

# Local Union 340 Members Take Brotherhood to Another Level

Brother Keith Kirkpatrick of Local Union 1003, Nelson, B.C., Canada, learned the true meaning of brotherhood during a nearly tragic turn of events in northern California.



**Local 340 members D'elman Clark (left) and Frank Albert (right) showed the true meaning of brotherhood when they recently assisted an injured member.**

During a road trip from Renton, Washington, to San Jose/San Mateo, California, Brother Kirkpatrick was knocked unconscious when he ran his car off the road. He barely recalls waking up in the trauma unit of the University of California Medical Center at Sacramento with a broken nose and a host of medical personnel working feverishly to repair his injuries. As he recovered in the hospital, Brother Kirkpatrick realized that aside from his pants, shorts, and socks, he had nothing. He was missing his wallet and other clothing items. He was also alone in another country with no idea what to do next.

He eventually contacted his wife in Renton who in turn contacted the pastor of the Life Lutheran Church which the Kirkpatricks had been attending during their Renton stay. Brother Kirkpatrick also contacted Local Union 340 in Sacramento, which dispatched Brother D'elman Clarke with clothes, money, and a lot of hope that the situation would have a happy ending. Brother Clarke helped Brother Kirkpatrick retrieve some personal items from the wreck and then met with Brother Frank Albert of Local Union 340, who took Brother Kirkpatrick to his home to await a midnight train to Seattle and then to Renton. Life Lutheran also picked up all expenses for Brother Kirkpatrick's hospital stay.

For Brothers D'elman Clark and Frank Albert, both organizer-business representatives, it was another day in the IBEW. For Brother Kirkpatrick and his family, it was a time which he will long remember as proof that the brotherhood truly knows no borders.

