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International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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Who We Are

Standout Locals Organize Record Number of Members

From Miami to Los Angeles, the IBEW's "A" membership continues to reach new heights. Between April 2007 and April of this year, the IBEW has added more than 10,000 "A" members—mostly in the construction branch—to its ranks, bringing its total construction membership to 334,804.

Business managers and organizers attribute the growth to a union-wide commitment to membership development, an active effort to recruit new apprentices to the trade as the electrical industry expands, new job classifications that allow signatory contractors to stay competitive, a renewed commitment to quality and old-fashioned shoe leather, as organizers and rank-and-file members hit nonunion work-sites and talk to both contractors and electricians about the benefits of joining the IBEW.

An "A" member of the IBEW pays \$13 more a month in dues in return for receiving union-sponsored pension and death benefits. All members working in construction are required to hold "A" membership, but a few members in other branches are also "A" members.

Miami Local 349 has recruited nearly 280 new "A" members in the last year, thanks to the Florida Initiative, launched three years ago. Industry nights—events pairing nonunion electricians with signatory contractors—have been the center of the initiative's success.

"We have been so successful at attracting the best guys from the nonunion contractors that the nonunion contractors have to take a look at us," said Local 349 Business Manager William Riley.

Also key to Local 349's organizing strategy has been the work of Walter Bost, a former chapter member with the National Electrical Contractors Association, in recruiting nonunion contractors.

"If a contractor goes to an employment agency, they might get one quality guy out of every 12 they hire," Bost said. "When they go with us, they are guaranteed a quality electrician—every time."

The spirit of the Florida Initiative is also being felt in Georgia. Atlanta Local 613 picked up 214 new "A" members thanks to a combination of top-down and bottom-up blitzes, radio and TV spots and a series of industry nights throughout the Atlanta area.

Local 613 organizer Jed Dunagan has found that rank-and-file members are some of his best organizers. "A lot of our members have nephews, nieces and cousins working without a union and they are reaching out to them," he said.

The local has also been expanding its presence outside the metropolitan area, attracting more than 40 workers to an industry night in Columbus, two hours south of Atlanta.

The Carolinas aren't known as the most hospitable place for unionism, but the Carolinas Initiative has helped change that. Charleston, S.C., Local 776 and Charlotte, N.C., Local 379 saw the biggest percentage increase in "A" members in 2007, nearly doubling their total.

"In the last six months there has been a pretty steady stream of new members," said Local 776 Business Manager Chuck Moore. For Moore, the key to convincing both electricians and contractors wary of unions was consistency. "When we held our first industry night more than a year ago, a lot of older guys were worried that this was just some fly-by-night thing that could cost them their job," Moore said. "By the time we had the third one, they saw we were serious."

Top 10 Locals with the Biggest "A" Membership Increase

April 2007–April 2008

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Washington, D.C., Local 26 | 689 |
| Las Vegas, Local 357 | 538 |
| Nashville, Tenn., Local 429 | 532 |
| Honolulu Local 1186 | 292 |
| Miami Local 349 | 279 |
| Seattle Local 46 | 259 |
| Diamond Bar, Calif., Local 47 | 257 |
| Atlanta Local 613 | 214 |
| Phoenix Local 640 | 207 |
| New York Local 3 | 177 |

Top 5 Locals with the Biggest "A" Membership Percentage Increase

April 2007–April 2008

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Charleston, S.C., Local 776 | 47% |
| Charlotte, N.C., Local 379 | 44% |
| Nashville, Tenn., Local 429 | 37% |
| Honolulu Local 1186 | 22% |
| Miami Local 349 | 21% |

Also vital to the locals' growth has been convincing contractors in other states to take a chance in the Carolinas. "It won't matter how many new people we recruit unless we have jobs to send them to," said Local 379 Business Manager Robert Krebs. A new light-rail system in Charlotte and a Google data center in Charleston are just a few of the multimillion dollar industrial projects that are being built with IBEW members. "The new job ratios have

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www.ibew.org

Standout Locals Organize Record Number of Members

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made it competitive for the union guys to go head-to-head down here," Krebs said.

Nashville, Tenn., Local 429 has added more than 500 new "A" members thanks to a joint effort of local staff, its JATC program and signatory contractors, said Business Manager Robert Emery Jr.

The local has nearly doubled its market share, while top-down blitzes continue to attract a stream of new contractors in the growing Nashville-metro area.

Washington, D.C., Local 26's reputation for quality work and its commitment to organizing helps explain its recruitment of nearly 700 new construction members—the biggest growth in the IBEW. The local, which covers Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C., has signed up 10 contractors in the last year and held five industry nights. In addition to running radio and newspaper ads for the events, the local blitzes every nonunion workplace in a 30-square-mile radius of where the industry night will be held, said Local 26 Business Manager Chuck Graham.

Diamond Bar, Calif., Local 47 mostly represents utility workers and outside linemen who are normally "BA" members. But Local 47 has added more than 250 new "A" members since last April, putting it in the top 10, thanks to a stepped-up recruitment of apprentices and an active effort to get "BA" members to upgrade their membership cards to "A" status, said Business Manager Pat Lavin, who is also secretary of the International Executive Council.

"The idea of having a pension is becoming more and more popular, so it's not a tough sell," Lavin said.

Local 47 has three full-time membership development coordinators who work with local high schools and career counselors to make sure young workers know about the utility industry.

A strong economy and dominating market share in British Columbia have helped Vancouver Local 258 recruit more than 140 new "A" members, the biggest growth in the First District. Nonunion linemen from across Canada are moving to the province for good-paying union jobs, said Business Manager Doug McKay.

For all these locals, the IBEW's commitment to excellence is one of its biggest selling points.

"If a contractor is going to shell out the money in these tight times, they want their employees to get it right the first time," said Local 776 Business Manager Chuck Moore. "Skilled labor might cost a little more in the short run, but over time it will save the contractor and the consumer big time." ■

Airplane Parts Manufacturing Workers Benefit from Soaring Business

These are lean times for many domestic manufacturing firms, but not for the Cedar Rapids, Iowa-based Rockwell Collins, Inc. A leading producer of aviation communications technology, Rockwell Collins boasts strong sales in recent years, thanks to Army contracts and the development of innovative new technology. Profits are up 20 percent in the last six months.

One of the company's best known products is a small hand-held G.P.S. device, known as the DAGR—"dagger"—which has been used in almost every Army vehicle in Iraq and Afghanistan for four years. Rockwell Collins also manufactures radar systems for commercial and military customers.

Nearly 2,000 IBEW members at two Rockwell Collins plants in Iowa are enjoying the benefits of the company's growing prosperity thanks to new a contract ratified in May.

The five-year contract includes a 20-percent wage increase over the life of the agreement and a significant hike in pension benefits. The agreement makes improvements to vacation benefits and addresses a

looming generational change at the Cedar Rapids plant, where more than half of the work force is eligible for retirement.

To minimize the disruptive effects of employee turnover, workers are eligible to receive a \$10,000 bonus if they schedule their retirement in cooperation with the company.

Despite company concerns over spiraling health care costs, health care benefits were untouched, although premiums will be slightly higher.

"The fact that the health care plan did not change and we lowered retiree health care costs during the life of the agreement is huge," said Manufacturing Department International Representative Randal Middleton, who led the negotiations.

"All of our top bargaining priorities were met, so we're pretty happy," said Cedar Rapids Local 1362 Business Manager Jerry Vuichard, who represents 1,400 Rockwell Collins employees.

Coralville Local 1634 Business Manager Debra Hansen, who represents more than 500 Rockwell Collins workers, said she was

pleased with the contract. "We didn't agree with the company on everything, but we were able to solve our problems together and craft an agreement we were all satisfied with."

More than 140 members of the IUE/CWA at the company's Dallas plant also ratified the contract.

Negotiations began in March, with the company pushing for a pension freeze and a switch to a high-deductible health care plan, but the coordinated bargaining committee held firm.

"There was real solidarity between the two IBEW locals and the IUE and we proved to management that they couldn't break it," said Local 1362 Assistant Business Manager Steve Woods. "We talk to the other plants a least a couple times a month so we all stay in the loop."

The floods that hit Iowa in mid-June left both plants there unscathed but destroyed or damaged many employees' homes. The company has offered three weeks' paid leave for workers who lost their homes. Staffing shortages shut down the Coralville plant for at least two days. ■

Card Check Win at FairPoint Carrier in Maine

Last year's IBEW-CWA campaign to stop Verizon's sale of copper telephone landlines in New England to FairPoint was already blazing when Augusta, Maine, Local 2327 opened up a new front of activism.

Organizers contacted a contingent of nonunion workers formerly employed by small independent telephone carriers in Maine that were acquired by FairPoint several years earlier, says Jenn Nappi, business agent.

In May, nearly 75 of those workers across the state in the collection, dispatch and repair departments, became Local 2327 members after the company complied with a card check agreement that calls for union recognition after a majority of workers sign union authorization cards. They joined seven FairPoint workers who were organized several years ago by Montpelier, Vt., Local 2326.

Even before the cards were counted, the new members won their first victory when FairPoint announced a healthy raise in pay.

North Carolina-based FairPoint Communications purchased Verizon's traditional telephone operations early this year, then quickly negotiated a new contract in April covering approximately 2,200 union members in three states. The agreement included a neutrality clause and card check recognition for unrepresented units in New York, New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont,



FairPoint employees, organized by card check recognition in May, gather at Augusta, Maine, Local 2327 union hall to prepare for bargaining on their first contract.

Rhode Island and Massachusetts. (See *The Electrical Worker*, June 2008).

FairPoint workers closely followed the Stop the Sale campaign and became aware of the superior wages and benefits paid to unionized telecommunication workers at Verizon. While FairPoint had previously hired a consultant to study pay structures, raising workers' hopes for a raise, "they let it go too long," says Dennis Dyer, a technician and former manager.

The pay disparities were particularly upsetting, says Dyer, because many FairPoint workers are less specialized than their Verizon counterparts, performing a wider scope of installation and repairs. "We signed cards because the union represented

strength in numbers," says Dyer, who retired from NYNEX, an IBEW-organized predecessor to Verizon, in 1994 after a 24-year career and went to work for a company that was later purchased by FairPoint.

The day before Nappi traveled to Boston to validate union authorization cards, FairPoint announced a raise in pay. "They brought us up handsomely," says Dyer, who participated in the legendary four-month strike at NYNEX in 1989. Dyer said he is hopeful that first contract bargaining will proceed smoothly. With bargaining unit members located six hours apart, from southern Maine to the Canadian border, Nappi has assembled representatives from each area to brainstorm on a first contract proposal. ■

New College Degree Opportunity for IBEW Members

For many working adults who would like a college diploma, finding the time or money for a formal education makes a great but challenging goal. A recent agreement between the IBEW and Excelsior College seeks to bring members closer to that accomplishment.

For all U.S. and Canadian IBEW members, starting in August the school will offer discounts just for being in the Brotherhood. "Our ultimate goal with this agreement is to make sure that all members know there is the opportunity to achieve a degree at a discounted rate in a low-pressure setting," said IBEW International Representative Todd Newkirk. "This is a real example of how membership has its privileges."

Many IBEW workers have already benefited from Excelsior's inclusive, non-traditional approach.

"I had some college credit in the field I work in, but I didn't think I'd have time to get a full degree," said Tim Collins, a Syracuse, N.Y., Local 97 member and nuclear reactor technician for Entergy.

With past college coursework combined with industry training (which is evaluated for college-level equivalency), an Excelsior counselor determined he needed just two classes to earn a bachelor's degree in nuclear technology.

"I had no idea how close I already was to my degree," Collins said. "Given all my work experience, I knew I just had to pursue it."

Excelsior offers online courses and col-

lege-level proficiency examinations, and accepts credit in transfer from other colleges and universities as well as recognized military and industry training programs.

For members lacking college credit or just starting out in the trade, Excelsior's approach can benefit workers in the long run, Newkirk said. Because Excelsior's programs are completed at a distance, students can be anywhere in the U.S. or Canada and earn their degrees.

"This complements the existing education our members receive through the National Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee," Newkirk said. "It's a direct line from starting with your apprenticeship and following through to your degree."

New terms for online courses begin every month, and there is no rigid timetable for degree completion. "We understand the needs and situations faced by working adults," said Andre Adams, business development specialist for Excelsior. "One of our goals is to make the online learning experience as comfortable and convenient as possible."

Local 97 member Paul Troia, senior chief steward at the James A. Fitzpatrick Nuclear Plant near Oswego, N.Y., achieved his bachelor's in technology. "I think the way Excelsior does it is great for working people," Troia said. "You go at your own pace and are completely on your own schedule."

For IBEW members who have served in the armed forces, both military and industry training can fast-track a student to degree

completion. At least 34,000 military service personnel have applied their evaluated military training toward degrees from Excelsior.

"With a college diploma in one pocket and a union card in the other, members can look forward to consistently higher wages and broader opportunities," Collins said.

"Union members are hard-working people," Troia added. "If we get more people with higher education degrees in the union, then we can demand the higher pay that we deserve."

For more information, visit www.excelsior.edu.

Pennsylvania Initiative Revs Up at Pocono Raceway Event



Alli Owens, driving the IBEW/NECA-sponsored Electrifying Careers car, pulls in for a pit stop.

The IBEW's race to organize new members took on a new spin in June as seven local unions and a tri-state NECA chapter sponsored an industry night near Pocono Raceway in Pennsylvania to introduce the Brotherhood to nonunion electricians.

The industry night, hosted by Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Local 163, featured driver Alli Owens, who was in town to compete in the ARCA Series Pocono 200. Owens' car, ElectrifyingCareers.com, is sponsored by NECA and the IBEW.

Newly organized members were invited to the evening event and encouraged to bring friends and co-workers from nonunion shops. The plan worked splendidly, says Third District International Representative Randy Kieffer, crediting Third District Vice President Don Siegel for proposing the raceway as an organizing venue.

Thirty newly organized members with six weeks or less in the Brotherhood attended the event, bringing along 25 nonunion electricians. Open shop electricians were introduced to the business manager or organizer of the local union nearest their homes who familiarized them with apprenticeship training programs and the construction wireman and construction electrician job classifications.

Union members, accompanied by Siegel, showed up in force on race day and gathered at a hospitality tent to cheer on Owens. President Edwin D. Hill and a contingent from the International Office arrived by motorcycle. Also in attendance were First District IEC member Joseph Calabro, Jeff Scarpello, manager of the Penn-Del-Jersey NECA chapter, and IBEW Construction and Maintenance Department Director Jerry Westerholm. Owens was involved in a crash when a car ahead of her spun out, but she suffered no injuries.

"Organizing is hard work, but it doesn't have to be tedious," says Siegel. "By inviting open shop electricians to come together in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere, we are showing them that they stand to gain even more than a rewarding new career. They will be part of a whole new union family."

Pennsylvania locals sponsoring the industry night include Scranton Local 81, Wilkes Barre Local 163, Allentown Local 375, Norristown Local 380, Shamokin Local 607 and Reading Local 743, as well as Paterson, N.J., Local 102.

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No Time to Waste on Green Jobs Training Legislation

Developing more “green jobs” to reverse our nation’s industrial decline requires a healthy helping of federal policy to support the training of workers in solar, wind and other renewable energy technologies.

Thanks to the strong advocacy of labor, industry and environmental groups, a new \$125 million program to provide research and training in renewable energy has been included in the 2007 energy bill passed by Congress. The pilot program will train up to 35,000 workers for jobs in a range of industries including energy-efficient building, construction and retrofits, renewable electric power, energy efficient vehicles, biofuels and manufacturing that produces sustainable products.

But the bill’s worker training program still must be funded by Congress. And a section of the legislation that encourages participation by labor organizations is under attack from nonunion groups including Associated Builders and Contractors and the Independent Electrical Contractors.

“All members and leaders who care about the future of our union and our nation’s economy need to contact their legislators now to fund the renewable energy training program,” says President Edwin D. Hill, who has sent a letter to Congress. “We must not concede this important sector of growth to nonunion contractors.”

The worker training legislation authorizes spending for five related green jobs initiatives. Administered by the U.S. Department of Labor, two programs will collect and analyze federal and state labor market data on green jobs. Others will award competitive grants to nonprofit partnerships to carry out training, improve green jobs advocacy by state employment and unemployment insurance services and steer training funds to low-income adults and youth.

Anti-union forces are opposing a section of the act that requires that labor organizations, including joint labor-management training programs, be consulted and invited to submit comments about how training money should be spent in their geographical area.

When members of Congress began to talk about federal support for green jobs, labor cautioned that—without proper oversight—federal assistance could be used to undermine joint labor-management apprenticeship and training programs, says Bruce Burton, International Representative, Political and Legislative Department. “The last thing we need is for taxpayer dollars to be used to train our nonunion competition.”

Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.), one of the bill’s sponsors, has defended the language on union involvement by pointing to the effectiveness of union training programs in lifting the wages of graduates.



“At the end of the day, as we are working toward energy efficiency and sustainability, we also want to make sure that jobs pay people a

living wage,” Sanders told The Hill newspaper. The renewable energy training program was sponsored by Sens. Hillary Clinton (D-

North America’s largest photovoltaic power system near Las Vegas demonstrates the potential for training thousands in green technologies.

N.Y.), John Kerry (D-Mass.), Joseph Biden (D-Del.) and Ken Salazar (D-Colo.). The House bill was endorsed by Rep. Hilda Solis (D-Calif.), Rep. John Tierney (D-Mass.), with support from California Democrats George Miller and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

The measure was supported by a diverse coalition, including the Apollo Alliance, the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights and the AFL-CIO, along with business, industry and environmental groups.

To read more about the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Worker Training Program, including how to prepare for grant funding, visit www.ibew.org.

To urge members of Congress to appropriate funding and to encourage the Department of Labor to establish and implement the grant programs in a timely manner, visit: www.greenforall.org. ■

IBEW Fights, Wins Back Pay for Nonunion Electricians

Members of Hamilton, Ohio, Local 648 went to bat for eight nonunion electricians, helping them recoup back pay and unpaid 401(k) benefits from two contractors that violated Ohio’s prevailing wage law.

“These companies were trying to cheat the system,” Local 648 Business Manager Frank Cloud said.

In the wake of the workers’ victory, Local 648 picked up a new member, and several others have expressed interest in joining the IBEW.

“Our goal is to represent all electrical workers in our industry,” said Local 648 Membership Development Coordinator Jeff McGuffey. “We want the nonunion electrical workers to know that they can turn to us.”

Sigma Capital, Inc. and AC Electrical Systems began construction projects in April, 2007 at two Miami University campuses in Ohio. The companies hired electricians who were entitled by law to receive the prevailing wages—in this case, union wages, ranging between about \$17 to \$34 an hour, depending on experience.

Instead, several workers were short-changed, and ignored or laid off when they

started asking questions about their paychecks.

McGuffey checks payroll records of nonunion members for inconsistencies. While many of the businesses he monitors are aboveboard, the Miami University project begged an investigation.

“We found out that the contractors were coming up with several creative ways to hide their workers’ money,” McGuffey said.

In one case, a fourth-year apprentice was paid the rate of a first-year apprentice, and some workers were receiving as little as 60 percent of what they were entitled to by law. For instance, the companies told the employees that part of their wages were going into 401(k) accounts that either did not exist or were grossly underfunded.

Ohio’s public projects, paid for with citizens’ tax dollars, provide funding to cover prevailing wages. But after receiving money from the state, Sigma Capital and AC Electrical only offered incremental wage increases to the electricians, far below the actual prevailing wages. The contractors then pocketed whatever dollar amounts they withheld from the employees.

Some workers knew about this practice while others were kept in the dark,

McGuffey said.

“To a nonunion electrician who’s used to getting \$15 an hour, getting paid \$20 an hour is an attractive offer,” McGuffey said. Many workers receiving such wages didn’t know that Ohio law mandates that the companies pay some workers up to \$34.47 per hour, and those who did know usually did not want to make waves for fear of retaliation, McGuffey said.

While McGuffey was researching the problem, several workers came forward with similar stories, and the local took up the case last August. Both Sigma Capital, Inc. and AC Electrical Systems eventually settled out of court. The members won \$8,500 in back payments and \$25,000 in unpaid 401(k) benefits. The companies were required to make additional penalty payments of 25 percent of the withheld pay to each worker. One electrician received more than \$5,700 in missing 401(k) money. Local 648 received reimbursements for legal fees only.

As an additional penalty, Sigma Capital may not bid or work on any state-sponsored public projects until 2010. ■



North of 49°

IBEW Joins Canadian Standards Association

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers took another step toward becoming a leader in industrial safety when it became an official member of the Canadian Standards Association, an independent, nonprofit membership organization serving industry, government, consumers and other interested parties.

"We are guaranteeing that the IBEW's voice will be heard in safety policy," said First District Vice President Phil Flemming.

The group provides standards, code development and training and selected advisory services. CSA aims to enhance public safety, improve quality of life, preserve the environment and facilitate trade.

"They develop safety and performance standards for everything from toasters to construction sites," said First District International Representative Jerry Wilson.

CSA is not a governmental body but many of its standards are cited in legislation at the federal, provincial and municipal level.

The IBEW—which officially joined in February—had been involved in the association for years, but becoming a dues paying member gives it official voting rights and the power to appoint members to working committees. Having rank-and-file IBEW mem-

Susanne Kiraly from the Canadian Standards Association presents First District Vice President Phil Flemming, center, and International Representative Jerry Wilson with the IBEW's CSA membership plaque.

bers on the ground floor in developing safety standards will help enhance the association's regulations, which are updated periodically.

One of the new committee members is Toronto Local 353 member Gary Majesky, who represents members on workers' compensation issues. A longtime ergonomics expert—he coordinated the first-of-its-kind study on ergonomic standards for electricians of the local—he was appointed to the committee that studies occupational injuries.

"My front line experience in representing electrical workers will give the CSA a greater insight into the physical demands of electrical work and the types of injuries IBEW members experience," Majesky said.

The association also develops the electrical code for Canada, covering nearly every aspect of the electrical industry, so having the IBEW as a participant makes a lot of sense, Flemming said. "Having the official input of labour makes a big difference." ■



Au nord du 49° parallèle

La FIOE se joint à l'Association canadienne de normalisation

En devenant membre officiel de l'Association canadienne de normalisation (ACN), un organisme indépendant et sans but lucratif constitué de membres dont les activités visent à répondre aux besoins du milieu de l'industrie, du gouvernement, des consommateurs et d'autres parties intéressées, la Fraternité internationale des ouvriers en électricité a fait un autre pas en devenant chef de file dans le domaine de la sécurité industrielle.

"Vous pouvez être assurés que la FIOE fera connaître son point de vue en ce qui concerne la politique sur la sécurité" déclare Phil Flemming, Vice-président international du Premier District.

Cet organisme d'élaboration de normes et de codes offrant des produits/services et de la formation, a pour objectif d'améliorer la sécurité du public ainsi que sa qualité de vie, de préserver l'environnement et de faciliter les échanges commerciaux.

"Des normes portant sur la sécurité et la performance, sont élaborées pour tous les produits ou services, en passant du grille-pain au chantier de construction" ajoute Jerry Wilson, représentant international du Premier District.

L'Association canadienne de normalisation n'est pas un organisme gouvernemental mais plusieurs de ses normes sont citées dans les lois aux trois paliers de gouvernement, fédéral, provincial et municipal.

L'implication de la FIOE dans l'Association, dont elle est devenue officielle-

ment membre au mois de février dernier, remonte à plusieurs années déjà. Toutefois, en payant la cotisation de membre, la FIOE a acquis des droits de vote et le pouvoir de nommer les membres sur les comités de travail. Avoir des militants de base de la Fraternité sur place pour participer à l'élaboration des normes de sécurité, contribuera à renforcer les règles de l'Association, lesquelles sont mises à jour périodiquement.

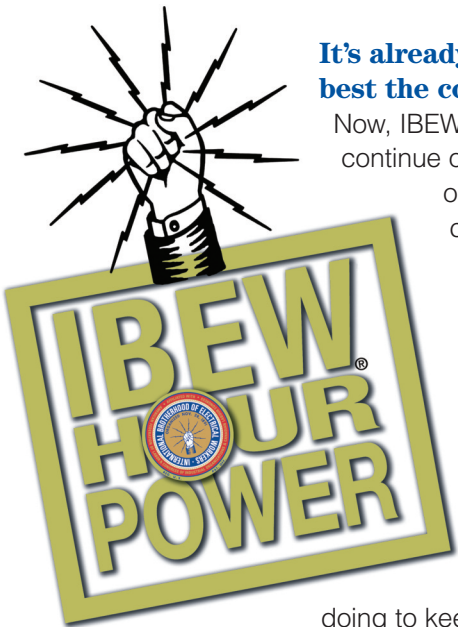
Le confrère Gary Majesky, un des nouveaux membres sur le comité, est membre de la S.L. 353 de Toronto et représente les travailleurs dans les dossiers d'indemnisation des accidents du travail. Expert en ergonomie de longue date, il a été le coordonnateur d'une étude unique en son genre, sur les normes en matière d'ergonomie pour les électriciens de la section locale—et il a été nommé sur le comité qui analyse les accidents du travail.

Comme le souligne le confrère Majesky : "L'expérience que j'ai acquise en représentant ces électriciens, me permettra de mieux faire comprendre à l'Association les exigences physiques du travail en électricité ainsi que les types d'accidents subis par les membres de la FIOE au cours de leur emploi".

"L'Association a également élaboré le Code canadien de l'électricité qui vise tous les aspects de l'industrie électrique, alors la participation officielle de la FIOE à l'ACN s'avère une option logique qui peut faire une grande différence", conclut Phil Flemming. ■

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ELECTRIC:TV

Organizing Wire For updates go to www.ibew.org

Circuits

Utility Campaign Wins at Philadelphia's Trigen

Timing can be everything in an organizing campaign. The IBEW suspended organizing efforts at Trigen, a Philadelphia generator of steam, cold water and electric power in May 2007, when the company went through a management change. "Workers wanted to give the company another chance to get things right," says Lead Organizer Joe Mastrogiovanni.

By December, workers' patience had run out and they were ready for the IBEW. In late April operating and maintenance workers at Trigen's Philadelphia division voted 26-20 for IBEW representation.

The new members, who include welders, electricians, meter maintenance workers and boiler operators, don't hate the company, says Mastrogiovanni. "They just want to be heard."

"Our workplace had a family-type atmosphere, but the company was sold so many times over the years, that we've lost count," says Mike Lambert, a welder who led the organizing campaign. When Johnson Controls assumed the management of Trigen's operations and maintenance in several major cities in 2005, workers were hit with higher deductibles for medical insurance and reduced vacations and raises. In 2007, Johnson Controls' role was limited to project management only and workers held out hope that their problems would be solved.

"We're already a lean crew," says Lambert, an 18-year employee, who says that five cross-trained maintenance workers now perform the work of 33 former personnel. "I went through both fear and joy, and asked myself if I was doing the right thing when we were organizing," he says. "But now I'm happy to be part of a great group of guys and we know that having a voice on the job will pay off for us and for other nonunion Trigen workers."

"The IBEW has a good product. When we tell prospective members the truth, they respond," says Mastrogiovanni. The Trigen campaign, he says, was a team effort, supported by Third District International Representative Brian Brennan, Paterson, N.J., Local 102 and other activists who helped with mailings and contacts.

Get Connected

If you would like to receive your Electrical Worker via e-mail instead of in your mailbox, contact us at media@ibew.org. Give us your name, IBEW local union number, card number and e-mail address and we will send you the link to access *The Electrical Worker* electronically.

Third District International Representative Paul Simon and John Brown, business manager of Philadelphia Local 614, will coordinate first contract negotiations. "What I did was minor, compared to what our negotiating committee will have to do," says Lambert, "but I know that they will make it work."

N.J. Municipal Workers Win Voice with IBEW

The IBEW sounded the bell for workers' rights in May, helping 31 New Jersey employees band together to demand their first pay increase in two years.

Nonunion professional office workers in Ewing Township, N.J., were promised a 4-percent annual raise from the local government, but their take-home pay has stayed the same since 2006.

"The employees were frustrated," Third District International Representative Brian Brennan said. "They felt as if they didn't have a voice in the matter."

The organizing campaign began through Trenton Local 269 Assistant Business Manager Rick Aicher. Things moved quickly after he received a phone call about the Ewing employees from a retired member. The town's municipal office workers met with IBEW organizers a few times, then the municipality recognized the IBEW as bargaining agent when 29 of 31 employees presented signed union cards to the state's Public Employment Relations Commission.

"We could tell that this energetic bunch of employees was a viable group for membership," Brennan said. He brought in leadership from Newark Local 2066, which represents professional office employees, to help with early organizing.

"On paper, the employees' wage increases had been allocated in the township's budget, but they were not reflected in the workers' paychecks," Local 2066 Business Manager Mike Scotto said. As a result of the organizing effort, a city ordinance is in the works to recoup the two years' worth of missing wages.

Early negotiations began in late June, and workers were bargaining for continued wage increases and retention of their benefits, which some workers expressed fear of losing, Scotto said.

IBEW organizers are optimistic about the outcome and cited the efficacy of working together across department lines to bring new members into the Brotherhood, Brennan said.

"This is a classic example of how our organizing programs can unite people for better wages and benefits," Scotto said. ■

Study: Union Card Helps Low-Wage Workers the Most

While union membership benefits all workers, low-wage employees see the most dramatic gains, a new study reveals.

The Center for Economic and Policy Research released a May report stating that the average earnings of low-wage workers rise more than 20 percent with unionization. The study also reported that belonging to a union raised all workers' wages by an average of nearly 12 percent.

But between threats of firings and campaigns of misinformation, low-wage workers face strong opposition toward gaining union representation.

"Those at the lowest end of the pay scale have the hardest times getting organized," said Charlie Weatherly, treasurer for New Orleans Local 130. Weatherly is the director of training at the Gulf Coast Construction Career Center that was established after Hurricane Katrina to bring low-wage earners into the building trades, many of whom have nonunion experience doing the same work for less money.

"Some contractors make a killing off the sweat of the nonunion laborer," Weatherly said. "Collective bargaining is a better route for these workers."

Weatherly said organizing local low-wage workers helps break the cycle of poverty that has ensnared many in the region.

"A lot of people who come into our program have never had health care or retirement," Weatherly said. "After our program, they're paying off their debts and making serious plans for their future."

The report cited statistical data collected between 2003 and 2007 and examined wages in all 50 states and Washington, D.C.

Philly Local Helps Track Missing Persons

An adult suffering from Alzheimer's disease wanders away from caretakers. A young child with autism is lost. These are everyday news stories somewhere in America.

Today, with the support of a grant from Local 98, Philadelphia's public safety employees can track and rescue lost adults and children who are fitted with a wristband that reveals their location by a radio signal.

Local 98 contributed \$25,000 to fund the pilot program, called "Project Lifesaver."

"We are proud to be connected to our community," says Local 98 Business Manager John Dougherty. "I know the worries and anxiety felt by parents of autistic children. This new technology should eliminate a lot of those worries and help keep a lot of kids out of harm's way."

Radio-signal wristbands are already being used in 530 communities in 42 states. When a child or adult wanders off, the parent or caregiver calls 911, the signal is picked up by the nearest transmitter, and a police officer or other first responder is dispatched to the location. Trained volunteers also go to the patient's home every month to change the wristband battery. The program is co-sponsored by several non-profits and advocacy organizations.

Philadelphia City Councilman Jack Kelly said 50 percent of Alzheimer's patients who wander off and get lost do not live through one night. ■



IBEW PHOTO & VIDEO CONTEST

Attention Photo & Video Buffs!

Photographs have the power to inspire and motivate. With improved technology and the rise of video on the Web, the ability to make moving pictures is accessible to many. We have expanded our photo contest this year to include video productions.

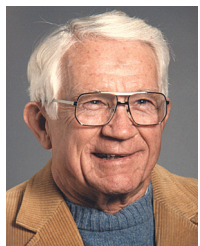
Also new with this year's contest is that the IBEW membership will pick the winners on www.ibew.org.

Keep an eye on future issues of the Electrical Worker and the Web site for the announcement of when the judging will begin.

See www.ibew.org for complete contest rules and entry forms.

Transitions

Deceased James Doran



We regret to report that former Seventh District International Representative James Doran died on March 4. He was 91.

Brother Doran was initiated into Tucson, Ariz., Local 1116 in 1944 as a turbine operator with Tucson Electric Power Co. He went on to serve as recording secretary, vice president, and the first full-time business manager of the local, running the operation out of his home in Tucson.

"Jim was always very fair in how he handled things, and he always acted strongly on behalf of the membership," said Bernie Young, who worked under Doran at the plant and later served as business manager of the local. Doran pioneered new ways of conducting business and set high standards. "I learned a lot from Jim."

A copper miner prior to joining Local 1116, Doran was appointed International Representative assigned to the Seventh District in 1967. Across Arizona and New

Mexico, he primarily serviced maintenance locals in potash and copper mines during booming years for the copper industry. Doran also serviced utility, radio, and TV broadcasting locals in Phoenix and Albuquerque, N.M., while handling arbitrations and negotiations throughout the district.

"James was a highly motivated man who loved to be active in many arenas simultaneously," said former Seventh District Vice President Orville Tate, who served as an international representative with Doran. "He was extremely organized and was always the go-to man when locals needed hard-to-find information."

He retired in 1981.

Doran attended the University of Arizona and served two years as a Navy electrician during the Korean War. He was active in many charitable and civic organizations, including Veterans for Peace and Democrats for Better Government. He also spent six years as an AFL-CIO community services representative in Tucson.

Brother Doran is survived by his six children, 12 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. The officers, staff, and members of the IBEW offer our condolences to his family and thanks for his decades of service. ■

"He was blown away that those letters came the same day," said his father Bob Carter. Carter works in the local's satellite office in Manchester, and Sadler is following in his footsteps en route to a career as a journeyman lineman.

Spc. Sadler deployed with Unit 206 of the 82nd Airborne Division for a year-long stint at Camp Adder, 150 miles south of Baghdad. Almost as soon as his boots hit the sand, his team saw heavy action. Over the next 12 months, he exchanged small-arms fire with insurgent forces, patrolled the city in Humvees and conducted reconnaissance.

Although his division endured several rocket attacks, Sadler was never injured. He was awarded a Combat Action Badge for his courage in battle.

During his deployment, Local 429 officers discussed the latest news of his squad at every meeting. Many members sent packages to Sadler to help boost his spirits.

"I got piles of mail from back home," Sadler said. "The support I received was great."

Sadler's unit touched down in Fort Bragg, N.C., in early June. After returning to his home in Shelbyville, Tenn., Sadler will begin his apprenticeship, a year after being accepted.

"I'm ready to get home and start my career with the IBEW," Sadler said. "The people there are great, and the Brotherhood is outstanding."

IBEW Local Receives Patriotic Gift

While most people spent last Fourth of July watching fireworks and enjoying time with family, Globe, Ariz., Local 518 member Eloy Cruz's son engaged in a five-hour firefight over the Afghan mountains.

Air Force Capt. Daniel Cruz, whose father is a journeyman wireman, has flown more than 100 sorties in his A-10 "Warthog" fighter jet in Afghanistan since 2003. On each flight, he carries American flags that he gives away. After returning from his most recent tour of duty, he donated a flag from the July Fourth mission to the local's hall, along with a framed certificate from the Air Force.

Visitors to the hall can see the folded flag, encased in a triangular glass box, and the certificate displayed near the hall's entrance.

"For Daniel to think about us during this time of his service was fantastic," Local 518 Business Manager Larry Griffin said. "I was speechless."

Daniel flew 11 flags that day and gave many away to family. "My dad really appreciated that I donated one to his hall," Daniel said. "They've always been supportive of me."

The bonds of Brotherhood run deep in Local 518. Griffin and Eloy Cruz have worked together for nearly 30 years. After Daniel was accepted to the Air Force Academy in 1997, Local 518 helped Eloy temporarily relocate to Colorado Springs, Colo., Local 113 so he could live and work near his son.

"I wanted to be closer to Daniel to be able to see his accomplishments," Eloy said. "I was fortunate that there happened to be work in the area so that we could make the move."

Having returned from his third tour of duty, Daniel serves as an instructor pilot at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson. He is considering flying for an airline when he finishes his military service in 2012.

"Hopefully he won't have to go to Afghanistan again," Eloy said. "But if he's needed, he'll be there." ■

IBEW On Duty

Son of IBEW Member Recovering After Iraq Injury

The son of a Diamond Bar, Calif., Local 47 member is recuperating in a San Diego naval hospital following a near-fatal rocket attack in Iraq.

Pvt. Jesus "Jesse" de la Cruz was on patrol in March with the 101st Airborne Division in Baiji when a rocket-propelled grenade struck his team's Humvee. De la Cruz lost his left leg below the knee and sustained shrapnel wounds to his left arm.

Jesse is the son of Richard de la Cruz, a senior code enforcement officer with the city of Banning, Calif.

The family said that members of their church have volunteered to help with household needs while the parents spend time with Jesse at the hospital. Co-workers donated nearly \$1,000 and hours of vacation time to Richard, Local 47 Assistant Business Manager Stan Stosel said.

Apprentice Lineman Completes Tour in Iraq



Casey Sadler opened his mailbox one day last June to find two significant letters.

One was from the Southeastern Line Constructors Apprenticeship and Training program, notifying him that he was accepted as an apprentice. Good news, since Sadler was looking forward to starting his career as a member of Nashville, Tenn., Local 429.

The other letter was from the Army Reserve telling him that he was shipping out to Iraq.

"I was surprised and overwhelmed," Sadler said. "I was all set to start my IBEW training, but I knew I had to serve my country first."

Nashville, Tenn., Local 429 member Casey Sadler



Air Force Capt. Daniel Cruz, center, with his father, Local 518 member Eloy Cruz, right, and Business Manager Larry Griffin, donated his American flag to Globe, Ariz., Local 518.

Local Lines

2008 Electrical Code Class

L.U. 1 (as,c,ees,ei,em,es,et,fm,i,mt,rs,s,se,spa,st&ws) ST. LOUIS, MO—Late April marked the start of a series of courses offered by the St. Louis Chapter of NECA covering significant changes to the 2008 Electrical Code. The courses, held at Local 1, were open to all Local 1 members and NECA contractors. Three sessions were offered consisting of two nights a week for four hours, or one Saturday for eight hours. The response was tremendous. Courses were filled almost immediately, with a waiting list implemented. Over 500 industry members have taken advantage of the free course. While some individuals were seeking to update their continuing education units for licensing, others attended simply to stay informed in this



Local 1 instructor Jeff Holmes addresses students at the 2008 Electrical Code class.

ever-changing industry. Local 1 thanks instructors Jeff Holmes, Linda Little and Bill Papin for their tireless efforts in hosting the course.

We mourn the following members' deaths: Leonard Reiker, John Staten Jr., Kenneth Delaney, Roy Bement, George Canton, John Vormehr, Warren Sandidge, Jennie Tyler, Ruby Coleman, Richard McCarthy, Ransom Ward, Louis Hermeyer, Arthur Demling, Frederick Washington Sr. and John Powell.

Matt Gober, P.S.

Utility Local Reports

L.U. 15 (u), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—Some progress is being made with Exelon/ComEd Energy Delivery Co. on issues such as: safety rules, training curriculum, call-out response, proper staffing and training. It is a slow, deliberative process, but additional progressive actions are anticipated.

The ComEd Co. plans to install an Automated Metering Infrastructure system across its service territory. This system is supposedly able to take meter readings, perform remote turn on/turn off actions, transmit power outage information, etc. ComEd's current rate increase request with the Illinois Commerce Commission asks for an additional increase to pay for this conversion. The union predicts this may cost the

union more than 700 positions. The union became aware of these plans after filing as a neutral intervener and receiving transcripts of the rate increase proceedings. ComEd Co. did not provide advance notice to the union of its AMI plans.

Our local is working with Midwest Generation to improve the company's safety program, as well as working conditions. Additionally, the NLRB ruled that the fall 2001 lockout by Midwest was illegal and ordered the company to pay lost wages to the members. The question of whether the 2001 contract ratification was coerced by the company is before the NLRB.

In late March, our members at Enertouch/GoodCents reached a new contract providing 3 percent wage increases, retroactive pay, improved vacation allowance and a signing bonus.

Ronald V. Welte, P.S.



On April 28th, Local 15 Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dean Apple (right) assists in placing a wreath at the Workers Memorial Day monument in Rockford, IL, to honor union members who died at work.

Local 98; Hartford, CT, Local 35; New Haven, CT, Local 90; and, especially, Bridgeport, CT, Local 488.

John "Jack" Majkut, P.S.

Live Webcast Dialogue

L.U. 47 (lctt,mo,o,u&uow), DIAMOND BAR, CA—We were pleased that at our April construction meeting, Larry Bradley, executive secretary-treasurer of NEBF & NEAP, rolled out the new NEFP 401(k) plan for our members. Larry acknowledged Local 47 Bus. Mgr. Pat Lavin's efforts to get the program established.

Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill visited Southern California for the IBEW's first ever live webcast from the CBS studios. Pres. Hill's March 27 State of Our Union Message for the utility industry kicked off a dialogue among participants about excellence on the job and building stronger relationships with utility companies. A new "Code of Excellence" for the industry was unveiled.

More than 200 members and their families attended the recent Local 47 Desert Day and Family BBQ at Ocotillo Wells.

Our steward's conference was April 18-19 in Palm Springs. Speakers included California Lt. Gov. John Garamendi, IBEW Ninth District Int. Vice Pres. Michael S. Mowrey, and IBEW Director of CIR/Bylaws & Appeals Ricky Oakland.

Jesus de la Cruz, son of Local 47 member Richard de la Cruz, was injured in Iraq. Bro. Richard de la Cruz works for the City of Banning.

We are saddened by the passing of: Bros. Martin Samaniego, underground technician; William Comfort, City of Anaheim employee; and Douglas Wood, retired member from Banning.

Stan Stosel, P.S.

Trade Classifications

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

'Display of Brotherhood'

L.U. 25 (catv,i,o&rts), LONG ISLAND, NY—At this writing, work has been slow in our jurisdiction. Bus. Mgr. Don Fiore and Bus. Rep. George Psillos addressed Local 25's Travel Committee and explained the myriad reasons for our unemployment and the country's economic problems. Local 25's Travel Committee researches the probability of work in other IBEW jurisdictions and passes that information along, with sign-in times, formation of car pools to sign books, and any other pertinent information available. We cannot create work or change the economy but we can assist with work travel for unemployed members.

Bus. Mgr. Fiore and Bus. Rep. Psillos formulated the Travel Committee into the fine, well-oiled machine it is today. They explained to the membership the benefits of traveling and noted that travelers will not be alone; we will be there for members 24/7.

Special thanks to our sister locals for their display of brotherhood to our traveling members. They include: Wilmington, DE, Local 313; Las Vegas Local 357; Jersey City, NJ, Local 164; Philadelphia



Local 25 Bus. Mgr. Don Fiore (standing at rear, second from left) addresses the Travel Committee.

Ceremony of Remembrance

L.U. 51 (catv,lctt,o,rtb,t&u), SPRINGFIELD, IL—On Saturday, April 26, Local 51 dedicated the new flagpole at the union hall to the memory of members who lost their lives on the job.

We chose this date to coincide with the April 28 observance of Workers' Memorial Day, the international day of remembrance for workers who died or were injured on the job.

Bro. Greg Stoner presided over the ceremony and read the names of our departed brothers: Craig Armstrong, Alvin Binder, Frances Cahill, Clarence "Bud" Casey, David Copass, Phillip Edwards, Ivan Elder, Bobby Ellis, Randy Grimm, Rodney Kirby, Blake Lane, Dan McCoy, Mike Miller, Dennis Trone, Jimmie Reeves, Joshua Spidle, James Stevens, Michael Weathers and Bobbie Ray Wire.

It is in honor of our departed brothers that we rededicate ourselves to the fight for work safety and reducing the number of future accidents. Attend your union meetings, for this is where it all begins.

Dan Pridemore, Pres.



Attending Local 51 flagpole dedication are: Local 51 Bus. Mgr. Jim Bates (front row, second from left), member Greg Stoner (back row, third from left) and Executive Board members.



Local 83 Bus. Mgr. Danny Addy (front row, far right) welcomes new Deposit Telephone Company members. Front row, from left: Doug Faulkner, Tom Hulbert, steward Kevin McKee, Craig Conklin, Jim Ballard and Bus. Mgr. Addy; back row, Mike Mednansky, Donald Rogers, Duane Phillips, Crystal Page and David Gifford.

Deposit Telephone Contract

L.U. 83 (u), BINGHAMTON, NY—Welcome and congratulations to our new members of TDS, Deposit Telephone Company, who ratified their first contract April 9, 2008. After 10 years the NLRB ruled in favor of the union in the organizing of TDS.

On the negotiating committee for the union were Local 83 Bus. Mgr./Pres. Danny Addy, Steward Kevin McKee, Bus. Agent Tom Addy and IBEW Int. Rep. Mike Flanagan. A special thanks from Local 83 and our new members to Int. Rep. Flanagan for his expertise and hard work.

Don S. Tuttel, P.S.

'Extreme Makeover' Volunteers

L.U. 103 (cs&i), BOSTON, MA—Local 103 elections were held May 3. Elected were: Bus. Mgr. Michael Monahan, Pres. John P. Dumas, Vice Pres. Michael Mulligan, Rec. Sec. Richard Monahan, Fin. Sec. Chuck Monahan, Treas. Jeff Cain; Executive Board members Bob Sheehan, Bob Spinale, Brad Vinton, Sean M. Callaghan, Kevin Walter Honahan, Lee Vigil; and Examining Board members Jeffrey Sheehan, Robert Bonanno Jr., Jay Frasier, Tom Leahy and Mike Egan. Thanks to all who ran for office.

Local 103's annual \$5,000 scholarship winners: Daniel Dalton (son of Barry and Karen), Vincent Galvagno (son of Tony and Maria), Kathryn Mulcahy (daughter of Kevin and Susan Bryant), and Geneva Poshkus (daughter of David and Cynthia). Norfolk County Labor Council \$1,000 scholarship winner: Elizabeth Dahl (daughter of Donald and Tjendrawani). Kimea Law Office \$500 scholarship winner: Michelle Nigro (daughter of Joe and Maria).

Local 103 was proud to participate in an ABC-TV "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" project on a cold February night in Maynard, MA. Twenty volunteers were requested to work through the night to wire the new house for the Giunta family. Thirty-five members showed up to participate. Thanks to our volunteers! The event was broadcast May 11.

Sports Night was held March 8 at the University of Massachusetts Boston campus. Kids events included pee wee hockey and basketball. The apprentice/journeyman hockey and basketball games were won by the apprentices.

Bill Molineaux, P.S.

Supporting Labor Cause

L.U. 111 (em,govt,lctt,mt,o,rtb,spa&u), DENVER, CO—Local 111 thanks our administrative assistants Helen Shaw, Joan Haring, Gretchen Cummings, Lynn Aeverman and Jessica Freestone for all their dedication and hard work on behalf of the staff, Brotherhood and membership. You are the best!

Also, thanks to everyone who helped with

the scanning of signatures from petitions certified by the state in an effort to challenge placing Amendment 47 ("right-to-work") on the ballot in November. Colorado faces a tough battle in defeating the outside interests of the antiunion "right-to-work" coalition this year.

Colorado refers to the issue as "work for less" and labor is now reviewing petitions for illegal and fraudulently obtained signatures gathered improperly. Labor is bringing ballot initiatives that will have an effect on business in Colorado. The governor has intervened in an effort to have both sides pull these initiatives.

We are grateful to the International Office for the support in this very important cause for working families of Colorado.

Dennis Z. LeTurgez, P.S.

IBEW Racquetball Champ



Local 125 journeyman lineman Jeremy White competes at Northwest regional racquetball championship game.

L.U. 125 (lctt,o&u), PORTLAND, OR—Local 125 journeyman lineman Jeremy White competed in the Motorola Racquetball National Singles Championship held May 21-26 in Houston, Texas. He won the 30+ A division and placed fourth in the Elite division, for which he was seeded 25th.

White earlier won both the Northwest regional and Oregon (state) men's Elite division championships to earn a berth in his first national event. "I'm pretty excited to compete," White said prior to the national singles competition. "It's my first time to even attend a national championship, so I'll really enjoy watching the competition as well." He has only been playing for 12 years, which makes his success even more impressive. White attempts to practice a minimum of two hours per day; however, he increased his playing time to prepare for the national championship.

On behalf of the Executive Board, members and staff of Local 125, we congratulate Jeremy on his accomplishment.

*Marcy Putman
Membership Development Coordinator*

2008 Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 141 (ees,i,o&u), WHEELING, WV—Work in the area is okay. Local 141 is proud to announce the graduation of the apprenticeship class of

2008. Joining the journeyman wireman work force are: James Fisher, Thomas Greaves, Jason McFarland, Matt Schunn, Gary Shaver, Kevin Stingle and Dave Squier. Congratulations to all.

The Social Committee held its annual steak fry in April. It was well-attended by the membership and turned out to be a great evening. A special thanks to Tom Namack for bringing it all together and to all who volunteer their time to make events like this possible every year.

Upcoming events include an outing to attend a Washington Wild Things minor league baseball game and a fall dance. Also, mark your calendar for our local's annual family picnic on Aug. 23. See you there!

Justin Klempa, P.S.

Inside Agreement Ratified

L.U. 159 (i), MADISON, WI—Dave Boetcher was appointed as our local's new president, following the relocation of our past president, Michael Mueller. Congratulations, Dave, and good luck.

Local 159 concluded negotiations for the Inside agreement and members ratified the new contract. Those of us on the negotiating team feel we did very well considering the tough economic times.

On July 19, the local is holding our annual golf outing to benefit our scholarship fund.

At this writing, members were looking forward to our annual IBEW Local 159 Day at the Mallards baseball game, which was scheduled for June 22. This is always a great time for all.

Remember the importance of the upcoming presidential election. Working people need a Democrat in the White House. Let's work hard to elect friends of labor to office at every level.

Our work picture is a little slow for this time of year. It will probably take until late summer to see Book I clearing and calls getting to Book II after that.

Joel Kapusta, B.A.

2008 Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 175 (c,em,i,lctt,mt,o&u), CHATTANOOGA, TN—Congratulations to the Local 175 inside wireman apprenticeship class of 2008.

The 2008 graduates are: Christopher E. Anderson, Stanley R. Bearden, William T. Bennett, Caleb T. Benson, Brandon D. Blackstone, Stephen L. Brown, Christopher W. Bull, Jeffrey B. Burgess, Darian R. Dotson, Timothy J. Fouts, Michael G. Glasgow, Jason E. Green, Stephen E. Gunther, Shawn T. Hankins, Robert W. Lambertson Jr., Cory A. Lovelady, John P. Morrison, Greg C. Niles Jr., Anthony D. Roden, Vernon C. Thompson Jr., Christopher M. White, Nathan C. Wilson and Charles R. Wood II.

Work here remains steady. Support your



Local 193 members working for B&B Electric rewired the high voltage at the Illinois State Fairgrounds ahead of schedule.

local union. Union meetings are the first and third Mondays of the month.

Keith Owensby, P.S.

State Fairgrounds Project

L.U. 193 (i,lctt,o,rts,spa&u), SPRINGFIELD, IL—The bylaws were voted upon to change the cap on the building fund, paving the way for a new Local 193 hall and training center.

The annual apprentice party was held June 7 at Anchor Boat Club. Congratulations to all apprenticeship graduates and welcome to the new apprentices.

The Dallman 4 Power Plant addition is still being built, and work is steady. At this writing, City Water Light and Power was scheduled to release findings on May 6 regarding the cause of the Nov. 10, 2007, explosion and fire at Dallman 31. All Dallman personnel were thankful no injuries occurred.

IBEW Local 193 repaired damage to underground cables at the Illinois State Fairgrounds just in time for the Springfield Mile Memorial Day Races! B&B Electric brought the job in three weeks earlier than expected. Thanks to all for a job well-done.

Habitat for Humanity will build houses this year with quality work from Local 193 Residential members. Thanks in advance to all union volunteers.

"Now that economic skies have turned dark and rainy,

It is way past time for Bush/Cheney!"

Don Hudson, P.S.

Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 197 (em&i), BLOOMINGTON, IL—We topped out another fine class of young journeymen. Congratulations to these brothers for their five years of hard work and dedication. They are: Chris Arbuckle, Brian Armstrong, Brian Bortlein, Tom Bunn, Luther Butler, Justin Carlock, Aaron Rickenberg and Ben Walker. We encourage the

Local 197 members attend Workers Memorial Day service. From left: Mike Raikes, Pres. Rich Veitengruber, Sandy Roberts, Don Armstrong and John Moss Sr.



new journeymen to stay active in the local and take pride in the IBEW as they further their careers. We look forward to working alongside these brothers as our future leaders.

All our apprentices did very well in our annual apprentice competition. Each class has the freedom of picking a project that deals with the electrical industry. At the end of the year the classes are judged on their projects. This year we had a tie for first place, between the fifth-year class and the third-year class. Thanks to all apprentices for putting much time, ingenuity and dedication into their projects.

Recently we had a Workers Memorial Day ceremony to honor those who gave their lives on the job. These workers made the ultimate sacrifice. We must continue to educate our members on safety and work together to make sure all our members make it home at night. Take pride in your local union, get involved and stay involved!

Mike Raikes, P.S.

Membership Grows

L.U. 199 (t), FT. MYERS, FL—On March 15, 1948, in Ft. Myers, Local 199 was born. It consisted of 30 members employed by Inter County Telephone and Telegraph Co. We have since grown to represent approximately 1,300 employees of Embarq. We are continuing to grow in membership and strength. Happy Birthday, Local 199.

In January the local held a class for new stewards training. Twenty-six people attended. Special thanks to all the stewards for donating their time for help in training the new stewards.

In the signing of our 2007 contract, a new practice was put into place. All new hires will receive a copy of the contract at the company orientation and will receive a union orientation.

Embarq is recognizing what hard work we all do. The week of April 7 was Technician Appreciation Week. Hopefully they will recognize all of our brothers and sisters in all departments for a job well-done.

Susan Ankrom, P.S.

Projects to Gear Up

L.U. 223 (em.govt&i), BROCKTON, MA—Congratulations to all Local 223 retirees who received their 50-, 55-, 60- and 65-year pins. We thank the retirees for their dedication to the Brotherhood and for setting the standards that we live by today. Best wishes and best of health to all Local 223 retirees.



Local 223 retired Bro. Albert St. Amour (left) receives his 65-year pin presented by his son Rick, who is a 30-year member.

The work situation has been very slow, with projects delayed or moving slowly. The Fall River courthouse project should gear up this summer, as well as the Stonehill College science lab. The Taunton courthouse project is scheduled to begin in the fall. Work at Brayton Point Power Station is ongoing with the major projects there set to begin in 2009.

We thank the members who have helped out with the Resort-Casino project, the Brockton power plant and the Plymouth Rock studio project. These projects are going through the permit process this year; the hope is that construction will begin in 2009. These projects, along with the Cape wind project, off the coast of Cape Cod between the islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket, will give our local a tremendous boost. The Cape wind project was proposed seven years ago with the hope of receiving final permits later this year.

David Fenton, A.B.M.

TV Ad Response Good

L.U. 231 (i,rtb,spa&u), SIOUX CITY, IA—Congratulations to the new journeyman wiremen who recently completed their five year apprenticeship: Brandon Andersen, Bret Banks, Mike Beamon, Shannon Brown, Terry Duitsman, Nathan Johnson, Tim Kashas, Matt Lacek, Jack O'Neill, Lisa Petersen, Bill Pratt, Louis Rohan, Tom Smith, Russell Steffen and Manuel Zertuche.

Interviews for apprenticeship were held in April and May. We ran an ad on a local television station to advertise the apprenticeship and Local 231. We were very impressed with the number of applicants we got. This was the first time we tried something like this.

Congratulations to Larry Calhoun, Mike Farmer and Dennis Stubbe on their recent retirement from the trade. Larry has 42 years as an IBEW member, Dennis has 36 years and Mike has 34 years. It will be hard to fill their steel-toed shoes! Best wishes, brothers.

Journeyman wireman Shaun Smith and apprentice wireman Greg Slagle recently returned from active military duty overseas. [See "IBEW on Duty" in an upcoming issue of *The Electrical Worker*.] Shaun was in Iraq and Greg was in Kosovo. We're glad to have them home, safe and sound!

The contract was settled for Northwest Iowa Power Cooperative, LeMars, IA.

Debby Spencer, P.S.

Steward Training Session

L.U. 245 (govt,lctt,o,rtb&u), TOLEDO, OH—Stewards training took place March 15 at the Local 245 union hall. It was a nice mix of "old" and "new" stewards. While the new ones were learning about labor law and grievance procedures for the first time, the older stewards shared their experiences with both. A dinner social capped off the day.

Outside construction work remains slow. Hopefully it will pick up when the weather improves.

In the municipal and co-op areas, Bryan Municipal will open negotiations this fall, while Tri County and Hancock Wood still have time left on their contracts.

In the TV world, automation has claimed some jobs at our NBC affiliate, Channel 24. WGTE Channel 30 is currently in negotiations.

At Edison, the Energy Delivery Department received the "First Energy Reliability Award," presented to the most reliable energy delivery

department in the entire corporation. Kudos!

Bayshore Local 245 employees have all but taken over the Safety Program at the plant, with a new program that utilizes our members as safety facilitators and safety coordinators.

Life at Davis Besse is returning to normal after the completion of this year's scheduled outages. Their next focal point will be the NRC's new fitness for duty rule and how it will impact the way we do business.

Ray Zychowicz, P.S.

Elect Friends of Labor

L.U. 291 (i,o,rtb&rts), BOISE, ID—With summer upon us, I hope everyone is enjoying the season. Work in our jurisdiction is slow at this time, and I wish to thank the surrounding locals that are employing our members.

Congratulations to this year's JATC graduates: Lance Barenburg, Scott Bohn, Garrett Collins, Daniel Cromie, Robert Farrar, Robert Gordon, Geoff Hannaford, Joseph Hemenway, Jory Lawrence, Daryl Josh Nelson, Kory Peterson, Ryan Sorich, Chris Zesiger and Omar Zuloeta.

Our recent casino night was a great success and everyone had a wonderful time. Thanks to Sister Tammy Harris for heading this up, and to her many volunteer helpers.

Remember to exercise your right to vote in the very important upcoming elections. Electing labor friendly people to office is crucial to the working people of our great country. We look forward to our summer picnic and pin ceremony on July 19; this is always a great event. Keep attending your monthly meetings to stay informed about local union news and events.

Mark Zaleski, A.B.M.

Strong Union Service

L.U. 317 (i,o,rts,t&u), HUNTINGTON, WV—Local 317 congratulates Bro. Lonnie Carter, assistant business manager, on his retirement following 40-plus years of service to the IBEW. He has been a true asset and will be greatly missed.

Congratulations also to the following brothers who successfully completed the NJATC inside wireman apprentice program: George Boggs, Richard Carter, Ryan Stewart, Billy Johnson, Jeremiah Wilks, Matt Edwards, Joe Ekers, James Stacy, Jim Fitch and Jeremy Porter.

Local 317, along with other volunteers, continues to give back to the community; the local thanks all those who helped out with the Habitat for Humanity project. It was a great success.

Special thanks to the Entertainment Committee for the success of the annual dinner dance. Attendance was great and everyone, from retirees to apprentices, had a good time. At this writing, we were looking forward to our annual

golf outing in June.

We are pleased that our Web site is now up and running. You may contact us at our Web site www.ibew317.net. Commercial and industrial work continues to look good in our jurisdiction. Thanks to everyone for their support and dedication to Local 317's success.

Charles Shane Wolfe, Pres.

Service to Community

L.U. 347 (em,i,mt,rtb,rts&spa), DES MOINES, IA—The spirit of community service was alive and well as members of Local 347 spent a Saturday in April installing a generator for Prairie City/Monroe, IA. During an ice storm city offices were without power for seven days, threatening the safety of area citizens.

Bro. Matt Shoenhair decided to do something about it. Bro. Shoenhair came up with a plan to install a generator with an ATS (automated transfer switch), which would provide emergency power for town offices. He approached Bus. Mgr. Gerald Granberg, who donated local funds to purchase the generator.

The generator was fully installed with all volunteer help from Local 347 hands, and assistance from Local 33 Plumbers and Steamfitters. The project was a huge success and made the community a much safer place to live.

On the work front, it looks as if this is going to be a good year for Local 347. Local contractors have been hiring steadily, with the bulk of our work still on the horizon.

Randy Tucker, P.S.



IBEW Local 347 members helped wire a new generator for Prairie City/Monroe, IA. Volunteers on the project included, from left: Chad Rhinehart, Brandon Adams, Ryan Keuning, Randy Tucker and Matt Shoenhair.

2007 Retirees Honored

L.U. 351 (c,cs,i,it,lctt,mt,o,se,spa&t), FOLSOM, NY—Congratulations to all our members who retired during 2007. The newly retired members were honored at our March 2008 general union meeting and received IBEW watches. The 2007 retirees are: Gary I. Adams, Donald Anthony,



Local 351 Bus. Mgr. Ed Gant (front row, left) and Pres. Bill Hosey (back row, right) with some of the 2007 retirees honored at the March 2007 general meeting.

Peter Balestriere, Alan Blumberg, John Bombara, Anthony Dandrea, William H. Dewey, Robert Edwards, Gary Fenwick, Bernard Ferry, Vallee Guglielmi, Frank Hinds, Carmen Laspata, Louis Malatesta, Ernest Marine, Charles McRory, Robert Peckus, Aqeel Rasheed, Margaret Reynolds, Felix Rolon, Brent Russell, Frank Schavelin, John Shipley and Thomas Yeager.

Please remember to stay active in the local and participate in our union meetings and functions.

Daniel Cosner, P.S.

35-Year Watches Awarded

L.U. 375 (catv,ees&i), ALLENTOWN, PA—Congratulations to all members receiving their 35-year service watches! (Please see photo below.) Thanks to the hard work and sacrifices of these fine members, and that of all our fellow union brothers and sisters, we are all able to reap the benefits of belonging to IBEW Local 375.

The past few years have been a bit bumpy; however, the near-future work outlook does appear to be much brighter. Many thanks to the surrounding locals that provided much needed employment over the past year.

The upcoming presidential and congressional elections have never been more important to our jobs, our families and our organization. Remember to support candidates who are friendly to organized labor and working class families! The destruction caused by Bush failure #1, Bush failure #2, and Reagan can be reversed in November, but we must all pitch in to achieve this reclamation of America! So when called upon, please step up and help in every way you can.

Roger D. Gaydos, P.S.

A Win for Members

L.U. 385 (as,catv,ees,em,es,et,fm,govt,ptc,rtb,rts,s,se&ws), PITTSBURGH, PA—In late 2002 John Harrison Co., parent company of signatory Custom Industrial Controls Inc., was forced into bankruptcy by some of its creditors. This came as a shock to 32 union employees. Some were laid off immediately while a few were kept on to finish up on the remaining open jobs and prepare for the upcoming sheriff sale.

Local 385 did not just walk away from our brothers and sisters in their time of need and uncertainty. Papers were filed in U.S. bankruptcy

court to protect our members who were owed money by their former employer. Local 385 managed to get priority creditor status for our members in court, but figured we would only get a few pennies on the dollar for our people, if we were able to get anything at all.

Several court appearances on behalf of our members and five years later, we received good news. Almost \$34,000 was to be distributed to the 32 former employees! Our "pennies on the dollar" turned out to be just under 70 percent of the monies owed to our people. Checks were mailed out in mid-April 2008 to former employees who thought they were left holding the bag.

Roy Baker, Treas.

Congratulations to Retirees

L.U. 387 (em,lctt&u), PHOENIX, AZ—Local 387 is proud to announce the retirement of four members with over 140 years of combined service. Bro. Joseph Perkins, journeyman lineman, retired April 30 after 31 years of IBEW service as an employee of Arizona Public Service Co. Bro. Perkins worked as a "troubleman" at Ocotillo Operations and Maintenance since 1989.

Bro. Bob Pitts, journeyman lineman, retired May 9 after 36 years of IBEW service as an APS employee. Bro. Pitts began work for APS in 1972 and was "section leader" for Overhead System Construction for the past 12 years.

Bro. Jim Bywater, journeyman lineman, retired May 16. Bro. Bywater worked for the company for 36 years. Bro. Bywater's son is currently in the pre-apprentice program and his daughter is a meter reader.

Bro. Tim Barnholt, electric serviceman, is retiring this year after 40 years of IBEW service at APS. Bro. Barnholt began his career in 1967 as a "groundman" on the Deer Valley line crews. After 15 years he was promoted from "truck driver C" to "truck driver A." For the past 15 years Bro. Barnholt has worked as a "serviceman" in Customer Construction Control Services.

Ronny Hockman, P.S.

Trap Shoot Benefit

L.U. 401 (c,i,rts&st), RENO, NV—Local 401 held a trap shoot in May. It was a big success. Team members Greg Sydow, Al Zaner, Keith Ingram, Dan Henderson and Vern Ceaglio had the highest



Local 401's winning trap shoot team, from left: Greg Sydow, Al Zaner, Keith Ingram and Dan Henderson. Not pictured: Vern Ceaglio.

finish in five years with a score of 236 out of 250! They were competing against 16 local building trades. Al Zaner "rocked" when he executed 50 birds in a row! All this is to benefit the political branch of Nevada State AFL-CIO.

In keeping pace and striving for perfection, Northern Nevada JATC has incorporated the Craft Certification Program through the coordinated efforts of JATC Training Dir. Alan Darney and Asst. Training Dir. Joe Kimbal. Classes to qualify for test administrator started in April and will be ongoing to certify our members.

The membership thanks our negotiating committee for securing a wage increase of \$9 over the next three years with our NECA contractors in our inside electrical branch.

Laura Beverage, P.S.

70-Year Service Award

L.U. 405 (em,i,rtb&spa), CEDAR RAPIDS, IA—At the 2008 Service Pin Banquet held on May 3, 2008, at the Local 405 union hall, Bro. Manfred C. Johnson was presented with his 70-year IBEW service pin. He was initiated into Local 294 in Hibbing, MN, in 1938 at the age of 20 and transferred into Local 405 in August 1948. Bro. Johnson retired from the trade in March 1990.

Dennis Schissel, Pres./P.S.



IBEW Local 405 Pres. Dennis Schissel (left) and Bus. Mgr. Bill Hanes (right) present Bro. Manfred Johnson with his 70-year service pin.

Show Strength

L.U. 429 (em,i,lctt,o,ptc,rtb&u), NASHVILLE, TN—We thank all the men and women serving in our armed forces to protect our freedom. A special thanks to all our union brothers and sisters serving our country in the military. They all need our support and we need to make sure they know how much we appreciate them. Please keep them in your prayers. Local 429 Bro. John Casey Sadler, apprentice lineman, is currently serving in Iraq. [See "IBEW on Duty," in this issue of *The Electrical Worker*.]

We need to show our strength by voting in

upcoming elections, which may be the most important in our lifetime. We must elect a labor friendly president, as well as candidates at every level who support our cause.

Locally, most of our Inside Agreements expire Aug. 31, 2008, so we all need to attend union meetings, become informed and get involved to show we are strong. To keep and gain the benefits we enjoy as union members, we must let everyone know we are united.

We thank all the travelers who helped staff our work for a successful year. Look forward to seeing you at a union meeting.

Gerald A. Grant, P.S.

Local's 80th Anniversary

L.U. 441 (as,i,rts), SANTA ANA, CA—Local 441 is proud to celebrate its 80th anniversary this year. We will commemorate the occasion at a special pins award and picnic on Sept. 20.

Our local was chartered with 15 members on May 31, 1928. Orange County has gone from a small collection of sleepy agricultural towns in 1928 to a sprawling metropolitan community of cities today. Local 441 helped to build this county and we are proud of that.

Since then, our history is full of milestones that have bettered the lives of our members and their families. We began the eight-hour day and 40-hour work week in 1933. Our apprenticeship training started in 1946. In 1960 our local Health and Welfare program was adopted. We burned the mortgage on the first office building we owned in 1961. In March 1971 our local pension plan was put in place. And, just 10 years ago, in February 1998, we held our first meeting in our "new" building in Orange. We call on today's members to reflect on those earlier times, thank our retired members and pay tribute to our past leaders for the hard work that made all this possible.

Steve Igoe, P.S.

Volunteer Your Support

L.U. 449 (catv,em,i,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), POCATELLO, ID—As summer gets into full swing not only is the temperature heating up but the political atmosphere is also. The Brotherhood is actively supporting candidates who will support us. Not only do the candidates need money, but also the support of volunteers. By volunteering our time, we can help elect labor-friendly candidates. Don't take it for granted that someone else will help—we need your help with political efforts. Our registrar is Cameron Evans. He is canvassing the jurisdiction to make sure that every member is registered to vote. Lend Cameron a hand with the work he is doing.

Scheduled Local 449 summer functions include the following: the 291/449 Shootout Golf Day on June 28, in Jackpot; the regular picnic on July 12, at Ross Park, Pocatello; the Twin Falls picnic on Aug. 2, at Rock Creek Park, Twin Falls; and Chuckars



Among the Local 375 members who received 35-year watches at the April union meeting are, from left: Dennis Hall, George Ueltzen, Dale Clauser, Gerald Charles, Ed Farrell, William Kern, Greg Owens and William Puskas. Not pictured are Randy Parks, Mike Kostick, Ron Rex, Glen Temos, Bruce Carney, Stan Seyfried, Tom Kleppinger, Hobert Reph and Bill Giaquinto.

IBEW Baseball Night on Aug. 16 in Idaho Falls.

The local thanks the following members for their years of service and wishes them well in their retirement: James Kondel and Bruce Van Leuven.

We extend condolences to the families of retired members Steve Taylor and Philip, who passed away. We will miss them always.

Support and participate in your union.

Bob Bodell, B.M.

LaPorte Work Picture

L.U. 531 (i), LaPORTE, IN—Work is still good in our area. The Blue Chip Casino should be completed this fall. The BP refinery continues to work on its air permits. This is a \$4 billion expansion. South Bend Memorial Hospital plans to break ground this fall. Hopefully everything will turn out positively.

Contract negotiations, for Inside and Residential, will begin again this year. If you have any ideas or suggestions, voice your opinions by calling the hall and letting them know.

Don't forget that the local wants to design a new IBEW Local 531 lapel pin. If you have a design in mind, put it on paper and turn it in to the hall. You may win a \$50 gift card.

In our March "Local Lines" article, the names of the following members who successfully completed their 2007 apprenticeship were mistakenly omitted: Residential—Joel Collins, Alan Grandys, Patrick Knopf, Matthew Meece and Darren Nichols; Inside—Marcus Rogala. Congratulations to all.

Mark your calendar for the Local 531 picnic on Aug. 23 at Inman's Recreation Center, from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

We are saddened by the passing of Bro. Robert "Bobby" Hunt. His wisdom and friendship will be missed.

Jim Switzer, P.S.

Report from Saginaw

L.U. 557 (i,mt,rts&spa), SAGINAW, MI—The silicon industry continues to create work for local hands. IBEW members are wiring buildings and reactors that grow silica into semiconductors, which fuel the worldwide need for solar power and electronic substrate.

Michigan lawmakers are doing what they can to reduce the cost of raw materials for this process and litigate ways to keep the process growing in our area. Our Democratic Gov. Jennifer Granholm emphasizes the need for this industry as the auto industry struggles nationwide, especially in Michigan! Unfortunately, the demand for hybrids and electric cars has found its source from offshore manufacturers. Now GM has decided to make alu-

minum heads in Saginaw and hopefully that line will employ a few for a while.

That brings us to our need to elect Democrats to office in November.

The media is owned and controlled by big money. If more people were better informed about the actual reality of day to day struggles for so many, that would discourage an influx of the world's poor from crossing our borders. Paybacks are being given to the rich for putting Bush in office. Bush claimed to be a fiscal conservative, but instead we got the most fiscally irresponsible administration ever, along with huge budget deficits, lost jobs and soaring fuel prices. The Bush administration's giving to the rich must be stopped. Vote in November!

John E. Clemens, P.S.

Scoreboard for Little League

L.U. 569 (i,mar,mt,rts&spa), SAN DIEGO, CA—On May 8, our local donated and installed an IBEW manufactured Trans-Lux scoreboard at the Chollas Lake Little League Field in Oak Park, San Diego. The Little League field was robbed of \$30,000 of equipment and property last year. The community came together with financial resources to replace the loss, and local union volunteers added a new scoreboard. Ironworkers Local 229 apprentices set steel I-beams that were donated by McMahon Steel. A.O Reed donated use of their equipment; Chula Vista Electric, Saturn Electric and Fuller Electric allowed use of their service trucks; and IBEW Local 569 members installed the sign, to the delight of the Little League community.

Nicholas J. Segura Jr., P.S.



San Diego, CA, Local 569 volunteers installed a state-of-the-art scoreboard for Chollas Lake Little League. Among the IBEW volunteers were, from left: Charlie Foster, Nick Segura, Jaime Leon and Mitch Steinauer. Not pictured: Joe Heisler.

Industry Night in Wisconsin

L.U. 577 (em&i), APPLETON, WI—The local recently conducted its first week-long job site blitz and industry night. Over 600 invitations were mailed to Wisconsin credential holders with addresses in the local union's jurisdiction. IBEW local union organizers from across the state assisted by making 27 in-person contacts during the week. Six of our local contractors set up tables to interview prospective employees. Our Apprenticeship and Training office, along with representatives from the local Technical College were on hand to respond to questions about education. More than 40 visitors showed up on a Thursday night. The event produced 17 completed job and seven apprenticeship applications. Membership Development Rep. Greg Young did an outstanding job planning and coordinating this event. Thank-you to the locals that committed their organizers to help make our industry night a huge success.

The Appleton/Oshkosh Joint Apprenticeship Committee recently recommended the following apprentices for inside journeyman wireman status. Congratulations to Allen Albrecht, Charles Gruber, Matthew Howell, Benjamin Kohler, Eric Martin, Jeffrey Schmoker, Travis Siewert, and Cory Torbeck.

The annual safety training topic for 2008 is OSHA 10. Four classes were held during the spring semester. Watch for the August newsletter to see the list of classes to be scheduled this fall.

Greg Breaker, B.M.



IBEW Local 577 recently hosted a successful job site blitz and industry night event.

Work Picture Improves

L.U. 595 (c,govt,i&st), DUBLIN, CA—Our work picture has improved greatly with several jobs under our Oakland Public Schools project labor agreement in full swing, as well as the ethanol plant in Stockton. We have some large projects coming up in our jurisdiction. Our business manager and organizer attended a health care seminar sponsored by the state building trades to discuss \$100 billion of upcoming hospital work in California, a sizeable percentage of which will be in Local 595's jurisdiction. We are working hard to secure this future work.



Over 50 IBEW Local 595 members are working on the Pacific Ethanol Plant in Stockton, CA, under a CURE-negotiated project labor agreement. The plant will produce 60 million gallons of ethanol annually when it comes online.

At this writing, our local had held its nomination of officers. The election was scheduled for June. We are glad to see young people showing interest. Election results were not yet available at press time. Our president of the last three years is moving on. Members will miss LouAnn McCune's dedicated leadership. Thank you, LouAnn!

The IBEW is a leader in local politics and supports a strong field of candidates for November. We will work hard to get a Democrat in the White House and complete the shift of power in the Congress. We applaud Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill's decision to take the IBEW to the next level with our political work throughout the country. Registrar training held in Los Angeles and across the country is key to union activism. We need every member to be politically active.

We mourn the death on May 15 of Frants "Marv" Jensen. Marv served Local 595 in countless ways over his 55-year career. He will be deeply missed.

Tom Mullarkey, B.R.

Pin Awards Banquet

L.U. 617 (c,i,mo&st), SAN MATEO, CA—Late this spring, the 2008 Pin Awards Banquet was a success. Approximately 200 members attended, enjoying the evening and the companionship while applauding awardees for 20 to 65 years of service. Three members received their 65-year pins! A total of 60 recipients received awards as all reveled with brothers and sisters of all ages.

The event this year was especially significant because 2008 is the year of our centennial celebration, reminding us that Local 617 has sustained countless families for many years.

Watching the happiness and camaraderie of longtime members and honorees engraves in our minds the reality of our long-term commitment to the union. These members are living testimonies of success, consistency and valuable legacies, which we are all called to carry on for the future generations. Our founders' inspiration could only be realized through the entire membership's dedication!

It is an accomplishment to be an IBEW mem-



Local 617 honors three 65-year pin awardees, from left: Alindo Cardelli, Arthur Fronberg and Pete Pellizer.



Two generations of the Iles family volunteer at the Local 557 booth at a Home Builder's show in March. Tim Iles (standing) retired in May 2008 and his father, Elton Iles (seated), retired over 20 years ago. Both Local 557 members are still proud to represent the IBEW.

ber in good standing. We are a part of our local's 100 years of achievement, progress and acquired knowledge, which provides continued growth.

Pierre St-Cyr, P.S.

100th Anniversary Celebration

L.U. 625 (ees,em,i,mar&mt), HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA—July 24, 2008, marks the 100th anniversary of Local 625. On this date 100 years ago, a group of 19 young men were granted a charter from the IBEW to cover marine and inside construction jurisdictions in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Since that time the local has grown to encompass electrical equipment service, electrical manufacturing, maintenance and instrument technicians.

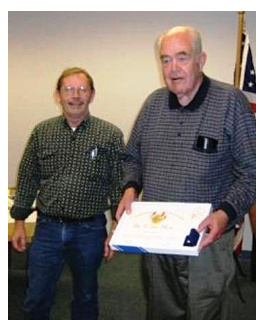
With the amalgamation of former Local 1818 in 1974, the local grew to encompass all of Mainland Nova Scotia. The construction and electrical manufacturing units came to 625 while the outside and utility units went to Local 1928.

Over the years, under various administrations, improvements were made to the Health & Welfare Plan, started in 1971. A Pension Plan started in 1979. We purchased a condo unit with nine other trades, and in 2001 built our first member-owned building. Former longtime president George "Murt" Conrad, first elected in 1926, helped bring about the apprentice schools for the construction trades in Halifax. The first "Electronic Class" was conducted by Local 625 at the Nova Scotia Technical College in Halifax.

Present Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Cordell Cole and myself were honored to make arrangements for the upcoming centennial celebrations to be held July 26 at the World Trade and Convention Center in Halifax. Attendees will receive a gift book celebrating the local's history. We look forward to Local 625's next 100 years.

Tom Griffiths, Pres.

Shop Steward Conference



Local 659 Bus. Mgr. Ron Jones (left) presents former business manager Jim McLean with his 55-year membership pin.

L.U. 659 (c,catv,em,i,lctt,o, st,t&u), MEDFORD, OR—

In March the local hosted a Shop Steward Conference for over 50 shop stewards. Ninth District Int. Reps. Keith Edwards and Rick Hite held classes, along with Marcus Widenor from the Labor Education and Research Center, University of Oregon.

A banquet was held at the end of

the session, during which two retiring staff members were honored. Receiving surprise parting gifts, along with an exchange of humorous stories about their careers, were Asst. Bus. Mgr. Ron Johnson, who retired in late June, and Secretary Valerie Canty, who retired in late April.

Carol Bennett, B.R.

Crucial Political Season

L.U. 673 (catv,i,rts,spa,t&u), PAINESVILLE, OH—After a long spell of slow times, the North Coast region is finally able to put most of our members to work with the arrival of hospital and school jobs. We

couldn't be happier that our hard work to elect a labor friendly administration in Columbus is finally beginning to pay off with increased availability of funding for new construction in our school systems and public buildings, increased awareness for tighter accountability with taxpayer money, and a friendlier environment for prevailing wage agreements.

As the new political season runs full steam ahead, Ohio is taking its role as one of the most crucial states in the presidential election very seriously.

Local 673's two registrars are using many new tools provided us by the International and the local AFL-CIO to educate our members and the surrounding community about the real voting records of the candidates—stripping away the distracting "emotional issues" hoopla of the campaigns and identifying issues that will truly affect workers in their everyday lives. We look forward to throwing our full support behind a slate of excellent state level candidates as well. Let's bring work, prosperity and justice for working people back to northern Ohio.

Gretchen Bryan, R.S.

Work Picture Picks Up

L.U. 681 (i,o&spa), WICHITA FALLS, TX—The weather is heating up and so is the work picture. It has been real slow around here, but now things look better. We were waiting on some jobs and they are finally starting to come around. We also negotiated new agreements for the Wichita Falls Inside Division and the Chugach Division.

We are also looking at the end of another successful JATC school year and we have seven new journeyman inside wiremen turning out. They are: Nathan Boedker, Richard Green, Johnny Harvey, Cory Hitchcock, Sean Hoff, Will King and Cory Swearingen. Congratulations, brothers.

Our Outstanding Apprentices are: fifth year—Sean Hoff; fourth year—Casey Kirkland; third year—Dustin Stone; second year—Adam Thorne; and first year—Van Fleming. Congratulations to all.

Leland Welborn, A.B.M.

Spring Activities

L.U. 683 (em&i), COLUMBUS, OH—Spring starts us off on a list of activities. Thanks to all who donated for the March 27 blood drive.

"Christmas in April" was April 19-26. The service mission is to "keep homeowners warm and dry and to help seniors, those living with handicaps, veterans, single parents and families experiencing hard times..." who need assistance with repairs to their homes. Thanks to all volunteers and co-chairmen Rennie Holland and Steve Smith.

The softball league kicked off on April 18. The annual golf league began April 28.

At this time work is still slow. We hope things will pick up soon and get all our members to work. Thanks to the locals that have put our members to work.

Congratulations to fellow members Carmella Sundahl and Joe Biser on their April 26 marriage. Best wishes from Local 683.

Our condolences to the families of the following members who passed away: Thomas W. Clarke, Raymond F. Dreher Jr., Jeffrey A. Moore, Bernard P. Mason, James W. Vagnier and James A. Bentley.

Please remember that you are representing your local when you work out of town and your work reflects on all the members of your local.

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

Brotherhood & Fellowship

L.U. 915 (i&mt), TAMPA, FL—Our annual April cookout and service-pin presentation just gets better each year. The brotherhood and fellowship this event provides are second to none. The opportunity to meet longtime members who served before us, as well as new apprentices just starting, is exciting in itself.

Congratulations to Bro. Robert M. McDonald on his 70 years of IBEW service. Recognized for 55 years of service are Donald Freeman, Alfred Reed and Charles "Buddy" Wade; for 50 years—James Hoyt; for 45 years—Dennis Fields; and 40 years—David Adams, James Brady, Robert Franz, Jeffery Kvintus and Frank Lozano. Congratulations to these and all other members who received service pins. Their commitment to the IBEW will not be forgotten.

Our 2008 "James Phillips Brother of the Year Award" recipient is Bro. Larry Jenkins.

Bro. Jenkins has served the union as recording secretary, president, election judge, job steward and negotiating committee member. He always attends our local union work parties and his example of pride in his Brotherhood is exemplary. Local 915 is proud to recognize Bro. Jenkins.

Theresa King, P.S.



Local 915 Bro. Larry Jenkins (center) receives the local's 2008 Brother of the Year Award. Extending congratulations are Bus. Mgr. Bill Dever (left) and Pres. Randall King.

Big Election Year!

L.U. 953 (catv,em,lctt,o,spa&u), EAU CLAIRE, WI—Welcome to another election year! This fall we need to focus on electing candidates at all levels who have our interests in mind. Help elect candidates who will stand up for working people on issues such as pension plans and retirement security, health care, fair trade agreements and social security. Please do a thorough job researching the voting records of candidates on the important issues. Then, be sure to vote—and get your family and neighbors to the polls also! Your vote can make a difference. Don't pass up your privilege.

Our annual Local 953 Golf Outing is set for Saturday, Sept. 6, at the Valley Golf Course in Mondovi, WI. Enjoy a safe summer and remember to vote in November.

Arlin Ziemann, B.M./F.S.

Legacy of IBEW Service

L.U. 1049 (lctt,o&u), LONG ISLAND, NY—We at IBEW Local 1049 mourn the loss of former Third District Int. Rep. Philip Robinson, who passed away March 20 at age 76. Bro. Robinson served Local 1049 as a chief steward, Executive Board member, assistant business manager and volunteer organizer.

Bro. Robinson loved the IBEW and dedicated his life to the principals and ideals upon which the

IBEW was founded. Phil helped pave the road upon which we all walk today. Under the leadership of Bus. Mgr. Robert Shand and our newly elected officer corps, we intend to carry on that legacy. We will continue to build and expand upon that road—not only for our current membership but for future generations as well. On behalf of the business manager, officers, Executive Board and the membership, I offer our prayers and our deepest gratitude to the Robinson family.

We recently completed negotiations with our NECA contractors. The three-year agreement with significant increase to our wages and benefit package was overwhelmingly ratified by the members.

Our amalgamation with former sister Local 1381 is now complete and the new staff is working together in our renovated Local 1049 union hall.

Thomas J. Dowling, R.S.

Wisconsin AFL-CIO Award

L.U. 1147 (mo&u), WISCONSIN RAPIDS, WI—Wayne Wesenberg, a retired member of Local 1147 and treasurer of the Wood County & Vicinity Central Labor Council, received the Ralph Jirikowic Award for his dedication to the labor movement and his community. The award was presented Feb. 28, 2008, at the Wisconsin State AFL-CIO Community Services Conference in Manitowoc, WI.

Wesenberg has been involved in the labor movement and the community for the past 40 years. He has served in many union and Central Labor Council officer positions as well as volunteered in the community. He was a solicitor for United Way of Inner Wisconsin at his workplace from 1970 until his retirement. He has volunteered with nonprofits in the community and on community committees.

Annually, the Wisconsin State AFL-CIO seeks nominations from its affiliates for its prestigious Ralph Jirikowic Award. The nominees are screened, and after a deliberative process, one outstanding union volunteer emerges. In order to receive the highest award the Wisconsin AFL-CIO can offer for service to the community, the nominee must have demonstrated a continuous record of dedicated service in the workplace, local union and community.

Mike Tauschek, B.M./Pres.

Card Check Win

L.U. 1245 (catv,em,govt,lctt,o,pet,t&u), VACAVILLE, CA—Local 1245 members submitted over 1,000 proposals for upcoming bargaining with Pacific Gas & Electric. The general negotiations will cover both the Physical agreement and the Benefits agreement, which expire at the end of this year. The Clerical agreement runs to the end of 2010, and Clerical members will automatically receive whatever general wage increase is negotiated for the Physical bargaining unit for 2009 and 2010. Bus. Mgr. Tom Dalzell, who will lead the negotiations, convened the bargaining committees for the first time on April 29 at Weakley Hall.

In other news, Local 1245:

- Won a card check election to represent the Project Management and Technical Services Inspector A classification at PG&E;
- Organized a job fair to recruit candidates for entry level construction jobs with signatory Outside contractors on a PG&E transmission line in San Francisco;

LOCAL LINES continued on page 16



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, along with the *IBEW Journal* magazine, now published quarterly, now constitute the official publications of the IBEW and seek 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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International President

Lindell K. Lee
International Secretary-Treasurer

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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

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FROM THE OFFICERS**From the Bottom Up**

Edwin D. Hill
International President

Former Speaker of the House Tip O'Neill once quipped that "all politics are local." The same holds true for organizing. In 2006, we took a hard look at our declining membership and realized that unless we aggressively confronted the explosive growth of the nonunion sector, our future looked grim. The Brotherhood responded with a strategic plan to kick-start organizing across North America.

But the reality is that while the International Office can hire dozens of good organizers and plot what we hope are the best campaign strategies, without the initiative and leadership of our local officers and rank-and-file members, we would fail.

Because it's the local that has to build a relationship with contractors; it's the local's job to organize the industry nights that have proven so successful in attracting new members;

and it's the local that produces our union's best salesmen—the IBEW rank and file.

Thanks to the blood, sweat and tears coming from the grassroots, this summer the IBEW broke another membership record, hitting an all time high of 334,008 construction members. We are also making great organizing inroads in the non-construction branches.

Our most successful locals didn't do it by taking shortcuts. They relied on the strengths that made our union what it was in the first place: the best training in the industry, our commitment to excellence on the job and our willingness to hit the streets in search of new members.

But despite great progress, there are still real obstacles in our way. The National Labor Relations Board is controlled by Bush appointees whose priority is to stop labor from organizing. And rough economic times have caused a contraction in the job market that will no doubt soon be felt by our own members.

The work of our members over the last few years has created a solid foundation that will help us weather the bad economic times and put us in a position to seize the opportunities posed by the potentially friendlier political atmosphere in Washington come next year. Let's keep moving forward. ■

High Road to Green Energy

With the budding attention to green jobs, I am reminded of the saying, "Opportunities are never lost; they are taken by others."

Renewable energy technologies are quickly becoming a battle ground between unions and open shop groups like the Associated Builders and Contractors. We cannot afford to have the opportunity presented by this dynamic economic sector snatched away.

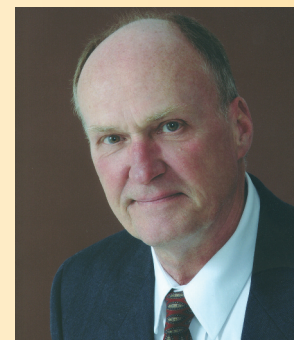
It wasn't by accident that the green jobs training amendment to last year's energy bill (see page 4) includes the requirement that unions and our apprenticeship programs be consulted before the allocation of federal money for training. The IBEW's growing leadership in the transition to wind and solar power is drawing notice, expanding labor's sway.

Legislative experts at the AFL-CIO's Industrial Union Council and the Building and Construction Trades Department helped to draft the language, supported by members of Congress, many of whom were backed by labor's powerful grassroots effort in 2006.

If nonunion contractors are green, it is mostly with envy over labor's influential place at the renewable energy table. So they are spreading the accusation that unions are selfishly pursuing our own interest in green training.

We need to refute anti-union accusations, not just in word but in action. Every local union should ask their congressional delegation to support the appropriation of the entire \$125 million authorized by the legislation. Then our job is to secure grants and demonstrate our commitment to upgrading skills, not just of our own members, but for a broad spectrum of workers.

The green jobs training bill includes programs for military veterans, low-income adults and youth, and formerly incarcerated nonviolent offenders. These men and women—who are working to change their lives—deserve the good wages and benefits and superior training that only unions can deliver, not the low road sought by labor's adversaries. ■



Lindell K. Lee
International Secretary-Treasurer

Letters to the Editor



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media@ibew.org

Union Proud

I have worked at Columbia Lighting in Spokane, Wash., for 14 years. We used to be owned by Phillips; now we are owned by Hubbell Lighting Inc. They have been slowly shutting us down and moving things to the East Coast (Bristol, Pa.) and Juarez, Mexico. We used to have a company of more than 500 people. Now we are down to 180 people. Most of us here have over 10 years of experience.

They say that the Mexicans and Chinese are getting the jobs that none of us like. Well we here in Spokane LOVE ours.

I had the chance to go to Juarez for a couple weeks. The only thing I can say is that in Spokane we were here to retire. While the people in Mexico are there for jobs, that's it. If something else would come their way with a higher wage they'd be gone in a heartbeat.

We are the PROUD people of IBEW 73 here in Spokane.

Tom Sevey

Local 73 member, Spokane, Wash.

Support the Troops

This member served in the U.S. Army Air Corps from 1942 through 1945 and became a member of the IBEW, retiring early in 1982 with 41 years of service in the Duquesne Light Co. As an 86-year-old, I have seen a lot of changes in military affairs since I have retired from the USAF reserve as well as the utility company. I have the rank of major and two of my children serve in active duty, including one with 30 years of active service.

I would like to point out that we should have supported the folks in active and reserve military duty with more than minimum wages in a lot of those years.

The candidate representing the Democratic Party is so far out of touch with reality that I hope that the anti-Bush feelings, along with the shifting of manufacturing jobs overseas cannot be tied to the Republican Party alone. The last couple of Democratic occupants of the White House were not exactly above reproach.

Yes, get out the vote, but we need to know exactly what they believe and will promote. Military strength and homeland security need to be in the hands of a man who has had some experience in that area.

Henry F. Fraysier

Local 149 retiree, Decatur, Ill.

Greedy Contractors?

I am a long-time union electrician and have been reading almost daily about U.S. companies taking their factories and jobs to China and Mexico and many other Third World countries. I read Mr. Hill's column monthly and it has more of the same. I'm constantly told to buy U.S. made goods, which I always do if possible. But what bothers me the most is I NEVER read Mr. Hill asking the contractors why they are buying Chinese-made couplings, connectors, 1900 boxes, receptacles, switches, Mexican-made industrial motors and more. Are the contractors turning their heads to make more money? Where is their obligation in this whole mess? My contractor drives German and Japanese cars. Was it that long ago that the parts were made here by union workers? If the contractors said, "Sorry we aren't buying any Chinese crap, we are only buying American," would these companies give up the union business or would they find a way to make things here? Let's put some of the blame for our industry's mess on the greedy contractors where it belongs.

Bob Fleischer

Local 134 member, Chicago

Who We Are

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

Neighbors in Need Turn to Michigan Local for Help



Members of Saginaw, Mich., Local 557 volunteer to wire a new house. From left are Apprenticeship Director Paul Dupuis Jr., Nick Zewerk, Joe Schmidt, Brandon Fink, Kevin Reinert, Bob Dupuis, Jason Reviette and Tom Haven.

It didn't take long for Clifford Samuel to figure out that his friend had a big problem. The Hemlock, Mich., native was helping one of his co-workers from the local automotive tooling plant install a new support beam in his house last fall when he got a look underneath the floor. The joints were nearly rotted away, leaving the floor to rest on the soil underneath. The house was, for all purposes, unsalvageable.

"I knew the house wasn't going to last much longer in its condition," Samuel said of the home that belonged to Fred Doyle and his wife, Bonnie.

But buying a new house on Doyle's income was out of the question. He was nearing retirement on a janitor's salary and his wife Bonnie—out of work since 2001—suffers from Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis and a degenerative spine condition. To raze and rebuild a new home would cost around \$80,000—money Doyle didn't have.

Samuel started knocking on doors, looking for money and labor from the community so the Doyles could rebuild. One of his first stops was Doyle's neighbor: Saginaw Local 557.

The local is known in the community for its charity, helping Habitat for Humanity build a house for a needy family every year, so its members were ready and willing to help out their neighbors.

"The (Doyle) family is an example of how health care costs has created the choice of

either life or a roof," said Local 557 Press Secretary John Clemens.

Clemens, Apprenticeship Director Paul Dupuis Jr., retiree Dale Walls, and members of the first-year apprenticeship class volunteered to install most of the wiring for Doyle's new house. Standard Electric, a union wholesale house, donated the materials.

"It seemed liked everyone in the community was behind this so it's nice we were able to help out," said Local 557 Business Manager Robert Orr said.

A variety of community groups donated time and money to the project, including Local 85 of the Plumbers and Steamfitters, the local newspaper and TV station, nearly a dozen construction contractors and students at Swan Valley High School who "adopted" the Doyles as their senior community service project.

Construction on the house began in May. Samuel is still looking to raise another \$35,000 to complete construction and furnish the home with new appliances and furniture.

"It's all been local," Clemens said. "No big retailers reaching into their deep pockets, just neighbors helping neighbors."

Samuel's Web site detailing the project's progress can be viewed at:

<http://mysite.verizon.net/resrbwdj/fredandbonniedoyle> ■

CORRECTION

In the June issue of "Who We Are," we incorrectly reported the Web site address for Mansfield, Ohio, Local 688 President Lance Biglin's children's book "Bye, America." Please visit www.byeamerica.com for ordering information. We regret the error.

Local Lines continued from page 13

- Ratified a new agreement with Turlock Irrigation District after a massive member mobilization broke through an impasse at the bargaining table, and won major improvements in wages and pension;
- Convened several dozen rank and file union leaders to meet with PG&E's new utility vice president, Geisha Williams, to discuss the union's growing concerns over work force shortages, infrastructure deterioration, and the company's disastrous experiment in "transformation."

Eric Wolfe, P.S.



At a job fair held in San Francisco in March, Local 1245 Asst. Bus. Mgr. Ron Cochran explains the hiring process for construction jobs with contractor Black and Veatch on a PG&E transmission line project.

NRG Negotiations

L.U. 1307 (u), SALISBURY, MD—At this writing, Local 1307 was preparing for negotiations with NRG Energy. Local 1307 represents the bargaining unit employees at Indian River Power Plant in Millsboro, DE, and Vienna Power Plant in Vienna, MD. Negotiating Committee members are: Pres. David Adkins, Vice Pres. Lindley Hudson, E-Board member Andy Genga and members David Long, Roy Bunting, Bill Swift and Larry Fisher. Negotiation results will be reported.

Congratulations and best wishes to recent retirees: Wayne Willett, Dwight Graham, Gwen Shedaker and Wayne Whaley.

Bro. Willett retired from A&N Electric Co-op as a special equipment operator on Jan. 1. He began his IBEW career in 1975.

Bro. Graham began at Delmarva Power in 1971 at Vienna Power Plant. He transferred to Salisbury as a substation tech 3rd class, and made 1st class in 1991. He retired Feb. 1.

Sister Shedaker began at Delmarva Power in 1968 as a clerk in Salisbury. She later worked at Indian River Power Plant, became a cashier in the Laurel District, and was promoted to senior CIS. She retired as a dispatcher Feb. 1.

Bro. Whaley started at Delmarva Power, Salisbury District, in 1970. He was awarded journeyman lineman, and later promoted to lead serviceman Feb. 1.

Edward D. Sparks, F.S.

'Meet Me in St. Louis'

L.U. 1439 (u), ST. LOUIS, MO—The job market is slow right now, but in St. Louis that's not the total picture. We are having trouble finding linemen and relay technicians.

Local 1439 sponsored two job fairs, which produced 70-plus potential applicants for Ameren/UE, our local utility company. These job fairs, with the cooperation of Missouri Career Centers, have educated, trained and pre-tested applicants to better prepare them for entrance tests (C.A.S.T.) and have been a huge success to help fill job vacancies.

Ameren/UE recently increased its signing bonus to \$15,000 for journeyman linemen.

With great regret we report the death of three active members, Bernie Kutz, John Cardinale and Jeff Mayer. They all left a legacy that is a credit to themselves and the Brotherhood. What kind of bio will have to be written about you to be accurate? What are you teaching others by the life you live? These are questions we all should ask ourselves.

*Ken Carroll, P.S.
Mike Walter, B.M.*

Job Stability & Unity

L.U. 1501 (ees,em,mo,pet,rts&t), BALTIMORE, MD—We all value stability in the workplace, so it was with concern that we received the news that NASA has awarded the ETIS contract to Analex. The current employer of our members at Goddard is ManTech, which has held the contract for many years. Analex informed us it wants to make this transition as seamless and transparent as possible. Local 1501 Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dion F. Guthrie, Vice Pres. Mike Kurtz, Executive Board members and stewards of 1501-2 have been hard at work to insure the best interests of members are served.

Although ManTech filed a protest of the awarding of the ETIS contract to Analex, the GAO upheld the award. Our union arranged for an open house meeting at nearby Martin's Crosswinds, where Analex representatives were available to discuss questions and concerns about the scheduled transition period. As of this writing, the officers have met with Analex and tentatively agree to terms of the contract subject to member ratification and approval of the International Office. Bus. Mgr. Dion Guthrie stated he has always been proud of the strong union spirit of our members in Local 1501-2; by continuing to work together he is confident job stability will be achieved for members.

Thomas J. Rostowski, R.S.



Local 1501 Bus. Mgr. Dion F. Guthrie greets Sen. Hillary Clinton on her visit to NASA during her campaign for president.

Wellstone Action Training

L.U. 1547 (c,em,i,o,t&u), ANCHORAGE, AK—Local 1547 recently hosted a Wellstone Action Labor Training program. Named in honor of the late Sen. Paul Wellstone and Sheila Wellstone, the program is designed to train the next generation of progressive political leaders. More than two dozen trade unionists received two days of comprehensive training on running for office, assisting with campaigns and internal/external organizing and communications.



IBEW Local 1739 members at the construction site of the Poraver North America glass recycling manufacturing facility in Ontario, Canada.

Retired lineman Tim Evans was recently named president of the Kenai Peninsula Central Labor Council.

Local 1547 joined more than a dozen local unions in sponsoring the biennial Summer Solidarity Picnic scheduled for late June. The event is one of the largest labor gatherings in Alaska. The scheduled keynote speaker was Bro. Stewart Acuff, director of the AFL-CIO Organizing Department.

Power lineman Roger Connolly passed away on March 7. Bro. Connolly moved to Alaska in the mid-1940s and worked on a number of projects that brought power to Alaska, including jobs at remote locations. A former director of the NECA/IBEW apprenticeship school, Bro. Connolly was on the verge of receiving his 60-year IBEW pin prior to his passing. He will be missed.

Melinda Taylor, P.S.

'Get Out and Vote'

L.U. 1579 (i&o), AUGUSTA, GA—If you think back in history, you can't help but wonder how much better things could be for organized labor if politics were always fair.

As IBEW members, we should all challenge each other and our families to get out and vote for candidates who stand up for working families. If we unite and learn from history, we can again win by popular and electoral vote.

Work in our jurisdiction is still slow. The work situation should improve, as many projects are getting ready to man up. Most calls should be filled from Book I.

Don't forget to cast your vote!

Will Salters, A.B.M.

Elected to Labor Post

L.U. 1701 (catv,ees,i,o&u), OWENSBORO, KY—The Owensboro Council of Labor held its election of officers. We are proud to announce that Local 1701 member Donna Haynes was elected council president. Congratulations, Donna.

The Examining Board gave the journeyman wireman exam recently to the fifth-year apprentice class. The board reports that all passed. Good luck, brothers.



Local 1701 instructor Larry Boswell (right) congratulates 2008 graduating class members, from left: Travis Glassco, Joe Fulkerson and Charles Brown.

A job fair was held in April at the Executive Inn in Owensboro. We thank Bros. Mike Roby and David Carrico for setting up a booth and promoting our JATC and local.

The JATC will be adopting craft certification for all apprentices and implementing the IBEW Code of Excellence as criteria in the near future.

The Kentucky primary election will be history by press time. Brothers and sisters, we must get organized now for the November general election. Local 1701 will set up phone banks and walking precincts. Please help us by volunteering your time and supporting our labor endorsed candidates. For more information contact the hall.

We mourn the passing of retired member Don Penrod. May he rest in peace.

Tim Blandford, P.S.

Poraver Glass Recycling Plant

L.U. 1739 (i&o), BARRIE, ONTARIO, CANADA—Members of IBEW Local 1739 proudly participated in construction of the recently completed Poraver (North America) plant, a new state-of-the-art glass recycling facility in Innisfil, Ontario. The company will recycle glass products and divert them for use in mortar, plaster, fillers, blocks and adhesives. This is the first such plant in North America with others possibly to follow.

The electrical contractor on the Poraver project was PMI/PEC from Cambridge, Ontario. Thanks go out to General Foremen Colin Reese and Neil Lummiss and all the IBEW Local 1739 members who worked days on end all last summer to complete this project. (See photo above.)

Frank Kastle, P.S.

T-6 Hockey Tournament Champs

L.U. 2325 (t), WORCESTER, MA—Congratulations to the IBEW Local 2325 hockey team, champions of the 2008 T-6 Mobilization Hockey Tournament! The April tournament was held in Marlborough, MA. Local 2325 won the championship by beating Local 2321 by 8-4 and edging Local 2222 by 7-6. Local 2222 secured second place. Local 2321 won third place, and Local 2320 came in fourth place by default. We thank all who participated in the tournament, the players, the staff, and the members who came out to watch. We look forward to another exciting tournament next year.

Local 2325 COPE sponsored a fun-filled friends and family night at the Worcester Sharks AHL hockey game in March. The fund-raising efforts were very successful and all who attended the game had a great time. Congratulations to Bro. Bruce Broadard on winning the COPE raffle.

Finally, we would like to recognize our Bus. Mgr. Dave Keating, who was given the honor of singing the American and Canadian national anthems at the IBEW Broadcasting, Manufacturing and Telecommunications Conference held May 7-9 in Atlantic City, NJ.

Paul Mark, P.S.