



**OBAMA
BIDEN
WIN!**

See
p. 14

THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

FIRST PUBLISHED IN 1893

CONSTRUCTION • UTILITIES • TELECOMMUNICATIONS • MANUFACTURING • GOVERNMENT • BROADCASTING • RAILROAD

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Vol. 2 | No. 11 | November 2008

IN THIS ISSUE

2
2008 safety poster winners

Transitions

3
North of 49°

4
Report of Independent Auditors

8
Local Lines

14
Editorials

Letters to the Editor

Who We Are

Despite Dismal Economic News, IBEW Growth Outpaces Expected Gains

Bad news on the economy isn't just on Wall Street, but on the out-of-work lists in parts of New York, Florida, Illinois and Michigan, among other places. But, for now at least, the IBEW's membership development juggernaut continues to post gains to reverse a 30-year slide.

The IBEW lost more than 50,000 members between 2001 and 2006. Total membership has declined every year since the early 1980s.

"Now we are growing, in non-construction 'BA' members and in 'A' members," said IBEW Special Assistant to the International President Buddy Satterfield. "Everybody is working really hard at growing our Brotherhood."

Members have heeded President Edwin D. Hill's 2006 challenge to delegates at the 37th International Convention in Cleveland to organize or face a slow and certain death.

"That we have had a hostile political environment through the last eight years and still managed to post these impressive gains is a testament to the hard work of our membership—the real strength of the IBEW," said International President Edwin D. Hill.

As of September 30, total active membership is nearing 712,000, and the IBEW has added members in 15 of the last 18 months. These put the Membership Development Department ahead of the goal it set in 2006: bring active membership to 750,000 by 2011.

With a 2008 win rate of 75 percent on the professional and industrial side, "we are getting into our groove," said Brian Ahakuelo, Professional and Industrial Membership

Total IBEW Membership



* Through September 2008

Development Director, who said the 36 wins this year have been in almost every non-construction branch: utility, government, manufacturing, telecommunications and broadcasting. "It's across the board."

In the past two years, the aggressive emphasis on organizing has become part of the culture of the IBEW. But the old-fashioned work of organizers remains much the same: targeting workplaces, talking to potential members about the benefits of IBEW membership, earning their trust and hoping for a majority when the vote is tallied.

A 20-member unit of truck drivers employed by Ruan Trucking voted in favor of representation by Tampa Local 108 on Oct. 10 following a short campaign initiated by the truckers looking for consistency and fairness, said Lead Organizer Aaron Van Dalen.

"Eleven were at one time under a Teamsters or IBEW contract, so they knew what they wanted," Van Dalen said. Ruan had instituted what its employees considered unfair driving schedules; and pay and benefits had deteriorated in the few years since they had lost their last contract as a result of ownership changes.

One veteran driver said he was making less today than he had been making six years ago, Van Dalen said. "These guys are very solid and very excited to get back under a contract," he said.

The security of a collective bargaining agreement is appealing to potential union

members in uncertain economic times, Ahakuelo said.

"We want to make sure everyone is aware that the IBEW provides a stable atmosphere for its members," Ahakuelo said.

On the construction side—where the union hit an all-time member high of 330,000 a year ago that keeps climbing—the good news is there has been no bad news, yet. But industry downturns in both the private and public sectors could mean trouble on the horizon for the IBEW.

Municipalities across the country are seeing property, income and sales tax decline. In the private sector, the ability of businesses to find credit to finance projects is likely to start affecting the building trades soon.

But for now, Larry Cogburn of Cogburn Brothers, a signatory industrial contractor out of Jacksonville, Fla., said he is looking at a backlog of niche work for municipalities. "We have been blessed in the last few years with abundant work," Cogburn said.

Analysts expect a downturn in new commercial construction building that started this year to accelerate next year. The residential slump had set in long before the latest financial drama. Oil refinery work, which has employed thousands of IBEW members in Illinois and Ohio at plants converting Canada's oil sands into oil, continues to be strong, said Construction and Maintenance Director Jerry Westerholm. That could change, though, now that traditional oil prices are on the decline. ■

Transitions

Retired Jerry E. Harris

Eleventh District International Representative Jerry E. Harris retired October 1 following more than three decades of service to the IBEW.

"I've been honored to serve the Brotherhood in so many different ways," Harris said. "I've had the opportunity to work with some wonderful, passionate people, and I made many lifelong friends in the process."

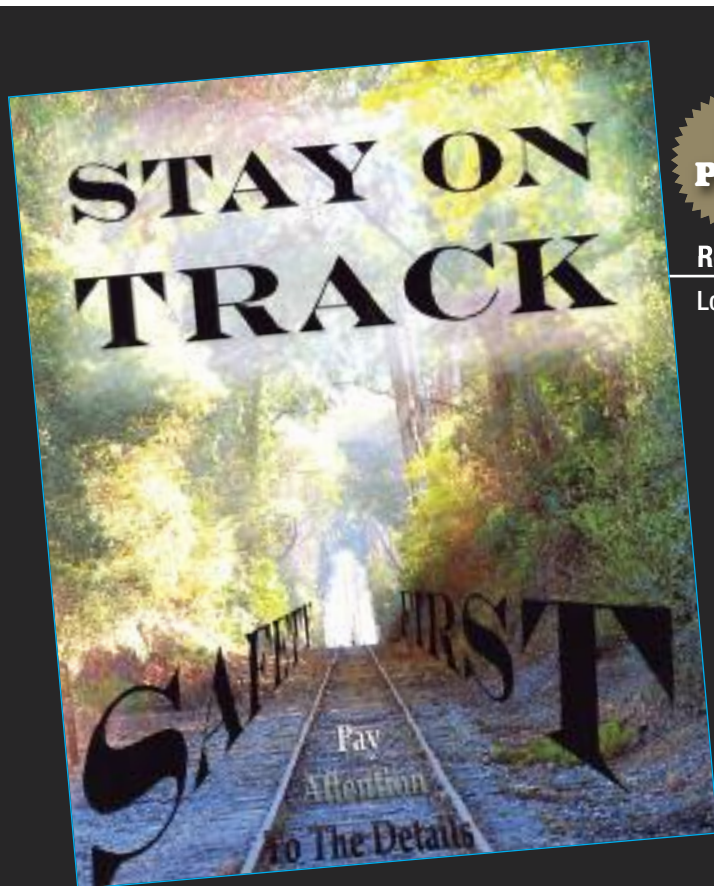
Born in Fremont, Neb., Harris was initiated into Kansas City, Mo., Local 53 in 1967. The journeyman lineman first began working with B&L Electric Co., spending the next decade performing outside line construction before transferring to Sedalia, Mo., Local 814 in 1982. Harris then worked for Missouri Public Service Co. for five years before his election as business manager of Local 814.

Brother Harris was appointed to the Eleventh District office by International President J.J. Barry in 1998 where he serviced utility and construction locals in Iowa and Missouri. Harris was also among the original members of the Missouri Public Service Commission's task force on electric utility restructuring, one of the groups that helped stop the deregulation of Missouri's utility industry in the 1990s. Harris also helped form and served as co-chair of Missourians for Affordable Reliable Electric Services, a statewide coalition aimed at protecting IBEW jobs by supporting industry regulation.

"In those days, discussing deregulation could be pretty combative at times," Harris said. "We had heavy opposition from some staunch supporters in the Republican party. But through the efforts of the Brotherhood and our allies in the state legislature, we were able to keep good-paying union jobs in place for working families."

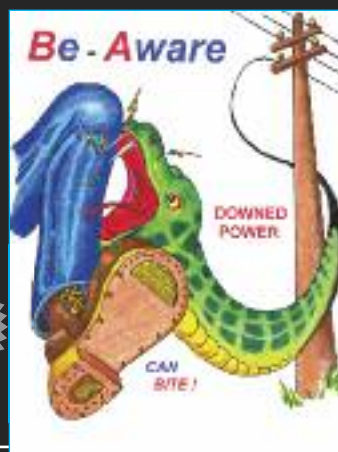
Harris is a member of Scottish Rite Masonic Lodge 548 in Kansas City, and he plans to stay politically active during his retirement. His family includes his wife, Judy, their two children and four grandchildren. Harris said he looks forward to spending more time doing woodworking, playing golf, fishing and hunting.

The staff, members and officers of the IBEW thank Brother Harris for his service and wish him a happy and fulfilling retirement. ■



1st Place

Robert Mettalia
Local 1245, Soquel, Calif.



2nd Place

Ken Cislo

Local 692, Midland, Mich.



3rd Place

Matt Schubauer

Local 824,
Sarasota, Fla.

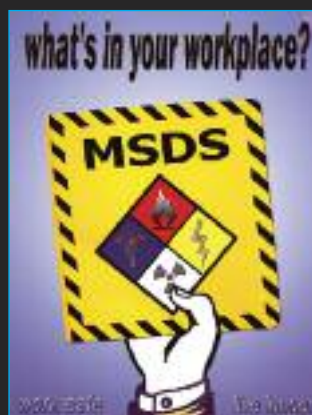
Honorable Mention

Jeff Reider

Local 595,
Stockton, Calif.

Kenneth J. Staples

Local 2, Cuba, Mo.



2008 SAFETY POSTER CONTEST WINNERS

IBEWHourPower.com

Your "IBEW TV Network" delivered online



IBEWHourPower.com is your source for news on the electrical industry, what your brothers and sisters are doing at locals around North America and much more. Hour Power helps you to stay on top of what's at the forefront of what you do for a living.

The issues that affect your trade, told from your point of view. It's all at your fingertips. Click on **IBEWHourPower.com** today to check it out.

ElectricTV.net is an online TV show for you, the building owners and contractors. Inside, you'll find in-depth interviews from industry leaders, profiles on projects and stories on the latest and greatest in the building industry.

ETV streams video right to your computer, letting you know what's what and giving you the tools to stay competitive in our changing marketplace. Let your fingers do the walking to **www.ElectricTV.net**.





North of 49°

IBEW Helps Spread Safety Message to High Schools

Students at more than 100 Ontario high schools had an opportunity to meet scores of employers and labour leaders at the fourth annual “Our Youth at Work Day”—an event highlighting workplace safety in industries that have a high percentage of young employees.

Students watched a DVD promoting on-the-job safety on April 18 and spoke with employers and labour leaders at same-day events in 50 cities in Ontario. More than 60 employers and representatives of 30 unions took part.

Members of Toronto Local 353 talked with students at Runnymede Collegiate Institute in Mississauga about the benefits of a career in the electrical industry and the pros of working for union contractors.

“The majority of serious accidents that happen on worksites occur to younger workers,” Local 353 President Barry Stevens said. Across Canada, about 170,000 students were reported hurt or injured on the job last year—the vast majority of whom worked for nonunion companies.

“A new job site can be an unfamiliar place, and young workers are still learning how to find their way,” Stevens said. “By

helping ensure their safety, we’re not only looking out for their current on-the-job experiences, but we’re also helping them lay a foundation for solid, safe and well-paying careers. The students really listen to the message that we’re spreading.”

First District International Representative Tom Reid answered questions at Runnymede and encouraged the students to stand up for their rights in the workplace and avoid dangerous job climates.

“The take-home message is: ‘Don’t put yourself in harm’s way,’” Reid said. “When I went into the work force, we were told, ‘Keep your head down, keep your mouth shut and do your work.’ We didn’t have a lot of protections. So we want to educate kids about the fact that they have rights, and there’s no need to do something that makes you feel uncomfortable or that you think could get you hurt.”

The event targeted students in grades 10 and 11—many of whom have work experience through after school jobs, summer construction employment or in other fields.

“Our Youth at Work Day” was started by Rob Ellis, a Toronto activist. In 1999, Ellis lost his 18-year-old son to an on-the-job accident the second day of his employment at a

nonunion cookie factory. Ellis has been a crusader for workplace safety ever since. In hosting the “Our Youth at Work Day” presentations, coordinating various workplace safety events in North America and publishing his blog, mysafework.com, Ellis hopes that no parent

will have to experience a similar loss.

Ellis said in the past four years, he has built up the annual program to put greater numbers of students in contact with safety-conscious groups like the IBEW. ■



First District International Representative Tom Reid, left, former Minister of Labour Brad Duguid, second from left, and safety activist Rob Ellis, center, talked with Ontario high school students at “Our Youth at Work Day.” Also pictured is My Safe Work Executive Administrator Nina Cooper, second from right.

Tom Reid, représentant international du Premier District, premier à gauche, Brad Duguid, ex-ministre du travail, deuxième à gauche et Rob Ellis, militant en faveur de la sécurité, au centre avec des étudiants d'écoles secondaires en Ontario lors de la journée spéciale *Nos jeunes au travail*. Aussi sur la photo, deuxième à droite, Nina Cooper, administratrice exécutive de “My safe work”.



Au nord du 49° parallèle

La FIOE aide à diffuser le message sur la sécurité au travail dans les écoles secondaires!

Les élèves de plus d’une centaine d’écoles secondaires ont eu l’opportunité de rencontrer un grand nombre d’employeurs et de dirigeants syndicaux lors de la quatrième édition de la journée *Nos jeunes au travail*, un événement visant à promouvoir la sécurité en milieu de travail dans les domaines affichant le plus haut pourcentage de jeunes travailleurs.

Le 18 avril dernier, dans quelque cinquante (50) villes de l’Ontario, les élèves ont écouté un vidéo véhiculant un message sur la santé et la sécurité en milieu de travail, puis ils ont eu l’occasion de discuter avec des employeurs et des dirigeants syndicaux. Des représentants de trente (30) syndicats et plus de soixante (60) employeurs ont participé à cet événement.

Lors de leur rencontre avec les étudiants de l’Institut collégial Runnymede à Mississauga, les membres de la S.L. 353 de Toronto ont informé les jeunes sur les avantages qu’offre une carrière dans le secteur de

l’électricité et sur les bénéfices qu’ils peuvent retirer en travaillant pour un entrepreneur syndiqué.

“La majorité des accidents graves survenus au travail touche les jeunes travailleurs” a déclaré le Président de la S.L. 353, Barry Stevens. Au Canada, au cours de la dernière année, près de 170,000 étudiants [à l’emploi de compagnies non syndiquées, pour la plupart] ont été blessés au travail.

“Lorsqu’ils arrivent sur un nouveau lieu de travail, les jeunes travailleurs, qui sont encore en période d’apprentissage, peuvent avoir l’impression de se retrouver en terrain inconnu. En plus de les sensibiliser à l’importance de la santé et de la sécurité à leur lieu de travail actuel, nous contribuons également à mettre les fondements en place pour la réalisation de futures carrières sérieuses, sécuritaires et bien rémunérées” a expliqué le confrère Stevens. “Les élèves ont été très attentifs au message qui leur était livré”.

Le représentant international Tom Reid

a répondu aux questions des étudiants de l’Institut collégial Runnymede et les a fortement encouragés à faire respecter leurs droits en milieu de travail et à éviter les climats de travail dangereux.

Évitez de mettre votre sécurité en péril! C’est le message que vous devez retenir! Le confrère Reid a raconté que lorsqu’il a commencé à travailler, il fallait garder la tête basse, se taire et exécuter le travail. “Nous n’avions pas beaucoup de protection à cette époque; alors nous croyons qu’il est important d’éduquer les jeunes et les informer de leurs droits; ils doivent savoir qu’ils n’ont pas à accomplir des tâches embarrassantes ou qui pourraient les exposer à des blessures”.

Cet événement ciblait les étudiants de 10e et de 11e année, parmi lesquels se trouvent plusieurs jeunes qui travaillent à temps partiel après les heures de classe, ou qui occupent un emploi d’été dans la construction ou dans d’autres secteurs.

Cette initiative (*Nos jeunes au travail*)

a été mise en œuvre par Rob Ellis, un blogueur et un militant de Toronto. En 1999, le fils de Rob Ellis est décédé à la suite d’un accident de travail. Il était âgé de 18 ans et en était à sa deuxième journée de travail dans une usine non syndiquée, de fabrication de biscuits. Depuis ce jour, Rob Ellis poursuit sa campagne afin de promouvoir la sécurité en milieu de travail. Il a agi comme animateur pour les présentations faites au cours de cette journée; a été coordonnateur de divers événements en Amérique du Nord, visant le même objectif; a publié son blog, mysafework.com. Il espère qu’aucun parent n’aura à vivre un drame pareil.

Lors de son instauration en 2005, cette initiative a rejoint les étudiants de six écoles secondaires régionales. Au cours des quatre dernières années, Ellis a développé le programme annuel afin de permettre à un plus grand nombre d’étudiants de rencontrer des groupes soucieux de la santé et de la sécurité au travail, notamment la FIOE. ■

Report of Independent Auditors

To the International Executive Council of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

We have audited the accompanying consolidated statements of financial position of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and subsidiaries (collectively the "International Union") as of June 30, 2008 and 2007, and the related consolidated statements of activities and of cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the International Union's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the International Union's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the International Union's management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and subsidiaries as of June 30, 2008 and 2007, and the consolidated changes in their net assets and their consolidated cash flows for the years then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Washington, DC
September 2, 2008

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and Subsidiaries Consolidated Statements of Financial Position

JUNE 30, 2008 AND 2007

Assets	2008			2007
	Unappropriated	Appropriated	Total	Total
Cash and cash equivalents	\$2,662,696	\$ -	\$2,662,696	\$3,289,000
Receivables				
Loans and advances to chartered bodies	3,247,325	-	3,247,325	4,339,733
Per capita tax receivable	9,449,294	-	9,449,294	7,526,391
Due from Trust for the IBEW Pension Benefit Fund	1,622,681	-	1,622,681	3,095,230
Accrued interest and dividends	897,130	-	897,130	1,382,428
Security sales pending settlement	2,959,076	-	2,959,076	9,179,490
Other	1,055,864	-	1,055,864	633,757
Total receivables	19,231,370	-	19,231,370	26,157,029
Investments—at fair value	243,936,014	144,885,210	388,821,224	442,491,548
Amounts held in escrow for tenant improvements	-	-	-	5,045,819
Unbilled rent receivable	3,726,436	-	3,726,436	2,212,318
Cash collateral held for securities on loan	12,863,763	-	12,863,763	22,160,851
Property and equipment—at cost				
Land, building and improvements	130,020,910	-	130,020,910	126,971,947
Furniture and equipment	43,729,023	-	43,729,023	42,629,931
	173,749,933	-	173,749,933	169,601,878
Accumulated depreciation	(22,677,545)	-	(22,677,545)	(17,071,342)
Net property and equipment	151,072,388	-	151,072,388	152,530,536
Other assets				
Deferred leasing, organization and financing costs (net of amortization)	4,060,884	-	4,060,884	3,696,756
Prepaid expenses	493,544	-	493,544	781,541
Inventory of merchandise and office supplies, at cost	1,496,570	-	1,496,570	1,350,760
Deposits	8,000	-	8,000	56,116
Excess of pension plan assets over projected benefit obligation	-	-	-	17,928,109
Other	1,008,190	-	1,008,190	945,924
Total other assets	7,067,188	-	7,067,188	24,759,206
Total assets	\$440,559,855	\$144,885,210	\$585,445,065	\$678,646,307

Liabilities and Net Assets	2008			2007
	Unappropriated	Appropriated	Total	Total
Liabilities				
Accounts payable	\$4,052,728	\$ -	\$4,052,728	\$3,727,324
Payroll deductions	-	-	-	1,238
Excess of projected benefit obligation over pension plan assets	27,030,223	-	27,030,223	-
Liability for postretirement benefits	-	144,885,210	144,885,210	161,556,169
Security purchases pending settlement	3,274,852	-	3,274,852	30,496,239
Deferred per capita tax revenue	5,422,869	-	5,422,869	4,927,954
Liability to return cash collateral held for securities on loan	12,863,763	-	12,863,763	22,160,851
Mortgage loan payable	71,934,849	-	71,934,849	74,165,602
Other	1,031,901	-	1,031,901	938,963
Total liabilities	125,611,185	144,885,210	270,496,395	297,974,340
Unrestricted net assets	314,948,670	-	314,948,670	380,671,967
Total liabilities and net assets	\$440,559,855	\$144,885,210	\$585,445,065	\$678,646,307

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and Subsidiaries Consolidated Statements of Activities

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2008 AND 2007

	2008			2007
	Unappropriated	Appropriated	Total	Total
Operating revenue				
Per capita tax	\$90,861,889	\$ -	\$90,861,889	\$85,145,198
Initiation and reinstatement fees	1,669,703	-	1,669,703	1,441,089
Rental income, net	12,333,648	-	12,333,648	8,401,217
Sales of supplies	1,072,131	-	1,072,131	1,031,466
Other income	2,689,918	-	2,689,918	3,882,669
Total operating revenue	108,627,289	-	108,627,289	99,901,639
Program services expenses				
Field services and programs	76,772,202	10,184,240	86,956,442	83,590,541
IBEW Journal and media relations	6,378,342	251,536	6,629,878	4,599,151
Industry trade program	10,275,815	1,330,509	11,606,324	11,249,240
Per capita tax expense	8,165,451	-	8,165,451	7,390,202
Legal defense	2,359,848	-	2,359,848	2,748,823
Total program services	103,951,658	11,766,285	115,717,943	109,577,957
Supporting services expenses				
Governance and oversight	6,043,556	747,287	6,790,843	6,368,340
General administration	7,053,579	1,302,123	8,355,702	9,156,727
Total supporting services	13,097,135	2,049,410	15,146,545	15,525,067
Total operating expenses	117,048,793	13,815,695	130,864,488	125,103,024
Change in net assets from operations before investment and other income	(8,421,504)	(13,815,695)	(22,237,199)	(25,201,385)
Investment income (loss)				
Interest and dividends	11,391,953	-	11,391,953	13,717,669
Net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments	(30,397,340)	-	(30,397,340)	35,278,136
Guaranteed payout	-	-	-	-
Investment expenses	(1,141,065)	-	(1,141,065)	(1,435,716)
Net investment income (loss)	(20,146,452)	-	(20,146,452)	47,560,089
Other income (expense)				
Convention expense	-	-	-	(16,305,024)
Gain (loss) on sale of property and equipment	(37,450)	-	(37,450)	3,468
Currency translation adjustment	3,444,484	-	3,444,484	1,614,228
Total other income (expense)	3,407,034	-	3,407,034	(14,687,328)
Change in net assets before adoption of FASB Statement No. 158 and pension-related and post-retirement benefit charges other than net periodic benefits costs	(25,160,922)	(13,815,695)	(38,976,617)	7,671,376
Defined benefit-related charges other than net periodic benefits costs				
Pension benefits	(51,642,732)	-	(51,642,732)	-
Postretirement health care benefits	-	24,896,052	24,896,052	-
Effect of adoption of FASB Statement No. 158	-	-	-	(16,815,161)
Change in net assets	(76,803,654)	11,080,357	(65,723,297)	(9,143,785)

Unrestricted net assets at beginning of year	380,671,967	-	380,671,967	389,815,752
Appropriation for postretirement benefit costs	11,080,357	(11,080,357)	-	-
Unrestricted net assets at end of year	\$314,948,670	\$-	\$314,948,670	\$380,671,967

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and Subsidiaries Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2008 AND 2007

	2008	2007
Cash flows from operating activities		
Cash flows from		
Affiliated chartered bodies	\$92,175,735	\$86,411,023
Interest and dividends	11,877,251	13,872,195
Rental income	10,819,530	7,280,084
Participant contributions collected on behalf of PBF	47,835,309	44,620,721
Reimbursement of administrative expenses from PBF	800,000	1,680,000
Other	2,267,811	5,023,211
Cash provided by operations	165,775,636	158,887,234
Cash paid for		
Salaries, payroll taxes, and employee benefits	(75,214,460)	(67,409,176)
Service providers, vendors and others	(37,964,633)	(51,910,777)
Participant contributions remitted to PBF	(44,662,760)	(46,318,212)
Per capita tax	(8,165,451)	(7,390,202)
Interest	(4,230,494)	(4,230,494)
Cash used for operations	(170,237,798)	(177,258,861)
Net cash used for operating activities	(4,462,162)	(18,371,627)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Loans and advances made to chartered bodies	-	(25,064)
Repayments on loans and advances made to chartered bodies	1,092,408	1,757,645
Purchase of property and equipment	(5,033,645)	(7,853,744)
Leasing commissions paid	(833,497)	-
Purchase of investments	(394,018,281)	(652,525,280)
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment	79,031	46,766
Proceeds from sale of investments	401,459,377	649,023,297
Cash held in escrow for tenant improvements	5,045,819	4,105,470
Net short-term cash investment transactions	(5,169,085)	26,779,072
Net cash provided by investing activities	2,622,127	21,308,162
Cash flows from financing activities		
Payments on mortgages and other notes	(2,230,753)	(2,108,910)
Net cash used for financing activities	(2,230,753)	(2,108,910)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash	3,444,484	1,614,228
Net increase (decrease) in cash	(626,304)	2,441,853
Cash and cash equivalents		
Beginning of year	3,289,000	847,147
End of year	\$2,662,696	\$3,289,000
Reconciliation of change in net assets to net cash used for operating activities		
Change in net assets	(\$65,723,297)	(\$9,143,785)
Noncash charges (credits) included in income		
Depreciation and amortization	6,985,801	6,490,040
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	30,397,340	(35,278,136)
Gain on sale of property and equipment	37,450	(3,468)
Currency translation adjustment	(3,444,484)	(1,614,228)
Changes in accruals of operating assets and liabilities		
Receivables	(387,163)	(2,320,998)
Unbilled rent receivable	(1,514,118)	(1,121,133)
Other assets	128,037	(374,581)
Excess or deficiency of pension plan assets over projected benefit obligation	44,958,332	(19,417,929)
Accounts payable	184,284	157,691
Accrued net periodic pension cost/prepaid pension cost		
Accrued postretirement benefit cost	(16,670,959)	44,056,267
Deferred revenue	494,915	(108,155)
Payroll deductions and other liabilities	91,700	306,788
Net cash used for operating activities	(\$4,462,162)	(\$18,371,627)

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and Subsidiaries Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2008 AND 2007

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Nature of Operations—The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers is an international labor union established to organize all workers for the moral, economic and social advancement of their condition and status. The significant portion of the International Union's revenue comes from per capita taxes of members paid by the local unions.

Basis of Presentation—The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, its wholly-owned subsidiary, Headquarters Holding Company, Inc., and the IBEW Headquarters Building LLC, of which the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers owns 99%. Headquarters Holding Company, Inc. held title to real estate that was sold during 2004. Headquarters Holding Company, Inc. had no activity during the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007. The IBEW Headquarters Building LLC also holds title to real estate, an office building that was acquired in June 2004, which beginning late-January 2005 serves as the new headquarters for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. All inter-organization accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. The International Union maintains an appropriated fund designation for internal tracking of postretirement benefits.

Method of Accounting—The financial statements have been prepared using the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Investments—Generally, investments are carried at fair value. Changes in fair value of investments are recognized as unrealized gains and losses. For the purpose of recording realized gains or losses the average cost method is used. Purchases and sales are recorded on a trade-date basis. The purchases and sales pending settlement are recorded as either assets or liabilities in the consolidated statement of financial position. Pending sales represent amounts due from brokers while pending purchases represent amounts due to brokers for trades not settled. All pending transactions at June 30, 2008 and 2007 settled in July 2008 and July 2007, respectively.

Property and Equipment—Building, improvements, furniture and equipment are carried at cost. Major additions are capitalized. Replacements, maintenance and repairs which do not improve or extend the lives of the respective assets are expensed currently. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the related assets, which are as follows:

Building and improvements	10-40 years
Tenant improvements	Life of respective lease
Furniture and equipment	2-10 years

Accounts Receivable—Trade accounts receivable are reported net of an allowance for expected losses. Based on management's evaluation of receivables, the allowance account has a zero balance at June 30, 2008 and 2007.

Inventory—The International Union maintains an inventory of supplies for use and for resale to local unions and individual members. Inventory is stated at average inventory cost which approximates the selling price of items held.

Canadian Exchange—The International Union maintains assets and liabilities in Canada as well as the United States. It is the intent of the International Union to receive and expend Canadian dollars in Canada and not, on a regular basis, convert them to U.S. dollars. For financial statement purposes all assets and liabilities are expressed in U.S. dollar equivalents.

Canadian dollars included in the consolidated statement of financial position are translated at the appropriate year-end exchange rates. Canadian dollars included in the consolidated statement of activities are translated at the average exchange rates for the year. Unrealized increases and decreases due to fluctuations in exchange rates are included in "Currency translation adjustment" in the consolidated statement of activities.

Statement of Cash Flows—For purposes of the consolidated statement of cash flows, cash is considered to be amounts on hand and in demand deposit bank accounts subject to immediate withdrawal. Certain amounts previously reported for 2007 have been reclassified to conform with the 2008 presentation.

Estimates—The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Note 2. Tax Status

The Internal Revenue Service has advised that the International Union qualifies under Section 501(c)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code and is, therefore, not subject to tax under present income tax laws. Headquarters Holding Company, Inc. and IBEW Headquarters Building, LLC are not taxpaying entities for federal income tax purposes, and thus no income tax expense or deferred tax asset has been reported in the financial statements. Income of the Companies is taxed to the members in their respective returns.

Note 3. Investments

The following methods and assumptions were used to estimate the fair value of each class of financial instruments which are listed below. For short-term cash investments, the cost approximates fair value because of the short maturity of the investments. Generally, government and government agency obligations, corporate bonds and notes, stocks, the AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust, and mutual funds fair values are estimated using quoted market prices. For mortgage loans, the fair value is determined based on the discounted present value of future cash flows using the current quoted yields of similar securities.

June 30, 2008

	Cost	Fair Value	Fair Value of Securities on Loan	Net Fair Value of Securities on Hand
Short-term cash investments	\$18,302,396	\$18,302,396	\$ -	\$18,302,396
Government and government agency obligations	20,304,421	21,514,511	-	21,514,511
Corporate bonds and notes	108,638,659	113,506,068	103,709	113,402,359
Stocks	173,419,631	178,371,628	12,241,404	166,130,224
Mortgage loans	44,168,546	44,168,546	-	44,168,546
Mutual funds	350,273	358,189	-	358,189
AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust	13,437,203	12,599,886	-	12,599,886
	\$378,621,129	\$388,821,224	\$12,345,113	\$376,476,111

June 30, 2007

	Cost	Fair Value	Fair Value of Securities on Loan	Net Fair Value of Securities on Hand
Short-term cash investments	\$12,999,000	\$12,999,000	\$ -	\$12,999,000
Government and government agency obligations	43,060,107	43,934,743	9,346,305	34,588,438
Corporate bonds and notes	115,114,635	118,400,119	1,661,028	116,739,091
Stocks	173,240,669	210,153,687	16,536,256	193,617,431
Mortgage loans	44,797,697	44,797,697	-	44,797,697
Mutual funds	396,852	436,454	-	436,454
AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust	12,821,984	11,769,848	-	11,769,848
	\$402,430,944	\$442,491,548	\$27,543,589	\$414,947,959

Due to the lack of a quoted market price, the capital stock of Union Labor Life Insurance Company (ULLICO) included in the stocks category and the State of Israel bond included in the government and government agency obligations category are carried at cost. The ULLICO stock is valued at a cost of \$14,323,500 at both June 30, 2008 and 2007, and the State of Israel bond at a cost of \$2,000,000 at both June 30, 2008 and 2007.

Note 4. Securities Lending Program

The International Union has entered into an agreement with the bank that acts as custodian for the International Union's investments which authorizes the bank to lend securities held in the International Union's accounts to third parties.

The International Union receives 70% of the net revenue derived from the securities lending activities, and the bank receives the remainder of the net revenue. "Interest" reported in the consolidated statements of activities includes \$109,823 and \$102,629 earned by the International Union during the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively, in connection with the securities lending program.

Under this program, the bank must obtain collateral from the borrower in the form of cash, letters of credit issued by an entity other than the borrower, or acceptable securities. Both the collateral and the securities loaned are marked-to-market on a daily basis so that all loaned securities are fully collateralized at all times. In the event that the loaned securities are not returned by the borrower, the bank will, at its own expense, either replace the loaned securities or, if unable to purchase those securities on the open market, credit the International Union's accounts with cash equal to the fair value of the loaned securities.

The International Union's securities lending activities are collateralized as described above, and the terms of the securities lending agreement with the custodial bank require the bank to comply with government rules and regulations related to the lending of securities; however, the securities lending program involves both market and credit risk. In this context, market risk refers to the possibility that the borrower of securities will be unable to collateralize the loan upon a sudden material change in the fair value of the loaned securities or the collateral, or that the bank's investment of cash collateral received from the borrowers of the International Union's securities may be subject to unfavorable market fluctuations. Credit risk refers to the possibility that counterparties involved in the securities lending program may fail to perform in accordance with the terms of their contracts. To date, the International Union has experienced no losses in connection with the securities lending program. At June 30, 2008 and 2007, the fair value of the collateral held was as follows:

	2008	2007
Cash	\$12,863,763	\$22,160,851
Securities	20,901	6,353,703
Total	\$12,884,664	\$28,514,554

The fair value of securities loaned was \$12,345,113 and \$27,543,589, respectively. In accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 140 the value of the cash collateral held and a corresponding liability to return the collateral have been reported in the accompanying statements of financial position.

Note 5. Pension Plans

The International Union maintains two defined benefit pension plans to cover all of its employees. There are no employee contributions and all employer contributions to the plans are based on actuarial costs as calculated by the actuary. The actuarial valuations are based on the projected benefit method with aggregate level normal cost and frozen initial liability.

During the year ended June 30, 2007, the International Union adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 158, Employers' Accounting for Defined Benefit Pension and Other Postretirement Plans (SFAS 158), which requires an employer to recognize the overfunded or underfunded status of a defined benefit postretirement plan as an asset or liability in its statement of financial position and in changes in unrestricted net assets. This adoption resulted in an increase in net assets of approximately \$16.3 million related to the defined benefit pension plans.

The annual measurement date is June 30. The net periodic pension cost for the plans for the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007 is summarized as follows:

	2008	2007
Service cost	\$9,220,901	\$8,506,326
Interest cost	16,918,458	15,622,454
Expected return on plan assets	(20,278,354)	(17,783,919)
Net amortization and deferral	2,444,157	2,444,157
Net periodic pension cost	\$8,305,162	\$8,789,018

Included in net periodic pension cost for 2008 is \$2,444,157 representing the amortization of amounts previously recognized as changes in unrestricted net assets but not included in net periodic pension cost when they arose. The amount expected to be amortized into net periodic pension cost for 2009 is also \$2,444,157. Total amounts recognized as changes in unrestricted net assets separate from expenses and reported in the statement of activities as pension-related changes other than net periodic pension cost for the year ended June 30, 2008 are as follows:

Net actuarial loss	\$(54,086,889)
Amortization of prior service cost	2,444,157
	<u>\$(51,642,732)</u>

Amounts that have not yet been recognized as components of net periodic pension cost as of June 30, 2008 consist of the following:

Net actuarial loss	\$29,705,575
Net prior service cost	5,600,073
	<u>\$35,305,648</u>

The net periodic pension cost is based on the following weighted-average assumptions at the beginning of the year:

	2008	2007
Discount rate	6.00%	6.00%
Average rate of compensation increase	5.00%	5.00%
Expected long-term rate of return on plan assets	7.00%	7.00%

The plans' obligations and funded status as of June 30, 2008 and 2007 are summarized as follows:

	2008	2007
Accumulated benefit obligation	\$275,832,497	\$265,543,285
Fair value of plan assets	\$281,083,467	\$302,431,128
Projected benefit obligation	308,113,690	284,503,019
Excess (deficiency) of plan assets over projected benefit obligation	<u>\$(27,030,223)</u>	<u>\$17,928,109</u>

Benefit obligations are based on the following weighted average assumptions at the end of the year:

	2008	2007
Discount rate	6.00%	6.00%
Average rate of compensation increase	5.00%	5.00%

Employer contributions and benefit payments for the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007 were as follows:

	2008	2007
Employer contributions	\$14,995,734	\$11,863,691
Benefit payments	19,737,426	18,851,603

Total expected employer contributions for the year ending June 30, 2009 are \$14.7 million. Total expected benefit payments for the next 10 fiscal years are as follows:

Year Ending June 30, 2009	\$19,627,902
2010	19,914,643
2011	20,232,014
2012	20,579,015
2013	21,004,283
Years 2014 – 2018	115,486,297

The expected long-term rate of return on plan assets of 7% reflects the average rate of earnings expected on plan assets invested or to be invested to provide for the benefits included in the benefit obligations. The assumption has been determined by reflecting expectations regarding future rates of return for plan investments, with consideration given to the distribution of investments by asset class and historical rates of return for each individual asset class.

Total pension plan weighted-average asset allocations at June 30, 2008 and 2007, by asset category, are as follows:

Asset category	2008	2007
Cash and cash equivalents	6%	6%
Equity securities	67%	68%
Debt securities	21%	21%
Real estate	6%	5%
	100%	100%

The plans' investment strategies are based on an expectation that equity securities will outperform debt securities over the long term, and that the plans should maximize investment return while minimizing investment risk through appropriate portfolio diversification. All investments are actively managed by a diversified group of professional investment managers, whose performance is routinely evaluated by a professional investment consultant. Target allocation percentages are 60% for equities, 25% for fixed income securities, 10% for real estate, and 5% for other investments (principally limited partnerships).

The International Union also contributes to a multiemployer defined benefit plan on behalf of its employees. Contributions to this plan were \$774,937 and \$717,073 for the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

Note 6. Postretirement Benefits

In addition to providing pension benefits, the International Union provides certain health care, life insurance and legal benefits for substantially all employees who reach normal retirement age while working for the International Union.

During the year ended June 30, 2007, the International Union adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 158, *Employers' Accounting for Defined Benefit Pension and Other Postretirement Plans* (SFAS 158), which requires an employer to recognize the overfunded or underfunded status of a defined benefit postretirement plan as an asset or liability in its statement of financial position and in changes in unrestricted net assets. This adoption resulted in a decrease in net assets of approximately \$33 million related to the postretirement benefit plan.

Postretirement benefit costs for the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007 include the following components:

	2008	2007
Service cost	\$5,453,248	\$5,276,579
Interest cost	8,362,447	9,319,383
Amortization of accumulated loss (gain)	-	1,788,694
Total postretirement benefit cost	\$13,815,695	\$16,384,656

The accumulated postretirement benefit obligation and funded status at June 30, 2008 and 2007 are as follows:

	2008	2007
Postretirement benefit obligation	\$144,885,210	\$161,556,169
Fair value of plan assets	-	-
Excess of postretirement benefit obligation over plan assets	\$144,885,210	\$161,556,169

The above postretirement benefit cost does not represent the actual amount paid (net of estimated Medicare Part D subsidies) of \$5,702,692 and \$5,261,747 for the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. The net actuarial loss that will be amortized from unrestricted net assets into net periodic benefit cost during 2009 is \$8,149,396.

Weighted-average assumptions used to determine net postretirement benefit cost at beginning of year:

	2008	2007
Discount rate	6.00%	5.50%
Average rate of compensation increase	5.00%	5.00%

Weighted-average assumptions used to determine benefit obligations at end of year:

	2008	2007
Discount rate	6.00%	6.00%
Average rate of compensation increase	5.00%	5.00%

The assumed health care cost trend rates used to measure the expected cost of benefits for the year ended June 30, 2008, were assumed to increase by 10% for medical, 9% for drugs, 9% for Medicare Part D subsidy, 5% for dental/vision, 6% for Medicare Part B premiums, and 3% for legal costs. Thereafter, rates for increases in medical, drug costs and the Medicare Part D subsidy were assumed to gradually decrease until they reach 5% in 2023.

Total expected benefit payments, net of Medicare Part D subsidies, for the next 10 fiscal years are as follows:

Year Ending June 30, 2009	\$6,053,073
2010	6,509,830
2011	6,952,920
2012	7,395,804
2013	7,967,116
Years 2014—2018	49,172,100

The International Union appropriated investments of \$144,885,210 at June 30, 2008 to pay for future postretirement benefit costs.

Note 7. Mortgages Payable

The IBEW Headquarters Building LLC (the "Company") has two mortgages payable, \$40 million to Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company and \$40 million to New York Life Insurance Company, secured by substantially all of the Company's assets. The mortgage loans bear interest at an annual rate of 5.63% and are payable in monthly installments of principal and interest totaling \$529,108, and mature on July 1, 2019, at which time the remaining principal and interest amounts of \$37,191,698 are due in full. Future minimum payments on the mortgage obligations are due as follows:

Year Ending June 30, 2009	\$6,349,296
2010	6,349,296
2011	6,349,296
2012	6,349,296
2013	6,349,296
Thereafter	75,287,496
	107,033,976
Less interest portion	(35,099,127)
	\$71,934,849

Note 8. Royalty Income

The International Union has entered into a multi-year License Agreement and a List Use Agreement with the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) under which the AFL-CIO has obtained rights to use certain intangible property belonging to the International Union, including the rights to use the name, logo, trademarks and membership lists of the International Union, in exchange for specified royalty payments to be paid to the International Union by the AFL-CIO. In turn, the AFL-CIO has sub-licensed the rights to use the International Union intangible property to Household Bank Nevada, N.A., for use by the bank in connection with its marketing of credit card and certain other financial products to members of the International Union. These agreements commenced on March 1, 1997.

For the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007 the International Union recognized as revenue \$1,497,401 and \$1,919,591, respectively.

Note 9. Functional Expenses

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 117, *Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Organizations* (Statement No. 117). Statement No. 117 establishes standards for general purpose, external financial statements of financial position, activities and cash flows. It requires that the International Union's net assets and its revenues, expenses, gains and losses be classified between unrestricted, temporarily restricted, and permanently restricted based on the existence or absence of donor imposed restrictions. For the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007 all of the net assets and activities of the International Union were classified as unrestricted due to the nonexistence of donor imposed restrictions. Statement 117 also requires that the International Union expenses be classified on a functional basis, that is, expenses broken down into classifications that reflect the purpose (or function) of the major services and activities conducted by the International Union.

Note 10. Litigation

The International Union is a party to a number of routine lawsuits, some involving substantial amounts. In all of the cases, the complaint is filed for damages against the International Union and one or more of its affiliated local unions. The General Counsel is of the opinion that these cases should be resolved without a material adverse effect on the financial condition of the International Union.

Note 11. Related Party Transactions

The IBEW provides certain administrative services to the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers' Pension Benefit Fund (Fund), for which the International Union is reimbursed. These services include salaries and benefits, rent, computer systems, and other administrative services. The amount reimbursed totaled \$2,650,000 and \$2,500,000, for the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

In addition, the International Union collects and remits contributions received on behalf of the Fund from members.

The International Union also pays administrative services on behalf of the Pension Plan for the International Officers, Representatives and Assistants of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and the Pension Plan for Office Employees of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. The administrative services include auditing, legal and actuarial services. The costs of the administrative services are not readily determinable.

Note 12. Operating Leases

The International Union, through its wholly-owned subsidiary IBEW Headquarters Building, LLC, has entered into agreements to lease space in its building. These leases, which expire at various dates through 2025, contain renewal options. Future minimum rental payments, excluding the lease payments due from the International Union, due under these agreements over the next five fiscal years are as follows:

Year Ending June 30, 2009	\$ 8,575,736
2010	9,010,454
2011	9,234,940
2012	9,263,797
2013	8,874,637

Local Lines

Labor Day in St. Louis

L.U. 1 (as,c,ees,ei,em,es,et,fm,i,mt,rts,s,se,spa,st&ws), ST. LOUIS, MO—The annual Labor Day parade, hosted by the St. Louis Building Trades Council, was again a success. Local 1 was well-represented among the building trades unions and other unions that marched. After parade festivities ended, the IBEW locals in St. Louis gathered at Wilmore Park in South St. Louis for an afternoon of celebration. Locals 1, 2, 4, 1439 and 1455 came together for a barbecue, children's activities, good conversation and a relaxing atmosphere. Over 300 members and family members attended. Thanks to everyone involved for a successful event.

The remainder of the year will be extremely busy. Elections are wrapping up, Thanksgiving is just around the corner, and Christmas will soon be here. It is easy to get strapped for time. Please remember how important it remains to stay involved with union issues, attend meetings, volunteer your time, and be a strong voice for issues facing our membership. From all Local 1 officers, have a happy holiday season!

We mourn the following members' deaths: Roman J. Tylka Sr., Joseph A. Hodai, Edward G. Burns, Robert L. Elliott, George M. Ivancic, Steven H. Button and Don Carroll.

Matt Gober, P.S.

Exelon Negotiations

L.U. 15 (u), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—At this writing, Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dean Apple and Vice Pres. Terry McGoldrick are in contract, health care and pension negotiations with Exelon. Talks are progressing well, although they are at a slow but steady pace, heading toward the expiration date of Sept. 30, 2008.

Our union and Midwest Generation LLC finally ended a seven-year struggle over the company's unlawful lockout actions in 2001. The case



Local 15 members shown in front of one of the trucks they drove in the Rockford Labor Day parade are: Tom Lehrke, Pete Singh, Henry Alonso and Amy Hanners.

began in the regional NLRB office, went through the federal court system and was ultimately appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, which refused to hear the case, thus upholding the earlier Seventh District Circuit Court's ruling that the lockout was illegal. The settlement amounted to \$15.5 million to be distributed to affected members.

The Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals recently upheld the union's victory in the federal district court ruling that Local 15 has the right, per our contractual language, to arbitrate the decision by Exelon to change medical coverage and premiums for retirees. We are not sure whether the company will appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Our local sent 21 overhead crew leaders, 24 overhead electricians, four fleet mechanics and a construction order clerk to Baton Rouge, LA, to assist in restoration efforts after Hurricane Gustav.

Ronald V. Welte, P.S.

Negotiations Under Way

L.U. 29 (u), PITTSBURGH, PA—Changes abound at Local 29. Third District Int. Rep. Michael Welsh performed the swearing in of officers at the July 9 meeting. Then it was back to business as usual. Representing four companies, First Energy, Reliant, Duquesne Light and Port Authority of Allegheny County (clerical), keeps Bus. Mgr. Jeff Davis and Pres. Jim Britsch extremely busy.

Negotiations with First Energy are now under way. Good luck to the negotiating team. A neighborhood "get out and vote" walk was spearheaded by Rich Luczko, Jim Depoe and Joe Kovac. Rich, Jim and Joe represent the true spirit of volunteerism and dedication. Thanks, guys.

The very popular golf outing was held in June. It's hard to tell for sure who showed up to golf and who showed up just for the fun. Visit our Web site at www.ibew29.org. Check out the golf outing and see if you can make that determination.

It was a beautiful day for the annual Labor Day parade and picnic. Parade T-shirts and hats were given to all who attended.

Kim Washburn, R.S.

Members Repair Hydro Plant

L.U. 37 (em,o&u), FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA—Earlier this year, NB Power's Grand Falls Hydro Generating Station was severely damaged when the St. John River overflowed its banks during the spring freshet. A small group of workers worked through the night at the station trying to keep the flood waters out, but in spite of their efforts, the river rose to such a great height that the turbine hall was completely flooded and the switchyard was submerged, causing severe damage to the station.

Since then, Local 37 members from NB Power Generation and Transmission have been working, along with members of IBEW Local 2166 and other members of the building trades, to repair and rebuild the station, with approximately 150 people working on the project.

To recognize the hard work of the IBEW members and everyone else involved in this massive repair job, Local 37 and NB Power recently worked together to hold a special appreciation barbeque for everyone working on the site, in order to thank them for all their efforts to restore the station and get it back on line.

Ross Galbraith, B.M.

Years-of-Service Awards

L.U. 51 (catv,lctt,o,rrb,t&u), SPRINGFIELD, IL—Congratulations to Bros. Robert Grabowski, a 65-year member, and 60-year members Ed Buerger and Harold Thomas on receiving years-of-service awards. All three are retired members of the Decatur unit. Bro. Jon King presented the awards at a recent union meeting in Decatur. Bro. Buerger, a longtime union steward on the Decatur IP dock, spoke about what the IBEW has meant to him and the importance of involvement in our Brotherhood. All attending were reminded that the wages, benefits and working conditions we enjoy today were made possible by members who came before us, and that we must make sure future members have the same opportunities.

Local 51 members from the Bloomington and Construction units marched in the Labor Day parades at Bloomington and Decatur. Local 51 thanks members and their families who participated.

Regarding our Construction manpower needs, please visit the Jobs Board at www.ibew.org or contact the Local 51 office. As of this writing, we are in need of journeyman linemen.

Hopefully by the time you read this, a president and congressional members will have been elected who will put the needs of American workers and their families above special interest groups so our great country can start to recover from the last eight years of decline. Attend your union meetings.

Dan Pridemore, Pres.

Tree Jamboree Champ



Salt Lake City IBEW Local 57 tree trimmer Matt Erkelens won the Utah Chapter Tree Jamboree.

L.U. 57 (lctt,mo,o,t&u), SALT LAKE CITY, UT—On May 10, tree trimmer Matt Erkelens won the Utah Chapter of the Tree Jamboree. Competing against 18 other tree trimmer members, Matt finished first in the following events: work climb, speed climb foot lock, throw line and aerial rescue. Bro. Erkelens first heard of the competition

on May 8 and then won the competition just two days later. He advanced to the International Tree Jamboree held in July, where he competed with challengers from all over the world. Matt has worked for Trees Inc. for five years, and the Utah Chapter event was his first jamboree. Congratulations on your successes, Matt.

Local 57's Lineman Rodeo was held June 7 in Salt Lake City. A longtime tradition was retired at the beginning of the event. Utah State AFL-CIO Pres. Ed Mayne had, for many years, started the rodeo by the firing of a shotgun. Pres. Mayne passed away last year, and in his honor, Local 57 Bus.Mgr. Byron Nielsen fired the opening shotgun and then retired the tradition. Karen Mayne, Ed's widow, was present and thanked Local 57 for the friendship and support through the years.

Deanna Gill, P.S.

Work Picture Slow

L.U. 99 (govt&i), PROVIDENCE, RI—Work in the area remains slow, with several big projects wrapping up. The FM Global project and ongoing work at Rhode Island Hospital will bring some relief, but with this stagnant economy it will be a while before things pick up again.

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	

Local 99 recently held its election of officers. Our elected officers are: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Allen P. Durand, Pres./Organizer John P. Shalvey, Vice Pres. Robert Lowe, and Rec. Sec. John DiBiase. Elected to the Executive Board are: Thomas Campbell, Mike D'Amico, Lou DiNobile, Peter Furlong, James Harrington, Mauricio Merida and Paul Stromberg. Elected to the Examining Board are: Kevin Curran, Derek Ferbert, John Hoppe, Eric Munson and Salvadore Masi. Assistant business managers are: Ronald Leddy and James Anderson.

We wish everyone a happy holiday season.

Stephen P. Callaghan, P.S.

In Labor's Voice

L.U. 103 (cs&i), BOSTON, MA—Sen. John Kerry joined Boston Mayor Thomas Menino at the annual Labor Day breakfast for the state AFL-CIO. At this meeting, the AFL CIO endorsed the Democratic candidate for president, Barack Obama. Speakers stressed the importance of making every person's voice heard in the critical November presidential election. The working class needs elected leaders who support labor and working people and their families.

The annual Labor Day Family Outing was held Aug. 31 at the hall. Over 350 members and their families attended and enjoyed food, fun and activities for kids and adults including a moonwalk, face painting, raffles, balloon animals and more.

Local 103 also sponsored Family Day at the Lowell Spinners minor league baseball game with a barbecue for all. This is always a nice gathering for union families.

Local 103 Bus. Agent Martin Aikens, whose renewable-energy projects include the windmill beside the Southeast Expressway in Boston, was named to a state board that oversees funds to finance renewable power projects. Aikens was among four appointments Gov. Deval Patrick made to the governing board of the Mass Renewable Energy Trust. Congratulations to Bro. Aikens on his appointment.

Bill Molineaux, P.S.

Gas Rodeo Time

L.U. 111 (em.govt,lett,mt,o,rtb,spa&u), DENVER, CO—The annual Public Service Company of Colorado (Xcel Energy) Gas Rodeo was held Aug. 25 with several teams participating again this year. The rodeo events include Gas Meter Set, 4" Pipe Cut, Gas PE Service Line Mock Up, the ever-dreaded Hand Dig, and a Relay that includes truck driving and equipment operating. The participants and those who attend always have a great time.

Congratulations to the first-place team, whose members are: Shane Kerstiens, Mike Hernandez, Jim Dameron, and Sam Garcia; and the second-place team: Nate Matthews, Nick DaSilva, Dewayne Brill and Gene Sipola.

As of this writing, these winning teams were scheduled to compete at the National Rodeo on Sept. 20 at Long Acre Park in Fairview Heights, IL. Congratulations to our teams—you do us proud.

Dennis Z. LeTurgez, P.S.

Oregon Burn Center Tourneys

L.U. 125 (lctt,o&u), PORTLAND, OR—Local 125's annual golf and softball tournaments were held in Bend, OR. Our two events raised more than \$7,700 for the Oregon Burn Center at Legacy Emanuel Hospital.



IBEW Local 139 is recognized at a June press conference for having doubled its contributions to United Way. From left are: Steve Hughes, United Way of the Southern Tier vice president; Ron Hatch, UWST president; IBEW Local 139 Bus. Mgr. Rick Saltsman; and Ernie Hartman, Local 139 membership development, and UWST board member. Not pictured: Sarah Grossman, UWST director of marketing and communication.

Forty teams competed in the golf tournament this year. The team of Brandon Courtain, Jim Dornfeld, Gerry Hillyard and Matt Rinard earned first place in the golf tournament. Mike Rick, Chris Britt, Brian Douthit and Cassie Castleman placed second while Mike Wolford, Paul Shannon, Jerry Coleman and Paul Waddington earned third place.

Pacific Power's Portland Metro Operations Center earned first place in the softball tournament. The PGE Boardman team secured second place, and PGE's Electrician, Maintenance, and Construction team placed third. Melissa Winters won the Women's Home Run Derby, and Ricky Morton won top honors for the men.

During our tournaments, we enjoy competition and camaraderie within the Brotherhood while working to raise money for an important community resource. We rally together to ensure the Oregon Burn Center has resources needed to obtain specialized equipment used for diagnosis and treatment of burn victims. Funds are also used to provide educational programs for communities within the Pacific Northwest. Thank you to the many sponsors, volunteers and members who participated and assisted in these annual events.

Please visit www.ibew125.com to view tournament photos.

Marcy Putman, P.S.

Commitment to Community

L.U. 139 (i&u), ELMIRA, NY—Local 139 is proud to receive recognition from United Way of the Southern Tier for our continued support of our community through our increased contribution to United Way.

Local 139 has a strong commitment to community, and all our members are dedicated to the idea of giving back. With the poor economy, out-of-control fuel prices and all that that brings with it, our members decided this was not the time to pull back. Those in need are struggling even more. Because of that, Local 139 members doubled our yearly donation to the United Way of the Southern Tier. "As gas prices rise and drive up the cost of food and energy bills, it is now

more important for us to unite and lend our hands to those who live each day teetering on the edge of economic hardship," said Local 139 Bus. Mgr. Rick Saltsman at a press conference held in Elmira. "IBEW Local 139's contribution to United Way of the Southern Tier will go toward helping local people—our neighbors—and to bring about lasting change for this community."

Ernie Hartman, P.S.

Medical Center Project

L.U. 153 (em,i,rtb,rts,se,spa&st), SOUTH BEND, IN—Local members are working for Herman & Goetz Electric on the \$355 million Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center in Mishawaka, IN. (See photo below.)

On Aug. 20 Local 153 celebrated the beginning of another apprenticeship class with an open house at the JATC building in conjunction with a corn and sausage roast. Thanks to all who helped bring about this annual event once again.

The work picture in our area remains stable with most of the anticipated projects continuing as projected. All members are encouraged to attend their local union meetings; the privilege of a voice in the work place is not available for many workers and a union, just like any democracy, by definition demands participation.

Local 153 wishes all IBEW members and their families a happy holiday season.

Corey D. Noland, P.S.



Newly elected Local 193 officers sworn in at the July meeting included, from left: Executive Board members George Moore and Jason Ruggless, Bus. Mgr. David Burns, Rec. Sec. Susan Solon, Treas. Rick Shereda, Executive Board member Mark Carver, Pres. Steven Antonacci and Vice Pres. Tom Schafer.



Local 153 members are working for Herman & Goetz Electric on the Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center in Mishawaka, IN. General Foreman Terry Calloway (second from left) and Chief Steward Dan Mattemore (fourth from left) are among those shown at the job site.

Thanks to Volunteers

L.U. 159 (i), MADISON, WI—Greetings and happy Thanksgiving. Unfortunately, work in our area remains slow and I don't anticipate getting into Book II in the near future.

On the brighter side, we will celebrate the 20th year of our annual Holiday Fantasy in Lights display at Olin Park from Nov. 19–Jan. 4. Over 30 displays are set up by our apprentices. If you are in the area, stop by and drive through the light displays.

Local 159 is also involved in a volunteer effort for our service men and women called Homes For Our Troops. We will help build a house in Sun Prairie, WI, for Staff Sgt. Charles Isaacson, who was severely wounded in a helicopter crash in Afghanistan. For more information, please visit www.homesforourtroops.org.

By the time you read this, the presidential election may be over. We hope our brothers and sisters did everything possible to turn this country in the right direction.

May your holidays be safe and happy.

Joel Kapusta, B.A.

Contract Ratified

L.U. 191 (c,i,mo,rtb&st), EVERETT, WA—Local 191 is very happy to have worked out a contract with NECA. In these tough economic times, the local's negotiating committee managed to come back with an offer that was very reasonable and was easily voted on for ratification. We continue to wish for our sisters and brothers in other locals the same efforts from their negotiating groups.

Marcus Abarcus, P.S.

Volunteers Pitch In

L.U. 193 (i,lett,o,rts,spa&u), SPRINGFIELD, IL—The Labor Day parade and picnic went off in fine fashion. The local thanks the volunteers who made it a successful day.

Eleven new apprentices started at City Water Light & Power. Construction continues on Dallman 4 Power Station and the project is proceeding with quality union labor. Volunteers completed a Habitat for Humanity House near South Grand Avenue, another great effort!

The Rick Ross Memorial Golf Outing was held Sept. 27 at Greenview. All proceeds will benefit the Local 193 HELP Fund. The annual Charity Poker Run to benefit the Computer Banc was held Oct. 4. Ken Hughes is doing a journeyman effort in selling raffle tickets for NFL football to benefit the 193 Scholarship Fund.

All volunteers who participated are due a big 193 thank-you.

Please note the passing of Bros. Ralph Wiebe and Ronald Rebbe.

Don Hudson, P.S.

Bloomington Labor Day Parade

L.U. 197 (em&i), BLOOMINGTON, IL—Our local had a wonderful Labor Day weekend. Our members and their families marched in the parade through downtown Bloomington. The apprentices organized our annual picnic, held after the parade, and did a great job. We had good food and refreshments, games for the kids and a horseshoe tournament for adults. Congratulations to the tournament winners. Thanks to all who attended the celebrations.

The parade was extra special for our local this year. Retired Bro. Don Armstrong was named the McLean County Laborer of the Year. The award goes to a union member who exemplifies leadership and civic duty. We also congratulate Ryan Black, who won a \$1,000 scholarship given by UL to a first-year apprentice who excels. Thanks to our Training Dir. Renae Riddle for nominating Ryan for the award.

Our summer work picture was slower than expected. However, many of our members have been able to travel short distances to work in our surrounding locals. We thank those locals and hope to have everyone working back home soon.

At this writing, we are working diligently to elect politicians who support us. Democrats are our allies in the union movement and we must not forget this.

Mike Raikes, E-Board/P.S.



Local 197 Bro. Rick Miller and his family enjoy the festivities at the McLean County Labor Day parade in Illinois.

Major Projects Planned

L.U. 223 (em,govt&i), BROCKTON, MA—As some of the major projects planned for our jurisdiction move from permitting and planning stages to final approvals, we should have a good idea of how our work situation will be for the upcoming year. By the end of this year we should know the status of the Brockton Power plant, Cape Wind, and Plymouth Rock Movie Studio; and by early 2009, the status of the land in trust application by the Wampanoag Indians for their resort casino in Middleborough. The planning and permitting process has taken much time and effort by the building trades' membership. Let us hope these projects finally break ground and put our members to work.

Int. Rep. Brian S. Maher held an orientation for all newly elected Local 223 officers. Int. Rep. Maher went over responsibilities of the local union

officers. All officers who attended the class said it was very informative and they appreciated Int. Rep. Maher taking the time to conduct the orientation.

This year there have been an increased number of retirements from the local. With the baby boomer generation reaching retirement age, we wish the retirees well and thank them for their service. Good luck to all and happy retirement.

Season's greetings!

Dave Fenton, A.B.M.

Three Ethanol Plants

L.U. 231 (i,rtb,spa&u), SIOUX CITY, IA—We had a busy summer in terms of work for our members, as well as fun during our off time. We kept most of our members busy, as well as a number of travelers. Two ethanol plants were completed and the third is almost finished. Work on several schools also kept many journeymen employed. We hope things don't slow up too much in the next few months.

Our health plan provided its bi-annual blood screening for the members and their families in October. By having this benefit provided to our members and their families, some serious health issues have been detected early.

To work in the state of Iowa, a state license is now required. If you are a traveler and plan to work in our jurisdiction, it might be wise to call ahead and see about the requirements.

Debby Spencer, P.S.

Labor Day Activities

L.U. 245 (govt,lett,o,rtb&u), TOLEDO, OH—History was made this summer when the 1st Annual National LAMPAC Meeting was held in Washington, DC. LAMPAC meetings bring union leadership together with top corporate utility management to hear about political issues that affect both. The hope is that these meetings will lead to a better working relationship and benefit both parties.

On Labor Day Local 245 members, retirees and their families took to the street in the Labor Day parade. Afterward, we all met at the union hall for a picnic. Everyone had a good time, although festivities were cut short for some of our outside members when they received a call to respond to Hurricane Gustav.

By the time you read this, union elections will be over. I thank all the stewards and officers who served for the last three years; we all benefit from your time and sacrifices. Newly elected officers will be sworn in at the Nov. 13 union meeting. Please come and meet them.

We will sponsor a Salvation Army kettle again this Christmas season and we need volunteers for bell ringing. Please call the hall if interested.

On a personal note, I thank everyone who helped me out while I recovered from my foot injury. It gave me a new appreciation for the term brotherhood.

Happy Thanksgiving.

Ray Zychowicz, P.S.



Attending the National LAMPAC Meeting held June 27 in Washington, D.C., are, from left: Joel Bailey, First Energy director of government affairs; IBEW Local 245 Bus. Mgr. Larry Tscherne; Local 245 Pres. Ray Zychowicz; and First Energy Pres. Jim Murray.

Tribute to a Brother

L.U. 275 (cat,em&i), MUSKEGON, MI—On June 16, Local 275 lost Asst. Bus. Agent/Dispatcher Patrick Kramer. He was a friend, brother, son and soon-to-be new father. Pat was a great guy who truly cared about others. He was known for volunteer community service: for the Salvation Army at Christmas, the Labor Day parade, Parties in the Park and labor groups. He volunteered at the Mary Free Bed Hospital helping others who, like him, had lost a limb. Pat had lost part of his leg but he still rode his dirt bike and snowmobile. Nothing stopped him; he showed that life goes on no matter what happens.

Pat was involved in projects to enhance the union image. He used to say: "Show up, be proud and do your part."

Local 275 Bus. Mgr. Sean Egan has established the Pat Kramer Service Award in his honor. It will be given once a year to a local member who most exhibits community involvement, volunteer work and union participation.

Pat's beloved wife, Kristin, reports that on Aug. 7, 2008, baby Delaney Jean Kramer was born, and Pat would have been a very proud father to her. The Kramer family extends gratitude to IBEW members and friends for their thoughts and prayers.

Sean Egan, B.M.

Organizing Victories

L.U. 291 (i,o,rtb&rts), BOISE, ID—Although work has been slow, there is still a great future in the Boise Valley. This is shown by our ability to stand the test of time and expand our market share securing our spot in future endeavors.

Local 291 congratulates Bro. Van A. Dors on his recent achievement of 65 years of service. This milestone shows Bro. Dors' commitment to the local and the IBEW and is a great example of the type of brotherhood we strive for in Local 291. Bus. Mgr. Greg Oyama and Asst. Bus. Mgr. Mark Zaleski presented Bro. Dors with his pin.

Recently Local 291 was pleased to add 30 new members to our roster. The addition came from a combined effort of our two organizers, Sean R. Nelson and Joe Schneehagen.

Sean organized Bowman's Inc., based out of Mountain Home, ID. The shop employs 19 elec-

tricians. Many different methods were used to organize Bowman's, but the use of salts was by far the most effective. By showing the quality and ability of union-trained electricians who would be available, Sean was able to seal the deal. Joe is currently negotiating the first Professional Industrial contract in our local, which has already added 11 new members.

Josh Mangum, P.S.

Des Moines Projects

L.U. 347 (em,i,mt,rtb,rts&spa), DES MOINES, IA—We've been hearing for the last two years that work would be good in our area and we've been waiting. Now it looks as though all the predictions may play out. We are looking at three wind turbine sites, two hospitals, three corporate campuses, a biofuels complex and a power house. These capital investments in the local's geographic area are most welcome at a time when the overall economy appears to be at a tipping point to nowhere.

The State of Iowa has crated a new commission that affects all electrical work done in the state. Where licensing was previously only at the local municipal level, there will now be state licensing and inspections. This, of course, has created many questions. Local 347 supports the commission's efforts in producing a workable and effective body of regulations for the electrical industry in this state. The time and patience required to resolve these issues are formidable. We salute the commission's efforts.

Mike Schweiger, P.S.

South Jersey Picnic

L.U. 351 (c,cs,i,it,lett,mt,o,se,spa&t), FOLSOM, NJ—Our annual picnic was held at Morey's Pier in Wildwood, NJ. This was the first time our picnic was held at the pier. We had over 2,000 people attend, our largest ever. We also had over 200 door prizes donated by our contractors. The weather was beautiful and everyone had a great time. Mark your calendars, as we are now in the process of booking Morey's Pier for the same weekend next year.

Daniel Cosner, P.S.



Some of Local 351 picnic committee members gather at Morey's Pier: from left, back row, Dan Cosner, Bill Hoseny, Buddy Blatcher and Tim Carew; front row, seated, Dennis Abriola, Ken Jones, Jim Fletcher, Ed Reiser, Kathy Moser and Wayne Bumm.

National Training Institute

L.U. 375 (cat,ees&i), ALLENTOWN, PA—Recently our NJATC Training Dir. Bruce Carney, Apprentice Committee member Craig Siegfried, Training Instructors Todd Parton, Duane Kerr, Chris Jagielski and I attended the NJATC National Training Institute at the University of Tennessee.

This was an educational, inspirational experience. We attended many instructor-training courses, taught by professors from various col-

leges and universities throughout the country. We also attended a trade show and a graduation ceremony for the fourth-year instructors.

Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill spoke at the graduation ceremony. His rousing speech on the importance of continued instructor and journeyman training invigorated all in attendance. He also spoke on the IBEW's commitment to providing the electrical industry with the highest skilled and most productive electrical workers in the world! We left the conference a lot smarter, wiser, and certainly prouder to be a part of this ongoing process. It was especially rewarding to share ideas and experiences with other instructors from local unions throughout the United States and Canada. I hope someday all our members can have a similar opportunity to experience this type of unity and brotherhood that we were a part of in Knoxville!

Roger D. Gaydos, P.S.

Maintaining a Strong Union

L.U. 449 (catv,em,i,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), POCATELLO, ID—Craftsman: "A professional whose work is consistently of high quality." Work of constructing, building or maintaining may be measured by things such as knowledge, skills, abilities and the commitment we have to meet standards of high quality.

Many jobs involve building something—then maintenance must be done so that what is built can continue to provide its purpose. This is true of a building—and for the IBEW and our local union. The IBEW and our local were established by people with commitment. If we consider buildings (or our organization)—the destruction phase is quick and easy, then what was once there is gone. We must attend to the maintenance of our local. We have a great pool of knowledge in our local and we constantly communicate with one another on the job. A recent newsletter outlined a Membership Mobilization Program to use job site communications for union building. Will you help with our maintenance?

Victor Braegger, Terry M. Cobbley, Bruce Van Leuven and Steven Walters are retiring with our best wishes.

With sadness we report the passing of retired member Clarence "C.J." Joyner. May he rest in peace.

Please take someone with you to the next meeting.

Don Watters, Pres.

Apprentices and Officers

L.U. 477 (i&rts), SAN BERNARDINO, CA—Local 477 had its 2008 apprenticeship graduation dinner at the Doubletree Hotel in Ontario. The inside wireman graduates are: Robert Barns, Kurt Beatty, Matthew Garbo, Jonathan Hancock, Guillermo Interiano, Robert Price, Vince Wongsuchit, David Wright and Mark Klasa. Local 477's 2008 Apprentice of the Year Award winner was Mark Klasa. The Apprentice of the Year Award is based on many things including participation in the local, grades and job performance.

We also wish to acknowledge our newly elected officers: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. John Brown, Pres. Allen Case, Vice Pres. Lauren Citron, Treas. Gary Gonzales, Rec. Sec. Dan Severn; and Executive Board members Dino Martinez, William Johnson Jr., Mark Sitters, Robert Whiteside, Larry Venokur, Theresa Fosdick and David Hall. Dave Gregor, who served many years on the E-board, elected not to run this year. We thank him for his contributions to our local.

Congratulations to the new Local 477 journeymen and elected officers. The local is proud to have these individuals call Local 477 home. We wish them the best of luck.

Allen W. Case, Pres.

70th Anniversary Picnic

L.U. 531 (i), LaPORTE, IN—Our local recently celebrated its 70th anniversary. A picnic in celebration of the event was held on Aug. 23, with over 500 people attending. I was unable to attend, but I'm sure everyone had a good time. I know personally that at every union event I've ever attended, the food has been superb and the camaraderie even better.

In July the local's golf outing was held at the Brassie Golf Course. After an hour and a half of rain delay, this gala event finally started, and it turned into a beautiful, sunny day. The food and drink were also excellent. Over 60 people attended and it was an awesome time.

Contract negotiations were completed, with a three-year deal being settled with our contractors. Our work situation should be good through the end of the year, with a blast furnace reline and the completion of the Blue Chip Hotel. However, there is a possibility of a slowdown in the first quarter of 2009.

Jim Switzer, P.S.

Hope for New Direction

L.U. 557 (i,mt,rts&spa), SAGINAW, MI—By Nov. 4, another point of history will have passed and the country will have changed direction with Obama-Biden, or kept more of the same misery as the past eight years. We hope for the best!

Work resumed at the semiconductor project in Hemlock, MI. Work that was expected to start in February started in July leaving local hands few choices but to leave the area to find work. The weekly spring/summer golf league brought people together, along with lots of smiles as stories of good times were revealed. Membership Development Dir. Phil Barnett's efforts at the grill during our monthly meetings enhanced after-meeting get-togethers with burgers, brats and hot dogs, depending on the month. A blood drive requested by the Michigan Community Blood Center was again successful when we opened our meeting room to the public on a day in July for center representatives to meet with donors.

A cool day and bit of rain accompanied the local picnic in August. Many thanks to John



San Diego Local 569 class of 2008 graduates.

McKay and family and Scott Gale for all the setup that made the outing another success. Bob Franz also attended; it's always good to see a senior retiree!

Hope all have a good holiday season.

John E. Clemens, P.S.

2008 San Diego Graduates

L.U. 569 (i,mar,mt,rts&spa), SAN DIEGO, CA—Congratulations to the 53 San Diego Electrical and Sound Technician graduates of 2008. The celebration was held at the Hilton San Diego Resort on Mission Bay on June 13. Over 400 people attended and cheered the graduates for their accomplishments.

This year's Outstanding Inside Wireman graduate was Anthony Frietas, and the Outstanding Sound graduate was Kenneth Dianovich. Courtney Taggart and Kenneth Dianovich received recognition, from Helmets to Hardhats Southwest Regional Dir. Daniel Lazano, for being the first Helmets to Hardhats IBEW-NECA journeyman graduates nationwide.

The graduates are: Ian Allen, Michael Bailey, David Baker, James Barnes, Larry Bondurant Jr., Joseph Borecky, Danny De Bruin, Marco De Jesus, Kenneth Dianovich, Jason Fender, John Finneran, Richard Free, Anthony Freitas, Mark Fuentes, Tim Golden, Steven Gropp, Jess Hamilton, Josh Hauk, Mark Hughes, Nikolas Hull, Emmanuel Hurtado, Sean Huston, Joshua Joesphs, Thomas Klatt, Quinn Laudenslager, Brent Lawson, Gabriel Liera, Adam Lindsey, Jon Linfoot, Brendan Meehan, Aaron Michelson, James Miller, Mario Molina, Moises Molina Zuniga, Sean Mazingo, Robert Murphy, Enrique Ochoa, Paul Ott, Jose Perez, Kevin Poinan, Manuel Rivas Jr., Moises Rodriguez, Scot Smart, Wade Spellman, Courtney Taggart, David Titiali, Juan Torres-Maldonado, Joseph Towers, Sean Vinay, Semen Voloshanovskiy, Daniel Welch, David Wood and Alex Znach.

Nicholas J. Segura Jr., P.S.

Fighting for Workers' Rights

L.U. 595 (c,govt,i&st), DUBLIN, CA—A change in the work picture has taken place since summer school projects were completed. At this writing, Book 1 numbers have more than doubled from about 50 to almost 135. We have a number of projects coming up, but there's not much hiring now. Investor confidence has not been helped by economic conditions. We hope to soon have a new Democratic president to help right the ship.

Local 595 and NECA filed a class action lawsuit against nonunion NBC General Contractors—alleging that the contractor falsified time cards and paid workers only a fraction of what they were owed on public works projects. We organized a rally and press conference to bring attention to prevailing wage fraud that cheats workers. With our slogans of "Justice for NBC Workers" and "Wage Fraud is Wrong," we joined over 100 union members and supporters to expose this injustice.

Local 595 presented scholarships to 13 recipients, the first awarded by the Thomas J. Sweeney Scholarship Fund. This fund was set up in memory of Tom, who was Local 595's business manager for 28 years. Winners included nine apprentices and four children of our members.

We mourn the passing of Bro. Raul "Freddy" Real on Aug. 31. Our condolences to the entire Real family, many of whom are Local 595 members.

Tom Mullarkey, B.R.



IBEW member Ricky Lau reads his statement at union rally. Bro. Lau is a past NBC General Contractors electrician, who was recently organized by San Francisco, CA, Local 6. IBEW Local 595, Dublin, CA, helped organize the rally.

60-Year Service Pin

L.U. 611 (catv,es,govt,i,lctt,o,spa,t&u), ALBUQUERQUE, NM—As of this writing work has been steady with a few calls occasionally trickling in.

At the August union meeting, inside wireman Tom Bachica received his 60-year service



Local 557's 2008 sponsored softball team included, from left, back row, Jerry Ellis, Scott Gale, Jason Oyerly, Mike Tilot, Evan Allardyce, Chris Fritzler, Mark Krieger, Dennis Huff; front row, D.J. Link, Scott Stafford, Ruben Garcia, Mike Decker, George Garstecki and Victor D. Perez Sr. Most of the team are members of Local 557.



Local 611 retired member Tom Bachica (front row, holding certificate) receives his 60-year service award as local union members gather to extend congratulations.

pin. Tom, who was born in 1920, was initiated into the IBEW in 1948. Way to go, Tom.

This year's picnics in Jemez and Carlsbad went great with a very good turnout for both.

Local 611 extends condolences to the families of the following members who recently passed away: Melvin Gutierrez, Alfred M. Cantu, Jimmy Barnett, Richard O. Rarrick Sr., Curtis Sullins, Harold L. Whittemore and Sam S. Martinez.

Darrell J. Blair, P.S.

100th Anniversary Celebration

L.U. 617 (c,i,mo&st), SAN MATEO, CA—The evening of Aug. 16 marked the 100th anniversary of Local 617. We gathered in grandeur at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport for a phenomenal night of great food, conversation, lively dance tunes, remembrance and gratitude. Honored guests and keynote speakers included Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill, Int. Sec.-Treas. Lindell K. Lee, Ninth District Int. Vice Pres. Michael S. Mowrey, U.S. Rep. Jackie Speier, and Burlingame, CA, Mayor Rosalie O'Mahony.

Our Solar Trailer was a big hit at the San Mateo County Fair in August. The project was conceptualized by SMJATC Instructor Glenn Arvin and Apprentice Fred Mincher, built by a dedicated few, and staffed during the week by over 30 member volunteers. Visitors found the working display exceptionally educational and inspirational.

A record turnout marked our Third Annual Day at the Range and barbecue staged at the Los Altos Rod and Gun Club on Sept. 20. Our families and friends enjoyed a spirited day of trap, pistol and rifle shooting.

On June 29, the Motorcycle Club's inaugural ride to Pleasanton supported the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation's Ride for Kid's program with a \$2,800 donation presented by 13 riders on behalf of our local.

Dan Pasini, V.P.



San Mateo, CA, Local 617 members and their families enjoy the local's annual Day at the Range outing.

New Posts Announced

L.U. 625 (ees,em,i,mar&mt), HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA—On behalf of the Local 625 Executive Board and members, I extend best wishes to former business manager/financial secretary Cordell Cole on his new position as First District International Representative. Bro. Cole will service construction locals in the Maritime Provinces. Also, best wishes to Bro. Tim Swinamer in his new position as Local 625 business manager/financial secretary. I assumed the position of assistant business manager effective Oct. 1, 2008.

A new section of this column is called "The Honour Roll." Of the new members joining Local 625, several deserve a special mention for achieving high marks in the core program for first-year apprentices. They are as follows: 2007—Stephen Schnare, Stephen McCartney, James Rutherford and Benjamin Robinson; 2008—Justin George-Worth, Heather Soper, Joe Courchesne, Gerry Wells, Jason Saulnier, Joseph Keddy, Trevor Wentzell and Brad Bartlett. Also in 2008, Craig MacDonald reached the Honour Roll for two years and Chris Henderson reached the Honour Roll and maintained a 95 percent average. Congratulations to all for their hard work and high marks.

Congratulations to Bro. Joe Carroll for passing his Journeyman Red Seal exam.

Bro. Norman Sawler retired in July, and Bro. Kevin Stewart retired in August. Good luck, brothers, and enjoy a happy retirement.

Tom Griffiths, Pres.

Busy Work Picture

L.U. 649 (i,lctt,o,rts,spa&u), ALTON, IL—After a slow spring, construction work has broken in a big way. We have more travelers working here than local hands. The ConocoPhillips refinery, Dynege's Wood River Powerhouse and commercial work are keeping things busy. Happily, after



Local 649 championship softball team: from left, front row, Scott McLaughlin, Pat Friedel, Mark Klaas, Eric Zyung, Kerry Mossman; back row, Greg Eilerman, Justin Hillen, Ryan Mouser, Keith Berry, Shaun Watson, Drew Baalman and Josh Campbell.

quite a rough patch, Pres. Fred Redd is healthy and back at work. We've also got more construction linemen than in-house linemen working on AmerenCIPS property.

Bus. Mgr. Jack Tueth handled back-to-back tough negotiations this summer. Jack led multi-craft negotiations with Global Brass, purchasers of the former Olin Brass Division. The nine-local South Central Illinois Telephone Agreement ended up at CIR in Washington.

After finishing second to Local 150 in the Illinois IBEW Tournament, our softball team came back a couple weeks later to win the Madison County Federation of Labor Tournament by beating a tough team of Wood River Laborers. Congratulations to Coach Eric Zyung, MVP Andy Baalman and the rest of the guys on the team. In addition to a trophy, the Federation donated \$250 to the winning team's favorite charity. Our team chose the Calhoun Gym Fund. The money will be used to build a new gym at Calhoun High School.

Charles Yancey, A.B.M.

Ordway, CO, Prairie Fire

L.U. 667 (u), PUEBLO, CO—Crews from Aquila Inc. restored power to the town of Ordway, CO, after a prairie fire swept through the area. Several homes and much of the area's power lines and utility poles were burned to the ground. With the help of Colorado Springs utilities and our dedicated members at Aquila, the power was restored in a few days.

In September Reginald Rudolph, currently of Garrison, ND, replaced Mr. William Wood as general manager at San Isabel Electric. IBEW 667 thanks Mr. Wood for his years of service to the co-op and welcomes Mr. Rudolph and his family to Southern Colorado.

In July Aquila-Colorado officially became part of Black Hills Corp. We are looking forward to building a successful relationship with the management of Black Hills Corp.

At this writing, we are in the beginning stages of negotiations for the Asplundh contract.



IBEW Local 667 members restore power to the town of Ordway, CO.

Over the next several weeks we will meet with Asplundh employees to discuss issues to be brought to the negotiation table.

Jerry Bellah, B.M./F.S.

Obama/Biden Rally

L.U. 683 (em&i), COLUMBUS, OH—As summer wound down and the kids were back in school, it was time to direct our attention to the election. Several 683 members attended an Obama/Biden rally held at Dublin Coffman High School on Aug. 30 (see photo). Additional speakers included: Gov. Ted Strickland, U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown, retired Sen. John Glenn and other local officials. Hopefully we were listening to our next U.S. president at that rally.

Work is still slow at this writing and we are hoping for a couple of jobs to go our way. We hope all members will be back at work soon. Thanks again to all the locals that have employed our members.

Our condolences to the families of our recently deceased members: Jack L. Shaffer, Lawrence F. Wehrle, Norbert A. Cassidy and Roger L. Redd.

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



Senators Barack Obama and Joe Biden address the crowd at an Aug. 30 campaign rally. Among those at the rally were IBEW members from Columbus, OH, Local 683.

Fort Wayne Unit Picnic

L.U. 723 (em,govt,rtb,rts&t), FORT WAYNE, IN—The 2008 Fort Wayne Unit Picnic was held on Sat., June 28, at Franke Park Pavilion #1. Despite a rainy start, the picnic was attended by more than 100 members and their families with a total attendance of approximately 400. Lunch was served at noon and members and their families were treated to admission and ride tickets at the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo. The weather cleared and it was a beautiful afternoon. Thanks to all members and their families who attended and made this event a great success. Special thanks go to IBEW 723 bookkeeper Nancy Bay, who took care of scheduling, planning and catering for the event. Thanks to members who

At the Local 723 Fort Wayne Unit picnic, children of local union members frolic in a fountain at the Fort Wayne, IN, Children's Zoo.



assisted with the setup and clean-up: Mark and Sue Miller, Mark Stafford, Tom Ransom, Joe Firestine and Ted Rolf.

Great news: We have updated our local's Web site www.ibew723.org with our recent election results and soon we will have information about our essay scholarship contest coming up. So keep checking it out, as we constantly make updates and changes.

Shelly Barbour, P.S.

Report from Windsor, Ontario

L.U. 773 (as,em,i,mo&o), WINDSOR, ONTARIO, CANADA—With Labour Day behind us, our night school has once again started for our apprentices, and the local is fully involved in training our members on Communications, First Aid/CPR, Instrumentation, CWB Welding and Rigging. The work picture remains slow; however, our contractors are busy trying to secure work using our Market Recovery Plan.

Among the many jobs secured for our members are: a large job at Ridgetown Water Treatment Plant, Ridgetown Landfill, a new 12-story high-rise, the Human Kinetics Building at the University of Windsor, Shopper Drug Stores in Blenheim and Windsor, and many others.

Our organizer, Karl Lovett, has been very successful in organizing Classic Electric in Windsor and two shops in the municipality of Chatham Kent—Rose Electric in Blenheim and, with the help of Local 530 Organizer Mike Lalonde, industrial con-

tractor Gil and Sons Limited in Wallaceburg. We welcome all the new members into Local 773.

Our fight continues at the Ontario Labour Relations Board where we are defending our bargaining rights against the Greater Essex County District School Board, which filed to decertify four years ago. The case will wrap up this late year.

David Spencer, P.S.

Election Season

L.U. 915 (i&mt), TAMPA, FL—Local 915's election for the 2008-2011 term was held in June. (See photo below.) The outstanding support for those members elected is a credit to their service to our local union.

We are proud to have re-elected Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. William Dever. The hard work and dedication of Bus. Mgr. Dever, fellow officers, staff assistants and organizers bode well for the future of our growing local.

We are also pleased to congratulate on their election: Pres. Randall King, Vice Pres. Jim Froomjian, Rec. Sec. Larry Campbell, Treas. Bruce Barrow; Executive Board members Thomas Bedwell, Bryce Davidson, Jonathan Hendley, Roberto Rosa, George Thompson, Clyde Tucker, Robert Ray; and Examining Board members Linda Campbell, Joseph Paquin and Karen Hill.

Tampa has been honored to be the state campaign headquarters for the Democratic presidential nominee, Sen. Barack Obama. Approximately 30 Local 915 members volunteered to help add



Present for ceremonial signing of Oklahoma state law are, from left: IBEW Local 1141 Bus. Mgr. Joe P. Smith, state Sen. Debbe Leftwich (D), Gov. Brad Henry (D), Local 1141 Bus. Agent Jimmy Griffy, and NECA Chapter Mgr. J. Scott Hopkins.

lighting or whatever else was needed to the headquarters building. Even more have volunteered their time with Labor 2008 walks and phone banking. Congratulations to these members for their efforts in our fight to win back the White House.

Theresa King, P.S.

Xcel Mutual Aid Contract

L.U. 953 (catv,em,lctt,o,spa&u), EAU CLAIRE, WI—In Local 953 we have some members who have automatic dues deduction in their contracts, but we also have some who do not have this available to them and wanted a way to address this problem. We are now in the process of working with the local's bank to allow members to choose to have dues automatically deducted from their account.

In other news, our Xcel Energy members ratified a Mutual Aid Contract. This contract allows members, on a volunteer basis, to work in other jurisdictions. They will be paid time and one-half for all hours worked and be paid per diem, even if meals are provided.

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

Safety Advocate Program

L.U. 1049 (lctt,o&u), LONG ISLAND, NY—When our founders formed the IBEW over 100 years ago, safety was a core tenet. At Local 1049, Bus. Mgr. Robert Shand is carrying on that tradition with the formation and expansion of our Safety Advocate Program. Safety advocates are employer paid Local 1049 members who work under the direction of our business office. The safety advocates promote and ensure the safety of the membership. They visit crews and are always available. They answer questions about safe work practices and act as safety liaisons between members and employers. Our safety advocates are also involved in procurement, testing and development of tools, materials and procedures.

The role of a safety advocate started as one position in our Utility Division. The program has been so successful that it is expanding not only in the Utility Division but also into our Craft Division. Other IBEW Third District locals are developing their own safety advocate programs, using Local 1049's program as a model.

We recently co-hosted the annual Long Island IBEW Softball Tournament and fielded two teams. Our Gold Team won the "B" bracket. Our Blue Team did not fare as well but had a great weekend of softball, food and Brotherhood. See you at the next general meeting.

Thomas J. Dowling, R.S.

Political Activism

L.U. 1141 (em,i,mow,rts&spa), OKLAHOMA CITY, OK—Politics aren't all about the big federal races and issues. The accompanying photo shows the ceremonial signing of a law changing aspects of the Oklahoma Construction Industries Board. These changes increased enforcement of skilled trades licensing and code provisions, which will provide more work for our members. It wouldn't have been possible without the involvement and hard work of members in getting friends of working people elected, and then clearly communicating our issues to them. We have also been able to increase our influence by involving NECA, and even some unlikely partners like the ABC, on issues where we share common ground. It may not be fun, but it's much easier to get what you want out of bipartisan legislation, and effective political activism is critical to our future success.

Jim Griffy, B.A.

Tri-State Crafts Council

L.U. 1253 (i), AUGUSTA, ME—Second-year apprentice Justin Alberico was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from Underwriters Laboratory. Congratulations, Justin!

Local 1253 is proud to be part of the new Tri-State Mechanical Allied Crafts Council (Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont). We anticipate this to be a useful tool in reclaiming market share. More information will follow in the future.

Retiree service award plaque presentations for 2008 included: 55-year awards to Paul Alexander and Ray Kenworthy, and a 50-year plaque for Ken Rancourt. A 50-year plaque was awarded posthumously to Alex Fidalgo, who passed away earlier this year.

Sincere thanks to all locals for your generosity in supporting the family of Rick Pedley.

We are sad to report that Larry Parlee passed away Aug. 5,

If you have any news and/or pictures you would like included in the following months, please forward to me via the Local 1253 office.

William Gifford, P.S.

Congratulations to Retirees

L.U. 1307 (u), SALISBURY, MD—Local 1307 congratulates recent retirees George Lewis, Shirley Coleman, Pamela Harper and Terry Johnson.

Bro. Lewis started with Delmarva Power as an engineer's helper in the Exmore, VA, District in 1982. He retired as a stock keeper on Feb. 1, 2008.

In 1966 Sister Coleman began at Delmarva Power as a cashier in the Millington, MD, District.



Local 773 Bus. Mgr. Sol Furer (fourth from right) with the owner and staff of industrial contractor Gil and Sons Limited.



Local 915 elected officials, from left, standing, Rec. Sec. Larry Campbell, Examining Board members Karen Hill and Joe Paquin, Pres. Randall King, Treas. Bruce Barrow, Bus. Mgr. Bill Dever, and Executive Board members Bryce Davidson, John Hendley and Clyde Tucker; kneeling, Examining Board member Linda Campbell, Executive Board members Robert Ray, Tom Bedwell, George Thompson and Roberto Rosa, and Vice Pres. Jim Froomjian.



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.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Edwin D. Hill
International President

Lindell K. Lee
International Secretary-Treasurer

INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Chairman
Robert W. Pierson

First District
Joseph P. Calabro

Second District
Myles J. Calvey

Third District
John R. Clarke

Fourth District
Jackie E. Goodwin

Fifth District
Stephen Schoemehl

Sixth District
Gregory A. Lucero

Seventh District
Patrick Lavin

Eighth District
Rick Dowling

INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

First District
Phillip J. Flemming

Second District
Frank J. Carroll

Third District
Donald C. Siegel

Fourth District
Salvatore J. Chilia

Fifth District
Joe S. Davis

Sixth District
Joseph F. Lohman

Seventh District
Jonathan B. Gardner

Eighth District
Ted C. Jensen

Ninth District
Michael S. Mowrey

Tenth District
Robert P. Klein

Eleventh District
Curtis E. Henke

THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

Editor
Edwin D. Hill

C. James Spellane

Mark Brueggenjohann

Mike Nugent

Malinda Brent

Len Shindel

Carol Fisher

Alex Hogan

Lucas Oswalt

James H. Jones

Sydney L. Glass

**HOW TO REACH US**

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

Send letters to:

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

Or send by e-mail to: media@ibew.org

©2008 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A. on Union-made paper.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Electrical Worker*, 900 Seventh Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001.

The *Electrical Worker* will not be held responsible for views expressed by correspondents.

Paid advertising is not accepted.

Publications Mail Agreement No. 40011756.
Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:
P.O. Box 503
RPO West Beaver Creek
Richmond Hill, ON L4B 4R6

FROM THE OFFICERS

A New Hope for Working Families

Brothers and sisters—we did it.

After a long, grueling campaign season, we came out on top. This is our moment.

This issue was delayed until after the election so that we could weigh in on what the next four years could look like. And from our vantage point, the future appears promising.

In President-elect Barack Obama and Vice President-elect Joe Biden, we have two leaders with records of fighting for the working class, battling corporate interests and standing up for middle-income Americans trying to get ahead in this slippery economy. We have two patriotic, hard-working family men who side with us on labor issues and who will not only listen but will also hear our legitimate concerns, rather than writing us off as special interests.

For the first time in a long time, we've got a fighting chance on the national political front, where we haven't had much to cheer about lately.

If President Obama can follow through on the promises of his campaign, our movement and our economy will be equally robust. We have the chance to team with our elected leaders to be part of the solutions to the challenges we face today: creating more green jobs, providing quality health care, protecting our pensions and growing the nuclear sector. We can have a Department of Labor and a National Labor Relations Board that work for—rather than against—working men and women, putting the welfare and concerns of workers first.

We also have an opportunity to see passage of the Employee Free Choice Act, which will increase penalties against employers who break the law while lessening the intimidation workers often face when trying to organize. Achieving this kind of groundbreaking labor law reform won't be easy—but with pro-worker legislators on our side, and by sticking to the issues and shrugging off negative smears, we can prevail.

Obama led a substantive, issue-driven campaign, focusing less on himself and more on the collective power of each one of us. "Yes we can!" we heard. And we responded accordingly.

But here's what we can't do:

We can't rest on our laurels. Basking in the moment of victory feels nice, but we must keep moving. Remember—every time we make gains, corporate interests try to take them away.

We also can't expect that every campaign promise will automatically transfer into new, pro-worker legislation. President Bill Clinton came to office in 1992 with the help of organized labor. Two years later, we got NAFTA. No presidential candidate can ever deliver 100 percent on the issues he or she campaigns for—so we must work with them to pass the legislation they championed on the campaign trail and remind them that the efforts of many of our members helped them get elected.

To everyone who worked on the campaign, thank you. Each time you knocked on a door, distributed a flier, called a prospective voter or talked with a fellow worker, you made an important contribution to the renaissance of our movement. These were not small, isolated gestures. They have given birth to the greatest opportunities we have seen in decades.

Throughout the campaign season, we have never told you who to vote for. But as elected officers, we carried out our duty to inform you of what was at stake. Our democracy thrives when we practice healthy debate. We hope that all of us can now come together for excellence and in a spirit of Brotherhood to help advance the cause of our union.

As Obama said on the campaign trail, "Politics didn't lead me to working people—working people led me to politics." Let's take that grassroots fighting spirit with us as we step forward into a new political era.



Edwin D. Hill
International President

Lindell K. Lee
International Secretary-Treasurer

Letters to the Editor

Thanks, Sisters and Brothers

I am a member of Local 66 in Houston. I am also, along with my brothers and sisters, a survivor of Hurricane Ike. Employees of NRG Texas Energy Production, many of us ironically were without power for weeks following the storm. However, thanks to our local's linemen and their support from local members nationwide and Canada, power was coming back little by little. I was without power for a week, but I never worried. I saw CenterPoint trucks and trucks from all over the country everywhere. Thank you to all my brothers and sisters of CenterPoint and our linemen nationwide.

*Vicki Mulcahy
Local 66 member, Houston*

Outside Adventures



Martin P. Hake

I appreciate how the Electrical Worker and Journal keep me up to date about all the stuff we encounter in our trade.

I am an outside journeyman lineman in Long Island. In this photo, I was doing hurricane relief work in Florida. My task along with crew members John Gallagher and Arty Holdersen was to set pole lines along several 138 towers and 345 towers.

*Martin P. Hake
Local 1049 member, Long Island, N.Y.*

Thanks for Your Support

I salute all the local unions that were generous in their participation in helping us raise money through the 1st Annual Michael P. Calabro Memorial Fund's Casino Night for Pediatric Services at Saint Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston, N.J. Your response was just one of

many signs of the strength of the Brotherhood. With rising health care costs throughout our area these contributions will help keep alive various programs that would otherwise be cut due to budgetary issues. So on behalf of the all the kids that are helped by these programs, thank you! Once again I am proud to be part of the IBEW!

*Joseph Calabro
Local 1158 Business Manager, Newark, N.J.*

Joe the Electrician!

I am Joe the Electrician. I am retired with a 401(k) and a conventional IRA, which have both taken a bashing with the down market and the bank problem. I would like to propose three suggestions within the realm of the bailouts:

1. Extend the mandatory age of withdrawal for the 401(k) and the conventional IRAs beyond 70½ without a penalty. This will help us get out of the window of the downturn so that we won't have to take such big losses in our retirement plan.
2. For an economic stimulus, allow people, in general, to withdraw from their 401(k) and their contributory IRA without taxes and penalties so that then they would be closer to their original money and they possibly could pay down their debt or make necessary purchases.
3. Allow retirees to transfer or withdraw money from their 401(k) or contributory IRA without taxes or a penalty.

*Raymond Zunino
Local 302 retiree, Martinez, Calif.*

Who We Are

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

Local 1 Member Honored as Influential Minority Business Leader

Having witnessed the closing of his father's one-man electrical contracting shop, St. Louis Local 1 member Marion Hayes is being honored for his commitment to helping people succeed in the construction business.



Marion Hayes

Hayes, a 17-year member, last year helped found the nation's first advisory board created to help nourish a solid minority contracting community. Advisors include construction professionals, accountants and lawyers who meet with members to explore ways to help them build the foundation they need to be successful.

"The failure rate of minority construction businesses is so high. We're trying to make sure they stay in business," said Hayes, who was named one of the region's most influential minority business leaders by the St. Louis Business Journal.

Founded in 1972, PRIDE of St. Louis, Inc. is a volunteer labor-management organization that established the Regional Union Construction Center to foster greater diversity in the industry. Both Local 1 and the St. Louis chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association are members of PRIDE.

As a board member of the construction center, Hayes offers advice to minority-owned companies about how to develop office staff, how to look for business and the importance of solid financial information.

"There's no question he's helped a lot of these companies with his perspective of what it takes to be successful," said the center's executive director, Alan Richter. "He's always willing to talk and counsel people who are interested in starting their own business and trying to understand what it takes to start one. Marion is always willing to share his time."

Hayes owns an electrical contracting company, BRK Electrical Contractors, LLC, which

specializes in commercial construction and renovation. What started out as a three person contracting company has expanded to 19 employees. Before founding BRK in 2003, Hayes worked as a project manager for electrical contractors in St. Louis.

"The IBEW has helped me to have a good foundation before I started in the business. I have a strong understanding of what my workers need to be successful as electricians," Hayes said.

Hayes was able to combine education and experience in his route to becoming an electrical contractor. He earned a degree in electrical engineering and a master's in construction management from Washington University in 1991 and 1994, respectively.

Hayes entered the IBEW-NECA apprenticeship program after graduation from Washington University. "The thought process at the time was that I may work with my father in his electrical contracting business," he said.

His father's company went out of business before he finished his apprenticeship but Hayes maintained an interest in construction management.

"He understands what a wireman does and what people in the field do on a day-to-day basis. He understands the work force, how to make estimates, and how to look for business," Richter said.

"Minorities definitely have been underrepresented in the building trades for a long time," Hayes said. "There is a growing concern of a potential worker shortage in our industry. Unemployment is higher in the minority community. Getting folks to work is a good thing. In essence, it's money that circulates in this community."

Hayes was honored by the St. Louis Minority Business Council as the 2007 Construction Business of the Year and as the 2003 Minority Emerging Business of the Year by the St. Louis Regional Chamber and Growth Association.

"He is an asset to our industry, our local, and to the organized electrical industry," said Local 1 Business Manager Stephen Schoemehl, who is the Fifth District International Executive Council member. "He is a wonderful example of what the IBEW stands for." ■

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.

Local Lines

continued from page 13

She transferred to Chestertown District as a customer information specialist and then to Centreville District as a senior clerical associate. Shirley retired March 1, 2008.

Sister Harper began as a cashier in Delmarva Power's Georgetown, DE, District in 1968. Pam later worked in the Millsboro District as customer information specialist and engineering fieldman. She retired as a Millsboro customer information specialist March 1, 2008.

Sister Johnson started at Delmarva Power in 1972 as a junior clerk in Salisbury District. She later worked in the Ocean City District as a customer information specialist. Terry transferred to the Indian River Power Plant (later purchased by NRG Energy) as a clerk. There she was promoted to senior clerical associate. Terry served a term on the E-Board and on numerous committees. She retired in January 2008.

May these retirees enjoy a long and happy retirement.

Edward D. Sparks Jr., F.S.

Democratic Convention Delegate

L.U. 1501 (ees,em,mo,pet,rts&t), BALTIMORE, MD—The presidential election is at hand and we hope to have the best person elected who will support our working members. The IBEW fully endorsed Barack Obama for president of the United States and we fully support that endorsement.

Local 1501 Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dion F. Guthrie was elected as a delegate to the 2008 Democratic National Convention. It was his first Democratic Convention and he was proud and humbled by the wonderful opportunity. Bus. Mgr. Guthrie reported that the proceedings were very exciting, educational and eye opening. Note that in the accompanying photo taken at the convention, Bus. Mgr. Guthrie is wearing his Local 1501 IBEW jacket.

Thomas J. Rostkowski, P.S.



Local 1501 Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Dion F. Guthrie (center) is joined by U.S. Rep. Elijah Cummings (left) and Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley at the Democratic National Convention.

Remembering Who We Are

L.U. 1523 (u), WICHITA, KS—With the presidential elections on the roll at this writing, I am wondering about the elections that were held back in 1967 when our brothers and sisters decided to organize and our local was founded. I wonder what was happening that they thought we would need protection from. What were the conditions then and how do they compare to today's struggles? Whatever was happening back then, the action they took still pro-



Alaska AFL-CIO Pres. Vince Beltrami (left), IBEW Ninth District Int. Rep. Rick Hite, IBEW Local 1547 Bus. Mgr. Larry Bell, and Alaska Chapter NECA Pres. Steve Boyd discuss results of the 2008 Western States Electrical Contest.

jects us today. Where would we be if they had not fought for the rights we have today? Where would we be if they had just sat back and not stood up for their rights? So now my question is: How many of us are still standing up for our rights and the rights of those to follow us? Are we getting involved, whether for the presidential election or for our local union activities? We're quick to make judgments about decisions that are made, but what input did we give? Or how much time did we spend helping? How many meetings did we attend? How many times did we step up to help out?

Candy C. Cruz-Dodd, P.S.

Anchorage Local Reports

L.U. 1547 (c,em,i,o,t&u), ANCHORAGE, AK—Journeyman wireman and Organizer Chris Tuck announced his bid for the Alaska State House. Bro. Tuck currently serves on the Anchorage School Board.

IBEW Local 1547 looks forward to hosting the Ninth District Progress Meeting in 2009. The meeting will be held in Anchorage May 19-21, 2009.

At press time, Local 1547's annual Shop Steward and Leadership Conference was scheduled for Oct. 24-26, 2008, in Anchorage. (See photo above.) This event is the premier "on the ground" labor training event in Alaska. Stewart Acuff, from the national AFL-CIO, was scheduled as the keynote speaker.

The 2008 Western States Electrical Contest was held in August at the Tom Cashen Electrical Apprenticeship School in Anchorage. As part of the event, first-year journeyman wiremen from NECA/IBEW apprenticeship schools across the western United States battled one another in seven timed events. Congratulations to Bro. Bristol Beaujean, who won first overall in conduit bending.

Melinda Taylor, P.S.

New Labor Leader

L.U. 1579 (i&o), AUGUSTA, GA—Congratulations to Local 1579 Bus. Mgr. Ken Ward on his recent election as president of the Augusta Building and Construction Trades Council. This is a position that will benefit the members of Local 1579 and other unions in the Augusta area. There is a lot to be done over the next few years and Bus. Mgr. Ward will help lead all of us to a bright future for organized labor in Augusta.

At press time our work is good; we currently have calls that are unfilled. Thanks to our traveling brothers and sisters who are helping us out at this time. We hope to have more work for you in the future.

The JATC recently accepted 66 apprentices into the apprenticeship program. Good luck to these young men and women and a reminder to

always do your best. Brothers and sisters, please encourage all of our apprentices and pass your knowledge on to them, so that we will always have one of the best available work forces to offer. It is these apprentices who will replace at least one-third of our local within the next 10 years—due to our large baby boomer membership, who will retire soon. Until next time, thank you for all that you do.

Will Salters, A.B.M.

Mobilization for Contract

L.U. 2321 (t), MIDDLETON, MA—In February IBEW Local 2321 members began their mobilization rallies throughout the local's jurisdiction for justice on the job and also to prepare for the Verizon contract expiration on Aug. 2, 2008. The rolling rallies continued throughout the rest of the IBEW System Council T-6 locals in Massachusetts and Rhode Island as the bargaining team began negotiations at the end of May. Negotiations continued right up to the Aug. 2 deadline and Local 2321 members were prepared to strike to maintain our benefits and to secure jobs of the future. The clock stopped at the midnight deadline, negotiations continued and the IBEW T-6 Council negotiating team brought

home a great contract with no diminishments. I thank all Local 2321 members for their strength and solidarity. Because of their efforts, the Local 2321 bargaining team and the IBEW T-6 Council bargaining team were able to secure the best contract in the telecommunications industry.

Local 2321 mourns the deaths of past officers Kathleen Cronin and Rick Gill. Sister Cronin was our longtime treasurer. Her grandson, Donald "D.J." Cronin, is an International field organizer and Local 2321 member.

Former business manager Gill was very active in his community, serving on Labor Councils, before retiring to Florida. Our sympathies go to the families of Bro. Gill and Sister Cronin.

Ed Starr, Esq., B.M.

Verizon Contract Ratified

L.U. 2325 (t), WORCESTER, MA—Our local is pleased to announce the successful negotiation and ratification of a new contract with Verizon Communications. The new contract keeps in place the many gains we have won throughout the years, and also offers many new improvements. Bus. Mgr. Dave Keating extends special thanks to the membership of the local for preparing themselves for the worst, standing together as one, and showing the company that we are always ready to fight for what we deserve as workers. We thank the entire bargaining team for their tireless efforts at the negotiating table, and our mobilization committee for keeping the membership updated and prepared.

We also extend congratulations to Raquel Vazquez, daughter of Bro. Hector Vazquez, winner of the First Annual Mark Booden Scholarship. Ms. Vazquez will use the scholarship money, so generously donated by our membership, to continue her studies at Framingham State College. We wish her the best of luck during the coming school year.

Paul Mark, P.S.

NOW AVAILABLE AT YOUR IBEW ONLINE STORE!

IBEW MERCHANDISE
www.ibewmerchandise.com

<p>NEW ITEM!</p> <p>Flash Drive Price: \$17.00</p> <p>Two GB USB flash drive - storage / transport stick.</p>	<p>NEW ITEM!</p> <p>Black Long Sleeve T-shirt Price: \$12.00</p> <p>100% Pre-shrunk cotton long sleeve t-shirt, with IBEW printed on the left chest.</p>	<p>NEW ITEM!</p> <p>IBEW Railroad Hat Price: \$10.50</p> <p>Khaki twill, with black button and vent holes. Features embroidered railroad logo.</p>
---	--	--

See these items and many, many more!
www.ibewmerchandise.com