

# THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

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## Los Angeles Claims Its Spot as AMERICA'S NO. 1 SOLAR CITY

IBEW Local 11 members, working with signatory contractor CSI Electric, recently completed work on a 2.21 megawatt solar panel installation on the South Hall roof of the Los Angeles Convention Center. Credit: PermaCity Solar

The stars of Hollywood shine brightly in Los Angeles, but it is the city's world-famous sunshine that has catapulted the City of Angels atop the list of America's most solar-friendly cities.

That's good news for IBEW electricians, who have embraced the solar boom and its opportunities for steady, abundant work as Southern California works to harness the sun's energy.

"Our members have played a central role in helping L.A. rise to the top of U.S. cities embracing solar energy," said International President Lonnie R. Stephenson. "Solar construction continues to be a huge source of new work for our members in South-



ern California and all across North America, and we're proud to be on the leading edge of the clean energy revolution."

According to a new report from the Environment America Research and Policy Center, Los Angeles now has the most installed solar power of any city in U.S. And part of what pushed it to the No. 1 spot was an IBEW-installed 2.21-megawatt solar installation on the rooftop of the Los Angeles Convention Center.

It took about six months for IBEW members, working for signatory contractor CSI Electric, to affix the array's more than 6,000 panels to the top of the center's South Hall. The center is almost always in use, so a major challenge was coordinating the installation to work around the various events taking place inside with minimum disruption.

The installation is expected to cover about 17

percent of the convention center's annual energy needs — about 3.4 million kilowatt hours per year.

"Every investment we make in solar is an investment in the health and well-being of Angelenos today and for years to come," said Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti in an April press release.

The "Shining Cities 2018" report found that Los Angeles has 349.3 total megawatts of installed solar, enough to power an estimated 82,500 homes.

The nearby Westmont project, completed last summer near the Port of Los Angeles, found dozens of IBEW members with signatory contractor Baker Electric Solar working alongside union roofers and carpenters to install nearly 50,000 photovoltaic panels atop a cluster of distribution center warehouses on Westmont Drive in the San Pedro community. Completed, the array covers an area roughly the size of 50 football fields.

Westmont produces a daily average of 16.4 megawatts — enough to power around 5,000 homes — making it the most powerful solar roof in the world.

IBEW members and officials worked closely

NO. 1 SOLAR CITY continued on page 4

## FROM THE OFFICERS

# Planning for Victory



**Lonnie R. Stephenson**  
International President

I've always said there is no part of the U.S. where workers can't win. And when nearly 700 Atlanta Gas Light employees joined our ranks in April — deep in the right-to-work South — we proved it.

You will read more about their victory in next month's *Electrical Worker*, but I want to talk about what it means now, while the ink on Atlanta Local 1997's new charter is still drying.

Three years ago, when I had just become International President, I asked our Membership Development Department to come up with a new vision for organizing professional and industrial workers.

We were a changed union since the last strategic vision had been written nearly a decade before. My predecessors — Ed Hill, J.J. Barry and their staffs — transformed the IBEW into something it had not been for decades: an organizing union.

They understood a truth about labor in the 21st century: we would grow, or we would die, and they refused to lead this proud organization into the grave.

The plan we developed was bold and simple: pick better targets.

We would start with large companies we know, where corporate leaders know our members are the most productive workers in the business, places we believed we could win, of course, but also where we could get a contract and turn those election wins into what truly matters: changed lives and new members.

That is, in part, how we won at AGL. Its parent company, Southern Company, employs thousands of our members at utilities across the South. We've worked with them to bring fair contracts and a voice at work to those brothers and sisters, and we're confident we'll be able to do it again in Atlanta once negotiations get going.

But we can't just stop there. Every worker in our industry needs to know about everything the IBEW has to offer. And we need to sign them up. Whether it's a three-person shop or a big utility. Because with the unemployment rate low and union popularity high, this is a unique opportunity to really grow the IBEW.

Our membership development efforts have made so many strides in the last decade.

We know how to train unstoppable volunteer organizers, when to send our own professional organizers and how best to deploy them when they arrive. We have honed our message for years and deliver it through veterans of dozens of victories.

We won't win every campaign, but we will never give up and never leave any part of our industry behind. This is the next step in our growth, and, with your help, I believe you'll be reading a lot more stories like the one at AGL in the near future. ■

## All Politics is Local

Over the last few months, I've been pleased to see elected officials and aspiring politicians posting online about their trips to union halls and training centers.

Whether it was Illinois Democratic nominee for governor J.B. Pritzker visiting Local 364's training center in Rockford to learn about apprenticeships or Pennsylvania Republican Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick speaking to our Political and Legislative Conference, we welcome politicians of all stripes to learn about what makes the IBEW — and the labor movement — special.

In March, one of our own, Rep. Donald Norcross, an inside wireman from Folsom, N.J., Local 351, led a bipartisan delegation from the U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce on a tour of Washington, D.C., Local 26's training center. The members learned the value of union apprenticeships, which come at no cost to taxpayers, and allow future tradesmen and women to earn while they learn and help meet the growing skilled labor shortage in North America.

In April, Long Island, N.Y., Local 1049 sent Rep. Tom Suozzi 40 feet up a utility pole — literally — to learn about what sets the IBEW apart from our competition.

I tell you this because it's an election season, and that doesn't just mean us pitching in to help politicians who promise to do right by working people and unions. It also means educating those politicians on the issues that are important to us.

Whether you're represented by Republicans or Democrats, reach out and invite your elected officials to an event or to tour your training center. Members of Congress, governors, state legislators, city councilors — there's not a politician around who couldn't benefit from learning a little more about what the IBEW has to offer our communities.

Rep. Tim Ryan of Ohio said it best at our Political and Legislative Conference this year: "I want to talk about the issues that matter to the men and women who take a shower after work." Find those politicians, and then bend their ears.

You and I know there's a lot of rhetoric out there about unions, especially on the right, but we know the truth. If you want a job done right the first time, if you want a safe, educated workforce who shows up on time and works eight for eight, you hire union.

President Stephenson and I shout it from the rooftops to every group we talk to, but all of our talk doesn't match the power of you reaching out to your local representatives. They want your support in November, so trust me, they're listening.

Between now and November, you'll be hearing from a lot of candidates and elected officials who want your vote. Seize that opportunity and establish a dialogue. Let those folks know about the issues that are important to your local and its members, and make sure they know about the good work you're doing in your communities.

The alternative is more attacks on prevailing wage, more states pushing destructive right-to-work laws and more attacks on working families. We can fight back, but only if we start today. ■



**Kenneth W. Cooper**  
International Secretary-Treasurer

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### A Crafty Lineman Tribute

I'm a 38-year member working for SoCal Edison, and I've created a utility pole lamp that is my original design. I wanted to create a work of art representing my proud line of work. The lamps are 11 and 15 inches tall and come in single and double line arms with miniature glass insulators. Wood crafting is my side hobby, and I wanted to share this with my IBEW brothers and sisters.

*Steven Salido, Local 47 member  
Diamond Bar, Calif.*



### Time to Pay For What We Spend

President Trump's tax bill is going to cost more than \$150 billion in lost revenue every year, leaving future generations with more and more of our debt. You can't pay for things by printing money! It affects inflation, interest and unemployment rates. At some point, this sort of irresponsible behavior from our elected officials is going to cause another recession or worse. That's bad news for IBEW members. Bad times are coming if we keep kicking the can down the road. It's time to hold these politicians accountable.

*George O. Curry, Local 126 retiree  
Philadelphia*

**We Want to Hear From You:** Send your letters to [media@ibew.org](mailto:media@ibew.org) or Letters to the Editor, *The Electrical Worker*, 900 Seventh Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001.



**From Facebook:** Every month the IBEW Facebook page receives thousands of comments from our dynamic and engaged community of members and friends.

### Sisterhood Rising

[Responding to "Women's Committees Empowering the Sisterhood," *May Electrical Worker*]:

I know and have worked with lots of my sister electricians. Lots of them are better than the guys, because they have to be. Much love and respect.

*Michael Webster, Local 6 member  
San Francisco*

I've worked with IBEW sisters that could work as hard as any man. All members make the same wages, get the same benefits and retirement plans. It's a great career. My dad and I both retired from Local 481. Union by choice!

*Michael Moore, Local 481 retiree  
Indianapolis*

### Saving Nuclear Power

[In response to "IBEW and Partners Working to Save Pennsylvania, Ohio Nukes" on Page 3 of this issue]:

Keep writing letters and emails to your local officials. It made a difference in New York.

*Kevin King, Local 97 member  
Syracuse, N.Y.*

# IBEW and Partners Working to Save Pennsylvania, Ohio Nukes

For nearly three decades, energy consumers have been sending a clear message: they want clean, affordable and reliable power. Billions of dollars have been invested in scrubbing coal, switching to natural gas and building renewables.

But as the fracking revolution a decade ago sent natural gas prices plummeting, the energy market has had increasing trouble meeting all three customer demands.

Further evidence of that difficulty came in late March when FirstEnergy announced it would be shutting down two nuclear plants in Ohio — Davis-Besse east of Toledo and Perry outside of Cleveland — and the Beaver Valley Nuclear complex west of Pittsburgh by 2021.

The utility said the price of energy did not justify keeping the plants open, but a new study released by Nuclear Matters, a coalition of pro-nuclear power organizations that includes the IBEW, warned that the costs to the economy and the environment of shuttering the plants could far outstrip the company's losses.

Conducted by the Brattle Group, the report says the closures would destroy thousands of jobs, evaporating hundreds of millions in local and state taxes, raising electricity costs by billions and unleashing millions of tons of pollution.

"Nuclear power is the only way to tick the box on affordable, reliable, green energy," said Utility Department Director Donnie Colston. "But the market is so skewed that we are about to build billions of dollars of renewables that vary with the wind and clouds with our right hand and with the other hand shut shop on billions of dollars of emission-free nuclear that we can rely on night and day. And how will we make up the generation? By spending even more on carbon-emitting fossil-fueled power stations."

If they close, Davis-Besse, Perry and Beaver Valley would join a morbid roll call of mothballed and retiring nuclear plants.

Before 2013, none of the 100 commercial nuclear plants in the U.S. closed because they didn't make money; in just the last six years, including FirstEnergy's plants, nearly one-fifth have either closed or announced future closures [see sidebar for details].

"More than 3,000 highly skilled men and women are directly employed at these three sites, but if these plants close, the livelihoods of thousands more Ohio and Pennsylvania residents will disappear," said International President Lonnie Stephenson. "Before regulators and lawmakers stand idly by and let this happen, they need to know the full cost of inaction."

The Brattle report draws a grim picture.

Ohio's gross domestic product will fall nearly \$510 million a year, the study projects. If both Beaver Valley and nearby Three Mile Island close, Pennsylvania will take a \$2 billion GDP loss and nearly 16,000 jobs will disappear.



*Above: The Perry nuclear plant outside of Cleveland is one of the announced closures that a new report suggests would kill thousands of jobs and cost the economies of Pennsylvania and Ohio hundreds of millions of dollars, all while significantly increasing carbon dioxide and other toxic emissions.*

*Right: The Davis-Besse plant near Toledo, Ohio, also faces an uncertain future after FirstEnergy's announcement. The IBEW and coalition partners are encouraging the legislatures of Pennsylvania and Ohio to act to save zero-carbon nuclear power before it goes extinct.*



Credit: Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Just in 2017, the four plants paid \$540 million in state and local taxes.

"Supporters of the closures say we will make it up with renewable energy construction, but those projects are already slowing down. If you blow a \$500 million hole in the state budget, where do they think the increased investment is going to come from? Where do they think they'll find the money to connect these imaginary wind farms to the grid?" Colston said. "You can't build turbines with wishful thinking. You need money. And factories don't run on promises for the future; they need power now."

Equally worrying, Colston said, is the environmental toll the closures would unleash.

The four plants slated for closure — including Three Mile Island — provide 39 million megawatt hours of zero-emission

energy each year.

The entire fleet of renewable generation built in the last 25 years in the 13-state PJM interconnection region — which includes all or part of Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia — only added up to 26 million MWh in 2017.

To replace the nuclear plants would require a massive buildout of fossil fuels plants. Keeping FirstEnergy's plants open, Brattle found, would avoid over 21 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions annually and more than 31,000 tons of criteria pollutants including sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide and other known carcinogens. The report's authors estimated the total social cost of the emissions at more than \$1 billion a year.

"In less than four years, the retirement of these four nuclear generators would undo the entire emissions benefits of all renewable generation investments made to date throughout the PJM region," Colston said, quoting the report. "Gone and for what?"

Even if the development rate of new renewables was doubled — at a cost of nearly \$2 billion a year — it would still take until 2034 to restore the level of zero-emission generation that would result from maintaining the nuclear plants and continuing renewable growth at the current rate.

There is, Colston said, a way to avoid the pointless closure: follow the lead of Illinois and New York. Four nuclear plants in those states were slated to close, but the legislatures created Zero Emissions Credits that increased the value of energy generation that doesn't contribute to global climate change.

## Nuclear Plants Closed or Scheduled to Close Since 2013

| CLOSED               |        |          |
|----------------------|--------|----------|
| Fort Calhoun         | Neb.   | 10/24/16 |
| Vermont Yankee       | Vt.    | 12/29/14 |
| San Onofre 2 & 3     | Calif. | 6/12/13  |
| Kewaunee             | Wis.   | 5/7/13   |
| Crystal River        | Fla.   | 2/20/13  |
| CLOSING              |        |          |
| Oyster Creek         | N.J.   | 10/1/18  |
| Three Mile Island 1  | Pa.    | 5/1/19   |
| Pilgrim              | Mass.  | 6/1/19   |
| Davis-Besse          | Ohio   | 5/31/20  |
| Indian Point 2       | N.Y.   | 4/30/20  |
| Indian Point 3       | N.Y.   | 4/30/25  |
| Perry                | Ohio   | 5/31/21  |
| Beaver Valley Unit 1 | Pa.    | 5/31/21  |
| Beaver Valley Unit 2 | Pa.    | 10/31/21 |
| Diablo Canyon 1      | Calif. | 11/2/24  |
| Diablo Canyon 2      | Calif. | 8/26/25  |

The Fitzpatrick and Ginna plants in New York and Clinton and Quad Cities generating stations in Illinois were all scheduled for decommission by this summer, but all four are still operating thanks to the legislation.

"We all want clean energy and good jobs, and we don't need Sherlock Holmes to help us figure out how to get it: you pay the people providing it," Stephenson said. "The crazy thing — and this report proves it — is that unless Ohio and Pennsylvania act, they will end up paying billions more, losing thousands of jobs, and all they will get for their trouble is less reliable and more expensive power."

No legislation has been proposed in Pennsylvania, but in Ohio a Senate and a House bill have been proposed.

"Deregulation was built on a level playing field but now you have incentives for wind and solar and tax breaks and subsidies for natural gas but not for base-load," said Toledo, Ohio, Local 245 Business Manager Larry Tscherne. "All we are asking for is fairness."

Unfortunately, he said, the bills have stalled in committee and may stay there as the legislature turns its attention to the midterm elections in November.

"Right now, the Legislature is more concerned with who will be elected than anything else," he said. "They should remember that if they stand around and let this happen to Ohio and these jobs disappear, their jobs will too." ■

# Los Angeles Claims Its Spot as America's No. 1 Solar City

► Continued from page 1

with PermaCity Solar to ensure the success of both projects.

"PermaCity is what in the solar industry is called an integrator. They perform a different role than a traditional contractor or developer," said Los Angeles Local 11 Business Manager Marvin Kropke. "They do the marketing, bring together customers, arrange financing, hire the contractors and manage the project from conception to completion."

The company had been relying on nonunion companies for solar installations, Kropke said, but that began to change a few years ago after Local 11 business agents Pat Stewart and Kevin Norton introduced themselves to CEO Jonathan Port at a building trades conference.

"We told Jonathan about how valuable IBEW's help could be as his company tries to push projects through the city of Los Angeles," Stewart said.

"We try to be value-added," Kropke said. "When you look at getting your project approved, we can turn out 1,500 people to a council meeting for support. And on projects big and small, IBEW electricians make sure our signatory contractors deliver top results on time and budget."

PermaCity worked with Local 11 on a couple of pilot projects first, Norton said. "We developed a really good working relationship and signed up three or four contractors."

IBEW connected PermaCity with the right companies and the right contact people, Kropke said. "So, it's not just a one-way relationship. It's nice to work with people like that."

Port was pleased with IBEW's work on the massive Westmont project in particular.

"I think IBEW did a fantastic job of



The most powerful solar roof in the U.S. to date was installed by dozens of IBEW Local 11 members atop of a warehouse and distribution center near the Port of Los Angeles in San Pedro.

Credit: Baker Electric Solar

making sure there was labor for the job," Port said in an interview with enerG Magazine. "It was good to have their support."

Priorities aligned when PermaCity chose to put a special emphasis on hiring military veterans, something Kropke and Local 11 have focused on for years.

"We're always happy when contractors share our commitment to America's veterans," said Kropke, an Army veteran who was wounded in Vietnam. "We get good people who come trained with good work habits."

Local 11 has a public goal of having half of incoming apprentices each year be former members of the armed forces. The recruitment effort is not just important to Kropke but also to Local 11's members, who have wholeheartedly embraced the effort.

"There are thousands of veterans coming back from service," Port told enerG Magazine, "and there are a lot of people displaced in the way the American economy is changing. Renewable energy is one of the larger drivers of jobs making up for that change."

"We try to be good members of our communities, because after all, our members live here," Kropke said. "We want to be good neighbors, and we want to make sure we're taking care of the people who volunteered to protect us around the world."

With assistance from Local 11 and the Los Angeles chapters of the roofers' and carpenters' unions, more than four dozen veterans found work on the Westmont project.

The expansion of solar adds much-needed capacity to the region's electrical grid, but, longer-term, it also will require substantial upgrades to the region's electrical infrastructure in the form of batteries and smart sensors to help manage the sometimes-irregular flow of electricity. Both the build out and grid retrofits translate into expanded job opportunities for IBEW members.

At present, solar is the fastest-growing power generation technology. As we reported in December's Electrical Worker, more than 21.5 gigawatts of utility-scale solar generating capacity existed across the United States in December 2016, a massive 55 percent increase from the year before.

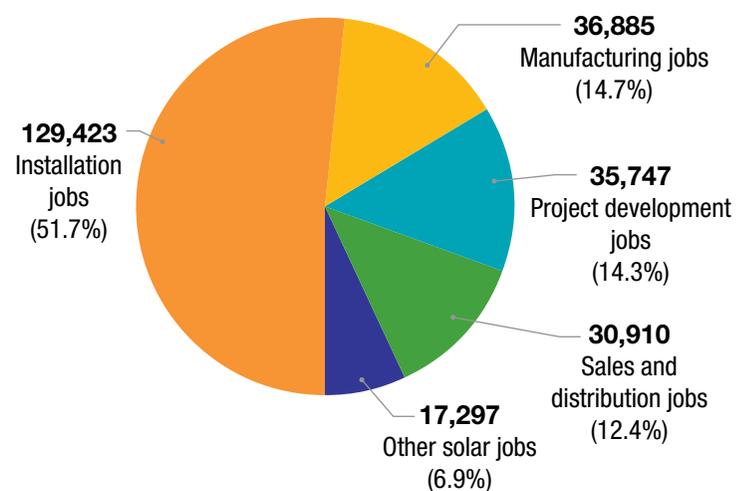
Job growth has been strong in the renewable energy sector, too. The U.S. Department of Energy reported a 25 percent increase in the solar workforce in 2016, and the Solar Foundation reported that more than a quarter-million people worked in solar industries last year.

"More of that should be IBEW work," Stephenson said. "We have to continue to organize like hell to make sure IBEW members are among the beneficiaries of this explosion of solar generation all over North America."

In Los Angeles, the Department of Water and Power reported that, in 2016, solar was responsible for about 5 percent of the city's power generation. Natural gas led with 34 percent, and coal and nuclear accounted for 19 percent and 9 percent, respectively.

## 2017 Nationwide Solar Jobs Breakdown

250,262 Solar jobs



11,529 Total solar companies

Source: The Solar Foundation

## Top 20 Cities by Total Installed Solar Photovoltaic Capacity, End of 2017

| Rank | City               | Megawatts |
|------|--------------------|-----------|
| 1    | Los Angeles        | 349.3     |
| 2    | San Diego          | 287.2     |
| 3    | Honolulu           | 213.3     |
| 4    | Phoenix            | 206.4     |
| 5    | San Jose, Calif.   | 195.9     |
| 6    | San Antonio        | 161.0     |
| 7    | New York City      | 147.0     |
| 8    | Indianapolis       | 117.4     |
| 9    | Denver             | 83.4      |
| 10   | Las Vegas          | 81.5      |
| 11   | Albuquerque, N.M.  | 57.9      |
| 12   | Sacramento, Calif. | 49.8      |
| 13   | Washington         | 47.3      |
| 14   | San Francisco      | 47.1      |
| 15   | Jacksonville, Fla. | 42.6      |
| 16   | New Orleans        | 39.7      |
| 17   | Austin, Texas      | 39.4      |
| 18   | Riverside, Calif.  | 36.3      |
| 19   | Boston             | 33.0      |
| 20   | Portland, Ore.     | 31.2      |

Source: Environment America Research and Policy Center

Photovoltaic solar panels work best in vast open areas that get a great deal of sunlight. It helps that Los Angeles averages around 300 sunny days each year, but solar has provided IBEW members with long-term employment opportunities all over sunny Southern California, along the coast from Silicon Valley to San Diego and eastward to the wide open, high desert areas.

"Lots of companies and municipalities are racing to capture the power of the sun, and to do it right, they will need a workforce that can build the necessary infrastructure," Stephenson said. "We continue to advocate for strong, reliable baseload power generation like carbon-free nuclear and coal and gas, but renewables are an important part of the mix, and we're committed to be a part of their growth."

"When companies or cities are looking to expand their solar or wind generation capacity, we know they'll continue to look to members of the IBEW, who are the best-trained, safest and most professional electricians in the world." z



### HELMETS to HARDHATS

is a national, nonprofit program that connects National Guard, Reserve, retired and transitioning active-duty military service members with skilled training and quality career opportunities in the construction industry. The program is designed to help military service members successfully transition back into civilian life by offering them the means to secure a quality career in the construction industry.

# Legislative Conference Energizes, Inspires Local Leaders in Critical Election Year

**M**ore than 300 union leaders converged on Capitol Hill in April to talk with lawmakers about issues vital to IBEW members' jobs and economic security, as well as the broader fight for workers' rights.

The lobbying visits capped two days of rousing speeches and workshops at the IBEW's annual Political-Legislative Affairs Conference, where the power of union families to elect worker-friendly candidates in November's midterm elections was the predominant message.

Unions proved it this spring with U.S. Rep. Conor Lamb's win in deep-red southwestern Pennsylvania. "It would never have happened without you," Lamb said, thanking IBEW members. "Week after week, when it was cold outside, snowing, raining, I saw what happened when labor decided that no matter what, it was going to make its voice heard at the ballot box."

In addition to Lamb's seat in Congress, about 40 statehouse seats and even one in the U.S. Senate have flipped from red to blue in special and scheduled elections since November 2016.

"I want you to think back one year," International President Lonnie R. Stephenson said in his opening address. "Congress and the courts were in the hands of politicians committed to chipping away every victory won by the labor movement in the 20th century — things like workers' rights, retirement security, health care, and safety regulations."

Lamb's victory "is a wake-up call for every politician," Stephenson said. "We made it loud and clear: If you try stripping away our rights at work; if you try coming after our health care, our pensions; if you try slashing our pay and taking away our voice... then it's your job that's on the line."

What members achieved in an afternoon of lobbying suggests politicians are paying attention. Five days after hearing the IBEW's case against the Tribal Sovereignty Act, senators voted it down. The bill, passed by the House earlier this year, would have exempted businesses owned and run by Native American tribes from federal labor law.

Members argued that it was a thinly veiled attack on unions and collective bargaining rights that would hurt thousands of workers at casinos, power plants, saw mills, construction companies, hotels, mines and other tribal employers. (See story, Page 8.)

"We won the tribal sovereignty vote in large part due to the flood of members we sent to the Senate side of the Hill," said Austin Keyser, director of the Political and Legislative Affairs Department, which put on the conference. "It demonstrates how our concentrated efforts can change the lives of working people for the better, and why we need to keep building on them."

IBEW leaders stressed that the union's support goes to candidates who stand with labor and working people, whether they are Democrats or Republicans.



U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan delivers a fiery pro-worker speech at April's conference.

"We say to every candidate for higher office — I don't care if it's the local water board or school board or the United States Senate — that if they want our vote, if they want our support, then they must be loud and clear in their support of the

fundamental and inalienable right of working people to come together in unions," International Secretary-Treasurer Kenneth W. Cooper said.

Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick, a freshman Republican from suburban Philadelphia, told members that he wants to be the "voice that gets us to where being pro-labor and supporting the working class is never a partisan issue."

A member of the House's bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus, Fitzpatrick has bucked GOP leadership several times, including voting against repealing Obamacare. "A movement can't depend on one-party support," he said. "It has to be based on organic support based on the justness of the cause and include as many diverse groups as possible."

A growing number of IBEW members are throwing their hats in the ring, running for city councils, school boards, statehouses and even Congress. They include Baltimore Local 24 member Cory McCray, who was elected to Maryland's

House of Delegates in 2014 and now is running for state Senate.

McCray, a strong advocate for apprenticeship programs, has fought to expand prevailing wage and for a law making general contractors liable for subcontractors who fail to pay workers. "If not us, then who?" he asked his audience. "Who is better to tell our story than the IBEW?"

While not a union member himself, a blunt-spoken West Virginia state legislator made clear his respect for labor. Richard Ojeda, a retired U.S. Army major who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, grew up seeing the coal industry mistreating miners while the Mine Workers fought for them. "It's always been the unions that stood with the people," he said.

He urged members to get active in campaigns, register voters and make sure friends and family vote even if it means driving them to the polls. "I'm not a polished guy. I'm not a polished politician," Ojeda said. "I got into this because I got

tired of it, and that's how you have to be."

Rep. Tim Ryan of Ohio delivered a fiery speech condemning partisan tactics that divide the middle class and divert focus from issues that directly affect their lives, such as retirement security.

"We've got to put an agenda forward that says if you work hard for 35 years, you're never going to lose your damn pension," Ryan said.

Without naming names, he criticized "slippery politicians" for promising to open shuttered coal mines and steel mills, then passing a tax reform bill that heavily favors high-income earners.

"We've got work to do and it starts in this election," said Ryan. "It starts with you and every single town you come from. We have an opportunity to win with candidates that will vote with you and in districts we haven't won in a generation."

"I will tell you right now: If we're going to move this country forward, it will be led by the union movement of the United States of America." ■

## PROTECTING AN ICON THE IBEW LOGO

*It's a symbol of Brotherhood; of 127 years' history of working people joining together to secure fair wages, good benefits and a dignified retirement; and it's a symbol of the IBEW's commitment to its members and its members' commitment to their union.*

But the IBEW logo, the clenched fist holding 10 lightning bolts — one for each of the union's founders — is also a commercial image.

For each and every member who wears it proudly, the logo stands for excellence, and that's why IBEW leadership needs your help to protect it.

"The IBEW's logo is important to all of us, and it stands for quality, tradition and excellence," said International Secretary-Treasurer Kenneth W. Cooper. "Unfortunately, it turns up in a lot of places that stand for exactly the opposite, and it's becoming harder for us to police its use."

Popular sites like Amazon, Etsy, eBay and Shopify have enabled an explosion of non-sanctioned products to find consumers, and the IBEW's logo has been emblazoned on everything from belt buckles to casket liners. But most of the vendors on those sites have no connection to the union and paste the logo on low-quality or offensive items to make a quick buck at your expense. Unfortunately, that sometimes goes for members using the logo without authorization as well.

Support Services Director Will Paul is the man tasked with protecting the logo, and he and his staff have seen some truly bizarre applications over the years.

"We've had the fist and lightning bolts show up on high-fashion clothing, in music videos, on toys and album covers," he said. "Most of the time, it's the usual stuff — T-shirts, hats, commemorative items — but people are creative. They're stealing, but they're creative."

**By rule, only the IBEW can authorize use of the logo, and staff works hard to ensure it's used on union-made items produced in the U.S. or Canada,** and that's where much of the trouble arises.

"Most of the people out there using the IBEW's logo without our permission don't care whether it's pictured on cheap junk imported from overseas or whether it's made in a sweatshop by people making a dollar a day," Paul said.

Sometimes, he said, they try to change an element or two — which hand is depicted or how many lightning bolts there are — but the law protects the trademark for anything deemed "confusingly similar."

"Basically, if you glance at something and think it's connected to the IBEW, it's considered confusingly similar and we can put a stop to it."

That goes for offensive imagery as well. "You wouldn't believe some of the stuff we've seen the logo used with," Paul said. "I can only say I don't want those things to

reflect on me as an IBEW member, and I don't think the overwhelming majority of us would want that either."

It also applies to marketing and advertising materials. "Companies looking to do businesses with IBEW locals or members often think they can use our logo, but 100 percent of the time, that's false," Paul said. "Whether it's insurance companies, law firms, tool manufacturers or any other business, **we don't allow the IBEW logo to go on any advertising materials at all.**"

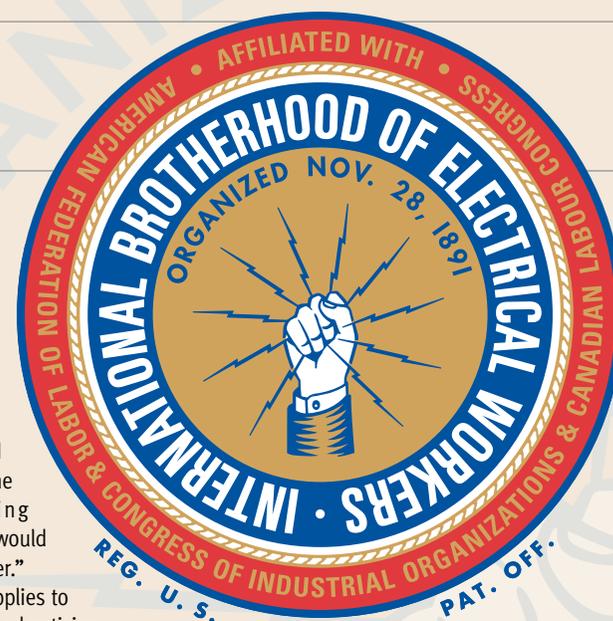
**Local unions and signatory employers are typically the only organizations approved to use the IBEW logo or variations,** and those requests must come through the International Office for approval. Locals can request its use for products like T-shirts and hats or for use on outdoor signs, stationary, in publications or on websites, **so long as the local number is displayed prominently alongside it.**

In most instances, the local sends a letter requesting permission from the International Secretary-Treasurer and those requests are reviewed. In some districts, locals are asked to send requests through their International Vice President's office. Paul suggests checking with your local's international representative if you're unsure.

"This logo is a source of pride for us who've dedicated our working lives to the IBEW," he said. "I wish we didn't have to worry about people using it illegally, but there are so many ways to make a dollar with our trademarks, we've got to be vigilant."

That goes for all of us, Cooper said. "We need every single member's help in protecting the symbol of our Brotherhood. It's important to all of us, and each of us has a role to play in defending it."

*If you see unauthorized use of the IBEW logo or any variation of the fist and lightning bolts, please contact your local union with website links, photos or other documentation. ■*





# NORTH OF 49°

## IBEW Bringing Broadband to Rural B.C.

**R**esidents in coastal and rural British Columbia, including 44 First Nations, are about to get an internet upgrade thanks in part to members of Vancouver Local 213.

“Access to high-speed internet is not a luxury; it’s essential. High-speed internet service is a basic tool that all Canadians should have access to, regardless of their postal code,” said Navdeep Bains, minister of innovation, science and economic development. “Canadians need this service to do business, upgrade their education and build stronger communities.”

The work is part of a CA\$45 million joint investment by the Canadian and British Columbian governments to bring high-speed internet to 154 rural and remote communities, providing them with increased access to services like health care and education as well as economic opportunities like tourism.

“Our members are the best in the business and we’re honoured to be chosen to bring more access to our neighbors living and working in the more remote parts of the province,” said Local 213 Business Manager Adam Van Steinburg. “These digital highways are just as important as concrete roads and bridges.”

IBEW signatory contractor CityWest Cable and Telephone is one of two organizations to receive the funding. It will get just over CA\$12 million to wire 23 communities and close to 100 institutions.

“This is yet another example of CityWest expanding its network beyond its current footprint in its mission to provide a superior customer experience,” said CEO Chris Marett.

The investment includes 3.5 million metres of new subsea fibre optic cable that will connect Vancouver to Prince Rupert, about 1,500 kilometres to the north, as well as the Vancouver Island area.

“Projects like this secure the future for our members working for CityWest,” said Robin Nedila, Local 213 assistant business manager, who represents members in cable and telecommunications. “Our telecommunications training department offers the very best fibre optic training in the industry and we’re confident that our members will succeed in northern B.C.”

Local 213 members get training through NETCOM, the telecommunications training arm for the local, in fibre placing, splicing and testing. The extent of their work on the project has yet to be finalized, Nedila said, but Local 213 has exclusive jurisdiction over the area for telecommunications work.

The project is part of a larger federal program, Connect to Innovate, that aims to provide high-speed internet service to Canadians in unserved and underserved area access.

“Slow, unreliable internet is a fact of life,” said Peter Lantin, president of the Haida Nation, located in northern British

Columbia in the area designated for the digital upgrade. “Coders, designers, artists, accountants, linguists, small business people can now reach a global audience. Young people can really think about staying in our communities with a full and stimulating livelihood.”

The project is set to start later this year and is expected to take three years to complete with phased construction, according to a CityWest press release.

“This shows the confidence that the B.C. and federal governments have in the ability of our members to provide this much-needed service, and we’re happy to have the work,” said First District Vice President William Daniels. “Our members aren’t just the best at what they do, they’re also committed to improving their communities.” ■



Vancouver, British Columbia, Local 213 members will bring high-speed internet to parts of the province’s rural and coastal areas.

Credit: Creative Commons / Flickr user Bryan and Megan Jackson

## AU NORD DU 49° PARALLÈLE

### La FIOE rend le service à large bande accessible au milieu rural de la C.-B.

**L**es résidents des zones côtières et rurales en Colombie-Britannique, y compris 44 communautés des Premières Nations, sont sur le point d’obtenir une mise à niveau de leur service Internet, en partie grâce aux membres du Local 213 de Vancouver.

« L’accès à des services Internet haute vitesse n’est pas un luxe, il est essentiel. Ces services sont des outils de base auxquels tous les Canadiens doivent avoir accès, peu importe où ils vivent, » mentionne le ministre de l’innovation, des Sciences et du Développement économique Navdeep Bains. « Ils en ont besoin pour mener leurs affaires, s’instruire et bâtir des collectivités plus fortes. »

Le travail fait partie d’un investissement conjoint de 45 millions de dollars canadiens provenant du gouvernement du Canada et celui de la Colombie-Britannique qui permettra à 154 collectivités rurales et éloignées d’avoir accès à des services Internet haute vitesse. Ce service donne un meilleur accès en ce qui a trait au service de la santé, l’éducation et les opportunités économiques telles que le tourisme.

« Nos membres sont les meilleures dans ce domaine et nous sommes honorés d’avoir été choisis pour permettre un meilleur accès à nos voisins qui vivent et travaillent dans les parties plus éloignées de la province, » ajoute le gérant d’affaires Adam Van Steinburg de la section locale 213. « Ces autoroutes numériques sont tout aussi importantes que les routes en béton et les ponts. »

L’entrepreneur signataire de la FIOE CityWest Cable and Telephone est l’une des deux entreprises à recevoir l’investissement. Il va recevoir juste au-dessus de 12 millions de dollars canadiens pour alimenter 23 communautés et proche de 100 institutions.

« Ceci est un autre exemple de CityWest qui étend son réseau au-delà de sa présence actuelle dans sa mission d’offrir une expérience de client de qualité supérieure, » dit le PDG Chris Marett.

Cet investissement comprend un câble sous-marin à fibre optique de 3,5 millions de mètres de long qui reliera Vancouver à Prince-Rupert, à quelque 1 500 kilomètres au nord, ainsi que le secteur de l’île de Vancouver.

« Des projets comme ceux-là, garantie l’avenir de nos membres qui sont à l’emploi de CityWest, » ajoute l’assistant gérant d’affaires Robin Nedila du local 213, qui représente les membres des secteurs de la câblodistribution et des télécommunications. « Notre département de formation en télécommunication offre la meilleure formation dans l’industrie en matière de fibre optique et nous sommes convaincus que nos membres réussiront dans le nord de la Colombie-Britannique. »

Les membres du local 213 reçoivent leur formation en installation de câbles et en épissure de fibre optique par l’organisme de formation en télécommunications NETCOM du local. L’étendue de leurs travaux sur le projet n’est pas encore déterminée, informe Nedila, mais

le local 213 couvre cette juridiction de manière exclusive pour effectuer les travaux de télécommunications.

Le projet relève d’un programme gouvernemental plus vaste, *Brancher pour innover*, qui a pour but de fournir un accès Internet haute vitesse à des Canadiens pour améliorer l’accès aux zones non desservies et mal desservies.

« Une connexion Internet lente et peu fiable, est une réalité, » ajoute le président Peter Lantin de *Haida Nation* situé dans le nord de la Colombie-Britannique, une zone destinée à cette mise à niveau. « Les programmeurs, les concepteurs, les artistes, les comptables, les linguistes, les gestionnaires de petites entreprises seront en mesure d’atteindre un public mondial. La jeune génération peut réellement penser à habiter dans nos communautés où ils pourront mener une vie bien remplie et stimulante. »

Selon le communiqué de presse de CityWest, le projet par étape est prévu commencer plus tard cette année et l’exécution du projet devrait s’étaler sur trois ans.

« Ceci prouve que le gouvernement fédéral et celui de la Colombie-Britannique ont confiance en la capacité de nos membres à fournir un service tant attendu, et nous sommes très heureux d’avoir obtenu le mandat, » souligne William Daniels le vice-président du Premier District. « Non seulement que nos membres sont les meilleurs dans leur domaine, ils sont aussi dévoués à améliorer la qualité de vie au sein de leurs communautés. » ■

## IBEW MEDIA WORLD

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

### www.ibew.org

Get all the news for and about IBEW members, including the online version of the Electrical Worker, at [IBEW.org](http://IBEW.org).

### YouTube

One person, one vote. That’s how Democracy works, right? Not if you live in a gerrymandered district. Learn about what gerrymandering is and what we can do about it at [youtube.com/TheElectricalWorker](http://youtube.com/TheElectricalWorker).

### Vimeo

Are you thinking about running for



public office? There are dozens of IBEW members standing up for working families at every level of government. Learn more at [Vimeo.com/IBEW](http://Vimeo.com/IBEW).

### HourPower

Each year, the IBEW selects three IBEW Hour Power Award Winners. Visit [IBEWHourPower.com](http://IBEWHourPower.com) now to see the 2017 Apprentice, Journeyman Mentor, and Instructor of the Year.



### ElectricTV

This month, we learn about the blended rate program that electrical contractors across the nation are implementing to gain more work, employ more union workers, and ensure that projects are done properly. Visit [ElectricTV.net](http://ElectricTV.net).



# In Memoriam

## Members for Whom PBF Death Claims were Approved in April 2018

| Local | Surname            | Date of Death | Local | Surname           | Date of Death | Local | Surname            | Date of Death | Local | Surname                | Date of Death | Local | Surname          | Date of Death | Local        | Surname             | Date of Death |
|-------|--------------------|---------------|-------|-------------------|---------------|-------|--------------------|---------------|-------|------------------------|---------------|-------|------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 1     | Delaney, J. M.     | 12/13/17      | 26    | Moore, A. E.      | 11/19/17      | 134   | Ford, D. E.        | 1/9/18        | 307   | Smith, G. E.           | 12/22/17      | 595   | Derr, C. S.      | 9/7/17        | 1002         | Liggett, C. B.      | 2/8/18        |
| 1     | English, K. A.     | 2/28/18       | 26    | Munsey, T. J.     | 2/13/18       | 134   | Hannigan, T. A.    | 1/5/18        | 309   | Keck, S. R.            | 3/9/18        | 602   | Yancey, M.       | 12/23/17      | 1141         | Wilson, C. F.       | 3/11/18       |
| 1     | Grupe, H. E.       | 2/18/18       | 34    | McGrew, J. C.     | 2/3/18        | 134   | Harris, R. M.      | 1/16/18       | 332   | Tuttle, R. D.          | 5/28/16       | 607   | Michael, R. W.   | 2/10/18       | 1186         | Lampitoc, E. R.     | 12/29/17      |
| 1     | Hellebusch, L. A.  | 12/12/17      | 34    | McManus, R. G.    | 3/10/18       | 134   | Jones, R. T.       | 2/10/18       | 353   | Akerman, P. L.         | 3/3/18        | 611   | Cochrane, R. E.  | 12/20/17      | 1186         | Sugihara, E. A.     | 1/9/18        |
| 1     | Helms, W. J.       | 2/2/18        | 35    | Darling, R. S.    | 2/9/18        | 134   | Luby, R. J.        | 11/15/17      | 353   | Anagnostopoulos, S.    | 2/6/18        | 611   | Reed, K. G.      | 6/11/17       | 1212         | Jagusiak, J. J.     | 8/23/17       |
| 1     | Metzger, P. J.     | 2/9/18        | 38    | Ginley, J. F.     | 2/20/18       | 134   | Mackivitch, L.     | 2/7/18        | 353   | Caesar, K. M.          | 9/28/16       | 611   | Rodarte, N. F.   | 11/18/17      | 1245         | Aaberg, G. E.       | 10/2/17       |
| 1     | Motzkus, R. P.     | 10/23/17      | 38    | Petricig, B. M.   | 3/4/18        | 134   | Mellert, E.        | 2/10/18       | 353   | Drasnin, A.            | 11/5/17       | 613   | Brooker, L.      | 1/22/18       | 1245         | Ward, J. L.         | 1/14/18       |
| 1     | Prainito, A. T.    | 2/12/18       | 41    | Talley, J. E.     | 9/2/17        | 134   | Myart, L.          | 2/18/18       | 353   | Ridout, C.             | 2/24/18       | 613   | Hester, D. M.    | 1/29/18       | 1253         | Babson, R. L.       | 12/19/17      |
| 1     | Smith, G. L.       | 5/13/17       | 43    | Sugar, S.         | 3/11/18       | 134   | Otto, F. J.        | 12/23/17      | 353   | Smith, W.              | 12/14/17      | 613   | Johnson, N. W.   | 11/14/17      | 1319         | Kleban, W. C.       | 3/20/18       |
| 1     | White, K. L.       | 1/24/18       | 46    | Libby, R. A.      | 3/31/16       | 134   | Pinz, M. R.        | 2/22/18       | 353   | Stapleford, C. G.      | 3/3/18        | 640   | Byars, B. L.     | 2/27/18       | 1340         | Parish, R. A.       | 9/24/17       |
| 2     | Crow, R. A.        | 1/29/18       | 46    | Watterson, W. P.  | 1/28/18       | 134   | Richardson, K. L.  | 2/11/18       | 353   | Visconti, J.           | 2/8/18        | 654   | Mohr, W. H.      | 3/4/18        | 1377         | Campbell, P. R.     | 2/9/18        |
| 3     | Allen, J. P.       | 2/9/18        | 47    | Arteaga, M. C.    | 1/22/18       | 134   | Riordan, D. J.     | 2/3/18        | 354   | Alford, M. F.          | 1/28/18       | 659   | Mullen, J. R.    | 8/15/17       | 1439         | Henry, C. E.        | 1/24/18       |
| 3     | Anagnos, P. C.     | 1/6/18        | 47    | Ross, P. R.       | 12/10/17      | 134   | Strenk, W. J.      | 12/15/17      | 357   | Hardbarger, H. M.      | 1/3/18        | 665   | Smith, R. C.     | 11/23/17      | 1507         | Skarlinsky, T. L.   | 1/8/18        |
| 3     | Barlow, W. J.      | 2/10/18       | 47    | Sprenger, H. F.   | 8/31/17       | 134   | Zisterer, R.       | 12/27/17      | 359   | Riggs, L. R.           | 12/28/17      | 666   | Carlton, R. L.   | 8/30/17       | 1579         | Thompson, L. E.     | 11/16/17      |
| 3     | Boyajian, V.       | 4/28/17       | 48    | Bergstrom, R. E.  | 12/28/17      | 136   | Riddle, H. D.      | 2/9/18        | 363   | Kane, J. E.            | 6/26/16       | 666   | Marshall, J. E.  | 3/18/18       | 1701         | Baker, M. W.        | 2/7/18        |
| 3     | Byrne, M. S.       | 2/15/18       | 48    | Gerg, H.          | 1/9/18        | 139   | Mayer, G.          | 11/24/17      | 369   | Curry, J. G.           | 3/3/18        | 683   | Gallagher, J. F. | 3/14/18       | 2286         | Dailey, B. L.       | 10/17/17      |
| 3     | Castrogiovanni, C. | 3/22/18       | 48    | Hawn, E. L.       | 12/23/17      | 146   | Carter, P. E.      | 2/17/18       | 369   | Frakes, R. E.          | 11/21/17      | 683   | Liston, R. L.    | 2/22/18       | I.O. (44)    | Abt, W. C.          | 2/4/18        |
| 3     | DeSena, A. A.      | 1/5/18        | 48    | Schwab, C. P.     | 11/28/17      | 146   | Kastl, B. W.       | 2/24/18       | 369   | Gardner, J. L.         | 1/29/18       | 683   | Mills, R. R.     | 2/26/18       | I.O. (134)   | Heerhold, G. D.     | 2/12/18       |
| 3     | Goldstein, S.      | 2/3/18        | 55    | Johnston, J. E.   | 3/11/18       | 150   | Glader, G. J.      | 12/27/17      | 369   | Miller, W. M.          | 2/9/18        | 683   | Sampson, R. L.   | 2/18/18       | I.O. (134)   | Sonetz, L. J.       | 1/17/18       |
| 3     | Helfman, A. L.     | 2/11/18       | 57    | Anderson, D. A.   | 2/10/18       | 150   | Maatta, A. C.      | 2/10/18       | 369   | Vowels, S. A.          | 2/5/18        | 692   | Geneseo, G. A.   | 2/7/18        | I.O. (134)   | Tomisek, J. J.      | 2/22/18       |
| 3     | Huth, R. F.        | 1/14/18       | 57    | Popa, D. D.       | 1/27/18       | 153   | Wilmes, P. A.      | 2/1/18        | 375   | Scheirer, G. S.        | 2/16/18       | 697   | Walstra, T. L.   | 2/20/18       | I.O. (136)   | Cole, W. A.         | 4/30/16       |
| 3     | Janousek, R. C.    | 1/16/18       | 58    | Brandt, F. F.     | 1/13/18       | 159   | Ward, M. D.        | 2/7/18        | 387   | Boone, C. M.           | 2/4/18        | 701   | Chambers, R. W.  | 2/11/18       | I.O. (276)   | DeBeir, D. R.       | 1/17/18       |
| 3     | Josephs, D.        | 11/1/15       | 58    | Cervi, L. G.      | 2/19/18       | 164   | Heinle, P. H.      | 2/5/18        | 405   | Kroupa, L.             | 1/20/18       | 701   | Iaccino, A.      | 11/29/17      | I.O. (1377)  | Clevidence, R. L.   | 9/29/17       |
| 3     | Lanfranchi, T. J.  | 2/4/18        | 58    | Mittelbrun, T.    | 2/27/18       | 164   | Moran, D. J.       | 2/13/18       | 405   | Strohan, R. G.         | 1/14/18       | 702   | Baker, J. T.     | 12/2/17       | Pens. (I.O.) | Amundson, G. G.     | 2/23/18       |
| 3     | Luccarelli, A.     | 2/27/18       | 58    | Rutkofske, R. J.  | 2/26/18       | 164   | Spencer, M. S.     | 12/31/17      | 436   | Lawhorne, D. G.        | 1/10/18       | 702   | Campbell, P. R.  | 1/24/18       | Pens. (I.O.) | Arenz, R. R.        | 2/15/18       |
| 3     | McGowan, J. J.     | 2/4/18        | 58    | Williams, R. J.   | 2/23/18       | 175   | Lowe, B. E.        | 2/11/18       | 441   | Schwagermann, O.       | 1/16/18       | 702   | Lowry, C. E.     | 11/25/17      | Pens. (I.O.) | Brakhahn, T. L.     | 10/2/17       |
| 3     | Payson, S. J.      | 8/1/17        | 60    | Gonzalez, D. H.   | 1/10/18       | 175   | Noll, E. T.        | 2/20/18       | 441   | Troian, P. N.          | 2/1/18        | 712   | Rogers, J. C.    | 1/2/18        | Pens. (I.O.) | Champion, A. N.     | 2/25/17       |
| 3     | Rabuffo, A. J.     | 12/22/17      | 60    | Orlowski, D. W.   | 2/25/18       | 177   | Rupert, C. V.      | 11/24/17      | 449   | Frugoli, D. R.         | 2/23/18       | 716   | Mintz, H. W.     | 2/17/18       | Pens. (I.O.) | Coyle, W. J.        | 1/15/18       |
| 3     | Ronin, L.          | 2/15/18       | 66    | Gardner, W. M.    | 2/26/18       | 191   | Hubbard, G. D.     | 1/1/18        | 449   | Geddes, G. A.          | 2/4/18        | 716   | Quinn, D. W.     | 2/16/18       | Pens. (I.O.) | Eannetta, L. P.     | 2/7/18        |
| 3     | Roudette, E. T.    | 7/12/17       | 70    | Mongold, E. C.    | 2/26/18       | 193   | Fitzpatrick, G. E. | 2/3/18        | 456   | Georgianna, S.         | 2/17/18       | 716   | Ramsey, T. N.    | 3/5/17        | Pens. (I.O.) | Forbes, E. J.       | 12/30/17      |
| 3     | Scanlon, M. J.     | 12/7/17       | 71    | Price, L. W.      | 12/24/14      | 194   | Kersey, D. W.      | 2/3/18        | 456   | Pellichero, R. R.      | 1/23/18       | 728   | Bray, F. M.      | 11/20/17      | Pens. (I.O.) | Franciosa, S.       | 1/14/18       |
| 3     | Tarantino, N. P.   | 2/27/18       | 76    | Critchlow, E. G.  | 8/21/17       | 194   | King, R. H.        | 1/31/18       | 466   | Mize, J. B.            | 2/17/18       | 728   | Sexton, W.       | 11/13/17      | Pens. (I.O.) | Freeman, W. C.      | 11/3/17       |
| 3     | Young, D. S.       | 12/29/17      | 77    | Diede, H.         | 1/3/18        | 197   | Olson, R. C.       | 1/24/18       | 474   | Boaz, G. H.            | 12/5/17       | 743   | Cinelli, R. J.   | 2/10/18       | Pens. (I.O.) | Gore, J. F.         | 1/26/18       |
| 3     | Zigabarra, W.      | 2/8/18        | 77    | Dillon, R. W.     | 2/15/18       | 212   | Harrison, J. F.    | 2/10/18       | 474   | Brown, D. L.           | 2/10/18       | 756   | Sloan, E. W.     | 3/5/18        | Pens. (I.O.) | Grubbs, M.          | 4/17/17       |
| 7     | Barnes, E. C.      | 2/27/18       | 80    | Knight, R. V.     | 1/31/18       | 212   | Kuhn, P. A.        | 1/4/18        | 474   | McKnight, J. D.        | 12/18/17      | 760   | Cox, I. F.       | 1/11/18       | Pens. (I.O.) | Heinrich, P. C.     | 3/14/18       |
| 7     | Dakers, J.         | 10/21/17      | 82    | Dear, C. L.       | 11/11/17      | 213   | Chow, W.           | 10/31/17      | 474   | Rogers, G. E.          | 5/21/17       | 769   | Gladde, B. J.    | 1/17/18       | Pens. (I.O.) | Johnson, R. G.      | 1/28/18       |
| 8     | Auxter, T. D.      | 1/26/18       | 84    | Chapman, W. C.    | 12/2/17       | 213   | Fletcher, L. J.    | 7/11/17       | 474   | Thurmond, D. A.        | 12/20/17      | 776   | Bouknight, D. E. | 2/7/18        | Pens. (I.O.) | Johnson, P. N.      | 2/2/18        |
| 8     | Hays, J. L.        | 1/7/18        | 90    | Piersanti, S.     | 12/1/17       | 213   | Kendall, D. J.     | 1/28/18       | 477   | Beckwith, M.           | 1/13/18       | 776   | Goff, W. H.      | 3/23/17       | Pens. (I.O.) | Johnston, R. S.     | 1/18/18       |
| 8     | Like, W. M.        | 1/25/18       | 98    | Greaves, T.       | 9/28/17       | 213   | Sawkill, C. W.     | 12/20/17      | 480   | Carroll, J. W.         | 2/12/18       | 776   | McDowell, W. L.  | 3/25/12       | Pens. (I.O.) | Metcalfe, D. E.     | 2/8/18        |
| 11    | Bentley, D. R.     | 12/12/17      | 98    | Lawson, E. J.     | 11/3/17       | 222   | Cortes, J. J.      | 2/4/18        | 480   | Thornton, J. H.        | 2/16/18       | 804   | Hyslop, P.       | 12/19/17      | Pens. (I.O.) | Mondragon, T.       | 6/1/17        |
| 11    | Bloor, R. J.       | 12/6/17       | 98    | Leirer, W. H.     | 6/20/17       | 226   | Petterson, B. J.   | 11/25/17      | 481   | Custer, G. W.          | 3/5/18        | 804   | Pagnan, A.       | 12/20/17      | Pens. (I.O.) | Mueller, F. J.      | 1/8/18        |
| 11    | Digangi, L.        | 11/23/17      | 100   | Carter, J. C.     | 2/28/18       | 231   | Miller, D. N.      | 3/9/18        | 481   | Reed, W. L.            | 2/22/18       | 861   | Oubre, L. A.     | 1/11/18       | Pens. (I.O.) | Roberts, E.         | 3/2/18        |
| 11    | Dube, R. L.        | 2/4/18        | 102   | Brown, D. W.      | 7/31/17       | 233   | Maeder, M. D.      | 10/29/17      | 481   | Sharpe, L.             | 2/9/18        | 915   | Caron, W. E.     | 1/24/18       | Pens. (I.O.) | Rowe, R. D.         | 1/30/18       |
| 11    | Gilbert, J. C.     | 2/10/18       | 102   | Maiuro, A. G.     | 1/23/18       | 234   | Idemoto, A.        | 1/15/18       | 488   | Robidas, H. J.         | 1/16/18       | 915   | Jordan, J. R.    | 7/15/17       | Pens. (I.O.) | Sawinski, R. W.     | 2/10/18       |
| 11    | Harding, P. L.     | 1/24/18       | 103   | Dufresne, E. H.   | 1/27/18       | 237   | Bryant, E.         | 2/3/18        | 494   | Chandler, D. O.        | 3/15/18       | 915   | Rentz, F. V.     | 2/5/18        | Pens. (I.O.) | Schneeberger, W. E. |               |
| 11    | Koop, J. H.        | 1/31/18       | 103   | Murray, J. W.     | 9/7/17        | 241   | Williams, N.       | 11/11/17      | 494   | Keller, R. S.          | 2/14/18       | 934   | Weber, R. V.     | 2/6/18        |              |                     |               |
| 11    | Lombardo, A.       | 1/19/18       | 103   | Stouffer, R. A.   | 1/10/18       | 245   | Dennis, A. G.      | 1/30/18       | 494   | Kotnik, K. D.          | 3/4/18        | 934   | Wilson, G. A.    | 12/15/17      | Pens. (I.O.) | Seguin, S. L.       | 1/29/18       |
| 11    | Moss, S. B.        | 12/25/17      | 104   | McAuley, L. O.    | 7/2/17        | 246   | Pearson, J. D.     | 12/19/17      | 494   | Sobek, J. A.           | 1/19/18       | 948   | Shifflett, F. D. | 12/13/17      | Pens. (I.O.) | Yoder, C. D.        | 1/31/18       |
| 11    | Parmley, A. K.     | 3/4/17        | 105   | Baker, G. E.      | 2/19/18       | 254   | Dams, V. A.        | 1/29/18       | 495   | Devenero, R.           | 11/25/16      | 953   | Mimbs, J. W.     | 12/19/17      |              |                     |               |
| 11    | Sowers, D. L.      | 2/7/18        | 105   | Glover, J.        | 6/17/17       | 257   | Enloe, J. D.       | 12/18/17      | 520   | Boardman, J. P.        | 1/17/18       | 993   | Perry, C. L.     | 2/13/18       |              |                     |               |
| 11    | Volkman, J. C.     | 12/17/17      | 110   | Sederstrom, R. A. | 3/1/18        | 257   | Hamacher, C. E.    | 2/3/18        | 529   | Malson, R. A.          | 1/6/18        | 995   | Pugh, J. E.      | 2/11/18       |              |                     |               |
| 16    | Nowling, M. D.     | 12/16/17      | 112   | Halsey, J. D.     | 2/13/18       | 258   | McDonald, J. H.    | 12/8/17       | 530   | Trella, R. M.          | 2/4/18        | 1002  | Knight, S. L.    | 2/16/18       |              |                     |               |
| 17    | Briggs, P. F.      | 12/7/17       | 124   | Casteel, M. E.    | 1/14/18       | 258   | Percy, C. S.       | 6/16/17       | 531   | Morphis, G. P.         | 11/24/17      |       |                  |               |              |                     |               |
| 17    | Hubble, P. C.      | 1/6/18        | 125   | Clifton, K. B.    | 1/12/18       | 265   | Haviland, J. D.    | 11/20/17      | 538   | Beddow, M. J.          | 2/6/18        |       |                  |               |              |                     |               |
| 18    | McQuirk, F.        | 11/23/17      | 125   | Newbigging, W. R. | 3/7/17        | 265   | Runyan, J. W.      | 2/25/18       | 551   | Kondratieff, K. S.     | 2/3/18        |       |                  |               |              |                     |               |
| 20    | Almand, C. D.      | 2/15/18       | 126   | Blough, R. M.     | 2/18/18       | 269   | Mosco, F. W.       | 12/26/17      | 551   | Nauman, L. F.          | 1/17/18       |       |                  |               |              |                     |               |
| 20    | Emmett, K. M.      | 2/23/18       | 126   | Bowser, D. A.     | 2/11/18       | 270   | Sandusky, P. P.    | 2/28/18       | 551   | Scott, J. D.           | 2/8/18        |       |                  |               |              |                     |               |
| 20    | Lee, G. D.         | 2/13/18       | 126   | Schmidberg, J.    | 1/30/18       | 270   | Sanford, W. R.     | 3/11/18       | 558   | Barnes, L. P.          | 3/6/18        |       |                  |               |              |                     |               |
| 22    | McDonnell, C. M.   | 1/11/18       | 126   | Wescott, N. G.    | 12/9/17       | 280   | Black, D. L.       | 2/16/18       | 567   | Moynihn-Stevens, J. L. | 12/24/17      |       |                  |               |              |                     |               |
| 24    | Gardner, N. J.     | 12/13/17      | 129   | Leyshon, H. R.    | 12/21/17      | 280   | Nunemacher, C. H.  | 10/23/17      | 569   | Cook, F. A.            | 2/5/18        |       |                  |               |              |                     |               |
| 25    | Holroyd, M.        | 2/7/18        | 129   | Mudge, H. V.      | 1/9/18        | 280   | Schmidt, L.        | 1/16/18       | 569   | Derogy, J. R.          | 2/18/18       |       |                  |               |              |                     |               |
| 25    | Kraus, J. J.       | 2/15/18       | 129   | Whaley, R. D.     | 1/12/18       | 288   | Howard, L. O.      | 12/21/17      | 569   | Gurbacki, T. F.        | 1/6/18        |       |                  |               |              |                     |               |
| 25    | Masourakis, I. N.  | 2/11/18       | 130   | Schilling, J. H.  | 12/14/17      | 292   | Burma, D. E.       | 2/2/18        | 569   | Hawkensen, G. G.       | 2/13/18       |       |                  |               |              |                     |               |
| 25    | Yablonski, D.      | 2/22/18       | 134   | Bain, W. R.       | 1/31/18       | 292   | Loehlein, A. J.    | 11/28/16      | 569   | Leavitt, R. A.         | 2/15/18       |       |                  |               |              |                     |               |
| 26    | Coleman, R. L.     | 2/19/18       | 134   | Bechtold, N. F.   | 12/21/17      | 294   | Pederson, A. D.    | 2/5/18        | 569   | Stonehouse, R. S.      | 2/3/18        |       |                  |               |              |                     |               |
| 26    | D'Abadie, E. J.    | 3/2/18        | 134   | Blair, R. L.      | 1/22/18       | 300   | Warren, M. M.      | 12/23/17      | 570   | Waller, A. D.          | 1/22/18       |       |                  |               |              |                     |               |
| 26    | Dykes, C. D.       | 1/30/18       | 134   | Buckley, T. J.    | 12/31/17      | 301   | Bottoms, G. W.     | 1/26/18       | 573   | Tyler, R. K.           | 8/27/17       |       |                  |               |              |                     |               |
| 26    | Hibbard, R. F.     | 1/23/18       | 134   | Carlson, R. H.    | 1/8/18        | 302   | Batchelder, L. G.  | 2/3/18        | 575   | Hurl                   |               |       |                  |               |              |                     |               |

# ORGANIZING WIRE

## A Decade's Difference Pays Off in the Carolinas

In 2007, Charlotte, N.C., Local 379 held its meetings in a two-car garage.

Outside, the rumble and roar of NASCAR drivers doing practice laps around Charlotte Motor Speedway — located less than a mile away — were a regular irritant. Membership hovered around 200 and market share was a paltry 2 percent.

But 10 years later, thanks to a concerted effort by local leaders, and a little help from the International Office, the local has more than tripled its membership and moved from the little house by the racetrack into a 12,000 square-foot facility with two more satellite offices across its sprawling jurisdiction.

Here's how they did it.

"This is a success story that needs to be told," said Tenth District International Representative for Business Development Dave Hoque. "It can happen, but it takes effort."

Hoque was part of the Carolina Initiative, an effort that began in 2007 and invested I.O. resources in the area to grow market share and increase membership. It followed the success of an IBEW pilot program in Florida, where organizers honed tactics like industry nights, reaching out to nonunion work sites and making the most of the IBEW's intermediate worker classifications.

"We embraced a lot of new ideas," said Local 379 Business Manager Tommy Hill, then the assistant business manager. "A lot of it was attitude too. But it started with asking for help."

At the outset, the local didn't have much in the way of infrastructure to grow. Devoting scant resources to a massive organizing effort wasn't something that was in the cards.

But the Carolina Initiative brought a lifeline in the form of five full-time international organizers and four more whose cost was split 50/50 with the local. With the additional help — and a commitment from leadership — Local 379 dedicated itself to organizing. Growing became leader's No. 1 priority.

It all started with strong leadership, said Hoque. Under then-Business Manager Bob Krebs, the local developed 5-year and 10-year plans and fostered an environment that was open to change. Union meetings were often packed, and sometimes controversial, but the leaders, staff and organizers remained committed to the long, hard work of rebuilding the local.

"We knew, if we did nothing, there wouldn't be anything left of this local," Hill said. "We embraced our strategic plan, and our contractors took notice." They bid bigger and bigger jobs, counting on the local to provide the manpower. They even took advantage of the 2008 recession to advance market share. But most of all, they worked — hard.

Part of what the Carolina Initiative did was push for a "new IBEW," a fresh way of promoting the union that focused on members' skill and professionalism and the value of a talented workforce.

"We basically said, 'This is what we want to be when we grow up,'" Hoque said.

Back in the 1970s, the local had about 1,000 members. So, they set a goal for half of that to start with, Hill said. They began organizing both members and contractors, and the Code of Excellence became the most valuable tool in their tool bag.

The Code is the IBEW's pledge between labor and management to commit to professionalism and respect, distinguishing IBEW electricians as high-quality craftsmen. Local 379 adopted the Seventh District's 8-hour Code training in 2015, and more than 300 members have completed the class to date, Hill said — all of them voluntarily.

One area the Code paid off was absenteeism, and Local 379 cut it substantially, Hill said, by emphasizing the value of the member to each project,



Members of Charlotte, N.C., Local 370 participate in the 2016 Labor Day parade alongside family members.

creating a sense of ownership.

"If you realize you're important to the job, you show up," he said. "You don't want to let the team down."

Local 379 also utilized the Construc-

tion Wireman/Construction Electrician designations, an alternative classification that creates an entryway for nonunion electricians who have some experience, but not at the level of a journeyman, to

become members. That allowed signatory contractors to be more competitive when bidding on projects, particularly in residential and smaller commercial sectors.

"That was a big help," said Local 379 President and Assistant Business Manager Scott Thrower. "I was against it at first, but I came around when I saw how much more work it created."

They held industry nights, inviting those looking to be, or already in, the industry to learn about the IBEW. And they launched a foreman's development series, something that started in the Seventh District, Hill said.

The program teaches the skills needed to be a foreman with members

## THE FRONT LINE: POLITICS & JOBS

### Move to Weaken Workers' Rights Fails in Senate

In a major victory for the IBEW and unions, the Senate rejected the Tribal Labor Sovereignty Act on April 16, avoiding what would have been the biggest rollback in workers' rights since the anti-union Taft-Hartley Act of 1947.

The bill would have exempted any business or corporation partially or wholly owned by a Native American tribe from the National Labor Relations Act, which guarantees workers the right to join a union. It would have applied to all employees of those businesses, including non-tribal citizens. More than 600,000 workers would have lost protections guaranteed by the NLRA if the bill had passed, according to the AFL-CIO.

The House passed the bill in January, but it needed 60 votes in the Senate, where it fell five votes short of breaking a filibuster. It is unclear if the Senate will take it up again. President Trump had not voiced an opinion, but he was expected to sign the bill if it reached his desk. Among its supporters was the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

**Ohio Sen. Rob Portman, the only Republican to vote against the labor rights rollback**

Credit: Creative Commons / Flickr user World Economic Forum

"This was a great win for the IBEW and all of labor," said Austin Keyser, director of the Political and Legislative Affairs Department. "We fully support Native American tribes having sovereign power over their own governmental issues, but this bill had nothing to do with that. Instead, it was an attempt by rich and powerful interests to strip hundreds of thousands of Americans of their fundamental rights at work."

Indeed, some tribal leaders made little attempt to disguise their intentions of eliminating union representation.

"I would liken it to what happened with the air traffic controllers strike a number of years ago," a representative for the Chickasaw Nation told a congressional hearing earlier this year. "We obviously are not on as large a scale, but that is the type of activity that would interfere with what we are doing."

The IBEW saw that first hand. Diamond Bar, Calif., Local 47 represents about 30 slot-machine technicians at a casino in Cabazon owned by the Morongo Band of Mission Indians. The local union voted to ratify an agreement following contract negotiations, but negotiators for the tribe refused to recommend tribal members approve it because they had been emboldened by Congress' potential action.

Keyser thanked members for contacting their representatives to oppose the bill, noting that attendees during the annual political conference made it a point of emphasis while lobbying on Capitol Hill.

"IBEW members understood this bill would have emboldened our opponents if they had been successful," he said. "We certainly would have been targeted at some point. I'm really pleased with how we worked with our friends and allies to defeat this terrible piece of legislation."

It wasn't easy. Eight Senate Democrats, the majority of whom are up for re-election this year in states with large Native American populations, voted in favor of the bill. Ohio's Rob Portman was the lone Republican to vote against it.

"I want to thank our members and supporters who contacted their representatives urging them to vote no," International President Lonnie R. Stephenson said. "I'm convinced they made a difference, but we must remain vigilant. If we've learned anything, it's that more attacks are coming from this Congress." ■

### IBEW Members Win in Wisconsin, Build Momentum for November

Labor and working families in Wisconsin got a boost on April 3 when IBEW members and labor allies racked up impressive victories in municipal and judicial elections, sparking enthusiasm they hope will carry into the November elections.

Three IBEW members were elected or re-elected to their posts, including a surprisingly lopsided victory by Eau Claire Local 953 vice president and assistant business manager Brady Weiss, who beat a far-right member of the Wisconsin House to become the mayor of the town of Mondovi in west-central Wisconsin.

Other IBEW members who won elections were Dan Bukiewicz, a former Local 494 business representative and current president of the Milwaukee Building & Construction Trades Council, who was re-elected mayor of Milwaukee suburb Oak Creek; and fellow 494 member and current business representative Curt Brauer, who was re-elected supervisor in Sheboygan County, about 50 miles north of Milwaukee.

Weiss knocked off incumbent Treig Pronschinske 457-256 in Mondovi, a town of about 2,800 near Eau Claire. Pronschinske, who also serves in the state House, has consistently supported Gov. Scott Walker and proposals that harm working families.

"People are common-sense voters in my town," said Weiss, a lineman making his first run for public office. "You have to constantly be trying to find common ground with people. If you take an adversarial position on every topic along party lines, nothing will be accomplished and nothing can be gained."

The IBEW in Wisconsin also worked with other groups to elect Rebecca Dallet to the state Supreme Court. Dallet, a Milwaukee County Circuit judge, won a seat held by a conservative justice not seeking re-election.

Her victory cuts the conservatives' edge on the seven-member court to 4-3. Walker and his allies have been emboldened by knowing the state's high court likely won't overturn their most controversial measures.

"We are proud of our work to help elect these fantastic candidates," Local 494 Business Manager Dean Warsh said. "We endorsed candidates who support working families, job creation and using tax dollars to make investments in our communities."

Earlier this year, Democrats picked up a state Senate seat when Patty Schachtner won a special election in District 10 by 11 percentage points. President Trump won the district by 17 points in 2016.

The GOP still holds an 18-14 advantage in the state Senate and 63-35 in the House. Walker, who led the charge in Wisconsin adopting a right-to-work law in 2015 and eviscerating public employee unions in 2011, also is running for a third term in November.

"You can sense the tide is turning here in Wisconsin, but it's still an uphill battle," Warsh said. "Most voters understand the Walker era has been a disaster, but that means nothing if we don't get them to the polls in November." ■



Eau Claire, Wis., Local 953's Brady Weiss

## CIRCUITS

participating in a series of 12 modules, or classes, over eight weeks, covering topics like the role of the foreman, material management, labor relations, safety and communication. About 40 people have graduated so far, with more than 80 taking certain modules.

“A lot of folks just get thrown in, and they’re expected to do a job they haven’t been trained for,” Hill said. “It fits like a glove with the Code.”

Local 379’s “NewIBEW” also includes a good old-fashioned focus on member retention. The local has extended its hall hours and started a newsletter. It offers videoconferencing among its three offices for membership meetings and texts reminders beforehand.

The local offers financial planning classes and more orientation and training opportunities — including new-member classes and benefits workshops — that teach younger members about the benefits of Brotherhood.

“It’s another tool in our right-to-work bag,” Thrower said. “We want engaged members who know the value of their union membership and know that we’ve got their back.”

All of it added together paints the story Hill, Thrower and the rest of the leaders at Local 379 want to share with others in a similar predicament to where they were 10 years ago: that with a lot of vision, a little help, and a massive amount of hard work, anyone can overcome the challenges to growth.

Today, Local 379 has about 700 members with more than 350 working on a new, eight-story hotel and three data centers. The hotel, especially, was the sort of mid-sized job they’d have struggled to land in the past.

Market share increased to 9 percent in 2015, but Thrower says it’s likely closer to 10 or 11 percent now, with the local working close to 1,000 members for the first time in a long time. Its contractor base has grown from about five in 2004 to more than 26 last year, and its staff has climbed to 10.

They’re also an active part of the community. Local 379’s float for the Labor Day parade, which used to only draw about 10 members, now gets closer to 100, Hill said. They’re regular volunteers at local charities. And Local 379 advertisements are a common sight at NASCAR — their former neighbor — and at Carolina Panthers and Charlotte Hornets home games.

“We’re a lot better off than we’ve ever been,” Thrower said. “We’ve been open-minded to a lot of ideas. We listen to everyone and try to do whatever we can.”

Taking on a project like the Carolina Initiative required a long-term focus and an enormous effort, Hill said. He encourages other locals to reach out to the I.O. and ask for help if they’re feeling stuck, but he says not to bother unless you’re ready to throw everything at the problem.

“Our success didn’t happen overnight, and we’ve still got a ways to go,” he said. “We put in a lot of work, but every day we’re changing our image in the Carolinas, and our members and contractors are better off for it.” ■

### Boston Local Casts a Wider Net

Boston Local 103’s “Opportunity Campaign” is working to extend the prospect of a better life through union membership to an increasingly diverse selection of Bostonians.

“Boston is a very diverse city,” said Local 103 Business Manager Lou Antonellis. “It’s important for our organization to not only represent, but resemble, our neighborhoods and our membership.”

Local 103 partnered with developer Millennium Partners Boston and 617MediaGroup, a communications firm, to create an outreach campaign using ads targeted to women and communities of color, two groups historically underrepresented in the building trades.

Using zip codes to geo-target their ads, which ran online and elsewhere featuring women and people of color, the campaign aimed to increase the diversity of Local 103 by increasing awareness of its apprenticeship opportunities.

It worked — really well.



*Boston Local 103’s campaign to recruit more women and people of color from the Boston area brought in a record number of applications.*

“Local 103 is already the most diverse among the building trades in Boston,” Antonellis said. “This campaign doubled our applicant numbers.”

The roughly 8,000-member local received a record-breaking 687 applicants from the city of Boston, a 95 percent increase from the prior year. Among those, 452 were people of color — the largest number of minority applicants for a Boston construction apprenticeship ever, Antonellis said. Eighty-five of the applicants were women, including 57 women of color.

Of 2,100 total applications received from all over the region, Local 103 will choose about 250 for its apprenticeship program.

“I’m looking forward to welcoming our new apprentices to our training program and to our union,” said Local 103 business agent Kenell Broomstein. “We’re growing stronger and more diverse every day.”

Broomstein recently achieved a milestone herself when she became the first woman-of-color business agent at a major Boston area construction union.

“I’m extremely honored to take on such a high-profile job,” Broomstein said. “People need to be able to see themselves in these leadership roles. Then they can say, ‘Wow, if she can do it, then I can do it.’”

Broomstein also spoke at the annual Massachusetts Girls in Trades Conference and Career Fair, hosted by Local 103, for girls and educators in the area. Now in its third year, the March 20 event attracted more than 500 students from 28 schools.

At a time when the construction industry is dealing with a labor shortage, efforts such as Local 103’s can take on an increased importance. And the benefits go both ways. Union construction jobs have been shown to reduce racial and gender pay gaps.

On average, women make around 80 percent of what a man does in a comparable position. But in construction, the pay gap shrinks, with women making 96 percent of their male counterparts, according to the National Association of Women in Construction. Nationally, about 2 percent of construction workers are women. In Massachusetts, it’s closer to 7 percent, according to The Boston Globe.

A study by the Illinois Economic Policy Institute found that when prevailing wage laws are in place, African-American workers earn an average of 88 cents for every dollar their white counterparts earn. In states without prevailing wage regulations, African-Americans make only 74 cents for every dollar white workers are paid.

The campaign is notable not just for its impressive recruitment numbers but also for its use of social media, running ads on major platforms like Facebook, Google and YouTube, as well as those popular among younger, more diverse groups, like Instagram, Snapchat and Pandora, a popular internet radio site.

The campaign also ran ads on billboards and on television, both online and traditional, and in local print publications.

Antonellis says it’s the first time he knows of that a major Boston-area union has run such an aggressive social media campaign.

“Social media is the best tool to reach younger workers,” Antonellis said. “And platforms like Pandora, Snapchat and Instagram are where they’re spending a lot of their time right now.”

According to the Pew Research Center, 69 percent of all Americans use some form of social media. For people aged 18 to 29, the number grows to 88 percent.

Among the platforms used, Antonellis said Pandora was the most successful, along with Facebook.

The success was noticed by others in the building trades, Antonellis said, with some reaching out to see how they could replicate Local 103’s success.

“If you want to increase diversity in your local union, there are many ready, willing and able applicants out there; you just need to reach out to them,” Antonellis said. “And social media is one of the quickest, cheapest and most effective ways to reach your audience. I say jump right in, the water is fine.” ■

### Georgia Members Make Masters Magic

Every April, members of Augusta, Ga., Local 1579 work at nearby Augusta National Golf Club during The Masters, providing world-class electricians during one of the golfing world’s highest-profile events.

This year, their contributions were a little more noticeable to the nearly 40,000 fans who attended the tradition-rich tournament. Over the last year, 64 Local 1579 members worked on a new \$40 million club store for patrons near the first fairway. The new three-story structure replaced an old merchandise building and media center, which were torn down.

As one might expect from Augusta National, it’s an impressive structure, Local 1579 Business Manager Will Salters said. The store boasts 64 cash registers and twice the square footage of the previous space. It took about 20 weeks to complete and officially opened on April 1 and was packed throughout the tournament.

“It’s got some nice finishes,” Salters said. “The floors have really heavy molding. You name it, it’s got it. Money did not seem to be a problem.”

Salters first inquired about the project when he learned that Allison-Smith, an IBEW signatory contractor based in suburban Atlanta, landed the contract to perform the electrical work.

Like many areas of the country, Local 1579’s jurisdiction has a shortage of experienced, skilled construction workers and electricians. Its members currently are working large construction jobs at the Vogtle Nuclear Plant, the Hull McKnight Georgia Cyber Innovation and Training Center and a minor-league baseball stadium for the Augusta GreenJackets.

Salters worked with Allison-Smith officials to help address that shortage and to get the Masters project completed in time for the club’s signature event, held April 5-8. Part of that meant offering workers a higher wage than on typical construction projects in the area.

“When we first met, I mentioned to them that if you want to attract and retain the manpower, it would be beneficial to work out a pay scale that pays people a little extra,” he said. “Happily, they did that and it turned out to be a really good project.”

The lure of Augusta National isn’t just a big deal for golf fans. Salters said Local 1579’s members and a handful of travelers involved in the project were thrilled to be working on the hallowed course. A ticket to The Masters is considered one of the toughest to get in all of sports.

“A lot of the members who worked out there had never been there before,” he said. “It was a dream job for them. But I would have to say after three, four or five weeks, it was just another job. Like any place else, you just got used to it.”

Interestingly, Local 1579’s work began after most of the building and landscaping was complete. That was unusual, but Salters said Augusta National officials informed the contractor they wanted to plant the already mature trees and shrubbery around the facility first.

“I would say Augusta National probably was the most unusual construction job we’ve ever done” because of that, he said.

Local 1579 has a history with The Masters, but in a different role. About 40 members work for CBS during the tournament, assisting camera operators and technicians — who also are IBEW members — to ensure the network’s equipment is working properly. A few members work in the studio.

The chance to be up close to one of America’s premier sporting events is quite a draw.

“A lot of our members are always trying to figure out ways to get that work and to get that job,” Salters said. “It’s a tradition nearly as strong as The Masters itself.” ■



*Augusta, Ga., Local 1579 members helped build a new \$40 million merchandise facility at Augusta National, the site of The Masters.*

# TRANSITIONS

## RETIRED

### Fielding Gurley



Fielding Gurley, who spent every workweek for the past 23 years on the road assisting IBEW locals in four southern states, retired as a Fifth

District international representative April 1.

Gurley's late father, H. Wade Gurley, held the same title for 34 years. He rose from president of his local at Georgia Power to representative to being elected Fifth District international vice president in 1991.

**"I was born into an IBEW family. I was taught about the IBEW ever since I was old enough to remember."**

— Fielding Gurley

"I was born into an IBEW family," his son said. "I was taught about the IBEW ever since I was old enough to remember."

Gurley studied journalism, advertising and political science at the University of Georgia for three years before "going to work for a living" as a nuclear electrician at Georgia Power's Plant Hatch in 1976.

It wasn't the path he'd expected to take. "I didn't really have any goals or aspirations to follow my dad's footsteps" either at Georgia Power or with the union, he said. "But these guys at work came to me and their attitude was that 'the chip doesn't fall very far from the log.'"

Gurley agreed to be the maintenance steward for Atlanta Local 84 and soon found himself helping a member with a grievance. "That kind of got me started," he said. "It felt good."

A few years later, he was able to transfer to Plant Scherer near his hometown of Macon, where he served as plant steward. In 1983, he joined the local's staff as an assistant business manager, handling arbitration cases and serving as second chair in contract talks with Georgia Power.

In 1992, he moved to the international staff as an organizer in the south, where the IBEW was planning a flurry of new campaigns. Gurley's string of successes began with 1,200 clerical workers at Florida Power and Light.

When his father retired as Fifth District V.P. in 1995, Gurley took the new vice president up on his challenge to move from organizing to representation. Assigned to Georgia, the Florida panhandle and parts of Alabama and Louisiana, Gurley enjoyed the variety of locals he served, from utilities and outside construction to paper mills, battery plants and electrical manufacturing.

He was on the road Monday through Friday and remembers then-International President J.J. Barry's directive: "He didn't want any 'T to T' reps," those who traveled only Tuesday through Thursday. "I felt that way, too," he said. "I really took

that to heart, servicing the members, being there for them."

Gurley's skills, work ethic and rapport with locals were a model for Danny Johnson, who became a Fifth District international representative after serving as Tampa, Fla., Local 824's business manager.

International representatives "have to be respected, and there was nobody more respected in the field" than Gurley, Johnson said, recalling locals' not-so-subtle disappointment when the district shuffled assignments. He and other representatives who took over some of Gurley's territory soon realized, "You're not going to make that local as happy as they were with Fielding."

Still, Johnson gave it his all. "I always said I was going to be the best representative," he said. "I was there 10 years and I never became the best because he was the best."

Gurley lives in Macon with his wife, Audrey, his childhood sweetheart. Their three children and six grandchildren live nearby. He's looking forward to spending more time with them, as well as golfing, archery, fishing, hunting and his newest pursuit, raising Airedale terriers.

Working for the IBEW, he never forgot lessons he learned growing up. "Teachers in grammar school, Sunday school, they always kind of preached, 'make a difference in the world,'" he said. "And I felt like working with the IBEW I did make a difference in many people's lives. I know I saved a lot of people's jobs, and that was something I was always proud of."

The IBEW family thanks Gurley for his many years of dedicated service and wishes him a happy and healthy retirement. ■

## RETIRED

### Mike Pace



Fifth District International Representative and second-generation IBEW member Mike Pace retired on April 1 after 47 years of service.

Dutch Pace, Mike's father, was a longtime member of Bogalusa, La., Local 1077 and served one term as business manager in the 1960s. The younger Pace grew up in nearby Pine, La., and planned to follow his father into the trades at some point. That timeline sped up when he left Southeastern Louisiana University after one semester. Pace was a walk-on to the school's football team, but reconsidered after his father recommended that staying without a scholarship wasn't worth it. "I thought I was tough back then," Pace said. "But when you step up and start playing college football, it separates people out."

After that, he joined the National Guard, where he served for 10 years, and began his Local 1077 apprenticeship in 1972. Pace's first job was in Liberty, Miss., and he topped out in 1976 as a journeyman inside wireman — what he

still calls his "badge of honor."

He got involved in his local union before his apprenticeship ended. Pace was elected recording secretary in 1975 and served in every position except treasurer before being elected business manager in 1992.

"The one thing that I think that is built into the DNA of every IBEW member is service," he said. "Being part of our Brotherhood means serving others."

Local 1077 has only about 200 members spread out over a largely rural area and was still keeping records by hand when Pace took over as business manager. He used his own computer to conduct business before a computer system was installed at Local 1077's offices.

Pace was elected business manager five more times, never drawing opposition in any election.

"I would like to think it was because I was doing such a marvelous job," he said with a laugh. "What it likely meant is that someone didn't want the aggravation."

"What I enjoyed most was helping people. The other stuff that came with the job, I tolerated that. But where I got my satisfaction, it was from helping people."

He accepted a position as an international representative in the Fifth District in 2007. Pace worked as a desk representative and serviced local unions as far north as the Tennessee River. His territory included all of Alabama and Georgia, northern Mississippi and the Florida Panhandle.

Pace said his experience in Local 1077 — which represented members working in inside and outside construction, utilities, manufacturing and government — proved useful at the district level.

"I was familiar with all these different contracts I had to negotiate," he said.

Former Local 1077 Business Manager Ben Nevers watched Pace grow up in Bogalusa. Nevers was an apprentice when Dutch Pace was business manager and started Nevers Electrical Contracting, where the younger Pace was an employee. He later negotiated contracts with him when Pace was business manager.

"Mike was a prime example of what the IBEW stands for," Nevers said. "He was a hard-working man. He was punctual and always on time. He was a true craftsman and a leader."

**"The one thing that I think is built into the DNA of every IBEW member is service. Being part of our Brotherhood means serving others."**

— Mike Pace

Nevers went on to serve in the Louisiana House and Senate and was Gov. John Bel Edwards' chief of staff before retiring earlier this year.

"To see someone like Mike Pace grow up and become a business manager and an international rep, I was very proud of his family," Nevers said. "I just believe we need more people like him in the IBEW."

Pace and his wife, Dakota, plan to stay in the Birmingham, Ala., area, near the Fifth District office. He also still owns a house and small farm near Bogalusa and returns to it often. He also plans to get more involved in music. Pace is an accomplished bluegrass and country music fiddle player and hopes to perform more regularly. He is a member of the American Federation of Musicians.

His only regret during his IBEW career, he said, is that his father did not live long enough to see him become an international representative. Dutch Pace passed away in 2005.

"That would have made him extremely proud," he said. "The IBEW meant everything to him."

The officers, staff and membership thank Brother Pace for his many years of service and wish him a happy retirement. ■

## RETIRED

### Glenn 'Paul' Rushton



After more than four decades of service, Eleventh District International Representative Glenn "Paul" Rushton retired on April 1.

Born in Kansas City, Mo., Brother Rushton was initiated into Kansas City Local 124 in August of 1973. The journeyman inside wireman served as an apprenticeship instructor, assistant business manager and executive council member prior to being appointed international representative in 2006, a position he held until his retirement.

"Paul's one of the nicest people you'll ever meet," said Local 124 business agent Phil Hulsey, who knew Rushton when he apprenticed with Hulsey's father.

It's a sentiment echoed by business representative Roger Beach, who apprenticed under Rushton and has known him for nearly 30 years.

"As an instructor, Paul always took the time to teach you, to make sure you understood," Beach said. "I've always considered him a good friend, mentor and teacher."

Beach said Rushton earned a reputation for being fair as a foreman, and not one to bend the rules. When other guys might cut out a little early, Rushton never did. When he was your foreman, you worked your full eight, he said, even if it was Christmas Eve.

"Paul was doing the Code [of Excellence] before there was a Code," Beach said. "He was someone you could always rely on. He represented the IBEW well."

Rushton served as a desk representative in the 11th District office for 11 years. During that time, in 2008, he was involved in negotiations for a merger between utility companies Kansas City Power and Light and Aquila, which involved five different locals. It was his job, he said, to make sure that every member knew where they fit in the new structure, addressing issues like

seniority and pay.

"The merger went well, and that was in large part because of all the hard work from the locals," Rushton said.

When the international convention was held in St. Louis in 2016, in Rushton's district, his role included everything from event planning to lining up clergy for the invocation and a singer for the national anthem.

**"Paul was doing the Code [of Excellence] before there was a Code."**

— Roger Beach, Local 124 Business Representative

"It's unbelievable the amount of work that goes into planning a convention," Rushton said.

Now in retirement, Rushton says he's still getting used to days that are no longer filled with commitments and meetings.

"It's an adjustment," he said. "But I'm keeping busy."

He's also doing things he never had time for before, like attending spring training in Arizona for the Kansas City Royals.

"It was great," Rushton said. "It's something I've wanted to do for a long time."

Rushton is also making time for golf with friends and a trip to Florida with his wife.

"The IBEW has put me in a very good spot," Rushton said. "I feel very fortunate."

The IBEW officers, members and staff thank Brother Rushton for his many years of service and wish him a long and fulfilling retirement. ■

## RETIRED

### Terry Roovers



Terry Roovers planned to be a lawyer. Instead, he found a home in the IBEW and retired on April 1 after 30 years of service to the Brotherhood, the last 14 as a Sixth District international representative.

Brother Roovers graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a political science degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1981. But feeling tired of school, he took a break from academics and went to work in the paper mills in his hometown of Appleton, Wis. He became a member of the United Paperworkers International Union, following in the footsteps of his father, grandfather and several uncles.

"I decided I had enough school for a while," he said. "I just never went back."

After seven years, Roovers decided to try his hand at the trades and began his apprenticeship with Appleton Local 577 in 1988. Law school was put off for good.

"I didn't see any real career path for me in the paper industry and I had always aspired toward the trades, particularly something mechanical," Roovers said. "I walked into the union hall and hit it off

with the assistant business manager (Roger Perkins, who remained a mentor throughout his career) at that time.

“He looked at my resume and thought I was pretty smart. I started working two days later.”

Roovers served on several committees as an apprentice and, just one year after topping out as a journeyman inside wireman, he was hired as an organizer. He was elected Local 577’s president in 1996 and business manager in 1999.

“I grew up in a union household and I was always one of those guys pushing for work when I was in the field, when I was foreman and general foreman,” he said. “I always liked the idea of union service and what was nice in the electrical industry, those were full-time positions.”

Roovers said the highlights of his time as business manager were attaining Local 577’s record high in membership and its active role in the community, particularly with Habitat for Humanity.

In 2004, he joined the Sixth District staff, where he was the service representative for several locals and led training for newly-elected officers and business representatives.

“I was never tasked with a lot of things, and I always had the full support of the vice presidents,” he said. “It was a joy working in an organization with that level of trust.”

“He was always willing to assist when we did work together,” said Personnel Department Director Jack Heyer, who worked with Roovers when Heyer was business manager of Green Bay, Wis., Local 158. “His input provided the direction necessary to overcome certain obstacles in the jurisdiction while he was our international representative.”

Among those was an organizing effort at the Marinette Marine Shipyard in Wisconsin that provided work for about 160 members that otherwise might have gone to a non-signatory contractor. Heyer said it isn’t surprising Roovers planned to be a lawyer. He talked more than most IBEW officials and used that to his advantage, he said.

“If you were at a conference with him or something like that, he would be the one with a question,” Heyer said. “He was very inquisitive and he had a way of getting his point across when he had something to say.”

**“These people can’t beat us because we offer value. If you do the right thing, others see value in it.”**

— Terry Roovers

In retirement, Roovers and his wife, Jan, plan to spend more time on 70 acres they own in Ogdensburg, Wis., and with their 1-year-old grandson. Stepson Elliot Spierings is a third-year apprentice at Milwaukee Local 494.

In the final years of his career, Roovers was on the front line fighting against Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker’s attacks on working families.

“My parting words are pretty sim-

ple,” he said. “We had these assaults go down on us, yet at the locals I served and IBEW locals throughout Wisconsin, our membership has grown. These people can’t beat us because we offer value. If you do the right thing, others see value in it.”

The officers, membership and staff thank Brother Roovers for his service and wish him a long, happy retirement. ■

RETIRED

## David Tilmont



Following nearly 40 years of dedicated service to the IBEW, Ninth District International Representative David Tilmont retired effective March 1.

Tilmont’s father had started as a lineman with Los Angeles Local 18 in the 1950s and then moved to inside work as a journeyman wireman with Ventura, Ca., Local 952 in the 1960s.

“I worked in summer helper programs while in high school,” the younger Tilmont said, but the Oak View, Calif., native had never really considered an electrical career, because his father always encouraged him to get a degree.

“I thought I wanted to be a doctor or a dentist,” Tilmont said, adding with a laugh that he “leaned toward being a dentist for the more regular hours.”

After high school, he attended Ventura College and graduated with an associate of science degree, and then attended the University of California, Santa Barbara, and majored in biology.

“Then, I took a semester off and needed to make some money,” Tilmont said, “so I applied for an apprenticeship — and I loved it.”

He began his apprenticeship in 1978, was initiated into Local 952 in 1979, and worked for a variety of contractors, including Taft Electric, one of the larger contractors in Ventura County. He completed his inside journeyman wireman apprenticeship in 1982.

“It wasn’t a goal; it’s just how life happened,” Tilmont said, noting that he ended up doing at least as well, financially, as his friends who earned graduate degrees.

The late 1970s and early 1980s were tough times, he said, with much of the construction industry in Southern California — and the local’s market share — in decline. Tilmont was determined to do something about that.

Four years after Tilmont was elected to Local 952’s executive board in 1987, he was hired as its first organizer.

“I came in and just started organizing,” he said. “I would go out to workers and sign them up for apprenticeships, and I filed petitions for elections with the NLRB.”

“I also spent a lot of time representing members and non-members whose rights to organize were violated by unfair contractors,” he said.

Tilmont was on Local 952’s executive board through 1995, serving on its

negotiating and apprenticeship committees in addition to organizing. He also served on the local’s labor-management cooperating committee, and for a time, he was a trustee for its pension fund and for its health and welfare fund.

In 1995, Tilmont was elected Local 952’s business manager/financial secretary, and he served in that capacity for 7½ years until his appointment by then-International President Edwin Hill as international representative in December 2002. Until his retirement, Tilmont worked throughout the Ninth District as the service/organizing representative for Los Angeles Local 11; Las Vegas Local 357; Santa Barbara, Calif., Local 413; Bakersfield, Calif., Local 428; San Diego Local 569; and back home at Local 952.

“The thing I got the most satisfaction from was being able to help people achieve a better life, a better standard of living,” he said.

His responsibilities and influence were not limited to direct work with IBEW members. Tilmont was appointed in 1998 as an alternate on National Code Making Panel 19, and he also served on Ventura County’s Building and Safety Electrical Board of Appeals and on the county’s Air Pollution Control District Advisory Committee.

**“I took a semester off and needed to make some money, so I applied for an apprenticeship — and I loved it.”**

— David Tilmont

After so many years of union leadership and activism, Tilmont said that his transition to retired life has felt “kind of weird.”

“Retirement is feeling a little different from what I imagined,” he said. “I don’t think I’ve totally realized it yet.”

Tilmont said that he plans to remain active in retirement — he enjoys skiing and is an avid mountain biker — and to travel as much as possible, with plans for upcoming trips with his wife, Leanne, to the Hawaiian island of Kauai and also to Ireland.

“I’ll do a little travel, a little home remodeling,” he said, “a combination of playing and also trying to do something productive every day.”

The Ojai Valley resident and his family narrowly escaped serious injury and property loss from last December’s Thomas wildfire, considered the largest fire in modern California history, which consumed nearly 282,000 acres across southern Santa Barbara and Ventura counties. After being evacuated from their home for two days, they returned to find a section of their yard burned, and a neighbor’s home completely destroyed.

“The Thomas fire also decimated the biking trails,” Tilmont said. “A lot of them slipped and crumbled.” He has plans to help rebuild the trails.

On behalf of the entire membership, the officers and staff of the IBEW wish Brother Tilmont a healthy and happy retirement. ■



# THE IBEW’s 2018 PHOTO CONTEST

**Enter Today!**

**Deadline: Oct. 1**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place: \$200**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place: \$150**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place: \$100**

**Honorable  
Mention: \$50**

For two decades, IBEW members across the U.S. and Canada have been sending us the images that tell the stories of who we are and the work we do. We’ve been proud to share those pictures with you, and this year we’re celebrating a milestone — the IBEW’s 20th Annual Photo Contest.

A few of the rules have changed, but your task is the same: Show us what it means to be a member of the greatest union in the world, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

## Photo Contest Rules:

1. The contest is open to active or retired IBEW members only. The person submitting the photo must be the person who took the photograph. Members may enter up to five photos each.
2. International officers and staff are not eligible.
3. Photos MUST be submitted as digital files of at least 300 dpi, measuring 1,200 by 1,800 pixels at minimum, in color or black and white. Larger files of at least 2,200 pixels are encouraged.
4. All submissions become property of the IBEW Media Department.
5. Photo entries must have an IBEW theme of some sort, with IBEW members at work, engaged in a union-related activity or featuring subjects conveying images of the electrical industry or the union.
6. If members are featured in the photo, they should be identified. If large groups are pictured, the name of the group or the purpose of the gathering (e.g., a safety committee, a linemen’s rodeo, a union meeting) can be submitted in place of individual names.
7. Photos previously published in IBEW publications or on the website are not eligible for submission.
8. **Starting this year, entries MUST be submitted electronically** via the Photo Contest link on [IBEW.org](http://IBEW.org). Please contact the Media Department at [media@IBEW.org](mailto:media@IBEW.org) or 202-728-6102 with additional questions.
9. Up to 15 finalists will be selected and posted on [IBEW.org](http://IBEW.org) for final judging by the public. The winners will be featured in a future issue of the Electrical Worker.

# LOCAL LINES

## Annual Dinner Dance

L.U. 8 (as,em,i,mar,mt,rts,s&spa), TOLEDO, OHIO — Happy spring! Our local's 54th Annual Dinner Dance in March had some 425 people in attendance. Bus. Mgr. Roy Grosswiler led a moment of silence for recently deceased members. Then he and Pres. Eric Grosswiler recognized members for their years of service and awarded service pins.

Members recognized for years of service include the following: 50-year members — Glenn "Buck" Crosser, Lee Cutchall, Robert Dusseau, Howard Fought Jr., Greg Gumban Jr., Jack Hageman, Jerry Jacobs, Ken Kreuchauf, Richard Long, Dennis Myers, Louis Rockwood, Ron Steele, Al Vansickle, Clyde Wentling, Gerald Wilhelm and Mike Wittenmyer; 55-year members — Caeron Crook, Leonard Mientkiewicz, Robert Miller, Dennis Murphy and Jerry Rogers; 60-year members — Roger Bugaj, Ed Isaacson, Norm Mulligan, George Redmond Jr., Robert Stephenson, Norm Streichert, William Stuckey, Ray Szymanski and Tom Thomas; 65-year members — James Pudlicki and Ron Streichert. And most notably, 70-year pins went to: Clifton Linscott, Carl Mauss, John Saunders and Conrad Shoup. Congratulations to all!

At this writing, midterm primary elections in Ohio were scheduled for May 8. Prior to the election, the Local 8 Executive Board screened candidates and made a few endorsements; one of the most important was for Richard Cordray for governor. We hope everyone remembered to vote on May 8.

At press time, the Local 8 Sisters group meeting was scheduled for May 6. Women from all classifications were invited to meet, share ideas about Local 8 functions, discuss volunteer opportunities, and get to know fellow sisters.

Work safe and attend your union meetings.

*Mike Brubaker, P.S.*

## Awards Banquet

L.U. 12 (i,o&se), PUEBLO, CO — The local's 118th Awards Banquet was held at the historic Pueblo Union Train Depot on Feb. 24.

Everyone had a great time mingling with friends, new and old. Service pins and retirement watches were presented, and several lifetime members were honored.

Our 55-year pin recipient, Bro. Larry Tatinski, was apprenticeship director from 1983 to 1993. Bro. Claude Toussaint was present with his family to receive his 60-year pin. Bros. Frank Kinder and Daryl McDonald are 65-year pin recipients, but they were not able to attend. Awards were also presented to the Outstanding New Apprentice, Casey Hunt, and the Apprentice of the Year, Jeremiah Minogue.



At Local 12 awards banquet: Int. Rep. Mike Ham (far left), Joe Tatinski, Larry Tatinski, Pres. Jim McGinnis and Bus. Mgr. Tom Kelley (at podium).

Congratulations to all of those who have paved the way and to those who continue in the IBEW tradition.

*Susan J. Johnson, P.S.*

## Union Activities & Events

L.U. 16 (i), EVANSVILLE, IN — It's been a busy spring for members Brandon Wongngamnit and Jeremy Sowder. They were essential in making the local's social activities a great success. In February they hosted the 2nd Winter Gala, a very nice evening with drinks, dinner, dancing, and opportunities to renew old friendships. Brandon and Jeremy also made certain the annual Easter Egg Hunt went off without a hitch. Special thanks also to John Parker, who entertained the kids dressed in his Easter Bunny costume.

The Local 16 Political Action Committee has also been busy with cornhole tournaments, a poker run, and a golf scramble. Proceeds from these activities fund pro-labor candidates for future elections.

March 17 marked the first of what will hopefully be many more St. Patrick's Day celebrations. The union hall was nicely decorated, and participants enjoyed an abundance of raffles, auction items and children's activities, as well as some of the best Irish food this side of the Emerald Isle. Over \$6,800 was raised to help with IBEW causes. It would not have been possible without the tireless work of Bros. Bubba Fenton, Paul Lamb and Ricky Rush. Thanks to all who build this union.

*Donald P. Beavin, P.S.*

## Service to Community

L.U. 22 (i,lpt,rts&spa), OMAHA, NE — When it comes to supporting our community, Local 22 members are always ready. Building stronger communities through strong union families is vital to increasing union density. Events like the Building Trades Chili Cook Off, the Local 22 Bowling Sweeper, and Powering Hope are prime examples of community support.

Recently, Local 22 sponsored several teams in the Omaha Building Trades Annual Chili Cook Off. While sampling great chili, members and their families spoke with local politicians about the challenges plaguing working families. The message? In solidarity, we can effect change.

The Annual Bowling Sweeper is right up Local 22's alley. Members and their families teamed up for great brotherhood, charity and prizes. The highlight of the event was the donation of all proceeds to the Local 22 Brotherhood Fund. This member-supported fund serves sick and injured members in their time of

need. Congratulations to Bro. Mark Garner for bowling a perfect game!

Powering Hope is a community outreach program exclusive to Local 22. Members volunteer to assist lower income families with general electrical repairs. Approximately 25 families received much-needed assistance in 2017.

A big thank-you to all participating members. Your continued support makes Local 22 very special.

*Joel Anderson, P.S.*

## Labor Rally in Annapolis

L.U. 24 (es,i&spa), BALTIMORE, MD — We have ratified the ABM Electrical Power Solutions agreement and the City Light & Power agreement and are now entering into negotiations for our Voice Data Video agreement. Unfortunately, at this writing, the Triangle Sign negotiations are not going well. At press time, members at Triangle are entering their fifth month without a new agreement. We will be ramping up pressure to get this contract settled for our members.

We thank the union linemen from One Source Power for their help restoring power during the wind storm that affected thousands of homes and businesses including our apprenticeship school and union offices.

On March 22-24, the Labor Management Cooperation Committee (LMCC) held its Annual Drug Testing Tool & Boot Sale. A total of 347 members were

tested over the three-day period. Over \$40,000 worth of tools and 90 pairs of work boots were sold at discounted prices. Thanks to all who participated.

On Monday, April 2, wearing Local 24 hats, IBEW members participated in a rally at the State House in Annapolis to let our legislators know the labor movement in Baltimore and throughout Maryland is alive, doing well and getting stronger. I would like to thank the 200+ members who attended the rally.

*Peter P. Demchuk, B.M.*

## Spring & Summer Events; Craftsman Hall of Fame

L.U. 26 (ees,em,es,govt,i&mt), WASHINGTON, DC — Thank you to everyone participating in our annual Dollars Against Diabetes Golf Outing on June 4.

Please note a correction to our April article regarding the Manassas, VA, picnic: The Manassas picnic will be Saturday, June 16 (not June 23 as previously reported). The Edgewater, MD, picnic will be Saturday, Aug. 25. Mark your calendars for these fun-filled events!

Local 26 officers and agents have been very busy. We attended the JATC graduation on June 2. We also attended the IBEW Political & Legislative Affairs Conference, the IBEW Construction Conference, and the North America's Building Trades Unions 2018 Legislative Conference.

On March 16, we attended the 2018 Craftsmanship Awards program, held by the Washington Building Congress, at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel. Bro. Bruce E. Baldwin (see photo), a 39-year Local 26 member, received well-deserved recognition and was inducted into the WBC Craftsman Hall of Fame. Congratulations to all the contractors, and to Bro.

Baldwin for being an extraordinary role model for all!

We mourn the death of several members since



Local 26 member Bruce Baldwin, Craftsman Hall of Fame inductee.



IBEW Local 24 members rally in Annapolis, MD.

## Submitting Local Lines Articles

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

## Trade Classifications

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

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

our last article: Christopher D. Dykes, Stephen J. Lascola Jr., Timothy J. Munsey, Robert S. Gaines, Martyn R. Montague III, Samuel W. Kivett, Dustin C. Lueker, Leo G. Kelley, Christopher J. Parker, Eric J. D'Abadie and Michael H. Williams.

Best wishes to recent retirees: James M. Rowland, William T. Clark III, Ronald L. Carter, Carlos R. Ramirez, Allen J. Reese, Stanley Rice, William N. Reedy, Robert K. Bender, James P. Camba, David W. Kidd, Russell J. Low, Robert M. Lee and Edward F. Hanko.

George C. Hogan, B.M.

## Annual Steak Fry; Local 34 Newsletter

L.U. 34 (em,i,mt,rts&spa), PEORIA, IL — Local 34's Annual Steak Fry was Friday, April 6. Many prizes were raffled, and we raised over \$1,000 for the sick and needy fund. Despite the cold weather, over 80 members attended to enjoy a steak dinner and share some laughs. Thank you to Pres. Mark Picton and all his volunteers, especially retired former president J.J. Walker, who always lends a hand and helps coordinate the evening.

Everybody should have already received our new Local 34 Newsletter. This newsletter will be sent out quarterly to our active and retired members. There will be a quarterly calendar of events, a business manager article, work outlook information and referral summaries to help keep everyone informed. As always, if you have anything that you would like to contribute, feel free to call the hall with suggestions or comments.

Temperatures have finally warmed up and we have seen a small increase in referrals. Most of the area's general contractors are reporting to be booked throughout, or close to, the end of the year. Thank you, once again to our nearby fellow IBEW locals that continue to employ our members, and we look forward to returning the hospitality in the future.

Tim Sprout, A.B.M.



IBEW members working for Herbst Electric on the massive duct-bank runs for the new mill at Charter Steel in Ohio. From left: Adam Paisley, job superintendent Mike Mandrea, Anthony Scafaria, Chase Lessett, Matt Wetter, John Babuscak, foreman Dave Grabowski and Dennis Elbert.

## Major Projects Underway

L.U. 38 (i), CLEVELAND, OHIO — The work outlook remains strong and we are currently experiencing full employment as some major projects have finally gotten underway. The Amazon project in North Randall has about 140 members on site, between Ullman Electric, BCU Electric Inc. and G&B Electric. The site work has started on the Euclid Amazon site and that electrical contract was awarded to Zenith Systems. Herbst Electric continues to hire for the new Charter Steel Mill (photo above) and the Euclid Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Renovations have begun on the conversion of the Terminal Tower office spaces into apartments, and Gateway Electric is on site. Gateway crews also continue to grow at the new downtown Beacon Apartment Building as the steel continues to rise there. Einheit Electric has the first phase of the Q Arena renovations and the second phase will be awarded soon. Lake Erie Electric is finally on site at the new 35-story Playhouse

Square Apartment Building, which just started in April on Euclid Avenue at East 16th Street.

The Local 38 Walleye tournament will be on Saturday, June 30, this year and the Local 38 Cedar Point Family Picnic will be on Sunday, July 1.

Dennis Meaney, B.M./F.S.

## EWMC Community Outreach

L.U. 40 (em,i&mps), HOLLYWOOD, CA — Brothers and sisters, the importance of community outreach, getting involved and giving back is a fundamental belief of the IBEW. The Electrical Workers Minority Caucus provides an opportunity for minority members and all our members to get involved and have their voices heard.

One of the key missions of the EWMC is to give back to our communities. On March 4, Local 40, alongside the So Cal EWMC Chapter, completed one of its many community service projects. We worked together with Los Ninos de la Calle Con Wendy Foundation in the city of Anaheim, near the Salvation Army, providing a hot lunch for any person in need. We provided over 40 meals and a warm welcome to a lot of good people that afternoon. Helping those in need is an important mission of the IBEW and So Cal EWMC. Through volunteer work and community service, we can give back, and show gratitude toward an industry and an organization that provide us with so much.

The IBEW and Local 40 encourage members to serve our communities any way we can, whether through donations, volunteering, phone banking, political action, or even simply attending your general membership meetings. Participating in community outreach reflects the type of dedicated and hard-working union members we are.

Juan Rodriguez, V.P.

## Seattle Area & Peninsula Picnics; Update on Labor-Supported Bills

L.U. 46 (as,c,cs,em,es,et,i,mar,mo,mt,rtb,rts&st), SEATTLE, WA — Mark your calendars for our two summer picnics! The Peninsula Picnic will be Saturday, July 21, at Salsbury Point County Park in Poulsbo. The Seattle Area Picnic is Sunday, Aug. 5. This year's Seattle Area Picnic will be at a new location, Vasa Park Resort, located on beautiful Lake Sammamish between Bellevue and Issaquah. Watch for more announcements as we get closer to these events.

The Washington state legislature passed several labor-supported bills in its 2018 session. Collective bargaining agreements will now be used to determine area prevailing wage rates. Apprentice Utilization on public projects will increase based on this new compliance law that offers incentives for AU. New contractors bidding on public works projects must complete training



IBEW Local 46 crew working on the SR99 Tunnel Project in Seattle.

on prevailing wage law as a part of the responsible bidder statute. Washington will require completion of an approved apprenticeship to become a journey-level electrician beginning July 1, 2023. Many of these new laws had been stalled for years by an anti-labor state Senate, but thanks to labor's efforts in the special election in the 45th District, Democrats regained control of the Senate.

The SR99 Tunnel project is nearing completion with the roadway projected to open in late 2018. Local 46 has over 150 wiremen and apprentices working to complete the project. IBEW Local 46 thanks all the members and travelers who have helped make this project a success!

Warren Shill, V.P.



Local 48 Political Rep. Jon Jensen (left), Bus. Mgr. Gary Young and Asst. Bus. Mgr. Tim Foster.

## Local 48 Builds Community

L.U. 48 (c,em,i,rtb,rts,st&tm), PORTLAND, OR — Local 48 is committed to making the entire electrical industry in its jurisdiction representative of the communities the local serves. To this end, Local 48 has been and continues to be involved in the following ways:

- Local 48 staffed a booth at the Pacific Northwest Sportsmen's Show, where union representatives reached out to a broad range of people to talk about apprenticeship, employment, and the Qualified Electricians Coupon program.
- With full support of Bus. Mgr. Gary Young and Pres. Wayne Chow, the Sisters in Solidarity of Local 48 Committee was officially established in late 2017 and they now have a mission statement. Under the elected leadership of co-chairs Val Madsen and Debbie Spickerman, they intend to file for an International Charter. *[Editor's Note: To read more, see news article "Women's Committees Empowering the Sisterhood," in the May 2018 issue of The Electrical Worker.]*
- Sister Donna Hammond helped to introduce the electrical trade to kids in urban communities through the iUrbanTeen iTrades Career Day in February.
- Local 48 also welcomed the 26th Annual Oregon Tradeswomen's Career Fair on Saturday, May 19.

Local 48 is proud to welcome electrical workers from every background. All involved are excited when they see recruitment efforts pan out and growing numbers of applicants applying for the apprenticeship programs.

Ray Lister, B.R.

## Members Assist in Rescue

L.U. 50 (u), RICHMOND, VA — While traveling to Kitty Hawk, NC, two Local 50 linemen from Williamston, NC, Jeremy Aycock and Quentin Conner, encountered a scene they would never forget. The two linemen were delivering a vehicle to the Kitty Hawk office for storm restoration. While in route, they happened by a woman (a retired nurse) who was administering CPR to a man she had found face down near the beach.

The two IBEW linemen made a quick decision to help even though they had no practical experience, only recent training. Just weeks before, Dominion Energy had installed an automatic external defibrillator (AED) on the very truck the linemen were transporting.

The linemen were somewhat nervous initially but knew the man needed help. They were able to assist the nurse with use of the AED and care for the man until EMS arrived on the scene. Later, the family of the man who was rescued called Dare County Emergency Services to extend their thanks. The nurse also expressed her gratitude to Bros. Aycock and Conner for their willingness to help. She said the sick man's "chances didn't look good" until the two IBEW members showed up with the AED.

IBEW Local 50 represents over 3,000 electrical workers in North Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia.

John Albert, Treas./B.R.



IBEW Local 50 members Quentin Conner (left) and Jeremy Aycock helped rescue a sick tourist who was vacationing on the Outer Banks of North Carolina.

## Organizing Campaigns; Continuing Education Courses

L.U. 68 (i), DENVER, CO — Greetings, sisters and brothers. The work picture in Local 68 is starting to take off and should stay bright with several projects coming up.

The organizing department is still working on several organizing campaigns. If you would like to help out, please call one of the organizers and become part of the Volunteer Organizing Committee (VOC). I am sure they could use and would appreciate your help.

The apprenticeship has started conducting the Continuing Education courses, which are now required in order to maintain your Colorado state electrical license. Check the apprenticeship website for class schedules and times.

Stay safe this summer! Enjoy the work and the weather!

Morgan J. Buchanan, Pres.

## Annual Picnic a Success; Norfolk Tides Baseball Game

L.U. 80 (i&o), NORFOLK, VA — Local 80 would like to thank all our members who showed up for our annual picnic. It was a good time for everyone and it's always a pleasure to see all our members enjoying the food, camaraderie and festivities.

We also look forward to our Norfolk Tides Baseball game. There was a good turnout the last time and we're hoping for the same this time around.

## LOCAL LINES



At Missouri state Capitol, thousands of working people, including IBEW Local 124 members, rallied March 28 to oppose anti-labor legislation.

Local 80 welcomes our newest Membership Development/Organizer Shawn Bruce. Since day one when he accepted the position, he has hit the ground running.

The work picture has continued to grow and by early spring we will have full employment.

Local 80 extends our deepest condolences to the families of our recently deceased members: Bros. Donnie Necomb, Milton Powell, Herbert E. Larkins Jr. and Ralph D. Knight Jr.

Wil Morris, P.S.

## Rally for Working People — Taking a Stand in Missouri

L.U. 124 (ees,em,i,mar,rts,se,spa&t), KANSAS CITY, MO — Organized labor has been under siege in Missouri.

The anti-labor lawmakers who control the Missouri General Assembly along with special interest lobbyists are selling this “right to work” sham as a way for Missouri to create more jobs. This false notion that economic prosperity will only come if we can pay our workers less has been a complete failure in every RTW state so far. The anti-labor forces in the Missouri General Assembly waste time creating legislation aimed at eliminating our ability to organize. Legislation aimed at restricting our right to elect our representation. Legislation aimed at reducing workplace safety and legislation aimed at reducing our wages. This is just a continued attempt to erode our hard-fought rights that form the foundation of the American middle class.

On March 28, organized labor showed up in force at the Missouri state Capitol to voice opposition to this anti-labor legislation. [Photo, at top.] Thousands of workers from across Missouri filled the halls and lawn of the state Capitol. Our success will be measured in our ability to repeal RTW at the ballot this year.

Steve Morales, P.S.



Chicago Local 134 recently celebrated its relocation to a new union hall.

## New Union Hall Opens

L.U. 134 (catv,em,govt,i,mt,rtb,rts,spa&t), CHICAGO, IL — Exciting new beginnings! On March 1 this year, Local 134 held its first union meeting at its new Bronzeville campus after recently relocating from its previous home of 60-plus years.

This state of the art facility boasts a 5,000-square-foot community center and a 17,000-square-foot Memorial Union Hall.

Prior to the meeting opening for regularly monthly business, Cardinal Blasé Cupich was on hand to bless Local 134's new union hall and the entire membership.

Bus. Mgr. Don Finn addressed the membership stating: “Tonight has been a long time coming for you, the membership — and, brothers and sisters, you deserve it! This campus has been constructed and is ready to house our great local for decades to come.”

At press time, Local 134 was scheduled to hold its official grand opening on Memorial Day weekend in May.

Kevin Connolly, R.S.

## Annual Golf Outing; Good Summer Work Picture

L.U. 146 (ei,i&rts), DECATUR, IL — We are saddened to report the recent passing of three beloved members. The late Frank Slaughter, 77, was a 60-year IBEW member. Phillip Carter, 81, was a 47-year member. And Bart Kastl, 59, was a 19-year member. These three will be sorely missed by Local 146 members and all who knew these fine gentlemen. We extend sincere condolences to their families.

The work outlook for the summer is very promising. Projects such as Fuyao Glass America Inc., Taylorville water treatment plant, solar farms, and various hospital work projects are all planned. We also thank our traveling sisters and brothers who helped with the just-completed refuel outage at Clinton Power Station.

We had a wonderful day at our annual golf outing in Taylorville. The weather was delightful, and nothing can compare to a day on the links with your union brothers and sisters. Thank you to the Lake Shore Golf Club for its hospitality.

We congratulate and thank Joe Kidd, Kyle Parks, Myra Walters and Terry Frailey-Wood for their long-time service to the local. They all had the privilege of receiving their retiree watches at the March union meeting. We sincerely hope they have a long and enjoyable retirement.

Steve Tilford, R.S.

## New Projects Awarded; Job Fair in May 2018

L.U. 158 (i,it,mar,mt&spa), GREEN BAY, WI — Local 158 has had a lot going on this spring. Manpower requests are coming in weekly, and we are looking everywhere for new members. At press time, our local was making plans to hold a job fair in May with hopes of attracting new members. Our contractors continue to bid and have been awarded some nice projects. Our apprenticeship classes are swelling as well. All good news.

We had our annual banquet in April celebrating our 99th year under the Local 158 charter. Next year will be our 100th anniversary and it will be quite the celebration. Once again, the banquet was well-attended, and everyone enjoyed a good time. We recog-

nized our officers, retirees, veterans and our current apprentices. Many of the members in attendance received their years-of-service pins. To me this is always one of the highlights of the night. Those eligible for service pins who were not present at the April banquet will receive their pins later.

On the RENEW front: Our RENEW group organized an outing at the Green Bay Gamblers hockey game. They had a great turnout and it was a fun night. The Green Bay RENEW committee is planning more functions for this summer. It's good to see their involvement.

Donald C. Allen, B.M.

## Inside Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 234 (i&mt), CASTROVILLE, CA — It is with immense pride that we commend our nine 5th-year inside apprentices on their well-earned graduation this year. We salute the accomplishments of the graduates: Wallace Barnes, William Clough, Gerardo Espinoza, Nicholas Karakas, Beau Kelly, Ruben Lozano, Nick Luczak, Austin Pless and Chris Swim.

Graduates, the electrical industry needs you now more than ever. Your skills, ideas, professional attitudes, and eagerness to take on ever-increasing jobsite demands are especially required in the field today. This is your time to carry out the many ideas you have developed over the past five years of apprenticeship. As you join the ranks of a Brotherhood that goes back over a century, please remember to carry on the tradition of always working safely.

Local 234 members, their families, our retirees, fellow apprentices, instructors, JATC staff, and local officers all join in congratulating the 2018 graduates on their successful electrical apprenticeship graduation.

Stephen Slovacek, P.S.



Local 234 congratulates 2018 inside apprenticeship graduates. From left: Nicholas Karakas, William Clough, Ruben Lozano, Instructor Jim Shumaker, Austin Pless, Beau Kelly, Wallace Barnes, Gerardo Espinoza, Chris Swim and Nick Luczak.

## Hockey Tournament Trophy

L.U. 294 (ees,em,i,rts,spa&u), HIBBING, MN — IBEW Local 294's hockey team once again this year took the consolation trophy in the RLP Hockey Tournament held every year in Hibbing, MN.

Hearty congratulations to all: Korey Johnson, Nick Cimernancic, Jared Shevich, Sam Kinne, Dan Hendrickson, Cody Ekholm and Joe Carlson; back row, Scott Johnson, Chase Pavich, Oliver Putkonen, Nate Niemi, Jeremy Gustafson, Joe Garrison, Brian Ekholm, Nathan Potter, Charles Lenich, Tyler Gustafson and Petey McGraw.

Dan Hendrickson, B.M.

## Register, Educate & Vote!

L.U. 306 (j), AKRON, OHIO — On March 24, we held our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Although the weather was still a bit chilly, the kids never seem to mind. Thanks once again to our regular group of volunteers who make these social events possible.

Once again, we find ourselves in another important election year, with the midterm elections coming up.

And as was predicted, those who oppose orga-

nized labor have been busy rolling back workers' rights over the past year and a half. Many states have pushed forward on repealing prevailing wage rates, passing so-called “right to work” measures and denying many the right to hold union elections.

As important as it is to elect labor-friendly candidates, it is equally important to register to vote and become involved in the issues that affect all working people. I urge every union member to register, educate yourself on what is happening and exercise your right to vote.

It is with great sadness that we report the loss of Bro. Michael Turnbull and retired Bros. Robert McMullen and Dennis Johanyak. Denny served the IBEW and Local 306 in many capacities throughout his 40-year career, including as a former business manager and as a Fourth District international representative. He was a dedicated fighter for workers' rights and was admired by members and friends for his leadership and integrity.

Thomas Wright, P.S.

## 'History in the Making'

L.U. 340 (i,rts&spa), SACRAMENTO, CA — At press time, we're very busy preparing to move into our new building. At this April writing, the move is a few months away but, in the meantime, we are going through over 115 years of paperwork. Our International Office is very good at providing the document retention guidelines, however, there are well over 100 boxes that were packed away years ago. In going through this paperwork, some of the “finds” have been awesome as the history of Local 340 has come pouring out of these dusty boxes. It has been so interesting to read meeting minutes from the years dating all the way back to our beginning, documenting

both good and not so good times. When I get a chance, I plan to spend some quality hours reading these minutes, especially about when Locals 1336, 1188 and 442 were amalgamated into Local 340, events I have only heard about through word of mouth.

I'm proud to be part of the local's history now, knowing that 115 years from now, another business manager will be reading about the year 2018 when Local

340 got a new “home” because work was so good that we just outgrew this beloved building on El Centro Road. (I guarantee though, the way computers are going, there won't be as many dusty boxes for that business manager to go through.)

Robert D. Ward, B.M.

## 'Another Banner Year' Multiple Hospital Projects

L.U. 364 (catv,ees,em,es,i,mt,rts&spa), ROCKFORD, IL — IBEW Local 364 is having another banner year with the completion of the new OSF Hospital addition, which marks the beginning of three new facilities for Swedish American Hospital and a large expansion of its existing downtown campus.

The Mercy Hospital project is well underway with over 150 journeyman wiremen on this project, with a projected completion by early 2019. In other parts of our jurisdiction, we have the Green River wind farm project underway replacing existing cell towers with taller ones.

Our Plug and Play concert on April 7 was a success with several musicians from Local 364 playing in their various bands or just getting together onstage to jam. Everyone attending had a great time of live music and solidarity.

Congratulations to our new journeyman wiremen, who as of our May meeting have topped out. We wish the recent apprentice graduates continued success and safety in their careers.

Our IBEW Local 364 picnic is planned for June 30, and our annual golf playday will be July 21 ... just to name a few of the exciting events Local 364 has planned for our membership.

Brad Williams, P.S.

## St. Patrick's Day Parade

L.U. 400 (es,i&o), ASBURY PARK, NJ — Organized labor was represented again this year at the 45th Annual Belmar St. Patrick's Day Parade. Local 400 participants spent the morning at their pre-parade location celebrating with local building trade organizations, Central Labor Council members and members of IBEW Local 1820, which represents employees of New Jersey Natural Gas. The pre-parade gathering has become a must-stop destination for New Jersey politicians from both sides of the aisle who support organized labor.

We were visited by dignitaries including the following: New Jersey state Sen. Vin Gopal, a Local 400 member; Speaker of the General Assembly Craig Coughlin; Local 400 member and New Jersey Assemblyman Eric Houghtaling; Assemblywoman Joann Downey; Assemblyman Edward Thomson; Monmouth County Freeholders Thomas Arnone, Patrick Impreduto and Gerry Scharfenberger; Monmouth County Clerk Christine Hanlon; Monmouth County Sheriff Shaun Golden; New Jersey State Troopers Fraternal Assoc. Pres. Wayne Blanchard; IBEW Int. Rep. Wyatt Earp; and many mayors, former mayors and council members from throughout our jurisdiction.

A special thank-you once again to Local 400 member Pete Sparandera for the use of his show truck, and to all our members who volunteered, marched in the parade and spent the day with friends and family.

Michael Ricca, B.A.



IBEW Local 400 contingent marched in annual St. Patrick's Day parade in Belmar, NJ.

## Missouri Political Conference

L.U. 412 (u), KANSAS CITY, MO — On March 26-27, an IBEW Local 412 delegation attended the Missouri State Council of Machinists Political & Legislative Conference in Jefferson City, joining delegations from



IBEW Local 412 Pres. Patrick Devine (left), Bus. Mgr. Randy Adams and Rec. Sec. Theresa Harris at political conference in Jefferson City, MO.

several fellow IBEW locals and other AFL-CIO affiliates. This conference is known for its relevant labor-issues program and its access to legislators who impact those issues.

Debi Kidwiler, P.S.

## Local Hosts Labour Minister; Successful Organizing Drives

L.U. 424 (as,ees,em,es,i,mo,o,ptc,rtb,rts,spa&u), EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA — Local 424 is proud to have hosted Provincial NDP Labour Minister Christina Gray after our union meeting on Saturday, Feb. 24. This was the first time in our local's history that a labour minister visited our union hall. Gray spoke to our members about Bill-17 and the importance of using Automatic-certification (card check) to go out and organize companies. There have already been a few successful organizing drives using Automatic-certification by other members of the Building Trades of Alberta — one involving Icon construction company and another at Kiewit construction. Members are encouraged to work with the organizing department to help our union conduct successful organizing drives.

Commercial construction is expected to continue at the Stantec tower in Edmonton until end of the year, and the Stanton Hospital project should be completed this November. Several smaller projects were awarded to our commercial signatory contractors. Members are asked to please have commercial experience before bidding for these jobs. Work has begun on the TransEd LRT project in Edmonton; two of our signatory contractors were awarded the electrical portion, and major completion is expected for late 2020. Industrial construction is expected to slow down for the remainder of 2018, as the Northwest Redwater Refinery and Fort Hills projects are completed. The 70-kilowatt solar array on the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) campus being built by Canadian Power PAC is the largest solar photovoltaic array built by IBEW Local 424 to date; thank you to all our members who have made this a successful project.

The government of Alberta has several positions open on the Provincial Apprenticeship Committee. Local 424 encourages members to apply for these positions, as they provide an important opportunity for us to provide input to the Ministry of Advanced Education about training and apprenticeship ratios. For information on how to apply, please contact the business office or apply online at:

[https://tradesecrets.alberta.ca/sources/pdfs/forms/APPL\\_LAC\\_PAC\\_MEMBER.PDF](https://tradesecrets.alberta.ca/sources/pdfs/forms/APPL_LAC_PAC_MEMBER.PDF)

Scott Crichton, P.S.

## RENEW Committee — 'Off to a Great Start'

L.U. 466 (em,es,i&rts), CHARLESTON, WV — Local 466 commends our IBEW RENEW group on their community service projects and all the great work they are doing.

Following is a report submitted by the RENEW group on their recent activities:

"Having recently started an IBEW RENEW group within their local, the younger members are becoming more involved with their local union. They started off by having 15-25 members, young and old, volunteering in flood-relief efforts to restore power to over 150 residents affected by the record-breaking flood that tore through their jurisdiction in June of 2016. They also worked with the affected area's Little League Baseball Association to help get their field lighting

and concession stands back in working order for the start of the baseball season. The RENEW members were enjoying volunteering and reached out to all members and area churches to volunteer their time; whether the job be big or small, they wanted to help.

"In December of 2017, the RENEW group, with the help of their local and fundraising efforts had raised some money and wanted to continue to give back to the community as well as have a member-appreciation event. So, they collaborated with their local union and organized a Teddy Bear Giveaway at the local children's hospital in Charleston. They didn't stop there. They also organized their first annual Pancake Breakfast with Santa for the members and families of IBEW Local 466. It was a very successful event, with a great turnout. They continue to plan member-appreciation solidarity events for the near future, even coming together with neighboring local's RENEW groups to bring more people together."

Dustin Vaughan, Exec. Board



Local 466 RENEW young workers committee organized a 2017 holiday pancake breakfast for members and their families.

## Work Picture Strong

L.U. 530 (i,o&rtb), SARNIA, ONTARIO, CANADA — On April 28, Local 530 participated in the Annual International Day of Mourning. Every year on this day we remember those who have lost their life on the job and those who suffer from workplace illness.

At the time of this writing, we have full employment and would like to thank other brothers and sisters from surrounding IBEW locals for helping us man our local's current projects.

Local 530 is saddened by the recent passing of Bros. Ross Rutter, Bill Cole, Wayne Norman and Bob Trella Sr. May they rest in peace.

Al Byers, P.S.

## 100th Anniversary Celebration

L.U. 558 (catv,em,i,lctt,mt,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), SHEFFIELD, AL — On March 2, Local 558 celebrated its 100th anniversary! This was a wonderful celebration for our retired and active members. We had a very large crowd that exceeded our initial expectations. The event shed additional light on the rich history of Local 558, inspiring a deeper and more passionate appreciation of what our forefathers fought for.

Int. Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson sent a beautiful



Local 640 congratulates recent apprenticeship graduates.

plaque, which we proudly have on display in our office. Int. Pres. Stephenson had planned to attend the event, but his flight was cancelled due to unexpected weather conditions.

Our guest speaker was Int. Rep. Mike Pace, who reflected on the accomplishments of Local 558 and the partnership we've had with the Fifth District. Bus. Mgr. Ralph Mayes, as well as former business managers Doug Watkins and Steve Crunk, also gave encouraging remarks.

A milestone of this nature in the South is nothing to take for granted. We've endured some tough battles and celebrated some sweet victories, but there's more work to do. To all our sponsors, we sincerely thank you for your support. Thanks to the generosity of all involved, we had an unprecedented event. More importantly, thank you to our past, present and future members for everything you do. We were honored to join with everyone to celebrate this special occasion.

Tony Quillen, Pres./A.B.M.

## Members Ratify Contract

L.U. 640 (em,govt,i,mo,mt,rts,spa&u), PHOENIX, AZ — The Local 640 work picture is still strong for the foreseeable future. However, a large portion of the Intel work has been pushed back until this fall. We still have several hospital and data-center jobs that will be starting.

Our members recently voted to ratify a new three-year contract. Notably, the new contract was settled without using the services of an arbitrator. The newly ratified contract provides the best three-year increase ever at Local 640. The contract takes effect July 1, 2018.

The recent contract ratification marked the first time in 38 years that our members had an opportunity to vote to ratify a full three-year contract. Since 1980, it has been settled by an arbitrator. We hope this success will usher in a new era of settling our differences at the bargaining table, and not having to put them in someone else's hands. Congratulations to all involved.

We also wish to congratulate our apprentices who graduated on Jan. 19 this year. Welcome, new journeymen! [Photo at bottom, right.]

Tim Wilson, B.R.

## Solidarity & Stewardship

L.U. 666 (i,mt&o), RICHMOND, VA — As we move into the upswing of the construction cycle, please consider the idea of stewardship. Not just the steward of the job, but the responsibility we all have to one another.

As IBEW members, we all must do our part to practice accountability and work together to build solidarity and strengthen our union. We only grow and thrive when we live up to the ideals we espouse. If you see issues that need to be addressed, take the appropriate steps to resolve them responsibly.

The next few years have great potential for progress, regaining market share, and increasing the ranks of our membership and our contractors.

LOCAL LINES

Solidarity and accountability are key to our success. Stewardship means we are our brothers/sisters keepers. Our mandate is to organize all workers in the industry. To keep a boom from becoming a bust, we must educate and build solidarity in the ranks of new members, not ostracize those with a different background or classification. This is a potential turning point — we must be willing to take action.

*J.D. Jenkins, Pres.*

**Apprentices Graduate**

L.U. 692 (I,mt&spa), BAY CITY, MI — With great pleasure and pride we would like to congratulate the recent apprenticeship graduation class. We are committed to providing world-class electricians, and the members of this graduating class are examples of our endeavor. Congratulations, wiremen — continue to do us proud.

Our work picture is still slow, so thanks to our sister IBEW locals for helping out.

Brothers and sisters, remember to stay safe out there and keep hydrated during the hot weather. Know the symptoms of heat injuries, heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Also, look out for your co-workers and watch for such symptoms.

Have a great summer.

*Mark Thompson, P.S.*



Local 692 congratulates apprenticeship graduates. From left are: Bus. Mgr. Travis Brady, Jordan Mapes, Nick Haas, Mike Anger, Charlie Glynn, Tanner Tacey, Wade Strieter, Rob Macaulay and Training Dir. Stephen D Pahl.

**A Voice for Working Families; RENEW Fishing Tournament**

L.U. 702 (as,c,catv,cs,em,es,et,govt,i,it,lctt,mo,mt,o,p,pet,ptc,rtb,rts,se,spa,st,t,u,uow&ws), WEST FRANKFORT, IL — The primary election in Illinois took place in March, and Bus. Rep. Jason Woolard made a strong showing in the 117th House District. We continue to support his campaign and encourage all our members to stay engaged.

On March 31, our RENEW group held its 3rd Annual Bass Fishing Tournament. This was our most successful tournament yet, with 45 teams participating. Thanks to all who came out to participate. Many thanks to our RENEW committee for putting on a great event that gets better each year!

Our Retiree Luncheon on April 3 was well-attended with about 120 in attendance.

At press time, we are in negotiations with many



The team of Zack Zeigler (left) and Jake Zeigler won top spot at the IBEW Local 702 RENEW Bass Fishing Tournament, with a four-fish total of 18.22 pounds.

represented properties, including the following: Cairo Public Utility; City of Miner, Missouri; and Southwestern Electric Cooperative.

Our Annual Golf Tournament will be Friday, June 15, at the Franklin County Country Club, where we will also kick off our Solidarity Ticket sales.

In Missouri, we will need all our members, along with their family and friends, to join us in defeating Proposition A — the phony “right-to-work” legislation.

As of this writing, our referral books are as follows: Inside Construction — 114, Outside Construction — 15, and Line Clearance — 10.

*Mark Baker, B.R./P.S.*

**‘Brotherhood Night’ & New Member Orientation**

L.U. 776 (i,o,rts&spa), CHARLESTON, SC — Spring has sprung in Charleston. A pleasant ocean breeze cools our pastoral steel mill, which is having its scheduled spring shutdown. Okay, I might be stretching the truth a teensy bit about the breeze, but we’re tough. Bring a towel. And we do have a lovely ice machine.

Here are a few new items: Jody Perry has become the newest member of our Executive Board and we welcome his enthusiasm and experience. We also have a

new training coordinator, Bobbi Meyer, who is overseeing our apprenticeship and training programs.

We recently held our first new-member orientation night, where new members learn the written and unwritten rules of the road. (Professionalism and the spirit of brotherhood are always so important;

we all want to be welcome and reflect well upon our local when we travel for work!)

The house we are wiring for Habitat for Humanity has, of course, passed inspection!

Finally, we have had a new Brotherhood Night take root, where brothers and sisters meet for a bite to eat and raise funds for our sick and needy. We have some musicians in our midst who play some country and blues, too! Who knew? Getting to know each other fosters harmony, and that’s what we’re about after all isn’t it?

*Andy Weiner, P.S.*



Local 890 Bus. Mgr. Leo Sokolik (left) presents retiree Herbert Koerner with his IBEW 50-year service award.

**50-Year Service Award**

L.U. 890 (i), JANESVILLE, WI — Local 890 Bus. Mgr. Leo Sokolik recently presented retired Bro. Herbert Koerner with a 50-year IBEW membership pin. Bro. Koerner was initiated into the IBEW on Aug. 2, 1966. Herbert also

served in the U.S. Army during World War II.

Thank you, Bro. Koerner, for your military service and your support of the IBEW.

*Jason Heidenreich, P.S.*

**Charity Golf Tournament; Ventura Veterans Center**

L.U. 952 (i), VENTURA, CA — The IBEW Local 952 Charitable Activities League (CAL) held its seventh Annual Charity Golf Tournament at the San Buenaventura Golf Course. Through generous sponsors, \$3,000 in Target gift cards were donated to the Ventura Vet Center. These gift cards go directly to the veterans who come to the Vet Center in their time of need.

The Vet Center has contact with more than 3,000 veterans, ranging from veterans of the Vietnam War to Operation Enduring Freedom. The Vet Center is free to all active-duty and discharged veterans, with a wide variety of services offered including homeless outreach, veteran advocacy, counseling for addiction, couples and bereavement, as well as a helping hand during difficult transitions.

The board members of the IBEW 952 CAL extend their sincere gratitude to the dedicated staff of the Vet Center. As the relationship between Local 952



Participants for Local 952's Annual Charity Golf Tournament included: Ken Gajefski Jr. (left), José Perez, Kevin Green, James Hansmeier, Tim Jackson, William Devine, Willie Harland, Venice Honick, Stevie Span and Don Letney.

and the Vet Center grows, the mission to honor and provide for the veterans of Ventura continues to flourish as the veterans transition from military service to the unionized workforce.

*Dane Sutherland, P.S.*

**2018 Contract Negotiations; Off-Road Fun Run a Success**

L.U. 1116 (em,lctt&u), TUCSON, AZ — Hello, brothers and sisters. 2018 will be an active year for contract negotiations. Please attend your regular unit meetings to keep up to date on what’s going on. If you did not receive a proposal packet from the local, that is because we do not have your current address. It is essential that we have current contact information for you, so call the union hall to update your records.

Our local is now active on social media; you can follow us on Facebook and Instagram at IBEW Local 1116.

This year we hope to organize more volunteer events and membership activities. As always, we ask that our members wear their IBEW volunteer shirts to show solidarity and pride in our union.

We held our first IBEW Off-Road Fun Run on April 7. It was a tremendous success and will become an annual event! We had 19 vehicles participate. We

are considering a fall run, and we will definitely hold another expanded run next spring. Members can expect to see photos in the quarterly newsletter, and we’ll post video on our Facebook page as soon as it’s edited.

Child ID kits have been distributed. If you didn’t get yours, call the union hall. Otherwise the kits will be distributed to members on a first-come, first-served basis.

Thank you to our active members for all that you do. It can be difficult to keep up with everything in our busy lives, and I want you to know that you are appreciated. In solidarity.

*Sharon Williams, P.S.*

**IBEW MERCHANDISE**



**Golf Bag \$320.00**

Black and tan golf bag with IBEW logo and initials. High quality and versatile bag manufactured by Belding specifically for the IBEW.



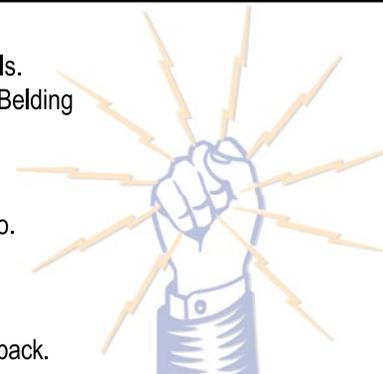
**Titleist TruSoft Golf Balls \$21.00**

Titleist TruSoft golf balls with full color IBEW logo. 1 dozen per box.



**Golf Tees \$1.50**

2 3/4" black wooden tee with IBEW initials. 25 per pack.



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

[www.ibewmerchandise.com](http://www.ibewmerchandise.com)

# RETIREEES

## Stand Up for Working People; Upcoming Ballot Measure

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 1, ST. LOUIS, MO — Hello from St. Louis. At this writing in the first week in April, the morning temperature was 29 degrees. I hope by the time this is published, the weather will be warmer. Get out and take a walk or ride a bike. Exercise is good for the body, mind and soul.

So-called “right to work” legislation is still an important issue. In Missouri, organized labor and friends of working people successfully collected enough petition signatures to put a question on the ballot asking voters if they want to keep or kill the new “right-to-work” law. So, we will have an opportunity to vote this horrible law out of Missouri. The state-wide referendum will be on the ballot in either August or November. The date for the referendum has not yet been decided at press time. Please make sure that you, your family and friends are registered to vote. And vote for labor-friendly candidates.

*Neal McCormack, P. S.*

## Club Activities & Travel

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, NORTHERN NEW JERSEY CHAPTER — Greetings! We had a long, cold, snowy winter and, as of this writing, we all look forward to some warm weather. Several of our “snow birds” and members vacationing were fortunate to be able to attend the 30th Reunion for Local 3 Retirees in March at the Diplomat Resort & Spa in Hollywood, Florida (see photo). It was a lovely luncheon meeting and so great to reconnect with others.

We continue our monthly meetings throughout the year and look forward to our spring meeting/luncheon at Bellissimo Ristorante. A group of us are going on a bus trip to Niagara Falls and Toronto in June. We’re all looking forward to our annual club picnic in July and Santorini in August.

Wishing everyone a wonderful summer!

*John Krison, P.S.*



*Golfers assemble for the Local 3, Westchester/Putnam Chapter, Retirees Club’s annual fall golf outing in October 2017.*

## Service to Community; Bronx Botanical Gardens Trip

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, SUFFOLK CHAPTER — We recently enjoyed a wonderful bus trip to the Bronx Botanical Gardens to see the Dale Chihuly Glass Exhibit. After lunch we went to Woodlawn Cemetery in the Bronx. We took a tour of the cemetery and learned about some of the famous people buried there, including Irving Berlin, George M. Cohan, Miles Davis and W.B. “Bat” Masterson, to name just a few. The tour guide also gave us a little history about some of the ornate mausoleums. Thanks to Olivia Schmidt for all her hard work in organizing this trip.

Our Annual Food Drive for Long Island Cares and our Toys for Tots Drive were both a great success, thanks to all our club members. It is a good feeling to help those in need.

Everyone had fun at our Annual Holiday Party at Watermill Catering. There was plenty of food, drinks, raffle prizes and music for dancing. A wonderful thank-you to John Schoenig and his committee for all their hard work. A special thank-you to John’s wife, Cathy. Once again thank you to Eileen Crisostomo for our beautiful favors.

Club Chmn. Jack Foley and his wife, Ann, wished everyone a happy and healthy new year. Jack presented service awards to Harvey Goldman, Eileen Crisostomo and Jim Burke.

*Harvey Goldman, P.S.*

## Retirees Golf Outing Aids Fisher House Foundation

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, WEST-CHESTER/PUTNAM CHAPTER — The Westchester/Putnam Chapter of Local 3 retirees held their annual fall golf outing on Oct. 18, 2017. The weather was a bit chilly in the morning, but that did not deter the 85 golfers who participated (photo above). The temperature did warm up, and our golfers enjoyed a very pleasant fall day.

The event was again held at the Leewood Golf Club, a beautifully manicured course in Eastchester, NY. As the golfers completed the course, they returned to the clubhouse patio to enjoy a sumptuous barbecue of burgers, hot dogs and barbecued chicken, with all the trimmings.

For the past five years, our chapter has been a strong supporter of the Fisher House Foundation. This golf outing was the most successful we’ve ever held. Through this event, we were able to raise approximately \$4,000 toward our yearly goal of \$10,000, to aid the military families of our nation’s wounded heroes.

*Dick Mills, Treas.*

## ‘A Big Election Year’ ‘Right-to-Work’ Referendum

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 53, KANSAS CITY, MO — Well, brothers and sisters, spring has finally arrived, although it is hard to tell with the weather we’ve been getting. Hope everyone is doing well. We did hear about a few of our retirees who have been ill and required surgery. Hopefully everyone is getting healthy and ready for summer.

Don’t forget the 30th Annual Local 53 Crappie Tournament/Fish Fry on June 9 at Truman State Park on Truman Lake. Contact the hall for more information. This is always a great time!

Remember, this is a big election year. We must elect people who will stand up for working people in this country. Another huge issue on the ballot in Missouri will be a voter referendum on the state’s new so-called right-to-work law. We must get our members, families, friends, neighbors and everyone educated on this — and vote to overturn the right-to-work law. Vote “no” on Missouri Proposition A. Let’s not allow Missouri to be a “right-to-work-for-less” state. At press time the timetable for the vote had not yet been determined; it will take place in August or November.

Sadly, we lost three more retirees: Robert “Shale” Sherman, Richard “R.O.” Bickford and Kenny “Tadpole” Rose. Rest in peace, brothers!

*Duane Pearce, P.S.*

## Anniversary Banquet

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 60, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS — Local 60 will celebrate its 125th anniversary with a banquet and raffle on July 21 at Villita Assembly Building, 401 Villita St., in San Antonio.

Raffle prizes will be as follows: 1st prize — a 2017 Ford F-150; 2nd prize — a 2017 Indian Scout motorcycle; and 3rd prize — a \$1,000 Visa gift card. Tickets are limited for the banquet and raffle. Retirees and active members may purchase tickets at the Local 60 union hall.

At the time of this writing, Retirees Club members were in the final stages of planning their Golf Tournament fundraiser, which was scheduled for April 28 this year. With the number of sponsors and teams committed, this year’s tournament will go down in history as the largest to date. The club would like to thank everyone who was involved in this year’s successful tournament.

The Local 60 Retired Members Club will be on their summer break in June, July and August. Meetings will resume on Sept. 13, at 12 noon. The club meets at the Plumbers and Pipefitters training building, 3630 Belgium Lane, on the second Thursday of the month at 12 noon. Local 60 retired members and spouses of retired members are invited to please join us.

*Sandy Rogers, P.S.*



*IBEW Local 105 retirement gift of a handsome engraved clock.*

## Spring & Summer Events

RETIREEES CLUB OF L.U. 105, HAMILTON, ONTARIO, CANADA — On April 8 we celebrated the retirement of over 30 IBEW brothers. Congratulations to all! Family, friends and retirees applauded them for their years of dedicated service and joined them at Michelangelo’s for a buffet breakfast. Brothers celebrating their retirement were honored with a handsome, engraved IBEW clock.

As mentioned previously, to become a Local 105 Retirees Club member you must be 55 years or older, and the club fee is \$25 a year.

At the time of this writing, Retirees Club members were looking forward to several events that were scheduled for the month of May: a dance on May 6 at Michelangelo’s; a Bowling & Euchre Banquet on May 23; and a Pig Roast on May 31.

We will have a barbecue at the June 15 Retirees membership meeting. Additional upcoming events include the following: On July 13 — a bus trip to the Grand River Raceway & Casino for a buffet dinner; and in August — a bus trip to St. Jacob’s Market, a lunch at the Stone Crock, and a play called “Out of Order” at St. Jacob School House.

We hope to see all the new retirees at these



*Local 3, Northern New Jersey Chapter, Retirees Club members enjoyed 30th Reunion for Local 3 Retirees in Hollywood, FL.*

## HAVE YOU MOVED?

Notify us of an address change

[www.ibew.org/ChangeMyAddress](http://www.ibew.org/ChangeMyAddress)

or call 202-728-6263

## RETIREES

future retiree events! Remember our motto: “Don’t wait — participate!”

All the above events were made possible by our hard-working local union members and Executive Board, both past and present. Our sincerest thanks to every one of them!

*Eden McLean, P.S.*

## March Luncheon Meeting At Local’s New Building

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 134, CHICAGO, IL — We had an exciting March 14 luncheon meeting, our club’s first meeting at our new Local 134 home at 2722 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. I must admit I had a hard time saying goodbye to our old three-story, red-brick historic building. The old building will be torn down and replaced by a new high-rise building.

Our new home was previously a school, which has been totally transformed into an incredibly impressive building that should make all affiliated with Local 134 very proud. While finishing touches are being made to the new meeting hall, our luncheon meeting was held in the gymnasium, the only one part of the school that was kept intact. The gymnasium, which was beautifully redone, is dedicated as a tribute to and named in honor of our late former business manager Terry Allen, a great union leader whom we lost to cancer in November 2014 at the early age of 54.

At our March 14 meeting, club officers were elected, and a delicious lunch was served. We elected our new Pres. Kevin Gibbons and our new Vice Pres. James Jennings. Alan Sindelar continues as recording secretary, and Bernard Martin continues as treasurer. Former president Jim Fliris joins the Executive Board along with Thomas Bohn, Mario Coletta and Walter Felde.

I wish you all a fun and safe summer season.

*Sue Kleczka, P.S.*



*A view of Local 134’s new union building in Chicago.*

## ‘Here Comes Summer’

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 212, CINCINNATI, OHIO — If it’s June, July cannot be far behind. Our Annual Club Picnic will be held July 11, at 11 a.m., at Fernbank Park on River Road. It is always great visiting with friends, catching up on the latest adventures of each other’s lives. Spend time with people you haven’t seen for a while because, as we all know, the gift of life can end at any time. The same advice for the Annual 212 Family Summer Picnic in early August at Stricker’s Grove in Ross, Ohio. I hope to visit with many old friends at both events.

Our deepest sympathy to the families of recently departed brothers: 64-year IBEW member Charles Louis; 54-year member John Harrison; 48-year member Paul Kuhn; and 40-year member David Smith.

I also submit a correction for the club’s March 2018 article: 20-year member Samuel Allen, not Samuel Adams, passed away Nov. 11, 2017. I regret the error and promise to do better in the future. May eternal rest be upon all our faithful departed members.

Now is the time to research candidates for the November elections. Democracy should not be sold to the highest bidder. We cannot expect corrupt politicians to correct their corrupt system.

*Bob Schaefer, P.S.*

## 2017 Annual Luncheon

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 236, ALBANY, NY — On Oct. 10, 2017, the IBEW Local 236 Retirees Club held their 43rd Annual Luncheon at Treviso in the Italian American Center. Attending were 60 retired members, spouses, guests, and widows of retirees who are no longer with us. The food was great, and the day spent together reminiscing was even better, with everyone enjoying the occasion.

Retirees Club then-Pres. Phil Clemens welcomed all in attendance for his last time before turning over the role of president to Bob Jenne, former vice president. The Retirees Club thanks Phil for his many years of dedicated service to the club. We also thank photographer Ken Hinckley for his work behind the camera lens during the luncheon. Special thanks go to Local 236 Bus. Mgr. Mark Lajeunesse, Asst. Bus. Mgr. Michael Torres, Local 236 members and staff for their continued support of the club.

On a somber note, it is with regret that we announce the passing of Local 236 Retirees Club Rec. Sec. Jim Porter. Jim was an active and valued member of the club who will be greatly missed. We offer our condolences to Jim’s brother, Jack Porter, a Local 236 retiree, and the entire Porter family.

*Bob Jenne, Pres.*

## ‘Step Up & Vote For Working Families’

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 257, JEFFERSON CITY, MO — The Retirees Club met at the VFW Post 280, Columbia, MO, for our monthly luncheon. We all enjoyed a nice meal before the meeting.

Several members volunteered again this year to help with the Skills USA Competition at Linn State Technical College on April 6. We thank them for their help.

On a sad note, retiree Herb Bruemmer, father of Local 257 Bus. Mgr. Don Bruemmer, passed away Jan. 24. Herb Bruemmer was a Local 257 member and received his 65-year IBEW membership pin in 2017. Several other members of his family are also Local 257 members. Retiree Carlos Hamacher, father of Local 257 member Sam Hamacher, passed away Feb. 3. The late Mr. Hamacher retired as a longtime Local 257 member in 1984. Our condolences go out to their families. Our brothers will be missed.

On March 28, our state AFL-CIO and building trades held another big rally at the state Capitol to advocate repeal of “right-to-work” legislation. Proposition A will be on a statewide ballot later this year. Vote “no” on Proposition A to defeat right-to-work. As retirees, this affects us too, so tell everyone you know to vote. The vote will take place in August or November; the date had not yet been decided at press time. For more information on union efforts to defeat right-to-work, visit [www.WeAreMO.org](http://www.WeAreMO.org).

Hope everyone had a nice spring. We look forward to warmer weather and outdoor activities. We also look forward to seeing our “snowbirds” back.

*Delores Melloway, P.S.*



*Retirees Club members and friends vacationing in Mexico. From left: Linda and Jim Winemiller (Local 257); Danny, David and Delores Melloway (Local 257); Rosemary and Craig Hoepner (Local 1362).*

## Successes & Challenges

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 353, TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA — As we look at our club’s successes of 2018 — our annual overnight trip to Niagara Falls, our annual Spring Kidney Clothes Drive, our Annual Pin/Awards Breakfast for members with 50 or more years of service, and our annual exchange trip to Local 105 Hamilton — we are hopeful that the rest of 2018 will be as enjoyable and successful, but there are some challenges to deal with soon.

June 7, 2018, is the date for our provincial election, which may decide the quality of life for many, especially if the Trump-like politician Doug Ford (Conservative) is elected and his policies of cutbacks are implemented. This could be a game changer for these times of uncertainty.

Our local and the IBEW are fortunate to have leaders, past and present, who continue to recommend that the membership support social benefits that are provided for working members and retirees.

Now that winter is behind us and no longer a concern, we look forward to summer luncheons and other upcoming events that have been finalized as of press time, including an overnight trip to Kingston, Local 804’s Annual Oktoberfest, and our Gala Annual Christmas Dinner/Dance. Thank you to all who invest their time on behalf of our retirees and who help make our events a success.

*Robert Rynyk, P.S.*



*Local 530 retirees Ross Smith and Maurice Auger received IBEW 65-year service pins.*

## IBEW 65-Year Pins Awarded

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 530, SARNIA, ONTARIO, CANADA — At the Annual 2017 Local 530 Dinner Dance, retirees Maurice Auger and Ross Smith received IBEW 65-year service pins. Following is a short profile of these two special retired electricians from IBEW Local 530.

Early in his career, Maurice Auger and his father answered an advertisement posted by Brogden Elec-

tric of Sarnia seeking workers in the electrical field. Maurice and his father travelled from their home in Quebec to Ontario and then on to Sarnia and were hired by Brogden Electric. Maurice joined IBEW Local 530 in 1952 when he was age 21. He settled in Sarnia and raised his family there. Maurice said there are 40 electricians in his family, working throughout the country.

Ross Smith was born and raised in Petrolia, Ontario. His uncle Bob Whitty was already a member of Local 530 in the early 1950s, and with his help Ross got into the electrical field on a job at Dow Chemical when he was only 16. He became a member of

Local 530 in 1952.

Ross served as Local 530 business manager from 1965-1971. He oversaw the founding of the Local 530 IBEW Pension Plan in 1970. His son, David Smith, is also a Local 530 member.

We are proud of all our retirees who served our union well through their working lives and on into retirement, Maurice and Ross being two of them.

*Nancy Stinson Philbin, P.S.*

## Starting a New Project

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 611, ALBUQUERQUE, NM — Greetings. Hoping all you retirees are enjoying your retirement and good health.

The 2018 state legislative session came and went — and once again, “right-to-work” was held back, thanks to all of you who spent countless hours camping out at “the Roundhouse.” One county (not Bernalillo County) did vote “yes” on one RTW measure — and the New Mexico Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, filed a lawsuit against that Sandoval County RTW ordinance.

The Retirees Club is starting a new project, but we need everyone’s help to make it work. Our goal is to assemble a collection of stories about union members past and present. We all have stories about past events on and off the job that are funny, interesting or entertaining. I’m sure you also have stories to share. We would like to read your stories, even if they are about someone other than yourself. No names or stories will be used or printed without your “signed” permission. I will contact each of you once I receive your story. Please include your contact information.

Don’t forget to attend a Local 611 union meeting, held the third Saturday of each month; this is still your union too.

Our condolences to families of recently deceased brothers: journeyman wiremen Peter M. Calderon, Troy Canada and Harrison Herder Jr.; and retirees Jack R. Marker, Ramond A. Cordova, Ralph Cochrane, Danny Jaramillo, Louis R. Jacobs, Andres O. Martinez, Juan B.A. Villareal, Tommy L. Spoons and Richard W. Corman.

*Tracy Hall, Pres.*

## Kudos to Recent Retirees

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 666, RICHMOND, VA — Congratulations and good wishes to recent Local 666 retirees: Danny L. Garner, Frank L. Myers Jr., Jerry R. Nuckols, James D. Stargardt, James W. Walton, Ferlanda M. Williams and Charles E. Wright Jr.

Hope you all enjoy a long, healthy and happy retirement!

*Charles Skelly, P.S.*



Karen Stille, retired member from GTE, poses beside IBEW 702 neon sign she won as a door prize at Annual Retiree Luncheon on April 3. Other winners were Mark Nix, who won St. Louis Cardinals tickets, along with Jack Emery, Len Hampen, Vern Blair, Ralph Wilmouth, Maxine Brown and Lester Wolske, who won gift certificates.

### Annual Retiree Luncheon

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 702, WEST FRANKFORT, IL — The Annual Retiree Luncheon on April 3 saw approximately 120 in attendance.

Business Manager Steve Hughart welcomed retirees and guests then opened with a prayer.

After the meal, Retirees Club Pres. Gary King gave the financial report, read the deaths for February and March, and expressed appreciation to Bus. Mgr. Hughart. He informed the group that another trip to the Henry Miller Museum in St. Louis was in the works and talked about a possible Retirees Club scholarship program.

It was announced that the next regular Retirees Club meeting will be Thursday, June 7, at Mackie's Pizza, 2704 Walton Way, Marion, IL.

Bus. Mgr. Hughart spoke about the local's Annual Golf Tournament (June 15), where we will begin sales of

our Solidarity Tickets. He reported that the Labor Day Picnic will be at Rent One Park in Marion, IL, again this year.

The business manager introduced Bus. Rep. Jason Woolard, who is running for Illinois state representative in the 117th District. Jason spoke to the group and thanked everyone for their support.

Bus. Mgr. Hughart closed with a thank-you to all the retirees and their families for their dedication and loyalty to IBEW Local 702.

Mark Baker, P.S.

### Members Enjoy Camaraderie

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 995, BATON ROUGE, LA — Our club met at the Drusilla Restaurant for our Annual Luncheon the first Monday in March. As usual the food was good and we had a good turnout.

At our April meeting, we voted to have a covered-dish luncheon the first Monday in June. Every member is to bring either a vegetable, salad or a dessert. The wives are especially invited to be there. As before, the meat and the drinks will be furnished.

W. Roland Goetzman Sr., P.S.



Local 995 Retirees Club's March 5 annual luncheon was well-attended.

## December International Executive Council Meeting

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

The regular meeting of the International Executive Council was called to order at 8:00 a.m., by Chairman Erikson, on Tuesday, December 19, 2017, in Washington, DC. Other members of the council in attendance were Calabro, Calvey, Burgham, Riley, Furco, Easton, Lavin and Galbraith.

#### International President Stephenson

International President Lonnie R. Stephenson met with the members of the International Executive Council to discuss a variety of matters affecting all branches of the Brotherhood.

#### International Secretary-Treasurer Cooper

International Secretary-Treasurer Kenneth W. Cooper presented financial reports covering the IBEW Pension Fund and the Investment Portfolio of the Brotherhood both in Canada and in the United States.

#### Legal Defense

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

#### Financial Reports

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

#### Appeals Filed with the International Executive Council

The International Executive Council has conducted a thorough review of the facts pertaining to an appeal from Local Union 363 member Steven J. Mack, claim number 1357637, and it is the decision of the IEC to approve Brother Mack's appeal.

The International Executive Council reviewed the facts to an appeal from Local Union 716 member Dennis Lazard. Additional information is required, a motion was made, seconded and approved to table the appeal until the next regularly scheduled IEC meeting.

The International Executive Council conducted a thorough review of the facts to an appeal from Local Union 494 member Lawrence A. Kiepert, claim number 1356837. After review, a motion was made, seconded, and carried to deny Brother Kiepert's appeal.

#### Article XX and XXI Cases

In the fourth quarter of 2017, the IBEW was involved in one case under Article XX of the AFL-CIO Constitution.

#### Retirement of International Representatives

Michael J. Power., International Representative, First District Effective — October 1, 2017

Larry P. Schell, International Representative, First District Effective — December 1, 2017

Darrell Taylor, International Representative/District Organizing, Coordinator, First District Effective — November 1, 2017

Richard M. Redmond, International Representative, Third District Effective — November 1, 2017

#### Retirement of International Office Employees

Ruth A. Peacock, electrical training ALLIANCE Effective — December 1, 2017

#### Vested Pension

Linda K. Ives Effective — October 22, 2017

Kathryn A. Moulin Effective — November 1, 2017

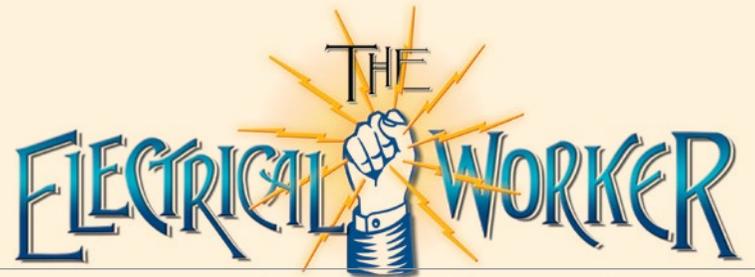
Patricia A. Trimble Effective — January 1, 2018

This regularly scheduled meeting was adjourned, on Tuesday, December 19, 2017, at 4:30 p.m. The next regular meeting of the International Executive Council will commence at 8:30 a.m., on Monday, January 29, 2018, in Naples, Florida.

#### For the International Executive Council

Patrick Lavin, Secretary December 2017

The IEC acted on numerous applications under the IBEW pension fund. For a complete listing, consult [www.IBEW.org](http://www.IBEW.org), clicking on the International Executive Council link on the "Who We Are" page. ■



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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

#### EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Lonnie R. Stephenson  
International President

Kenneth W. Cooper  
International Secretary-Treasurer

#### INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Chairman  
Christopher Erikson

First District  
Joseph P. Calabro

Second District  
Myles J. Calvey

Third District  
James Burgham

Fourth District  
William W. Riley

Fifth District  
Frank Furco

Sixth District  
John E. Easton Jr.

Seventh District  
Patrick Lavin

Eighth District  
Ross Galbraith

#### INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

First District  
William F. Daniels

Second District  
Michael P. Monahan

Third District  
Michael D. Welsh

Fourth District  
Brian G. Malloy

Fifth District  
Joe S. Davis

Sixth District  
David J. Ruhmkorff

Seventh District  
Steven Speer

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

#### Send letters to:

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## WHO WE ARE

## Athlete

Hello  
PyeongChang

## B.C. Brother Inspires at Paralympic Games

The road that took Curt Minard to PyeongChang for the 2018 Paralympics wasn't an easy one. He almost died — three times. But he wouldn't change it for anything.

"There's a reason people like us live through these things," said the Vancouver, British Columbia, Local 258 member, who competed in snowboarding. "It's a spiritual thing, but I think some people are chosen to inspire others."

In 2008, Minard was working as a powerline technician in Invermere, a Rocky Mountain town on the eastern edge of the province. He had only been on the job three weeks when a co-worker's mistake resulted in Minard getting electrocuted by approximately 5 amperes — about 500 times the amount the human body can normally withstand. The electricity surged through his body, burning at 400 degrees Celsius, or 700 degrees Fahrenheit, exiting through both of his hands. That was the first time he almost died.

"Somehow I walked off the truck," Minard said. "But you could smell the burnt flesh."

His two other brushes with death came when he was recovering in the burn unit at Calgary's Foothills Medical Centre. In between 12 surgeries, Minard got a blood clot in his lung and blew an artery in his left arm, shooting blood about 4 feet across the room.

"That was when it really hit me," he said of the burst artery, his third brush with death. "That's when I finally thought, 'this accident is going to kill me.'"

By that time, the Saskatchewan native had already lost his left thumb, but

he was still hoping that he'd ultimately pull through and go back to his old life, the one where he was a Red Seal journeyman who loved his job; loved being the guy who braves the storms and turns the lights back on. That mix of creativity, adrenaline and teamwork fueled him.

"It's like building art in the sky," he said. "I loved that I could sit back and look at what my crew and I created."

Those same qualities, Minard said, are what helped him eventually recover and compete for Team Canada. But before he'd win any medals, he needed to go through years of physiotherapy and reconcile his life as an amputee.

About two weeks after his artery burst, Minard got the news about his left hand. The nerve damage was too severe. There was no way to regain any functionality. He had two choices: keep the hand, but without any function, or amputate it along with his left wrist (called a below elbow amputation) and regain some functioning with a prosthesis. He chose the latter.

"It took me about a week to decide," he said. "I couldn't look at my arm for weeks."

That was when he started to spiral into depression.

Things the rest of us take for granted, like tying our shoes, playing catch with our kids and feeding ourselves, were monumental chores for Minard at first. It was impossible to escape the feeling of helplessness.

"Losing my thumb was one thing, but the whole hand was another," he said. "I struggled a lot. There were a lot of tears."

Minard was diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. But with the

**"When I compete, it's not just me, it's everyone who's helped me get there, and that includes the IBEW and Local 258."**

— Curt Minard

help of his family and a lot of hard work, he learned to use his prosthesis and eventually regain his sense of self.

"Once I got past the stage of who I was versus who I wanted to be, it got easier," he said.

Minard's road to a new life went through sports. A lifetime athlete, he started playing hockey again, practicing four to five times a week. Once he got his skills up, he tried out and was accepted to the Canadian national standing amputee team.

"That was a turning point for me," he said. "Everyone had a story like mine."

In 2012, the team traveled to Finland for the World Championship and came home with the gold medal.

"Hearing the national anthem, that was a significant moment. I just thought, 'Look what I achieved,'" he said. "That was when I realized the disability didn't own me anymore."

That win spurred him to switch gears and try another of his favorite sports: snowboarding. He's only been competing for about three years, but he's already racked up a considerable medal

count, including two gold medals his first time out in 2015, three consecutive first place wins in the Canadian nationals and the bronze in a pre-Paralympic test prior to the PyeongChang Games. He's currently ranked second overall in the world in the upper-limb category.

The 2018 games, held in March, were the first time that athletes with impairments in the upper limb could compete in snowboarding (previously, only those with lower-limb impairments could do so). And based on his placement in the World Cup competition order, he ended up being the very first person to take to the slopes in the new category.

"That was really an honor," he said.

Minard finished in sixth place in snowboard cross and eighth place in banked slalom. For anyone who caught the games on television, they may have seen the IBEW logo on his board, indicating Local 258's sponsorship. (What they didn't see was the IBEW coin he always keeps in his backpack on race days.) For Minard though, the support of his local goes far beyond good luck charms and financial contributions.

"I can't thank them enough," he said. "Without Doug [McKay, Local 258 business manager] and the IBEW, I don't know where I'd be."

Minard says McKay was at his bedside just two days after the accident.

"We're just there for him, that's all," McKay said. "Curt's a very nice guy and he's come a long way."

McKay says he has a good relationship with BC Hydro, Minard's employer, which made it easier to work with the company and ensure that Minard got all the

support he could, including advocating for him to get the highest quality prostheses, which can cost upwards of CA\$80,000.

When Minard decided to move to Vernon, a town about five hours west of Invermere to get a fresh start for him and his family, McKay got the company to help cover the cost. The local also bought him a new induction stove, which uses electromagnetic energy instead of gas or electric heat to make cooking safer.

"Doug's done so much for me, and for my kids," Minard said. "They've always looked out for me."

Minard currently works with the apprenticeship program, overseeing about 100 apprentices on training and development as well as mentoring. It's a benefit for the students, McKay said, to see the reality of the trade.

"I get their respect from the get-go," Minard said. "I'm very forthcoming."

He's also a motivational speaker and has addressed more than 100 audiences, including IBEW locals across Canada. He tells his whole story, not shying away from the PTSD and what it's like to be in a burn unit, but also how hard work and determination brought him to world-championship status.

"In a split second, your whole life can change," Minard said. "I didn't get an easy shake, but eventually I had to decide who I wanted to be, and I decided that I want to use my story to inspire others."

Minard says he never forgets how fortunate he is to have his Brotherhood supporting him. As a show of thanks, he had a snowboard custom-made with the Local 258 logo and an electricity-themed design. ■