiating team responded to questions at a Central Maine Power membership meeting.

# 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

Our Web site has news and info not available anywhere else.

Visit us to connect with the IBEW on Facebook and Twitter.

And read The Electrical Worker online!

## YouTube

Around 200 highly-skilled members of Baltimore Local 1501 thrive at NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center, many working long hours on the Hubble telescope’s successor, the James Webb Space Telescope. Go with us into the final frontier at [YouTube.com/TheElectricalWorker](http://YouTube.com/TheElectricalWorker)

## Vimeo

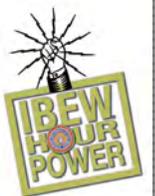
Tree trimming is one of the most dangerous jobs out there, so having a voice on the job is vital. Hear from some New England tree trimmers who found their voice with the IBEW.

[Vimeo.com/ibew/treetrimmers](http://Vimeo.com/ibew/treetrimmers).



## HourPower

IBEW members don’t just do electrical construction — they can do instrumentation as well. Come with us as we examine this world and the IBEW members’ role in it, on IBEW Hour Power. [IBEWHourPower.com!](http://IBEWHourPower.com)



## ElectricTV

Ever wonder how Schneider Electric Makes its Square D Load Centers? ETV has unprecedented access to the factory and we have a video all about it on [ElectricTV.net!](http://ElectricTV.net)



# In Memoriam

## Members for Whom PBF Death Claims were Approved in May 2014

Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death
1	Andrews, G. W.	4/7/14	9	Weir, B. J.	10/28/13	41	Petschke, R. E.	11/3/13	82	Phillips, R. D.	2/5/14	134	Bahde, T. D.	1/25/14	212	Allen, P.	3/18/14
1	Buschart, J. C.	4/5/14	11	Allen, H. V.	2/10/14	41	Rettig, T. D.	4/22/14	84	Pittman, T. D.	10/10/13	134	Beljung, M. J.	3/7/14	212	Day, W. G.	3/19/14
1	Frick, I. J.	2/24/14	11	Andersonvogan, S. G.	3/21/14	41	Toole, R. A.	3/14/14	84	Wimpy, J.	10/16/13	134	Broderick, J. J.	3/25/14	212	Dickey, C. A.	3/27/14
1	Gloeckler, J. D.	3/19/14	11	Caliva, G.	4/10/14	43	Boughton, J. E.	6/3/13	86	Burkin, J. E.	3/1/14	134	Brownfield, S. W.	2/28/14	212	Sanford, M. B.	4/17/14
1	Hintze, R. E.	3/31/14	11	Chapman, D.	4/23/14	43	Crooks, B. W.	3/31/14	86	Manzer, B. A.	5/4/13	134	Carroll, R.	3/1/14	212	Scott, J.	2/9/14
1	Kemp, C. W.	4/22/14	11	Conroy, F. B.	3/19/14	43	Seeley, R. C.	4/7/14	86	Stevens, D.	8/8/13	134	Cervantes, R. J.	3/13/14	213	Izsak, E. L.	1/24/14
1	Muckler, M. R.	2/14/13	11	Corral, M. J.	1/13/14	43	Senn, N. M.	2/26/14	90	Hawley, W. R.	2/17/14	134	Conrad, W. F.	3/6/14	213	Noronen, R. E.	5/30/13
1	Reese, D. E.	4/5/14	11	Foley, O. K.	2/23/14	44	Doney, T. R.	3/4/14	90	Moore, C. L.	12/1/13	134	Domagalski, R. S.	2/20/14	213	Pedersen, O. O.	12/31/13
1	Smith, M. J.	3/8/14	11	Goldine, L. M.	12/21/13	46	Agar, J. R.	3/31/14	90	Proulx, P. A.	1/11/14	134	Dore, G. J.	3/21/14	219	Rimpela, R. A.	3/31/14
1	Vanderbos, T. J.	4/23/14	11	Hawkins, C. M.	3/10/14	46	Brown, G. S.	2/1/14	95	Buzzard, E. B.	4/22/14	134	Enright, M. C.	2/15/14	223	Bryan, D. L.	2/9/14
2	Hawkins, R. L.	4/20/14	11	MacDonald, J.	2/7/14	46	Davis, G. R.	2/6/14	96	Malone, T. F.	3/2/14	134	Hager, W.	3/26/14	223	Dube, F.	2/8/14
2	Jones, J.	1/29/14	11	Rice, R. M.	1/31/14	46	Dickerson, D. G.	3/12/14	97	Murray, D. F.	2/8/14	134	Hartz, R. H.	2/28/14	223	Murphy, J. H.	3/12/14
2	Lewis, L. O.	3/16/14	11	Ritchie, R. R.	12/29/13	46	Duncan, D. L.	3/4/14	97	Plessel, A.	3/21/14	134	Helf, D. M.	4/9/14	223	Romero, J.	3/8/14
3	Armenti, N.	1/31/14	11	Skinner, R.	3/9/14	46	Palao, H.	2/1/14	97	Rebic, M.	3/9/14	134	Hermanson, L. D.	3/27/14	223	Saravo, J. F.	2/5/14
3	Bishop, S. H.	11/6/13	12	Anderson, D. A.	3/30/14	46	Parvin, I. V.	1/29/14	97	Stewart, G. L.	12/29/13	134	Hillenbrand, W. H.	3/29/14	223	Savard, E. E.	2/18/14
3	Brennan, J.	4/7/14	16	Seibert, M. R.	4/5/14	46	Price, G. A.	2/23/14	98	Barbour, C. E.	3/11/14	134	Maher, J. A.	3/3/14	223	Taylor, A. J.	11/8/13
3	Brower, K. R.	3/9/14	17	Baker, H.	7/19/13	46	Sibley, R. E.	3/15/14	98	Desoto, L. A.	9/13/13	134	Miller, H.	3/28/14	229	Garver, A. R.	1/22/14
3	Bulger, D. J.	3/29/14	17	Briggs, M.	1/17/14	46	Storey, F. H.	2/16/14	98	Groome, J. P.	4/3/14	134	Niemand, L. W.	3/4/14	230	Parkhouse, E. W.	2/16/14
3	Butler, C. B.	1/11/14	17	Connolly, J. E.	3/5/14	47	Barnes, H. D.	1/6/14	99	Paolo, T. D.	4/10/14	134	O'Boyle, F.	2/27/14	230	Shaw, B. W.	3/1/14
3	Caiazzo, M.	9/7/13	17	Rinehart, J. A.	3/24/14	47	Mumford, D. L.	1/28/14	99	Pierce, T. D.	3/22/14	134	Paha, J. J.	2/5/14	233	Landon, G. A.	1/27/14
3	Cicero, N. F.	3/31/14	18	Dodd, A. E.	12/15/13	48	Bennett, V. S.	12/15/13	99	Saccoccio, J.	2/16/14	134	Radomski, M. R.	3/12/14	233	Zbinden, L. G.	2/11/14
3	Cioppa, D. L.	3/26/14	18	Tarver, L.	8/3/13	48	Noble, W. J.	8/23/13	99	Stromberg, W. E.	3/2/14	134	Richert, J. G.	1/16/14	234	Rasmussen, L. E.	2/10/14
3	Cox, D. M.	2/14/14	20	Adolfson, A. E.	3/8/14	48	Riley, B. T.	2/24/14	102	Catanzaro, S. P.	1/15/14	134	Sinclair, D. E.	2/12/14	236	Kmen, H. E.	3/29/14
3	Felline, B. R.	1/23/14	22	Andersen, R. V.	2/1/14	51	Bishop, R. D.	4/3/14	102	Crane, T. M.	1/19/14	134	Woeslaw, W. A.	12/18/13	236	Mango, C. A.	7/5/13
3	Florentino, A.	2/25/14	22	Cody, W. L.	3/31/14	51	Morrow, W. J.	2/20/14	102	Giovanni, A. A.	2/13/14	134	Woodruff, R. T.	2/20/14	237	Anderson, J. T.	2/18/14
3	Geisler, R. R.	2/17/14	22	Hemstedt, D. L.	3/13/14	53	Long, R. F.	2/19/14	102	Prall, D. J.	3/24/14	136	Burton, G. K.	2/17/14	241	Aagaard, J. S.	2/24/14
3	Geller, M.	4/4/14	22	Hotz, W. L.	2/23/14	53	Nowlin, H. B.	2/24/14	102	Schell, J. F.	2/28/14	136	Hicks, R. M.	3/15/14	242	Rutzen, W. E.	4/12/14
3	Grisaffi, S.	4/11/14	22	McArdle, D.	1/28/14	56	Messmer, E. F.	1/6/14	102	Siedt, R. H.	1/3/14	136	Langner, E. E.	2/11/14	242	Tallberg, W. C.	3/23/14
3	Hayes, J.	3/7/14	22	Pulliam, R. D.	3/26/14	57	Caldwell, L. D.	2/5/14	102	Vastino, N. A.	3/7/14	136	Moore, R. E.	3/18/14	252	Veigel, F. J.	3/2/14
3	Jackson, R.	4/29/14	24	Arnold, R. P.	2/19/14	58	Alsobrook, B. H.	6/11/13	103	Brown, S.	1/28/14	139	Ayers, S. A.	1/24/14	257	Stokes, R. K.	4/29/14
3	Katzen, M.	2/8/14	24	Edwards, A. K.	2/15/14	58	Cratty, R. N.	2/22/14	103	Coburn, D. A.	4/13/14	139	Price, D. G.	3/18/14	258	Jackson, E.	2/18/14
3	Kelly, W. V.	3/24/14	24	Hubbard, J. D.	2/24/14	58	Eichbauer, G. F.	3/11/14	103	Crawford, H. E.	3/2/14	143	Cale, R. L.	2/16/14	258	Johnson, J. R.	2/26/14
3	Knausman, D.	3/31/14	24	Schwartz, L. B.	1/30/14	58	Evans, R. L.	4/14/14	103	Delaney, J. E.	4/27/14	145	Brown, D. F.	3/9/14	258	Kotyk, N.	3/13/12
3	Koch, F. G.	4/5/14	25	Everett, R. J.	3/27/14	58	Forbes, R. D.	2/27/14	103	Delaney, F. X.	3/26/14	145	Lake, W. H.	12/29/13	265	Whitcomb, L. A.	2/18/14
3	Kromer, J. J.	3/29/14	25	Gohery, J. R.	2/16/14	58	Hale, B.	2/16/14	103	Garvin, R. J.	2/27/14	146	Finley, R. K.	4/11/14	266	Hurd, G. M.	11/20/13
3	Krumm, C.	2/5/14	25	Joyner, W. C.	2/18/14	58	Kaiser, W. H.	4/13/14	103	Kurker, E. C.	11/13/13	153	Barrett, L. W.	4/1/14	266	Underhill, T. R.	3/1/14
3	Legg, W. H.	3/31/14	25	Kondenar, D. H.	4/11/14	58	Kaiser, J.	4/17/14	103	Nelson, V. U.	3/17/14	153	Blosser, D. L.	3/7/14	269	Hartman, A. P.	2/7/14
3	Marthens, R. J.	3/2/14	25	Kummer, P. J.	5/3/14	58	Kloc, R.	2/4/14	103	Rollo, W. J.	2/18/14	153	Burkus, W. A.	3/12/14	275	Fullmer, D. M.	3/8/14
3	Molinari, J.	2/12/14	25	Kuster, E. A.	3/10/14	58	McCabe, D. G.	3/20/14	103	Smith, J. M.	4/27/14	153	Fetters, L. G.	3/18/14	275	Hubbell, R. S.	1/31/14
3	Nicholson, J. F.	2/27/14	25	Lindsay, W. J.	9/11/13	58	McCormick, R. J.	3/7/14	104	Hart, W. J.	12/29/13	153	Nyerges, R. E.	3/21/14	275	Swain, D. M.	3/19/14
3	Nielsen, A. C.	3/25/14	25	Milacek, E.	2/27/14	58	McGee, R. W.	4/16/14	105	Aitken, A.	1/28/14	153	Oyler, B. M.	2/6/14	278	Guillen, O.	2/24/14
3	Ocasio, N. R.	4/9/14	25	Mongoni, C.	1/25/14	58	Nagel, D. J.	3/31/14	105	Black, R. L.	5/7/14	158	Vanlaanen, J.	1/19/14	280	Lamberg, K. H.	3/27/14
3	Oddo, J. A.	11/29/13	25	Usher, R.	3/3/14	58	Offer, R. H.	2/19/14	105	Greene, R.	3/8/14	159	Cox, F. H.	2/4/14	280	Palmer, W. E.	4/8/14
3	Salamone, M.	2/23/14	26	Gosnell, C. W.	12/12/13	58	St Charles, M.	4/9/14	105	Robson, B.	2/18/14	159	Gammeter, L. F.	2/27/14	280	Sullivan, D. L.	11/12/13
3	Scatliffe, J. A.	4/23/14	26	Hardesty, R. O.	2/18/14	58	Swanson, G. W.	3/7/14	105	Roper, G. W.	7/15/13	159	Lentz, J. T.	2/15/14	292	Beneke, J. P.	4/7/14
3	Schueler, W. A.	2/20/14	26	Horan, P. E.	3/1/14	60	Constantin, E. H.	2/20/14	105	West, J. R.	4/15/14	160	Chmielewski, J. P.	3/26/14	292	Gordhamer, J. L.	4/7/14
3	Serpe, S. A.	4/2/14	26	Jenkins, W. T.	2/27/14	60	Haby, E. R.	8/30/12	110	Baber, T. J.	1/28/14	163	Schutz, G. F.	3/22/14	292	Harpestad, E. H.	4/10/14
3	Stein, I. B.	2/14/14	26	Kemp, R. H.	1/24/14	64	Kominak, J. J.	10/9/13	110	Ellingboe, C. V.	2/26/14	164	Gancarz, S. J.	2/25/14	292	Kilian, J. P.	3/24/14
3	Strojan, A. J.	3/7/14	26	Lam, M. L.	2/18/14	66	Anderson, R. C.	3/5/14	110	Gonyer, L. E.	1/24/14	164	Kazanjan, K. J.	1/4/14	292	Maus, F. C.	4/28/14
3	Twaits, J. B.	3/28/14	26	Morris, F. L.	3/23/14	66	Garland, J. E.	4/1/14	111	Regan, R. E.	2/25/14	164	Laga, B.	11/8/13	292	Nelson, R. A.	2/22/14
5	Elliott, D. H.	4/1/14	26	Robinson, R. W.	3/12/14	68	Tyler, T. E.	3/19/13	115	Deline, H.	3/14/14	164	Laparle, T. C.	2/3/14	292	Schmit, R. A.	2/19/14
5	Snyder, W. M.	1/16/14	29	Kimmel, P. R.	3/14/14	68	Williams, J. H.	2/8/14	115	Storring, N. S.	4/17/14	164	Shanley, T. J.	1/31/14	292	Sjoberg, E. L.	3/3/14
6	Bagshaw, D. J.	2/19/14	34	Mingus, J. E.	2/17/14	70	Clark, W. W.	4/10/14	124	Akers, E. L.	3/26/14	175	Hartbarger, F. A.	4/2/14	292	Slater, G. R.	12/2/13
6	Gagne, W. R.	3/25/14	34	Thuline, D. C.	3/5/14	70	Hauf, J. A.	4/9/14	124	Dieckman, A. M.	12/2/13	175	Hensley, K. L.	1/31/14	295	Stanberry, M. D.	3/10/14
6	Hiltman, E. C.	12/15/13	35	Rector, R. E.	1/6/14	70	McQueen, D. L.	5/3/13	124	Herndon, J. R.	1/25/14	175	Mays, T. M.	3/13/14	295	White, G. P.	2/16/14
7	Arsenault, E. J.	3/1/14	37	Rice, C. B.	2/8/14	71	Donithan, J. E.	1/13/14	124	Welborn, G. L.	3/24/14	175	Ratchford, J. W.	8/6/13	302	Davis, F.	1/10/14
7	Whitaker, H. W.	3/1/14	38	Koeth, H. L.	3/22/14	71	White, R. M.	2/9/14	125	Dixon, R. J.	3/17/14	175	Rogers, L. D.	4/16/14	302	Ebert, J.	2/21/14
8	Hafner, R. R.	4/4/14	38	Springer, L. W.	2/8/14	73	Eisele, R. J.	2/5/14	125	Johnson, N. L.	3/12/14	176	Schultz, P. J.	3/11/14	302	Hill, T. D.	2/7/14
8	Hutchinson, H. R.	3/10/14	38	Svoboda, F. E.	4/4/14	73	Ferm, O. G.	2/8/14	125	Kremer, R. E.	3/16/14	177	Hanner, L. W.	3/30/14	302	Ligon, H.	11/18/13
8	Kowalski, S. C.	8/21/13	38	Ventura, L. J.	4/22/14	73	Hoppe, J. E.	1/28/14	126	Fleming, R. J.	3/17/14	177	Ray, H. H.	4/2/14	303	Colquhoun, A.	1/8/14
8	Tice, G. F.	3/4/14	38	Watt, E. T.	4/15/14	76	Jamison, D. L.	4/18/14	129	Komlosy, J. A.	2/24/14	177	Robertson, C. J.	2/6/14	303	Hollingshead, E.	2/5/14
8	Zymiak, W. J.	3/9/14	38	Wengel, R. A.	3/3/14	76	Keith, J. A.	3/6/14	129	Moore, D. K.	3/4/14	177	Taylor, J. L.	3/27/14	303	Misita, J.	3/18/14
8	Zacharias, W.	3/18/14	40	Cueller, F.	2/15/14	77	Lind, H. B.	3/29/14	129	Stumphauzer, D. J.	12/10/13	191	Damish, A. L.	2/1/14	304	Caldwell, L. G.	2/21/14
9	Freeman, J. R.	4/18/14	41	Guenther, R. T.	3/23/14	77	Olson, R. L.	12/27/13	130	Breaux, L. J.	4/4/14	191	Gilmore, R. E.	1/23/14	304	Reust, B. G.	2/16/14
9	Kiley, J. J.	4/12/14	41	Haertel, T. O.	9/24/13	77	Pankretz, H. L.	2/19/14	130	Guerrera, S. J.	3/14/14	191	Rogers, B. C.	2/24/14	305	Boggs, C. R.	4/9/14
9	Kirby, F. T.	2/19/14	41	Heisler, T.	3/5/14	77	Scalf, R. E.	4/15/14	130	Hirsch, S. J.	3/15/14	191	Wheeler, E. R.	1/1/14	306	Gilmore, A. N.	4/5/14
9	Prusinski, R																

Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death
317	Thomas, L. J.	4/9/14	424	Rau, D.	2/15/14	569	Flores, L. R.	3/22/14	683	Krafft, D. C.	12/1/13	1147	Kirschling, M. D.	2/2/13	Pens. (1095)	Eggleton, J. O.	1/11/14
322	Presgrove, A. L.	10/28/13	424	Smith, N. A.	2/26/14	569	McCurry, J. H.	1/9/14	684	Salinas, J.	3/8/14	1186	Kiyonaga, T.	1/1/14	Pens. (2253)	Sawyer, E. J.	4/20/14
332	Asea, J. D.	1/14/14	424	Trento, A. B.	2/12/14	569	Neal, H. C.	12/18/13	688	Schertzer, W. T.	4/1/14	1186	Okubo, R. T.	1/21/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Abstance, D. L.	2/12/14
332	Dollar, G. H.	3/23/14	424	Wong, J.	2/28/14	569	Peterson, M. E.	2/28/14	692	Behmlander, G. O.	2/18/14	1186	Sumiyoshi, K.	3/18/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Banta, R. W.	3/13/14
332	Helander, P. O.	2/12/14	426	Hoyer, B. D.	2/6/14	569	Tyler, E. J.	2/18/14	692	Johnroe, J. C.	3/11/14	1200	Bricker, W.	3/4/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Bryce, A. A.	4/11/14
339	Olafson, D. G.	2/8/14	428	Wilkins, J. D.	4/9/14	570	Martin, J. A.	3/18/14	701	Behling, J. W.	2/12/14	1205	Kelly, D. B.	2/11/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Burner, J. L.	4/8/14
340	Kough, W. W.	11/12/13	429	Grizzle, C. C.	3/27/14	575	Davis, M. L.	2/16/14	701	Kylander, J. R.	2/1/14	1205	Parker, R. J.	4/14/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Carter, M.	3/30/14
340	Stevens, C. D.	12/10/13	429	Harris, Z. B.	4/21/14	575	Heibel, J. F.	3/25/14	702	Emery, J. E.	2/21/14	1205	Spell, W. R.	2/14/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Chatlos, A.	2/28/14
340	Weidman, J. L.	3/25/14	429	Henley, J.	4/24/14	577	Swenson, J. R.	1/20/14	702	Ridgeway, W. F.	2/10/14	1206	Englehart, W. K.	2/9/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Clewis, J. M.	3/14/14
342	Sanders, S. L.	4/2/14	429	Thompson, G. H.	2/14/14	583	Ochoa, H. J.	3/16/14	714	Glass, R.	8/15/13	1212	Brown, L.	3/1/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Coburn, V. A.	3/13/14
343	Hagemann, L. E.	1/9/14	433	Bourque, J. J.	4/7/14	584	Iseley, M. A.	3/15/14	716	Bratton, L. B.	1/25/14	1245	Gatten, T. L.	1/19/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Coleman, E. E.	3/21/14
343	Reed, L. W.	3/3/14	436	Copeland, M. J.	12/25/13	584	Risenhoover, W. J.	4/7/14	716	Gunderson, C. A.	3/19/14	1245	Leedah, D. G.	9/23/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Cook, L. E.	1/24/14
347	Dingman, R. D.	3/31/14	440	Lambert, A. L.	2/14/14	584	Sinnes, E. A.	3/14/14	716	Jamison, E. H.	3/22/14	1245	Turner, W. A.	1/29/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Correll, T. J.	4/2/14
347	Thomas, H. E.	4/11/14	441	Nelson, S. B.	4/23/14	586	Dodge, R. F.	2/2/14	716	Key, B. E.	2/15/14	1249	Collins, J. R.	1/10/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Cummings, M. V.	2/20/14
350	Dotson, W. R.	1/29/14	441	Rincon, M. P.	12/19/13	595	Call, R. L.	1/26/14	716	Markham, E. D.	1/16/13	1249	Evans, H. W.	12/21/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Danzenen, B. K.	12/29/13
351	Cottrell, F. F.	2/21/14	441	Williams, N. E.	1/11/14	595	Clarke, R. A.	3/13/14	716	Muhl, J. D.	1/21/14	1249	Reed, J. C.	2/16/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Donahue, W.	4/15/14
351	Jones, K. E.	4/18/14	443	Gregory, W. P.	11/13/13	595	Garris, G. A.	3/11/14	725	Allen, J. Q.	1/24/14	1253	Lafleur, R. A.	12/1/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Eason, W. L.	4/3/14
351	Mac Donald, J. C.	3/25/14	446	Russell, M. G.	2/5/14	595	Gibson, B.	1/22/14	728	Burns, T. M.	2/6/14	1253	Vanburen, H. W.	2/16/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Eichler, E. L.	2/10/14
353	Barker, R.	2/20/14	456	Bergacs, W.	3/16/14	595	Kearns, R. R.	4/22/14	728	Denham, R. D.	3/14/14	1260	Higa, T.	12/21/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Ferrari, E. A.	4/16/14
353	Bell, G.	2/16/14	465	Rojas, A. Q.	12/4/13	595	Knudsen, R. C.	2/11/14	728	Longmire, N. L.	2/17/14	1260	Saiki, R. F.	11/3/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Fontaine, G. G.	4/4/14
353	Bratfisch, H.	2/19/14	466	Hinkle, E. W.	4/9/14	595	Kueny, R. E.	1/4/14	728	Markiewicz, R. M.	1/13/14	1316	Barber, C. E.	3/18/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Gaskins, J. H.	1/10/14
353	Cooper, G.	4/22/14	466	McClanahan, R. E.	2/28/14	595	Nymann, B.	4/4/14	728	Meldrim, I. M.	3/20/14	1319	Marcy, C.	4/15/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Gelbman, B.	2/25/14
353	Howe, R.	4/27/14	474	Jones, J. S.	2/19/14	595	Olivier, A. C.	3/6/14	728	Scheick, E.	3/22/14	1319	Pesta, A.	11/10/12	Pens. (I.O.)	George, R. J.	2/4/14
353	Liu, L.	1/31/14	474	Smart, J. F.	3/15/14	595	Walter, S. J.	1/4/14	728	Wise, P. S.	12/29/13	1377	Becker, F. L.	9/18/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Geyer, F. A.	3/4/14
353	MacGregor, G. O.	1/24/14	474	Whaley, W. L.	4/2/14	595	Weber, A. C.	3/5/14	733	Jordan, C. H.	2/8/14	1377	Dougherty, T. E.	3/1/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Gillotti, S. A.	4/11/14
353	Murray, M. V.	1/31/14	477	Coffer, R. H.	10/10/13	596	Barnes, K. D.	1/6/14	738	Whitehurst, R. S.	4/19/14	1377	Savic, D.	3/6/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Godbout, R.	8/26/13
353	O'Hara, F. M.	12/29/13	479	Bonin, W. A.	1/10/14	601	Panko, G. L.	3/31/14	743	Heim, N. J.	10/7/13	1412	Bray, G. A.	11/30/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Goodman, J.	12/1/13
353	Prenc, D. Z.	2/27/14	481	Brunning, C. A.	1/27/14	601	Parker, K.	2/24/14	756	Coleman, K. P.	3/27/14	1516	Bedgood, V.	11/25/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Greenage, J. W.	4/11/14
353	Richardson, T. D.	2/21/14	481	Coffey, M. R.	4/10/14	601	Scott, F. D.	3/20/14	760	Crisp, V. J.	4/3/14	1516	Davis, B. D.	12/26/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Hargrove, J. G.	1/27/14
353	Scarff, P. N.	4/15/14	481	Myers, O. M.	3/30/14	602	Blue, D. W.	3/14/14	760	Rhinehart, R. R.	3/18/14	1547	Adams, K. R.	12/14/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Herholtz, R. L.	2/20/14
353	Solano, T.	2/14/14	481	Scobee, L. L.	4/16/14	602	Sharp, J. C.	2/4/14	765	Jackson, C. R.	3/10/14	1547	Bunker, Z. T.	3/9/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Hewitt, D. L.	2/9/14
353	Stephenson, G. T.	4/21/14	483	Hansen, M. R.	5/17/13	605	Lewis, E. L.	2/5/14	768	Athearn, J. L.	2/18/14	1547	Cornelius, F. G.	3/31/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Hovater, H. C.	11/4/13
353	Trudeau, J. J.	2/21/14	486	Marks, H. J.	4/5/14	606	Bonner, H. S.	2/11/14	769	Peacock, J. F.	2/27/14	1547	Doogan, H. J.	3/3/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Izenberg, I.	4/23/14
354	Johnson, H. K.	3/30/14	488	Heuser, H.	2/22/14	606	Mathias, J. S.	2/19/14	772	Gunter, W. L.	3/12/14	1547	Kinnebrew, J. K.	3/29/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Juetten, J. J.	3/22/14
354	Kilpatrick, M. L.	4/4/14	488	Kearns, W. J.	4/11/14	611	Evans, J. C.	3/9/14	776	Mayberry, F. D.	4/21/14	1547	Prevatt, J. L.	9/16/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Klock, R. W.	2/25/14
354	McArthur, R. J.	3/18/14	488	Wakeman, C. R.	3/27/14	611	Lopez, M. J.	3/1/14	801	Mott, J. J.	9/25/13	1547	Storey, R. L.	2/26/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Knically, E. D.	3/13/14
354	Paulos, S.	3/7/14	490	Jacobson, R. H.	5/13/13	611	Romero, O. L.	3/11/14	804	Cunningham, G. D.	2/2/14	1547	Vanderleest, D.	3/14/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Knudstrup, R. J.	1/28/14
357	Katz, A. J.	2/7/14	494	Clemans, H.	3/26/14	611	Tucker, A. D.	4/6/14	804	Seaton, J. G.	12/23/13	1547	Vondra, J. L.	2/17/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Koss, D.	3/19/14
357	Martinez, J. S.	3/30/14	494	Hoopman, G. S.	3/1/14	613	Brodt, D. G.	4/14/14	804	Southcote, G. L.	2/11/14	1579	McCauley, W. L.	3/7/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Kronquist, M. W.	2/28/13
363	Hunt, J. W.	1/24/14	494	Kaluzny, F. S.	3/13/14	613	Cartledge, H. T.	3/29/14	816	Lynn, R. E.	2/14/14	1687	Levesque, D.	3/26/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Kussman, W. F.	3/12/14
363	Moretto, R. J.	2/27/14	494	Laforce, C. A.	4/9/14	613	Chandler, J. D.	3/12/14	816	Mock, J. B.	3/17/14	1703	Maroney, G. E.	11/22/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Lane, D. K.	3/24/14
363	Ross, C.	12/31/13	494	Larsen, E. A.	4/16/14	613	Kidd, H. R.	2/7/14	816	Wilkins, N.	3/11/14	1837	Priest, P. E.	2/26/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Leffler, J. A.	3/1/14
363	Thonn, C. E.	2/3/14	494	Riebe, O. P.	3/24/14	613	Rogers, G. G.	12/30/13	852	Moore, E. H.	12/28/13	1856	Ricci, J. A.	3/31/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Lovino, L. R.	3/4/14
364	Ellison, D. R.	1/15/14	494	Streitenberger, G. M.	4/4/14	613	Ward, C. M.	12/13/13	861	Menard, C. J.	3/13/14	1937	Slover, G.	2/19/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Maris, H. E.	3/1/14
369	Downs, J. J.	2/15/14	494	Wolf, R. J.	3/20/14	617	Flach, C. W.	2/10/14	873	Shiner, O. J.	6/9/12	2085	Siminoff, L.	12/30/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Morrow, T. B.	2/27/14
369	Langsdon, A. W.	3/26/14	498	Barr, W. D.	11/18/13	627	Hogue, D. M.	3/30/14	876	Sattler, K. A.	2/8/14	2113	Burks, F. D.	3/21/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Moyer, J. F.	2/6/14
369	Scott, R. E.	2/10/14	498	Miller, M. W.	2/16/14	636	Bernans, V.	3/12/14	903	Boyd, C. A.	2/17/14	2113	White, R. G.	3/16/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Mulvey, K. L.	3/5/14
369	Starck, G. M.	1/9/14	520	Fike, C. L.	11/30/13	640	Eckenrode, J. D.	9/9/13	903	Reeves, F. W.	2/10/14	2150	Ondercin, J. J.	3/1/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Murray, B. K.	10/26/13
369	Tyra, R. L.	1/24/14	520	Henry, R.	2/13/14	640	Green, D. E.	3/18/14	915	Lyons, A.	4/6/14	2150	Stueber, D. C.	1/29/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Neuroth, W. L.	3/8/14
369	Vaught, J. R.	4/11/14	527	Blass, D. L.	3/12/14	640	Nations, F. W.	4/7/14	915	Rhodes, W. L.	3/14/14	2228	Jeronic, G. W.	3/26/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Noel, W. F.	12/27/13
379	Rutledge, B. J.	3/16/14	527	Persky, B. R.	2/16/14	640	Wright, F. M.	4/15/14	934	Dishner, P. J.	3/20/14	2270	Marsillii, P. J.	4/6/14	Pens. (I.O.)	O'Connor, J. M.	1/5/14
387	Day, R. J.	4/17/14	532	Kuehn, E. J.	4/25/14	647	Ingram, W. R.	2/5/14	934	Kiser, F. D.	1/9/10	2295	Engert, R. D.	2/13/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Odell, D. E.	12/27/13
387	Sater, H. L.	4/12/14	540	Baker, D. R.	2/26/14	647	Jones, H. C.	12/25/13	940	Ashley, A. A.	12/14/13	I.O. (5)	Frederick, N. P.	1/17/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Payton, C. G.	3/4/14
387	Smith, P. H.	3/13/14	540	Haddix, L. D.	3/3/14	648	Bailey, R. E.	4/19/14	948	Pollock, D. A.	3/12/14	I.O. (134)	Pech, C. J.	2/8/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Pearce, J. E.	2/13/14
388	Trzebny, W. A.	4/2/14	540	Haines, F. M.	2/5/14	648	Wittman, D. A.	2/27/14	948	Schultz, J. R.	4/26/14	I.O. (134)	Toth, R. W.	3/19/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Potrafka, J. W.	4/24/14
396	Ring, D. E.	2/28/14	540	Haupt, H. C.	2/21/14	649	Mathus, C. A.	2/24/14	952	Stevens, J. D.	10/16/13	I.O. (134)	Yurek, R.	4/9/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Rawlings, W. H.	1/21/14
398	Thompson, D. H.	1/7/14	540	Stine, G. L.	1/11/14	654	Parker, J. E.	3/14/14	953	Dworak, L. J.	2/19/14	I.O. (153)	Remble, J. R.	3/24/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Reames, C. P.	1/23/14
400	Costa, A.	1/19/14	551	Falk, R. A.	3/13/14	659	Hatfield, J. R.	2/8/14	969	Morse, W. L.	2/15/14	I.O. (245)	McGreevy, M. L.	2/9/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Redfern, L. J.	2/22/14
400	Zahlmann, R. F.	10/6/13	551	Gerrish, R. A.	1/4/14	659	Moore, H. E.	3/28/14	972	Pickering, C. E.	10/12/13	I.O. (266)	Sullivan, M. E.	4/7/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Richards, K. O.	1/29/14
401	King, C. C.	1/12/14	551	Mack, T. F.	4/13/14	666	Blankenship, W. T.	4/8/14	979	Lenards, D. J.	2/19/14	I.O. (769)	Mosley, G. C.	2/25/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Rockenstein, D.	3/15/14
402	Faubert, R.	2/5/14	551	McKinney, M. A.	6/7/13	666	Bodenhamer, J. T.	3/13/14	993	Ryan-Lewis, G.	3/12/14	Pens. (241)	Dunn, D. E.	3/6/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Siters, E. R.	4/9/14
405	Ryan, D. E.	11/18/13	553	Crace, R. D.	3/23/14	666	Gusti, W. A.	5/2/14	993	Zlot, H. M.	2/12/14	Pens. (485)	Rickenbacker, H. S.	1/17/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Splithoff, R. S.	3/22/14
412	Napier, J. W.	3/24/14	558	Bozeman, R. L.	3/12/14	666	Jones, L. P.	4/4/14	995	Jackson, A.	1/25/14				Pens. (I.O.)	Touhy, E. K.	2/14/14
413	Farnsworth, D. K.	3/26/14	558	McGuire, W. B.	2/5/14	668	Long, J. L.	3/14/14									



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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

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**FROM THE OFFICERS****'All of Us Are Necessary'**

**Edwin D. Hill**  
International President

**S**trong unions are built on two pillars. First is the willingness of the membership to stand together. If there is no unity of purpose and no confidence in the courage and fortitude of the members, there is no union.

Second is a broad membership representing a variety of backgrounds, but also—and this is often forgotten—a wide variety of jobs and industries. The most obvious reason is that a union in only one industry can be devastated by a recession. A labor movement that does not represent the full diversity of jobs and people in our two countries also opens itself up to political attacks—however unfair—that it is an elitist club that only looks out for its own.

From the beginning, the labor movement has committed itself to winning respect, a voice and a dignified living for every worker.

At times, I believe some people in the labor movement have seen these two sources of strength as mutually exclusive. They say you cannot be both wide and deep.

I have never believed that to be true and offer our membership as a rebuke to those who do.

Just in recent months, we've welcomed to our ranks scores of tree trimmers, the men and women keeping rights of way passable for utility linemen as well as several hundred attorneys general from New Jersey. We have members building a coal fired power plant with revolutionary carbon sequestration technology, we have members just beginning careers as helpers on construction projects and others building a space telescope that will see into the very farthest reaches of time and space.

Cameramen and railworkers, wiremen and telephone operators and so many, many more. The IBEW is hundreds of thousands of hard-working, creative folks who rarely make news outside of our pages, but they represent the very best of North America and its labor movement.

I think Baltimore Local 1501 member Colette Lepage put it remarkably well in this month's story about the James Webb Space Telescope when she said, "Everything we do here is bigger than anyone of us, but all of us are necessary for it to succeed." ■

**We're Spreading the News**

**G**oogle the term "marketing." If you wanted to, you could spend a month reading about how different businesses sell their image, their reputation and their products. Or, if you desired, you could apply to enter a college or university to receive a degree in the field.

For several generations, the IBEW and other unions looked at marketing as a businessman's game. In electrical construction, we figured that our skills, the buildings we constructed and the plants we maintained spoke for themselves. We did our jobs. We let our employers speak for their businesses.

Those days are gone. And, in my mind, it's about time. The experience of the First District shows why.

Our brothers and sisters north of 49 realized that most of their signatory contractors' nonunion competitors advertise broadly. And they also knew that, with more Canadian political leaders following the path of union adversaries in the U.S., they just couldn't let untruths about unions and our values go unchallenged. So they aired national ads featuring IBEW members at work and launched a website profiling members and local unions who reach out and support their neighbors.

These efforts mirror those in the U.S., where, for the last couple of years, we have been airing national ads during football season and on news networks introducing viewers to our union members at work.

Some locals have been airing ads for years, and many others are now getting into the act. National advertising is absolutely necessary. But it's expensive. Targeting local media markets is not only cheaper. Local union marketing is a way to zero in on particular projects, to stack up our skills against the competition and win new work.

In our consumer-driven economies, brands are important. With our marketing campaigns, millions are being exposed for the first time to the proud IBEW brand. Our members truly deserve the recognition. And our future members and customers are coming around to check out what we have to offer. All of our advertising—in national and local markets on both sides of the border—helps support our efforts at business and membership development.

I urge our locals to help spread these efforts until every household knows the heart and soul of the IBEW. ■



**Salvatore J. Chilia**  
International Secretary-Treasurer

**HOW TO REACH US**

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

**Send letters to:**

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

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

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## “LETTERS TO THE EDITOR”

### A Mandate for Single Payer?

How can the No. 2 IBEW officer write about the future of U.S. health care (“Fix It, Don’t Repeal It,” May 2014 Electrical Worker) without once mentioning single payer or contrasting the abomination of our “uniquely American” system with that enjoyed by our Canadian brothers and sisters?

HR 676, Improved and Expanded Medicare for All, was introduced by Rep. John Conyers in 2003. To date, 613 labor organizations, including 147 central labor councils and area labor federations and 44 state AFL-CIOs have endorsed it. Rank-and-file members did most of the work during the Affordable Care Act buildup. Many labor leaders at that time, including the IBEW, joined an advocacy group called “Health Care for America Now” (HCAN), a name intentionally designed to mislead supporters of “Healthcare-Now,” an existing single payer advocacy group. HCAN’s objective of securing a “robust public option” was never in the cards; we were played for fools.

Secretary-Treasurer Chilia correctly states the ACA threatens our multiemployer plans but then says “our political/legislative team is working with officials ... from both sides of the aisle to help fix some of these problems.” While ACA officials accommodate requests by business and insurance interests for relief, they continue to shut out labor.

A single payer resolution at our last convention passed unanimously; single payer support is now the official policy of both the IBEW and the AFL-CIO. I remind the IBEW leadership of this and ask that they respect the mandate given them. We should start by heeding members’ wishes and devoting time, energy and funds to organizing for the single payer solution we so desperately need.

Oregon is finally taking the first step toward Vermont-style, universal single payer care, the HB 3260 study (see [www.OregonStudy.org](http://www.OregonStudy.org)). But this step will go nowhere without broad support from labor. Our leaders and our members should solidly support this study to demonstrate our commitment to single payer health care in Oregon.

Ray Kenny, Local 48 member  
Portland, Ore.

### Why Vote Republican?

After years of arguing with family and debating friends, I’ve come up with an analogy of Republican propaganda.

Republican propaganda is like a train. This train rides on two rails; one is fear and the other is hate. Like all trains, riders get on and off at stations along these rails. If you buy their I’ll-cut-your-taxes or the-people-need-to-keep-more-of-their-own-money lines, then you are using the station whose name is greed. If you agree with them that teachers, firemen and police are paid too much, have too many days off or have too lavish pensions and benefits, then your station is envy. Pride is the station that I have the most problem with, because this one kills not only our loved ones, but also the loved ones in countries with the bad luck of having resources that others want.

Many people and most all Christians know the Ten Commandments but seem to forget about the Seven Deadly Sins, flaws in our character that we all have to guard against every day. I can make an argument for most all of the seven sins and how the Republican Propaganda Train uses them, but space here is limited.

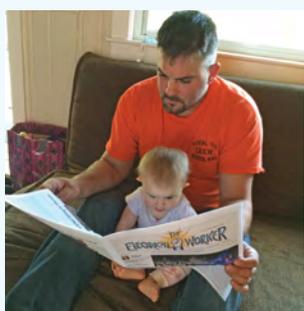
The R.P.T. wants, no needs, you to be an emotional voter; by tweaking your sins they hope you will be that greedy, vain, envious voter that they need and love. They will take our pride and their hubris, ingratiate their friends and tally up bills that our children will have to pay.

Mitchell Garrett, Local 146 member  
Decatur, Ill.

### Labor Education Starts at Home

My husband, Local 103 member Mike, and 8-month-old daughter, Elizabeth, reading the May 2014 issue of The Electrical Worker.

Heather Fernandes, wife of Local 103  
member Mike Fernandes  
Boston



## WHO WE ARE

If you have a story to tell about your IBEW experience, please send it to [media@ibew.org](mailto:media@ibew.org).

## ‘It’s Poorer Than You Can Imagine’ Solar Entrepreneur to Power Up Nigerian Orphanage

With more than 2 million barrels of crude oil produced each day, Nigeria is one of the most steady energy suppliers in the world.

But in remote enclaves of the African nation, electricity is scarce. In the small town of Eku, where an orphanage and hospital serve the needs of malnourished children and impoverished citizens, getting even four hours of sporadic electrical service can seem like a good day.

Montana Busch is trying to help improve that. At 26 years old, the Atlanta Local 613 member and his company Alternative Energy Southeast are preparing a project to install solar panels on Eku’s Shepherd Care Orphanage, located in the western Delta State region near the Gulf of Guinea. It’s a first step in what he hopes will be a larger effort to provide power to the entire complex, which includes the Eku Baptist Hospital. The facility offers physician and nurse training for specialists who work with leprosy, trauma, pediatric illness and other issues facing local residents.

“It’s poorer than you can imagine. The poverty in Nigeria is much more extreme and pervasive than what I’ve ever seen,” said Busch, who traveled to Eku last spring to inspect the site, get a sense for what his team could feasibly do with available resources, and scope out the possibility for further energy development. Another activist on site was Kathy Davison, an anesthetist and nursing student teaching aide whose father, Ed Davison, is a retired member of Springfield, Ill., Local 193.

But with great challenge comes great opportunity, and Busch said that he and his team are up for it.

“Our first step is to build a 7-kilowatt solar array that will power the orphanage,” he said. It’s a tricky job that will be completely custom, utilizing about 28 photovoltaic panels and spanning more than 400 square feet. Busch plans to bring one of his company’s electricians with him when he returns to Nigeria, then team up with a local electrician who has logged hours on other projects at the facility.

Funding for the array will come from Walking In Love Ministries, a Baptist group that has overseen the hospital and orphanage since the 1940s.

The orphanage project is the first of a proposed five-step plan to power the entire complex using nothing but harnessed energy from the sun—which is plentiful in Nigeria’s tropical climate, situated just a few hundred miles north of the equator.

But to make further progress, Busch’s team will need about \$100,000 in



Atlanta Local 613 member Montana Busch, left, is volunteering to install a solar array that will power an orphanage in rural Nigeria.

funds for the hospital job. “It’s going to be a challenge, which is why the hospital project remains a ‘maybe’ at this point, but we are optimistic,” he said. A solution could be to combine funds from private donors with any assistance they might procure from the regional government, Busch said.

The Eku job is one of the first large-scale endeavors that Alternative Energy Southeast is tackling as part of the company’s philanthropic efforts. The goal? “Making enough profit to freely give our services to people in developing countries,” the company’s website, [www.altenergyse.com](http://www.altenergyse.com) states. “Lives are changed drastically by having something as simple as electric refrigeration. Most people don’t realize how many ways electricity makes life easier for us. Imagine your life without it.”

Despite his relative youth, Busch has had a passion for green energy since before most of his peers knew what they wanted to do for a career. “I got interested in solar before it was financially feasible, when I was a teen,” he said. “I wanted to do something valuable, something that could be a career while doing good for the planet.”

“There was an assignment in a high school class where the teacher had us write about where we wanted to be in 10 years,” he said. “So I came up with my early plan to be the owner of a renewable energy company.”

To achieve his dream, Busch earned a diploma from North Carolina State in Renewable Energy Technologies and embarked on an apprenticeship with

Local 613. “The IBEW curriculum was outstanding in helping me develop skills. It’s given me a way to make money, but also is a way to help solve the energy problems in the world.”

“It doesn’t surprise me that Montana is able to do what he’s doing, because our apprentice program turns out the best journeymen,” said Gene O’Kelley, Business Manager of Local 613. “We’re very proud of him for going out on his own to help provide renewable energy.”

Such quality workmanship will be necessary in Eku, given its fluctuating energy supply. The hospital currently uses diesel generators that cost about \$150 U.S. per day to run. Power to the hospital ping pongs between 160-240 volts at any time, occasionally playing havoc with sensitive machinery used in anesthesia, operations and more.

Busch sees a likely remedy to all of this.

“With solar, you can generate it onsite, store it in batteries onsite, have perfectly consistent voltage and frequency, and it’s there when you need it,” he said. “And you don’t have to worry about being connected to the grid, which isn’t very reliable there. On consecutive cloudy days, they’ll be able to use a backup generator, as needed. It’s a great solution. And it can help improve so many lives.”

Busch begins his Nigerian mission in a few months. To make a donation to the project, visit [www.youcaring.com/nonprofits/solar-project-for-the-orphanage-and-hospital-of-eku-nigeria/187815](http://www.youcaring.com/nonprofits/solar-project-for-the-orphanage-and-hospital-of-eku-nigeria/187815). ■



## International Solidarity at Siemens

Large multinationals present a difficult challenge to facilities facing competitive pressures from brother and sister plants across the globe.

What if unions organized to make multinational corporations more responsive to the needs of their workers and keep competition between their units fair?

That's exactly what is happening at Siemens, a company based in Germany that produces electrical equipment, medical technology and dozens of other products and services for worldwide distribution.

Siemens employs 60,000 workers in the U.S. But only 3,200 belong to unions, including more than 800 IBEW members in service and manufacturing jobs. The unionized work force is covered by 14 collective bargaining agreements with the IUE-Communications Workers, Steelworkers, Machinists, Autoworkers and Teamsters.

Nearly all of the company's 100,000 workers in Germany, including engineers and managers, belong to unions. But Siemens has resisted efforts of several unions to organize workers at many North American locations. German trade union-

ists want to help change Siemens' stance.

"My fellow union members feel that the U.S. was better off when unions were stronger," says Dirk Linder, a Siemens employee and a member of IG Metall, Germany's largest metalworkers union.

### 'The U.S. was better off when unions were stronger.'

— Dirk Linder, Siemens employee and member of German union IG Metall

In April, Linder, representing the Siemens Global Union Network, traveled to the United States to meet with members and leaders of the IBEW's manufacturing branch at the Broadcasting, Manufacturing and Telecommunications Conference. The IBEW invited members of the IUE, who have developed relationships with German unionists, to the meeting to help welcome Linder.

The meeting was attended by IBEW Secretary-Treasurer Sam Chilia, five district vice presidents and local union members and representatives who work at North American Siemens plants.

IBEW Manufacturing Department Director Randy Middleton met Linder two years ago at an international Siemens corporate meeting attended by members of the IUE. Impressed by the amount of respect German unionists received from Siemens, Middleton said he wanted to deepen ties with them and learn from their experience.

"In Germany, we have a large amount of influence over Siemens' decisions," Linder told attendees. The need to broaden union influence at other Siemens locations, he said, was underscored by the corporation's rapidly-advancing global reach. In 1980, 67 percent of Siemens' operations were located in Germany. That number has dropped to 32 percent, with the company establishing operations in Asia, South America and other regions.

To create a more level playing field for workers at the company, in 2012, IG

Metall teamed with IndustriALL, a global union representing 50 million workers in mining, energy and manufacturing, to negotiate and sign an international framework agreement reaffirming the company's commitment to fundamental workers' rights. Those rights include equal opportunity, freedom of association and collective bargaining.

Also signing the agreement were representatives of the Siemens Central Works Council, composed of union members and company executives elected by their peers. Work councils are mandatory under law for all German businesses with more than 1,000 employees. Unions sit on the councils' boards of supervisors and exercise decision-making authority on subjects like layoffs and the distribution of work within companies, adapting national collective bargaining agreements to local conditions.

"Works councils are where our discussions [on Siemens' long-term business developments] happen," says Linder.

The international framework agreement is a step forward, but "it's a piece of paper," says Linder. "To make it real, [unions] have to fight for it and make use of it." He said he's hopeful that Siemens will listen and respond to concerns of workers. The Siemens Global Union Network is proposing meetings and ongoing dialogue between Siemens-based unionists divided into regional "clusters" in Asia, South America, North America, Europe and China.

Phyllis Goines is an executive board member of Arlington, Texas, Local 220, an eight-year employee of a Siemens plant that produces electrical switch gears and power

panels. "There's room for improvement in our local's relationship with Siemens and I'm hoping the company lets changes manifest," she says. "Two nearby Siemens plants are unorganized, and she expresses hope that the company will remain neutral during any organizing campaigns.

Wayne Cupp, president of IUE-CWA Local 84765 in Norwood, Ohio, whose plant produces large Siemens induction motors, said, "Whenever there's an issue at Norwood, I feel very comfortable reaching across the waters to our counterparts in Germany and getting their advice."

In a 2013 article in the CWA News, Cupp reported on a trip to Germany that included a visit to Siemens' apprenticeship school in Nuremberg. "They not only teach workers machining and welding skills, they take the opportunity to teach these same workers how important organized labor is for the future," said Cupp.

The IUE and IBEW are developing a strategic organizing campaign for Siemens' plants that will be a subject for future global dialogue.

Middleton says he hopes to see an even more progressive relationship with German unions that will encompass all unions in the U.S. representing workers at the company.

The day after Linder's visit, Siemens Senior Director of Human Resources Lee Vickers addressed conference attendees with an overview of the company's global holdings, then praised IBEW's record on training, promoting safe practices and the Code of Excellence. "We can never compete on price, alone," said Vickers. "We have to rely on quality and 170 years of service." ■



IBEW members and Siemens workers listen to a presentation from Dirk Linder (inset), a representative of German union IG Metall and the Siemens Global Union Network.

## Historic Ties Underscore IBEW/German Union Partnership

Nazi Germany was defeated. German industry was in shambles. As he negotiated with Russia over the future of the German state after World War II, President Franklin D. Roosevelt looked toward rebuilding an agrarian economy, reducing the size and importance of Germany's powerful industrial sector.

Gen. Lucius D. Clay, deputy commander of the U.S. occupation forces, had a different idea. Because many countries in Europe had depended upon German tools and machinery, he reasoned, wouldn't it make more sense to help Germany rebuild its industry and ensure that its workers are represented by trade unions that are democratic, opposed to both Nazism and communism?

Roosevelt finally agreed. And Clay didn't have to look far for a leader who had the background, understanding and ability to begin reaching out to German unionists, many of whom had gone into hiding after World War II began.

That man was Joseph D. Keenan, a Chicago electrician who, in 1954, was elected International Secretary of the IBEW, holding the job until 1974.

Clay already knew Keenan through his service on the War Production Board where he helped marshal construction labor for the war effort.

"The reestablishment of trade unions along democratic lines had to come from within," Clay said. "That this almost impossible reform did occur came about in a large part, if not entirely, from the work of Joe Keenan."

In his book, "Joseph D. Keenan, Labor's Ambassador in War and Peace," Francis X. Gannon described how Keenan's intervention helped break through bureaucratic hurdles to return former union halls to their rightful owners. At Keenan's urging, a large building occupied by the U.S. Army was turned over to a union, giving German unions a general headquarters. Keenan's advocacy helped restore typewriters, paper, autos and other essential tools to the unions.

Keenan reported in the AFL Weekly News what he first saw after

arriving in Germany at the war's end.

"I found no unions functioning," he said. "Hitler had wiped them all out as his first step after seizing power. We searched in hiding places and in concentration camps until we found some of the surviving trade union officials, most of them in their 60s. Gradually we won their confidence and now they are cooperating with us 100 percent. On April 12, 1946, we held a historic trade union conference with German leaders who hadn't seen each other for many years...."

International President Edwin D. Hill compares Keenan's work helping German unionists get back on their feet to current efforts by German activists to support their American counterparts. He says, "Our courageous brothers and sisters in Germany showed us after WW II that the bonds of democratic trade unionism are indestructible. We welcome every single chance to work together on behalf of working families in both our nations." ■